



February 2024 Newsletter

As Valentine's Day is approaching, we are reminded to share moments of friendship and love with others. While this is only one day it should be a reminder to practice this every day. A few other ideas different from giving a box of candy or flowers, although candy and flowers are appreciated, would be a simple positive affirmation, a love letter expressing how much you appreciate your significant other, and perhaps a date night. Extend your days of caring by doing volunteer work which will bring you more happiness than you can imagine. Do it as a couple for additional bonding time.

I would like to congratulate Ken Stoneburg for taking on the challenge of President of our Chamber. As he expressed, participation of the membership is necessary for a successful chamber to grow and energize our business community. Plan to do one act this month that would show Ken that you are present and supportive.

This month we have a couple of planned events. February 6th is our annual chili cook off. The event starts at 6:00. Each person in attendance both enjoys the tastings and votes for their top choice and a second prize is awarded to the top chili by a panel of three expert judges. A donation box will be there for donations to a local food pantry. Come prepared to taste and share in this social networking event.

Also on February 14, we are holding a leads breakfast at the Camillus Fire Department 5801 Newport Rd. at 8 AM. Breakfast will be prepared by Rodfather's Catering. Remember to prepare your elevator speech and bring your tips. This is another great networking opportunity to meet new and fellow businesspeople.

February 26th at the Wildcats sports bar and restaurant is holding its annual Awards dinner. Tickets are available online at the Greater Camillus Chamber of Commerce's website, Price is \$36.00. It is quite a spread, come celebrate with our fellow members and honor the award winners for Business of the Year – Buranich Funeral Home and Citizen of the year – George Mango.

As voted Citizen of the Year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Maryanne Dowling and Robert Maynard for their nomination, and the board for their selection and support. I am profoundly grateful and humbled by this recognition.

This month's Business of the month goes to Sam Rao's florist.

Have a wonderful and successful month.

George Mango
Board member
Howard Hanna Real Estate

2023 Business of the Year/ Citizen of the Year

We would like to congratulate our Business of the Year
and Citizen of the Year

2023 Business of the Year- Buranich Funeral Home

2023 Citizen of the Year- George Mango

These members have demonstrated exceptional dedication, service and leadership in our community. Their hard work, passion and perseverance have not only inspired those around them, but have also made a positive difference in the Camillus area. Thank you for all you do!

Join us in recognizing our 2023 winners at the Award Banquet on February 26th at Wildcat! Learn more about the event and register here- <https://camilluschamber.com/event-5551846>

Our February Business of the Month is...



Sam Rao Florist

Sam Rao Florist has been serving Central New York since 1949 at their original location. Locally owned and operated, they are a mainstay in the community. Committed to personalized service, they offer a wide range of fresh floral arrangements, planters and custom designed seasonal silk keepsakes.

Their remodeled and expanded showrooms feature the best everyday, seasonal and holiday giftware, keepsakes and room accessories, many unique and made in the USA. These are great to add to your floral selections. Their experienced staff of professional designers is dedicated to helping make your floral purchases unique and perfect for that special someone and occasion.

When you select Sam Rao Florist as your choice for flowers, they guarantee freshness and our personal service to you. All orders from our web site are treated as if you are in our shop.

To learn more, visit <https://www.samraoflorist.com>.

Upcoming Events

February 6th- 2024 Chili Cook Off

Camillus Senior Center- 27 1st Street, Camillus, NY 13031

Open to the Public.

There is no cost to attend, but we will be collecting donations from attendees for a local food pantry.

We will be awarding a prize for the People's Choice Best Chili and a prize for the Judges' Choice Best Chili.

Setup for participants at 5:30.

Judging starts at 6:00.

Participants in the Cook-Off:

Please e-mail greatercamilluschamber@gmail.com to let us know you are bringing a chili. Those bringing chili should bring a crock pot, extension cord and serving spoon.

Learn more here- <https://camilluschamber.com/event-5523585>

February 14th- February Monthly Leads Breakfast

Hosted by: Camillus Fire Department

5801 Newport Road, Camillus, NY 13031

Breakfast will be hosted at Camillus Fire Department.

Breakfast starts at 8, please arrive by 7:45 so we can get started on-time.

Breakfast is now pre-paid online and is \$10. We will still be doing a 50/50 raffle after the breakfast- tickets will be available at the breakfast for the raffle for an additional \$1.

Be prepared to promote your business with your one minute elevator pitch.

