

September 2013  
Special Edition



**PENFIELD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**  
*United in Excellence*

# The Broadside

## REMINDERS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

- LPN Recognition Week: 10/6-10/12
- Deadline for Donation to the Sick Bank: 10/15
- Strides for Breast Cancer Walk: Sunday, 10/20



**Welcome Back to the 2013/2014  
School Year!**

## Sonia's Message

### PEA Executive Board

Welcome Back Everyone!

#### Sonia Basko

- PEA President
- English Teacher
- Penfield High School  
[sbaskopea@gmail.com](mailto:sbaskopea@gmail.com)  
Cell: [585-880-5860](tel:585-880-5860)

While it has been an exhausting two weeks back to work, I am happy to be in the classroom again. It is great to see so many PEA members in their shirts today and I'm especially thrilled that we are getting our first paychecks. I am further delighted to introduce you to some of our new members. I had the opportunity to meet with them at our New Member Luncheon during the last week of August and I can say for certain that they are a talented, focused, and energetic group. I know you will join me in welcoming them to Penfield and do your best to reach out to them. We have prepared this special "Welcome Back" Edition of the Broadside to both introduce you to our new members and to remind you who the building reps are in each building.

#### Russ Byer

- PEA Vice President
- Math Teacher
- Bay Trail Middle School  
[rbyerpea@gmail.com](mailto:rbyerpea@gmail.com)  
Cell: [585-330-4448](tel:585-330-4448)

I want to briefly mention that Sue Mietus will be our new Broadside Editor this year and I want to thank her for taking on this huge task. She is excited about this role and I'm confident that she will put together amazing newsletters for us as have our previous editors.

You can expect more about negotiations, day-to-day operations, committee reports and other updates in our October edition which will come out in early October.

#### Michael Pray

- PEA Treasurer
- Science Teacher
- Bay Trail Middle School  
[Peatreasurepenfield@gmail.com](mailto:Peatreasurepenfield@gmail.com)  
249-6450, Ext. 8480

I wish you all a fantastic school year and thank you for the privilege of serving as your president for another term.

In Solidarity,

*Sonia*

#### Liz Brown

- PEA Secretary
- 2nd Grade Teacher
- Cobbles Elementary School  
[peasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:peasecretary@gmail.com)  
249-6891 Ext. 8525



If you did not get a new PEA shirt email Sonia at: [sbaskopea@gmail.com](mailto:sbaskopea@gmail.com)  
The shirts ran large so unfortunately we are very low on smaller sizes but we will do our best to get everyone what they need.

## PEA Building Representatives

#### Penfield High School:

- Claudia Ditko
- Dave King
- Colleen Parkhurst
- Bob Young

#### Bay Trail Middle School:

- Kevin Leisten
- Kevin Quinn
- Frank Abreau

#### Cobbles Elementary:

- Kelly Limbeck
- Jane Saresky

#### Harris Hill Elementary:

- Randy Hartman
- Jeanne Crowther

#### Indian Landing Elementary:

- Tessa Greeno
- Mark Lenzi

#### Scribner Road Elementary:

- Carol Koncelik
- Amy Reinhardt

A heartfelt thank you to  
**Laura Case** for serving as  
the interim PEA Broadside  
Editor!

**Next Broadside Submission Deadline Is:**  
**Wednesday, October 2nd**

Send News, Comments, Questions, or Suggestions to:  
Sue Mietus, Broadside Editor  
[broadsidepea@gmail.com](mailto:broadsidepea@gmail.com)

## New PEA Members Have What It Takes!

### Bay Trail



**Sabrina Pettersson**, LTS School Counselor, House A

Sabrina is no stranger at Bay Trail after completing her fieldwork in House C last year. This is her first job in school counseling but she got her initial taste of helping kids at a job in a residential treatment center for troubled teens in Utah while she was in college. She enjoys listening to movie soundtracks, playing the piano, and spending time with her husband and sister. She looks forward to developing a system of resources which will help her to be an excellent school counselor.



