

Fire destroys NE Bend house; heat damages nearby homes

by Cheryl McDermott

Fire inspectors have yet to determine what sparked the fire that completely destroyed a 2,600 square foot house under construction in northeast Bend last night, a blaze that threatened to burn nearby homes but only caused moderate heat damage, officials reported.

Bend firefighters responded to the alarm at a two-story structure at 20721 Kilbourne Loop about 10:15 p.m. on May 14, said Fire Inspector Dan Derlacki. The home, under construction by the Hollman Company of Wilsonville, Oregon, was fully involved in fire when crews arrived.

17 firefighters from four engine companies and two command vehicles quickly watered down neighboring homes which were in danger from the intense heat, Derlacki said. Crews got control of the fire quickly and were able to keep the fire contained to the partially completed home, although neighboring houses sustained moderate heat damage.

The building, valued at \$200,000, was a complete loss. Crews remained on scene throughout most of the night to mop up, and the cause of the fire remains under investigation, the fire inspector said.

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