



Southington Community YMCA will honor Ron, Nancy Serafino

Published: Friday, 4 November 2022 12:03

@brianjohnsonBP

SOUTHINGTON – The Southington Community YMCA will honor Ron and Nancy Serafino, who formerly owned Serafino Pharmacy, with this year's Compass Awards at the annual Forever in Blue Jeans Gala Nov. 18 at The Aqua Turf Club.

The gala will be held starting at 6 p.m. at the banquet facility at 556 Mulberry St. The fundraiser will support the YMCA Camp Sloper Capital Campaign.



Ron & Nancy Serafino -Photo submitted by Mark Guerin, marketing director with the Southington YMCA

During the gala, Ron and Nancy Serafino will be presented with the Compass Award, which is presented annually to those who have made the community a better place by giving back. Serafino Pharmacy, which was located at 36 N. Main St., closed last September after 65 years in business. It was originally started by Ron Serafino's father Paul in 1956 and Ron Serafino took over in 1984.

Mark Guerin, marketing director at the Southington Community YMCA, said that the Serafino Family have spent their lives serving their community.

"Ron received his Pharmaceutical Bachelor's Degree from UConn in 1974 and began working with his father Paul at the family pharmacy," he said. "Ron and Nancy met at the pharmacy and both carried on the legacy of Ron's father, running and growing the business together and taking care of many generations of families. Throughout their years running Serafino Pharmacy, Ron and Nancy's selfless support of the community went above and beyond, building personal and lasting relationships with customers out of genuine love and care. Often not knowing the meaning of 'closing time', an 80-hour work week was not out of the ordinary for Ron, and Nancy would be right there supporting him, both always making sure that their customers were well cared for."

In addition, Ron Serafino was a founding director of the Bank of Southington, a member of Unico, a member of the Friends of Southington Animal Control and a volunteer at the Southington Dog Pound.

Nancy Serafino started "The Silent Network", a program which assists those in need of clothing or household items. She also served on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, as well as volunteering at Urbin Kelly School, assisting teachers and tutoring students.

Guerin said that Ron and Nancy Serafino have also been "great supporters" of the local YMCA.

"Nancy served on the Y Board from 1993 to 1995 and both supported the Y's child care programs and kids," he said.

Mark Pooler, CEO of the Southington-Cheshire Community YMCA, said that the Serafino family are the "type of people that make Southington such a special place."

"They ran their business with great work ethic and pride and were always there for the customer with sound advice and diligent care," he said. "Beyond the pharmacy, they gave back to the community and supported many organizations. We are happy to honor a family that has worked hard and been so generous to so many in Southington."

Ron Serafino said he was initially surprised to learn he would receive this year's Compass Award.

"I thought Mark was calling to remind me to get our tickets," he said. "I never expected this. My wife, Nancy and I have always dedicated ourselves to making a positive impact on the community, not only by serving 65 years as a local, independent pharmacy, but also in supporting organizations we felt were assets to our great town. We are so humbled to have been chosen for this award and plan to continue in this direction in the future."

The Camp Sloper Capital Campaign will support the dredging of Sloper Pond to keep it healthy. The gala will also support facility improvements at the camp including new bathrooms and changing rooms, a new splash pad, an additional pavilion and other infrastructure improvements. Additionally, funds will support camp scholarships, childcare assistance and YMCA memberships.

The title sponsors for this year's Forever in Blue Jeans event are Hartford HealthCare, and the Main Street Community Foundation. Other sponsors include COCC, Coca-Cola, Cox Communications, Network Design & Construction Inc, Guaranteed Rate, Maximum Sound and Security, Southington STEPS and more.

Additional sponsorship opportunities are available. To become a sponsor, email Julie Giancesini at jgiancesini@sccymca.org,

Tickets are \$80.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit sccymca.org or call 860-628-5597.

Brian M. Johnson can be reached at 860-973-1806 or bjohnson@bristolpress.com.