**Torrey Pietarinen**, Reading

Torrey is excited to be able to challenge her students and interact with staff, administrators and families. She has always wanted to be a teacher and she brings with her 10 years of teaching experience. Originally from Marion, she is married with two children, ages 10 and 11. Her favorite TV show at the moment is Fringe, but she likes home and garden programming too. If she got lucky in the lottery, she would buy a Cooper Mini and set up college funds for her children.



**Sara Thomas**, LTS, School Counselor

Sara Thomas has been with Penfield previously in various long-term sub roles. We are happy to have her for her first full year as a school counselor at Bay Trail where she says she loves working in a school setting. She began her life as a Navy brat in San Diego, CA but moved back to the Rochester area (currently living in Fairport) to raise her own family. Sara loves being a Mom to her daughter, age 7.

#### *Other New Bay Trail Members We Missed*

**Katie Parasch**, School Nurse

**Megan Spencer**, Psychologist

**Danielle Thompson**, LTS, School Counselor, House B

**Pam McGary**, LTS, Music

#### *Returning to the Ranks*

**Laura Bobin**, Math

**Christopher Mason**, Special Education

**Julianne Grant** (T.A. this year)

**Cynthia Fox**, Family and Consumer Science

### (Almost) Roving Reporters Needed!

Are you one of those people who always knows "what's what" in your building? Would you like to share the interesting things your colleagues do in their classrooms? Then the Broadside needs you! We are looking for members to be our ears and eyes on the ground. If you're interested, please let me know with an email: [thebroadsidepea@gmail.com](mailto:thebroadsidepea@gmail.com)

Thanks!

Sue Mietus, Broadside Editor



**Cristina Lenzo**, Instructional Coach, K-12

In her previous career in the financial industry, Cristina was responsible for staff development and training. It was there that she realized that being a teacher was her long-term goal because she loved helping people gain deeper insight. She is a fitness and nutrition buff and enjoys watching dance shows. Born in raised in the Rochester area, she is happy to have joined PCSD and is looking forward to getting to know and work with teachers and administrators.

# New PEA Members Continued

## Cobbles



**Leticia Kalweit**, School Library Media Specialist

The phrase, “You can’t judge a book by its cover” is especially true with Leticia. She comes to us with not only a Masters of Library Science but also a Bachelors of Music in Piano Performance. She uses her musical skills as a church organist and teaches piano lessons in her “free” time. She also says that writing is a favorite hobby. But wait, there’s more! She also works as a book reviewer and highly recommends her latest read: Ice Dogs by Terry Lynn Johnson (Due to be released in February, 2014). She hopes to be able to connect with students and colleagues successfully in her role at Cobbles.



**Lisa Hryvniak**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Lisa is not a stranger in Penfield to be sure. With 5 long-term sub positions behind her, 2 at Indian Landing, she is more than ready to take on her own class. Her Ukrainian heritage has made her last name a bit of a challenge to pronounce but she suggests that you forget the H is there and just start with the R. She likes to run, watch Syracuse basketball, play basketball and soccer, and reads both fiction and non-fiction. She is thrilled to be in Penfield and wants to get to know her students and colleagues and also grow as a teacher.



**Will Kaufman**, Long-Term Sub, Special Education

Will is busy this fall! He is finishing his Masters in Childhood Literacy at SUNY Brockport and starting his first job. Hopefully he’ll be able to take a few minutes to enjoy his favorite comedian, Will Farrell, or play baseball, basketball, or golf. He loves seeing a student or athlete flourish under his guidance and wants to create amazing and valuable relationships with students, parents, administrators, faculty, and staff at Cobbles. He values his large extended family greatly and I’m sure at the next family gathering he’ll have much to share about his new experiences as a teacher.



**Jackie Suchanek**, Kindergarten

Another familiar face will be passing you in the halls this year if you hang your hat in Cobbles. Not only did Jackie complete her student teaching there, but she also covered 2 maternity leaves there last year! She cites her Kindergarten teacher as her biggest influence and says that she constantly went back to that teacher’s class to volunteer while she was still a student. She isn’t a couch potato to be certain with a passion for ballet, pointe, and jazz – she’s been dancing for over 19 years! She loves romantic comedies and is looking forward to working with her teacher team at Cobbles to best help her students.