Please RSVP by 2/8/202- you can do so online-

<https://camilluschamber.com/event-5512983>

February 19th- Coffee Talks

Hosted by: SECNY Fairmount

3508 West Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13219

**PLEASE NOTE THE DIFFERENT LOCATION FOR FEBRUARY!
SECNY FAIRMOUNT HOSTING!**

This is an informal networking opportunity. Enjoy a complimentary cup of coffee and a light breakfast while chatting with fellow business people on a more personal level.

Want to discuss how to be more involved in the Chamber? Want to host a Chamber event? There are at least 2 Board members at every Coffee Talks that you can chat with!

We hope to see you there!

You can RSVP online here- <https://camilluschamber.com/event-5541518>

February 24th- TK Tavern on the Hill Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting

3855 Split Rock Road, Camillus, NY 13031

TK Tavern is excited to announce their grand opening on Split Rock Road on February 24th! Travis and Kody are so excited to be back with the Camillus community! They are coming back stronger than ever, with amazing food, drinks and entertainment!

You can RSVP online here- <https://camilluschamber.com/event-5590228>

February 26th- 2023 Award Banquet

The Wildcat- 3680 Milton Ave., Camillus, NY 13031

Please join us to celebrate them at our 2023 Annual Awards Banquet on February 26th at The Wildcat.

5:30 pm Social Hour (Cash Bar)

6:30 pm Dinner and Awards

Dinner Menu: Appetizers, Salad, Baked Chicken, Sausage Peppers and Onions, Roasted Potatoes, Pasta, Meatballs, and Dessert

Soft drinks included.

\$36 per guest

Kids 10 and under- \$15

Register and pay online by 2/22/2024.

You can RSVP online here- <https://camilluschamber.com/event-5551846>

New Members

We want to wish a warm welcome to our newest Chamber members:

- **Speach Family Candy Shoppe, Inc.:** Speach Family Candy Shoppe has been a beloved family-owned and operated business since 1920. With a commitment to handcrafting chocolates and confections, they take pride in continuing our tradition of creating delectable treats. Their most famous creation is their "I'll Be Dipped" Chocolate Covered Potato Chips, a unique and irresistible combination of sweet and salty. Another customer favorite are their Dessert Truffles by Susan, exquisitely crafted chocolate truffles that are sure to satisfy any sweet tooth. And don't miss out on their Chocolate Brickles, a delightful twist on traditional chocolate bark. At Speach Family Candy Shoppe, they are dedicated to providing their customers with the finest quality chocolates and confections, made with love and care. Learn more at www.speachcandy.com
- **Guardicloud:** At GuardiCloud, their mission is clear – to be the trusted guardians of your digital assets. They believe that every business, big or small, deserves the highest level of protection in the ever-changing landscape of technology. Their aim is not just to provide services but to create lasting partnerships where your success is at the forefront of everything they do. Learn more at <https://guardicloud.com>
- **TK Tavern on the Hill:** Opening on February 24th, TK Tavern is excited to announce their new location on Split Rock Road! They are excited to be back with their Camillus community! Offering daily drink and food specials in a

comfortable and convenient location. Learn more at www.tktavern.com

- **CNYTAXEXPERTS:** At CNY Tax Experts, their tax professionals, formerly with Empower Tax Services, have been providing top notch tax services to individuals and businesses in Central New York for over 20 years. Their team of tax professionals has decades of experience in the tax industry. They specialize in tax planning, preparation, and resolution for individuals and businesses of all sizes. They offer a wide range of tax services, including tax preparation, planning, and tax resolution. Their goal is to help our clients minimize their tax liability and maximize their financial success. Learn more at CNYTAXEXPERTS.COM
- **Acupuncture Yang:** Dr. Junjie "Jessie" Yang graduated from Shandong University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (SDUTCM), one of the best medical schools in China. She is a Licensed TCM physician in China as well as a professor and is NCCAOM Board Certified. She was the visiting scholar at the Rehab Center of Upstate University Hospital of SUNY at Syracuse and a visiting professor at Finger Lakes School of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine at New York Chiropractic College. She has gained rich clinical experience practicing TCM acupuncture both in China and in the USA for more than 3 decades. If you have not had a dramatic effect with acupuncture, please come to Dr. Jessie Yang and see that it can WORK EVERY SINGLE TIME! Learn more at <https://www.cardinalchiropractic.org/acupuncture>

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