



## **Mom Finds Son Dead in Burning Longmont House**

By Pierrette J. Shields, Longmont Times-Call  
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LONGMONT — A 34-year old man found in the burning basement of a home on the 1300 block of Dogwood Lane on Tuesday morning was pronounced dead after paramedics got him to Longmont United Hospital, according to police.

Officers are withholding the man's identity pending a coroner's investigation.

Detective Gregg Ferrill said the man's mother found him in the basement of the home, which he rented from his family. While Ferrill declined to give details, he said the man's mother received some information suggesting she should check on his welfare, so she went to the house.

"She was the initial family member on scene," he said. Paramedics provided her with oxygen outside of the house.

Police and firefighters arrived at the home at about 11:10 a.m. after receiving a call about a possible suicide and structure fire, and found the house filled with smoke. They got the man out of the basement and police, paramedics, and firefighters performed CPR as they loaded him into an ambulance.

Ferrill said Tuesday was the man's 34th birthday.

He said the fire, which was confined to the basement, was not large, but it filled the house with smoke. Firefighters ran large fans to clear the air so detectives could investigate.

"Obviously, there are times when fires are used to cover up evidence," he said, adding that police have not found anything to suggest the man's death is suspicious.

The man lived in the basement of the home, which did not have tenants upstairs, Ferrill said.

The man's mother and her boyfriend stayed outside the home after he was taken to the hospital to speak with police and fire investigators.

Ferrill said the cause and manner of death will be determined by the Boulder County Coroner. He said he does not know how the man died, although he said the man did not have any external injuries.