### Another New Cobbles Member We Missed

**Rebecca Geblein**, .6 Music and .4 Music at Indian Landing

## New PEA Members Continued

### Harris Hill



**Ashlee Bryant**, Special Education, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Ashlee says that education is in her blood because many of her family members work in the field. She has 12 years of combined experience in teaching already including 8 years at School #17 in the Rochester City School District and 4 years as a literacy coach at Monroe #2 BOCES. She grew up baling hay and driving tractors in a rural town along the Mohawk River Valley and she's passionate about helping kids see where books can take them.



**Lindsey Fisher**, Gifted Education

Lindsey expects to have a successful year by pushing herself into new areas and by exploring different opportunities for growth as an educator. Hailing from Webster, she earned both her B.A. and M.S. from Nazareth College with a focus on Gifted Education. After 2 long-term substitute positions, this is her first tenure-track position. She has been dancing for more than 15 years and when she needs to relax she watches The Big Bang Theory on TV or reads fiction.

*Another Harris Hill Member We Missed*

**Ashley Socola**, Kindergarten



**Caitlin Brennan**, Long-Term Sub, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Caitlin is really busy these days! With 2 semesters left in her Educational Technology Specialist Master's program at Nazareth, she spends any remaining free time working out, reading, and hanging out with family and friends. She is the oldest of four children and a lot of her extended family lives in Ireland. She enjoys watching TV sitcoms and suspense-filled thrillers when she needs to unwind. She hopes to become a better teacher, help students learn and have fun this year at Harris Hill.



**Sara Ertel**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Sara is used to being surrounded by kids. Her mother ran a daycare center out of their home and as a child she knew her future would lead in the direction of teaching. She speaks Spanish and studied in Spain while in college at Geneseo. She loves to dance and watch dance related TV shows and movies. When she isn't spending time with her large extended family, she reads fiction for pleasure. The last book she read was The Good Thief by Hannah Tinti. She is enthusiastic about working collaboratively working with her 3<sup>rd</sup> grade team and getting to know each and every one of her students.



Are you unsure if you've made your one-time contribution of 2 days to the Sick Bank? Check with Mike Pray, our Treasurer!

[Peatreasurerpenfield@gmail.com](mailto:Peatreasurerpenfield@gmail.com)

# New PEA Members Continued

## More Additions to Harris Hill



**Shelby Sponholz**, Special Education

If Shelby doesn't win the lottery and travel the world, she'll be content to stay in Rochester and have a great year at Harris Hill. She earned her bachelor's degree with a concentration in special ed and math from SUNY Geneseo and her Master's degree in Technology Instruction from Western Governor's University. She loves working out by crossfit training, watching The Voice on TV, and spending time with her 3 year old niece.

## Indian Landing



**Katrina Servati**, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

This is Katrina's first job in education but with an MS in Literacy Education from St. John Fisher, she's hit the ground running. Her childhood in Hilton led her into the education field because both her teachers and her parents felt she would make a good teacher. She is currently reading "The Cuckoo's Calling" by JK Rowling and she's curious to know if she likes the author's adult works as much as she loved Harry Potter as a kid.



**Kali Knickerbocker**, Special Education

Kali is already a familiar face at Harris Hill after completing her action research project for her master's degree there last year. This is her first position in education and she is eager to meet the needs of her students. She is one of 5 children and grew up on a horse farm in Pittsford. She is engaged and spends her "free" time with her horses including a pony with which she does carriage rides.



**Melissa Gambino**, Enrichment

At the age of 6, Melissa asked for an overhead projector for her birthday and wanted to be a teacher when she grew up. Her Mom teaches in the Rochester City School District and when Melissa was little she would participate yearly in the "take your child to work day" where she became more and more inspired to be a teacher. She spent many years playing the violin, playing the piano, taking dance lessons, and being in musicals. She hopes to inspire (and be inspired by) her students and wants to push her student learners to higher levels of thinking.



