An Update Letter from President Aletta Diamond

I hope you enjoyed our recent Guild luncheon as much as I. I’ll admit that I was skeptical that a virtual “luncheon” would work, but now I am a believer! Of course, the success of the event is due to the dedication and attention to detail of Kaitlin Girton and Karen Kennedy. I want to say “thank you” to Chef Michael who did a splendid job of teaching us how to make a delicious pumpkin soup (that I was able to taste and it was scrumptious). The recipe is included with this newsletter, so give it a try! This newsletter includes a brief article by our own Roberta DiVuolo on the impact the COVID virus has had on a local charity.

Please stay safe and know that you and the Guild are strong and are not forgotten.

Aletta Kipp Diamond ’65 H’15

The Guild Family Makes a Difference in a Life

By Michael Muccino, First Vice President

A word that most frequently describes the relationship among all members of the Wagner community is “family.” Every one of us knows that there is no exaggeration at all in this description. As in any true family, when one member is in a difficult situation, the rest of us display heartfelt concern and a willingness to lend any assistance possible. So, when Guild member, Susan Gosser Tremblay ’78, revealed a recent health concern, she immediately began receiving encouragement and assistance from her friends, especially from her Guild family. The strength of the Wagner College Guild has always been the dedication and concern for our wonderful members, and this is now once again evident in the love and support given to Susan. So it is with much thanks and pride that we commend our members for holding Susan so dear as “one of our own.” With support from friends, family, church and her Wagner Guild family, Sue will be strengthened by the kind of love that she so generously has shared with us through the years.
The Salvation Army Helps the Staten Island Community
During the COVID-19 Pandemic

By Roberta DiVuolo, Member At-Large

As an Advisory Board Member of the Salvation Army, I am very proud of the excellent work they are doing during this difficult time. I caught up recently with Lieutenant Katie Tripari and Lieutenant Jacknier Tripari, who run the Salvation Army Stapleton Corp. The Salvation Army has experienced an increased need over these last few months as Staten Island residents have faced this difficult crisis. In response to this increased need, they have offered critical support by providing food boxes, hot meals and emotional/spiritual encouragement. Given the vulnerability of many of our older and/or immune compromised residents, the Salvation Army has also offered home deliveries of food during this time.

The children of our community have certainly been impacted throughout this crisis. In an effort to keep them engaged, learning and encouraged during this time of social distancing, the Salvation Army provided children with the opportunity to participate in a program called “Camp in a Box.” Through “Camp in a Box,” they were able to connect with these children and offer them songs, games, activities and a chance to engage with one another through a virtual platform. The Salvation Army fully intends to continue to support our Staten Island community through it all. This is just a glimpse into what this organization has accomplished in our community throughout this difficult time.

The Guild Hosts Its First Virtual “Luncheon”

The Guild’s first virtual “luncheon” - a Halloween Zoom - turned out to have no tricks, but plenty of treats thanks to Wagner College’s Executive Chef Michael Purpura, who was the guest speaker. He demonstrated how to make a delicious pumpkin soup and pumpkin seed toffee. He did an incredible job in front of the camera and everything was done so professionally that it felt like we were watching a real television cooking show! We owe Chef Michael, and his partner Bob Soltmann, a great big THANK YOU! We are also most grateful to our Guild members and friends for their continued support. We are happy to announce that the virtual event raised more than $1,700 in support of the Make a Difference Fund!