



NEWS RELEASE

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(Beaverton Family Escapes House Fire)

Fire heavily damaged the attic and roof of a Beaverton home late Wednesday night. The fire was reported to 9-1-1 dispatchers at 10:09 pm Wednesday night. Firefighters from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue responded to the 5800 block of SW Alger Avenue arriving at 10:15 pm. The first arriving crew from TVF&R's Progress Fire Station #53 found light smoke coming from the gables of a 1,200 square-foot 1953 vintage house. Firefighters entered the structure and found heavy smoke down to the floor but no fire in the living space. They pulled back ceiling material and found fire in the attic which was being used for storage. They knocked down the main body of fire within ten minutes. Due to the volume of personal material stored in the attic, the incident commander requested additional crews to help bringing the total to six engine companies, one truck company, and one rescue company. Firefighters had to remove all the materials stored in the attic to the exterior to ensure the fire was extinguished. They remained on scene for two and half hours performing overhaul and salvage operations.

The homeowners, a couple and their son, escaped unharmed. The American Red Cross was requested to assist with temporary housing and other needs of the displaced family.

Fire investigators interviewed the homeowners and examined evidence at the scene. The investigators say the most likely cause of the blaze was an electrical problem in the line located in a wall near the service meter. The damage estimate is \$40-thousand.

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