



Timing made this fire even more tragic as the young couple lost all nursery supplies for their new baby

## Early morning fire damages house, destroys contents

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A fire, believed to have started in the back porch of a Birtle home at the corner of Vine and 11th Street, early on Saturday morning, Oct. 16, resulted in the Birtle and District Volunteer Fire Department responding to a call at 3:40 a.m. The shed was engulfed in flames and was totally destroyed, while the exterior and interior of the older home, owned by Dwight Baker, sustained extensive charring and smoke damage.

Fire fighters responded immediately and worked to control the stubborn fire until later in the morning. Cause of this early morning fire is still under investigation by both the Fire Department and the Office of the Fire Commissioner.

Contents of the house are believed to have been totally destroyed, either by blaze or by smoke damage. Friends and neighbours have since organized a donations process to help the young couple, relatives of the Bakers, to regroup and restock their home and possessions, in light of the fact that all of their clothing, along with household goods, have been destroyed. Also lost in the blaze were all the nursery supplies they had been organizing for the arrival of their child, a girl, who arrived on Tuesday, Oct. 19. Any baby items, adult or baby clothing or household items would be gratefully received, to help these young victims of tragedy to rebuild their home. Anyone wishing to help out may deliver the items to the Baker residence on Vine Street.