

# RHAC

RUSH-HENRIETTA  
ALUMNI COUNCIL

www.rhnet.org

# Alumni Council Newsletter

Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council

September 2012

## RHAC Class Contacts

### Before 1960

Volunteer Wanted  
Contact Joe Bellanca

### 1960-1969

Joe Bellanca, President  
585-334-5147  
cjbellanca@  
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### 1970-1979

Dianne Osgood Meli  
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Laura Sadowski  
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### 1980-1989

Martha Mack  
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Brian Levy  
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### 1990-1999

Ann Grabowski  
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### 2000-2012

Volunteer Wanted  
Contact Joe Bellanca

## RHAC

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Henrietta, NY 14467  
(585) 359-5004

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## Alumni Council to Induct Four Grads into Hall of Fame

Rush-Henrietta alumni are invited to attend the homecoming football game on Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012, and welcome four new members to the district's alumni Hall of Fame.

Susan Moriarty Banker '74, Harry Bliss '82, Karyl Hurley '83, and Kimberly Pasch Arcoleo '73 will be welcomed into the Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council Hall of Fame on Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Senior High School, 1799 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta.

All district graduates are invited to attend this special event, which includes an alumni meet-and-greet at 2 p.m. in the tent near the entrance to Elmer Gordon Stadium, behind the high school. The Hall of Fame inductions are at 2:30 p.m. on the football field, preceding the annual homecoming football game.

"We do this every year, and the quality of the Hall of Fame nominees makes it difficult to choose just a few," says Joe Bellanca, a member of the Class of 1965 who serves as president of the Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council.

"This year, the Alumni Council again had many outstanding candidates from which to choose," he says. "Our 2012 Alumni Council Hall of Fame inductees represent a broad cross-section of professions, community

### Join in the Alumni Fun!

**When:** 2 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 6

**Where:** Senior High School,  
1799 Lehigh Station Road

Hall of Fame Ceremony at  
2:30 p.m. (football game follows)

Honorees profiled on pages 2-3.

service, and personal character. We are looking forward to welcoming them back to their alma mater, and into the Hall of Fame."

Next spring, the Rush-Henrietta Alumni Council will consider more nominees for the 2013 Hall of Fame. Names that were submitted this year will be considered again.

The Rush-Henrietta Education Foundation funds the annual Hall of Fame induction. The Foundation underwrote expenses for past recognition of Distinguished Alumni, now considered Hall of Famers.

For more information, call the Alumni Council hotline at (585) 359-5004 or e-mail cjbellanca@rochester.rr.com.

Visit the Alumni Center at [www.rhnet.org](http://www.rhnet.org)!



## Four Graduates Named to Hall of Fame

### Kimberly Pasch Arcoleo, Ph.D. Class of 1973

Kimberly Pasch Arcoleo, a member of the Rush-Henrietta Class of 1973, is associate professor and director of the Center for Promoting Health in Infants, Children, Adolescents & Women and associate professor of Pediatrics at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Her career focuses on maternal and child health, but for the past 15 years, she has been committed to ending health disparities among minority, poor and underserved children with asthma.

After graduating from SUNY Buffalo with a degree in Biology, Dr. Arcoleo received a master's in Public Health and a Ph.D. in Health Services Research from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.



In her position as director of the Center for Promoting Health in Infants, Children, Adolescents & Women, Dr. Arcoleo promotes the highest levels of health and wellness. Through pioneering research, translational activities and transdisciplinary research educational programs, she hopes to change the health paradigm from one of treating illness to promoting health and preventing illness. She trains and mentors undergraduate and graduate students and junior faculty, a role she finds fulfilling because she is able to prepare the next generation of researchers.

As associate professor of the College of Nursing at The Ohio State University, Dr. Arcoleo's interest in children extends beyond research to improving the clinical care they receive. To further this goal, she is partnering with Nationwide Children's Hospital to raise funds for a program that would provide the Columbus community with a mobile asthma clinic and potentially improve the health of over 50,000 children.

Her vast experience and expertise in the field of scientific research has garnered Dr. Arcoleo numerous grants, awards, and recognitions, among them: Outstanding Researcher Award, Arizona State University President's Award, Who's Who in America 2009, Outstanding Faculty Colleague Award and Building Character with Grace Award.

She credits Mr. Ron Walker, her high school biology teacher, with inspiring her lifelong passion for research. She lives with her husband in Dublin, Ohio.

### Susan Moriarty Banker Class of 1974

Susan Moriarty Banker, a 1974 Rush-Henrietta graduate, is program coordinator at Pieters Family Life Center and a longtime community servant who developed her leadership skills as a parent and refined them years later as a member of the Board of Education.

