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LOCAL

Bampa's House ready for summer opening

 $\textbf{Jeff Smith}\ jsmith@the-leader.com$

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CORNING - Bampa's House, a non-profit comfort care home focused on making the end-of-life care experience better for the community, is nearing completion and expects to open in the mid-summer months.

"We have remained busy at Bampa's House during the challenging times," said Joan Wilson, President of the Bampa's House Board of Directors. "Our mission and the need for our service has not changed."

Wilson said Bampa's House has recently hired registered nurse Ann Roberts as executive director, identified the volunteer coordinator, completed the plan for volunteer training, gathered supplies needed for the running of the home and put the finishing touches on the reconstruction.

Roberts said Bampa's House is continuing to plan out the opening, which officials hope will happen sometime this summer.

In order to do so, Bampa's House needs volunteers and paid overnight staff, Roberts said. There are both caregiving and non-caregiving volunteer opportunities.

"We need a lot of volunteers," Wilson said. "Volunteers work four-hour shifts. If there are two residents staying at the Bampa's House, we need 54 volunteer shifts. The overnight shifts from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. will be paid."

Anyone interested can contact Bampa's House at ann.roberts@bampashouse.org or by calling 654-4205.

Construction at the Bampa's House, at 170 East First St., Corning, began in February 2019.

The overall construction cost was about \$500,000, officials said.

The non-profit Bampa's House is named after the late Jim Dugan, who was called Bampa by his grandchildren. He was a lifelong 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.

To learn more about the Bampa's House, go to bampashouse.org.