

Fire destroys mobile home

GVFD has long night, with structure fire and gas leak
Staff Report

Galax firefighters had a long night this weekend, tackling a structure fire and a leaky propane tank back-to-back on July 14. Sunday at 12:37 a.m., the Galax Volunteer Fire Department was called to a structure fire on Spring Run Lane, Lot 18, in a mobile home park off Fries Road.

When units arrived, they found one mobile home engulfed in flame, with the

fire threatening a second nearby residence, the GVFD reported.

Both occupants were out of the mobile home when the fire departments arrived. They were evaluated for smoke inhalation by Galax-Grayson EMS.

“Engine 2 pulled two lines, quickly cooling the exposure, then making entry to save what they could of the back of the struc-

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GVFD photo



Chamber cooks up changes for BBQ contest

A new wing contest for amateurs, more food options and other changes announced for this week’s Smoke on the Mountain, Virginia’s official state BBQ championship

By SHANNON WATKINS
Staff

The 16th Annual Smoke on the Mountain Virginia State Barbecue Championship is coming to Galax yet again this week (July 19-20), with a total \$9,000 purse for competitors.

The contest is held by the Twin County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Galax.

“So far we have 18 [professional] teams and they’re still coming in,” said the Chamber’s Jason Baumgardner, “and then five [amateur] Patio Porker teams. “We are trying to make every effort to have more for the community to do.”

For instance, there’s the much-touted No Pro Wing Show, a Friday evening chicken-wing event for non-professionals to compete in. “It’s a new event, so you don’t always hear a lot,” said Baumgardner, who is in charge of this event. “I think a lot of people are going to sign up the day of. They’re fine to do that, we don’t have an issue with it.”



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Comcast to launch gigabit internet service

Galax customers will soon have access to super-fast internet connections

Staff Report

Comcast is launching an internet service that will deliver speeds of up to one gigabit-per-second to residential and business customers, and Galax will be one of the first to receive it.

The telecom company announced last week that, beginning later this month, it will offer the gigabit internet service to customers in Galax, Glade Spring, Marion and Abingdon. Comcast said it can

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RODEO RIDES AGAIN

What’s harder than riding an unbroken horse? Trying to snap a clear picture of one. The Oakland Ruritan Club hosted a Southern Rodeo Association event at Felts Park on July 5-6, featuring li'l partners, big prizes, clowns, cowboys and cow-girls who exhibited remarkable skills and a lot of pure grit. Especially notable was cowboy Harold Miller (above, center), in his mid-60s and still riding bucking broncs; he came in first in the sport and second overall in the Galax rodeo.

Gazette photos by Shannon Watkins



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