The mother of three, Mrs. Banker has been invested in our community for decades. She served as a Cub Scout den mother and committee member for Boy Scout Troop 334. She volunteered with parent groups at Leary Elementary School, Roth Middle School, and the Senior High School. She helped shape the district through her service as chair and vice chair of the District Parent Advisory Council and as a parent representative for the Shared Decision Making Committee.



In keeping with her personal philosophy of giving back, Mrs. Banker continued to serve our community even after her children had graduated from high school. Between 1997 and 2012, she served five three-year terms on the Rush-Henrietta Central School District Board of Education. She took her leadership one step further and served multiple terms as president of the board.

However, simply being a member of the Board of Education was never good enough for Mrs. Banker. During her tenure, she promoted the importance of continuing education. In 2010, Rush-Henrietta was the only school board in the state where each member, including Mrs. Banker, earned Master of Boardsmanship awards. This is the highest honor from New York State School Board Association's Leadership Development Recognition Program. To qualify for the recognition, a board member must participate in many professional development events and activities.

Mrs. Banker works full-time as program coordinator for Pieters Family Life Center, a premier program of Heritage Christian Services, where she helps nurture relationships through recreational, educational, social, spiritual, health and wellness opportunities that are inclusive to all. She also worked for 15 years as coordinator for the Henrietta Recreation Department's gymnastics program.

Mrs. Banker and her husband, Alan, live in Rush.

## Induction Ceremony is Saturday, Oct. 6

### Harry Bliss Class of 1982

Harry Bliss, a 1982 Rush-Henrietta graduate, is a celebrated author-illustrator whose creative works appeal to children and adults. He is one of the most sought-after cartoonists in the world. His work has been described as “deceptively simple” and “for people who take their humor very seriously.”



Mr. Bliss is an internationally syndicated cartoonist and cover artist for *The New Yorker* magazine,

where he has contributed 18 covers and hundreds of cartoons since 1997. In addition, his self-titled single-panel cartoon, “Bliss,” appears in newspapers throughout the United States, Canada, and Japan. “Harry Bliss is the real thing,” declares Tribune Media Services, which distributes the cartoon. “His *New Yorker* cartoons and covers have earned him loyal fans across the country.”

So, too, have the many books that Mr. Bliss has illustrated for children. His first book, “A Fine, Fine School,” by Sharon Creech, went on to become a *New York Times* bestseller. He also has illustrated popular books such as “Diary of a Worm,” “Which Would You Rather Be?” and “Countdown to Kindergarten.” His new book, “Bailey at the Museum,” was released in September 2012.

*Vermont Life* magazine did a feature story about Mr. Bliss, examining his journey from self-described lonely teen to internationally known artist. The story quotes James Sturm, co-founder of the Center for Cartoon Studies. “Harry is wickedly funny, incredibly personable, and comfortable in a crowd,” Sturm says. “He’s kind of a throwback to the days of vaudeville, when cartoonists did performances, called Chalk Talks, and were men about town. Harry is also very self-deprecating. His wit is turned inward just as often. You get the idea that he almost needs humor to survive, which makes his work so much more urgent and important.”

Growing up in Henrietta in a family of successful painters and illustrators, Mr. Bliss went on to study painting at The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and illustration at The University of the Arts and Syracuse University.

He lives in Burlington, Vermont.

### Karyl Hurley, Ph.D. Class of 1983

Karyl Hurley, a member of the Rush-Henrietta Class of 1983, is director of Global Scientific Affairs for Mars Petcare and an adjunct associate professor at both Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania. She has devoted her entire professional career to understanding and promoting the health and welfare of companion animals.

After receiving a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Cornell University, Dr. Hurley earned board certification from the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine.



For the past five years, Dr. Hurley has been working with the National Institutes of Health to fund research into the health benefits of pets to people: lowering blood pressure, providing emotional support and companionship for the elderly and utilizing therapeutic visits and working dogs to help the disabled, autistic and war veterans.

Having lectured and taught extensively in the United States and abroad, Dr. Hurley is highly regarded in her field and has an impressive list of writing credits, including contributions to veterinary science and medical textbooks and professional journals.

Dr. Hurley’s devotion to animal wellness compels her to lend her considerable knowledge to professional organizations with the same focus. She is on the Board of Directors of the Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics and the Board of Advisors for the non-profit organization Green Chimneys, a worldwide leader in animal-assisted therapy and activities.

Dr. Hurley recognizes that the many opportunities she was provided in high school shaped the course of her life. She credits her biology teacher at Rush-Henrietta, Mr. Bob Patten, with inspiring her to pursue a career in science, and her French teacher, Madame Matthews-Desant, for her lifelong love of art, travel and language.

She and her husband, Dr. Gail Smith, live in Downingtown, Pennsylvania, with their two dogs, two cats, and many fish.