



Town of Falmouth
Fire-EMS Department
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NEWS RELEASE - 2013-02

For Immediate Release: April 1, 2013

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Falmouth Fire-EMS Responds to House Fire

On Monday April 1st at 4:07 p.m. the Falmouth Fire-EMS Department responded to a report of a fire in a residence at 18 Birkdale Road. A passerby called in smoke coming from the roof of a single family home located in the Falmouth Country Club. Crews arrived on scene to find smoke coming from the back of the house. Upon making entry under heavy smoke conditions and in zero visibility, the first fire crews encountered a large hole in the floor just inside the front door. Crews had to back out and make another entry into the rear of the residence. Once inside crews found fire burning in the basement and on the 1st and 2nd floors of the building. The fire had burned a hole through the entire center of the residence on all 3 floors through the stairwell. To attack the fire on the second floor fire crews had to make entry through two 2nd floor windows on either side of the house using ladders.

Crews were able to extinguish the fire on all floors in less than 30 minutes. Nobody was home at the time of the fire and one pet is still unaccounted for. The home did sustain major damage to the interior of the building and the State Fire Marshall's Office was called in to help determine the cause of the fire.

The Portland and Cumberland Fire Departments assisted Falmouth firefighters on scene and covering the Falmouth Fire Stations during the fire. Birkdale Road was closed for approximately 2 hours due to fire equipment and hoses in the roadway. It was re-opened after 6 pm.

End of release.

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