

## NEWS

## Funeral homes to match Bampa's House donations

Jeff Smith Corning Leader

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The act of giving makes a nice gift, if it's done correctly.

The message is everywhere, this holiday — give the gift of giving — and that's exactly what Carpenter's, Phillips and Carpenter-Flint funeral homes in collaboration with Bampa's House are doing.

Do good and feel good — the perfect gift is a gift to charity.

"We would like to encourage the community to make a donation this December to Bampa's House," said Garrett DuVall, co-owner of the three funeral homes. "We have partnered with them for the month of December to encourage private, small donations to Bampa's House."

The owners of the three funeral homes are offering to match the total of all personal donations in the month of December up to \$5,000.

"Bampa's House is closer to opening, and we can feel the excitement from everyone in the community," DuVall said. "We fully support the Bampa's House mission and understand the need for this in our community."

DuVall said instead of just offering a donation, the owners of the funeral homes want to help encourage others to donate this holiday season.

"We are offering to match the total of all personal donations in the month of December up to \$5,000," DuVall said.

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Charlotte Dugan, wife of Jim Dugan, the man who Bampa's House was named after, called the collaboration a gift, and a great thing for Bampa's House to receive during the Christmas season.

"Myself and the Bampa's House Board of Directors truly appreciate what the owners of Carpenter's, Carpenters-Flint, and Phillips (funeral homes) have done for Bampa's House ever since the inception of our concept," Dugan said.

DuVall said the collaboration really wanted to stress and highlight the importance of any size of donation to Bampa's House.

"That's why we are going this, to encourage people to donate, even if it's just \$20 to \$25 dollars we will match that because every donation makes a difference," DuVall said. "(Bampa's House) will be an asset to our community."

Kelly Copp, co-owners of the funeral homes, said in the spirit of giving, in the month of December, the organization annually gives to a worthy cause.

"It is a practice for us to select an organization to donate to at the end of each year," Copp said. "This year we decided as a group to donate to the Bampa's House."

"It is especially important for Bampa's House, because they're not open yet," said Pete Russell, co-owner of the funeral homes. "They need all the support they can get right now."

To learn more about Bampa's House or to make a donation, visit its website.

The non-profit Bampa's House is named after deceased Jim Dugan, who was called Bampa by his grandchildren. He was a life-long resident of the Corning-Painted Post area, spending his career at Corning Community College, volunteering through the Lions Club, and facilitating beer tastings with the Better Beer Boys, a local beer tasting group.