

THE SOURCE

For Shelby Township, Sterling Heights, Romeo, Utica and Washington Township

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Officials investigate house fire

Large blaze damages Mallard Court residence

By SEAN DELANEY

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The Shelby Township Fire Department is investigating after an early morning fire on June 28 caused significant damage to a house on Mallard Court near 21 Mile and Hayes roads.

“Shortly before 5 a.m., the homeowner woke up, looked out the kitchen window and saw a large fire outside on the deck area,” Fire Chief Jim Swinkowski said. “They immediately called 911, and when we got here a few minutes later the fire had already consumed most of the deck and spread to the second floor and the attic.”

The source of the fire, which burned off most of the roof over the kitchen and garage, remains under investigation.

“Right now we’re trying to find



RAY SKOWRONEK – DIGITAL FIRST MEDIA

A house on Mallard Court in Shelby Township was the site of a fire that will likely force the owners to rebuild. The home is shown from the rear where the deck would be, which investigators suspect may have been the point of origin.

the area of origin,” Swinkowski said. “We know there wasn’t a party and they weren’t using the barbecue, so there’s nothing that’s

jumping out at us right away, other than there were a lot of fireworks going off in the area overnight.”

The 2011 Michigan Fireworks

Safety Act allows fireworks to be discharged the day before, day of, and day after any of the 10 national holidays, including the

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Fire Chief Jim Swinkowski

Fourth of July.

“People like to shoot off fireworks, and that’s the whole problem with this ridiculous law,” Swinkowski said. “You can shoot off whatever you want. There’s no consideration that what goes up must come down.”

A couple that was asleep inside the home when the fire broke out was able to escape without injury, Swinkowski said.

Anyone with information about the incident is urged to contact the Shelby Township Fire Department at 586-731-3476.