### *Returning to Our Ranks*

**Steven Newman**, Physical Education

# New PEA Members Continued

## Scribner



**Jen Doiron**, K-2 Music

With 13 years of teaching experience under her belt, Jen brings a passion for music education to the PCSD. She grew up in Maine, Maryland, and Newfoundland and shared her childhood with one sister. The most recent book she's read was *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain and reads fiction for fun. Her favorite TV show is *QI* (a British comedy quiz show) and she's looking forward to taking some time and energy to enjoy the Rochester area.



**Jennifer Mosher**, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Instrumental Music

Jennifer is anxious to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro in 2015 but for now she's happy to have landed a full-time position after 5 long-term sub gigs around the Rochester area. She grew up on 100 acres of woods and swamp in Bergen and lived on a dirt road where she shared the dinner table with one younger sibling. *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer, a true story about the disastrous expedition up Mt Everest in 1996, was her last read and she likes a mix of fiction and non-fiction titles. She wants to continue learning and have fun teaching this year and is excited to maintain a successful and growing instrumental music program at Scribner.

### *Other Scribner Members We Missed*

**Melissa Gray**, Special Education

**Stephanie Zarnosky**, Special Education



We would like our members to participate in the Strides for Breast Cancer Walk on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Based on our PEA Member Interest Survey, many of our members are interested in volunteering for this event so we would like to make it available to you. We are in need of a Captain to coordinate this event, send out emails and answer questions. Captain packets will be coming out soon so we are anxious to get a leader in place. Please email Sonia if you are interested: [sbaskopea@gmail.com](mailto:sbaskopea@gmail.com)





## New PEA Members Continued

### PHS



**Liz Federici**, Chemistry

A former PHS graduate, Liz earned her B.S. in Biomedical Science and then went on to earn her M.S. in Inclusive Adolescent Education at Nazareth. She enjoys running, biking, horse-back riding, and fishing and considers herself a “complete science nerd”. If she won a million dollars, Liz says “2 words: more horses!” Liz hopes



**Jonathan Baxter**, English

Jonathan has 7 years of teaching experience under his belt including a 5-year stint at PS 191 in New York City. His passions are vinyl records, finding new live music, sports, and reading contemporary short fiction. If Jonathan won the lottery, he would buy a record store and listen to records all day.



**Troy Bajardi**, Social Studies

Troy joins the US history team at PHS this year with 9 years of experience in education including 2 at the Cayman international School in the Cayman Islands. Originally from Poughkeepsie, NY, Troy hopes to engage and excite his students to become more enthusiastic about our history.

#### *Our Newest Member!*

**Annie Hidley**, English

Don't Forget! If you plan on changing your personal email address, please forward the new one to our Secretary, Liz Brown, ASAP! You don't want to miss out on any important notifications!

[Peasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:Peasecretary@gmail.com)



**Indian Landing Showing Their Solidarity!**

## PEA New Member Luncheon: A Great Start to a New School Year!

*A huge thank you to **Michael Pray** for taking the great photos of our new members found in this edition.*

Traditionally, the PEA leadership has invited new PEA members to a luncheon during their orientation to Penfield CSD. The primary goal was to acclimate new members to the union, introduce them to union officers, and have them complete the necessary NYSUT paperwork.

The past two years have brought an improved format to our New Member luncheon. Not only did they meet union officers, but they also had the chance to meet and chat with current teachers and building reps. The officers also spoke about their area of expertise and informed new members about policies and protocols.



In addition, new members had the opportunity to peruse the New Member handbook which highlights parts of our contract and answers questions to which they may need immediate answers. The handbook was created in 2012 by the New Member Committee and is edited every year to reflect changes in contact information, dates, etc.

All in all, the luncheon was a big hit and both new members and current members felt they learned a little!

## Broadside Dates to Remember

	<u>Deadline for Submissions</u>	<u>Distribution Target Date</u>
September/October	10/2	10/4
November/December	12/4	12/6
January/February	2/5	2/7
March/April	4/2	4/4
May/June	6/4	6/6

### Special Editions

- ◆ National/Local Elections
- ◆ School Related Professionals
- ◆ School Board Elections
- ◆ Retirees Tribute

