

Wagner College Chai Society awards dinner is Tuesday

By MAURA GRUNLUND
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

The Wagner College Chai Society has announced the honorees for its fifth annual Community Mitzvah Awards to be given on Tuesday at the Joan and Alan Bernikow JCC in Sea View.

Samantha Zanatta of Annadale will receive the Outstanding Student Award. The Chai Society Member Award will go to Aletta and Robert Diamond of Scotch Plains, N.J. Henry Salmon of Edison, N.J., will garner the Outstanding Community Member Award.

Ms. Zanatta is a graduating senior who has served on the board of Hillel and been involved in the Jewish community at Wagner College since freshman year. She taught Hebrew School at Temple Ahavath Israel in Tottenville from her freshman through junior years.

"My job was to coordinate the social events, and although attendance is not so high, I would say it definitely has improved since the beginning," said Ms. Zanatta of her efforts at Wagner College.

"We also have had many social events with the Chai Society during which I have highly enjoyed the networking aspect of things."

With a major in psychology and minors in Spanish and education, she is looking forward to graduation.

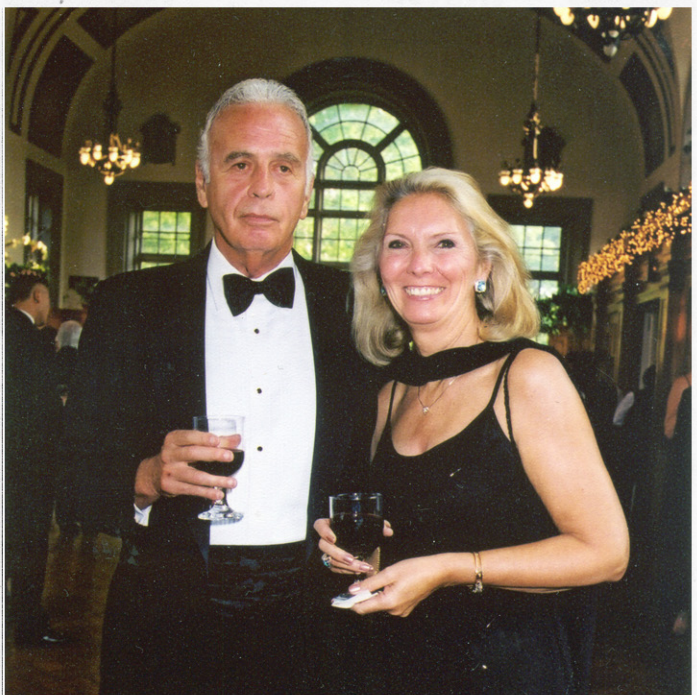
"I'm unsure where my future may take me: grad school, working — or maybe even Israel," Ms. Zanatta said.

The Diamonds, who grew up on Staten Island, are charter members of the Chai Society and, along with Dennis and Elaine Bloomfield, were founding co-chairs. Diamond is part owner and recently retired as the manager of Henco Realty Company, a family-owned commercial real estate business in Grymes Hill. Mrs. Diamond taught in the public schools for 30 years before retiring in 1995. A Wagner College alumna, she has served on the college's board of trustees since 2003.

Salmon earned his bachelor's degree in real estate and urban development from American University, where he won the Charles C. Glover Award for Student Achievement. After earning his master's in business administration from Cornell University, Salmon spent five years at Citicorp in Manhattan before founding FNS Corporate Funding in San Francisco.

Since 1985, Salmon has been president and chief appraiser for Equity Valuation Associates in Castleton Corners, which does commercial, industrial and residential real estate appraisals, consulting and feasibility analysis in New York and New Jersey. Salmon is the immediate past board chairman of the Staten Island Museum and a recipient of the Allan Weissglass Distinguished Leadership Award from the JCC. Salmon has served in a number of leadership volunteer positions at the College of Staten Island, on various community boards and on the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Linda, have three children and two grandchildren.

The dinner is at 6:30 p.m. in the Bernikow JCC at 1466



Aletta and Robert Diamond of Scotch Plains, N.J., are the winners of the Wagner College Chai Society's Outstanding Community Member Award.



Henry Salmon of Edison, N.J., will also receive an Outstanding Community Member Award.



Samantha Zanatta of Annadale will receive the Outstanding Student Award.

Manor Rd. For information and tickets, which are \$150, call Drew Babitts at 718-420-4516.

FIRST NIGHT SEDER

Temple Emanu-El in Port Richmond is holding a First Night Seder on April 6.

RSVP by Thursday for the 7:15 p.m. seder, which will be held after the 6:30 p.m. Mincha/Ma'ariv service. The cost is \$36 for adults, \$15 for children (13 and younger) and \$5 for children younger than 5. Call the Temple Office at 718-442-5966 to make a reservation.

The Kiddush Committee will also have a Passover Luncheon following the second day morning service at 9 a.m. on April 8. The luncheon is free but reservations through the temple office are required. Sisterhood is continuing to sponsor a Food Drive for COJO. Call the Temple office for details. Temple Emanu-El is at 984 Post Ave.

B'NAI JESHURUN

A Community Passover Seder will be held on April 5 at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in West Brighton.

Evening services will be at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Seder at 7 p.m. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$20 for children (12 and younger). RSVP to Mark Ben-Aron at 347-424-9745. There will be a bus trip to Harrah's Casino in Atlantic City on Sunday. Attendees will receive a \$25 casino voucher to offset the \$40 cost. RSVP to Joel Brimmer at Brimmer911@aol.com or call 718-494-0509.

Representatives of the "Matzo Factory" will demonstrate the art of making hand-made matzos from 9 to 10 a.m. on April 1. Admission is

free for B'nai Jeshurun Hebrew School students and \$5.50 for everyone else.

The Hebrew School will hold its annual "Model Seder" on April 5 from 4:20-6 p.m. B'nai Jeshurun is at 275 Martling Ave.

TEMPLE ISRAEL

Temple Israel of Staten Island's Sisterhood-sponsored Community Seder will be on April 6 in Randall Manor.

The 6 p.m. event features a traditional kosher for Passover meal and a Seder Plate at each table. Seating is limited so for reservations contact the temple office by e-mail at tisievents@gmail.com or call 718-727-2231. Members' discounts of \$5 per ticket end today with the price rising tomorrow to \$45 per adult and \$27 for children. Contact the temple office for non-member prices. Vegetarian meals are available.

The Men's Seder led by Rabbi Michael Howald and Brotherhood President David Meltzer will be on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Donations will be accepted.

Services led by Rabbi Howald and student Cantor Steven Long will be held at 8 p.m. tonight. Tomorrow's Torah study at 10 a.m. will be followed by services at 11 a.m. Temple Israel is at 315 Forest Ave.

FAMILY SHABBAT

Rabbi Shlomo Uzhangsky and his wife, Chana, will host a Family Shabbat tonight at Young Israel of Staten Island in Willowbrook.

The 7 p.m. event will feature a special program for children and a gourmet dinner. The cost is \$36 per adults and \$24 per child. For reservations, consult Si-jew.com.