



# Blue & Gold Banner

Uwchlan Hills Elementary

April 2015

## Upcoming Dates

**April 1<sup>st</sup>**

School for all students

**April 2, 3 and 6<sup>th</sup>**

Spring Break

**April 10<sup>th</sup>**

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Wax  
Museum

**April 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>**

PSSA Testing –  
Grades 3 – 5

**April 15<sup>th</sup>**

Early Dismissal 1:30  
– Modified K.

**April 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>**

PSSA Testing – Math  
– Grades 3-5

**April 24<sup>th</sup>**

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade –  
Wetlands Day

**April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 1<sup>st</sup>**

PSSA Testing –  
Science – Grade 4

**April 27<sup>th</sup>**

Watershed Program  
– Grade 4

## Letter from the Principal

Dear Uwchlan Hills Families,

The Leadership Team at Uwchlan Hills is starting to plan for classroom assignments for the 2015-2016 school year. We are fortunate to have an outstanding staff with a strong commitment to supporting student success. There is a set protocol for establishing balanced class lists for each grade. Although I value your input as an educational partner, I cannot honor specific teacher requests. If you feel strongly that your child would benefit from a specific *style of teaching*, you may put that in writing to me by **Friday, MAY 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please do not state specific teacher names as I cannot promise confidentiality. The team will certainly take your requests into consideration, but our goal is to provide a positive learning environment for all children. This will be the only window of time for parent input. When August arrives, class lists will be set in stone.

Starting April 7, 2015, Uwchlan Hills will be implementing a new system for attendance. When a student is not in the classroom by 8:50 am, the teacher will mark the student as absent. At 10:00 am a call will go out via school messenger notifying parents for students still marked as absent. If you feel this is in error please call the office at 610-269-5656. You will no longer need to call the hotline to report your child absent for a single day, but if you expect consecutive days or if it would be helpful for us to know, please call the hotline. Upon students return please send in a white "Excuse for Absence" card.

For the past few weeks, we have been using the Raptor system. This system will, on your first visit to the school, scan your driver's license into the *Meghan's Law* database. Volunteers and visitors will only need to scan their driver's license the first time they visit Uwchlan Hills. Each time you visit, we will print a new sticker badge for you to wear into the school. Before leaving the school, check out with the office staff to inform them your visit has concluded. This is another way we help keep our children safe.

Warm Regards,

Robert E. Giering, Jr.

Principal, Uwchlan Hills Elementary



### 2014-2015 UHHS Board

**Principal Advisor**

Mr. Bob Giering  
rgiering@dasd.org

**President**

Lisa Rainey  
LRainey2000@me.com

**Advisor**

Jane Eddleston  
janeedleston@gmail.com

**Vice-President**

Janel Webb  
janel.webb@yahoo.com

**Co-Treasurer**

Bev Lovenguth  
blovenguth@gmail.com

**Co-Treasurer**

Donna LaBrenz  
dlabrenz@hotmail.com

**Secretary**

Paulette LoMarro  
lomarro@yahoo.com

### Letter from the President...

April and Spring are here . . . even if Mother Nature says otherwise with these unusually cold days! This is a fairly quiet month for UHHS-spring break and PSSA takes up most of the month-but be ready because May makes up for it.

I want to take this opportunity to say a huge THANK YOU to all the UH parent volunteers! This school is truly amazing-We have almost every position filled for next year. This is absolutely incredible! The one and only position we still need a volunteer for is the Co-Treasurer. This is a 2 year commitment that you share the responsibility of managing the H&S bank accounts. The first year handles depositing all incoming money and second year handles issuing checks & reimbursement. Please contact me or Janel Webb(next year’s president-Janel.Webb@hankingroup.com) if you are interested or have any questions.

Last month lots of families made it out to the **UH Bowling Night**— Thank you to **Natalie Swackhamer** for chairing this fun night!

We also had a great night watching the many talented students at the **UH Variety Show**—Thank you to **Rachel Pavis, Steph Farrelly and Kristen Lebresco** for organizing the show, and also to all the parent helpers who made sure the night was one to remember.

Another thank you goes out to **Jen Flannery & Kate Cool** for running the **Spring Book Fair**, to **Cindy Kelly & Kara Rubinich** for organizing the **Ice Cream Social**, and **Cindy Montagna** for coordinating the **Family Zumba Class**. All very fun events!

Be sure to mark your calendar for next month’s always fun and popular **Mud Run** which is being held on **Saturday, May 2 at 10am**. Be sure to get your registration forms turned in—early registration ends April 17! Thank you to **Rachel Pavis** and her crew of parent volunteers that are making this happen for the third year in a row!

**Teacher & Staff Appreciation Luncheon** is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 6**-the theme is still a secret-but be on the lookout for a sign up genius coming soon. Lots of opportunity to help and show our staff how much we really do appreciate all they do for us and our children. Thank you to **Stephanie Pace and Christine Plevyak** for chairing this event.

Save the date for the **UH Spring Play-We are Monsters** on **Thursday, May 28!** With over 100 UH kids involved it is sure to be a hit! Thank you to **Tami Kenney** our Director and **Paulette LoMarro**-Assistant Director.

Continued on page 3...



President's letter – cont.

Our final **UHHSA meeting** of the school year will be held on **Tuesday, May 12 at 7pm** in the UH library. We have Mrs. Filiaggi and Miss Ramsey coming to discuss the new reading program that will be introduced next year. We will also be voting in next year's new board members. We hope to see you there.

Lisa Rainey

UHHSA President 2014-2015

LRainey2000@me.com

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## Science Fair News!

The Salk County Science Fair was held last week. All the fourth and fifth graders did an excellent job and should be very proud of all their hard work. I know I am. The recipients of the Salk County Science Fair are as follows:

*Shreya Garg* – Chemistry, "Density of Different Liquids" –**HONORS**.

*Anushri Grover* – Biochemistry, "Which Milk has the Most Glucose?" –**HONORS**.

*Grace LaBrenz* – Chemistry, "Evaporation: It's Affect on Crystal Size" – **DISTINGUISHED HONORS and THE RICHARD & PATTI SMITH CHEMISTRY AWARD**. - Carla Donatelli



*Grace LaBrenz*



### **DASD Survey Reminder**

Dr. Mussoline invited all of you to take some time and tell him about your hopes and concerns for our school district. Please take a few minutes to have input into the future of our schools and our community by completing the survey. This survey will be open until midnight April 12, 2015. To access the survey, please go to [www.dasd.org/survey](http://www.dasd.org/survey)

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### **UHHSA Board Position Open for 2015/2016:**

We only have 1 more volunteer position to fill—but it is an important one:

- **Co-Treasurer:** A 2 year commitment. Share the responsibility of managing the H&S accounts, First year handles depositing all incoming money and second year handles issuing checks, reimbursement.

This is a position that must be filled! Volunteering is a great way to get involved and meet other UH families. Please consider helping if you can. Please contact Lisa Rainey ([Lrainey2000@me.com](mailto:Lrainey2000@me.com)) or Janel Webb ([Janel.Webb@hankingroup.com](mailto:Janel.Webb@hankingroup.com)) if you are interested in or would like more information on this position.

Thank you for your consideration!

Lisa Rainey

UHHSA President 2014-15

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### **Volunteers Needed for Jamboree Games Committee!**

We are looking for a few volunteers to help with the planning stage of the Jamboree! Although the Jamboree is not until October 2015, we need to start planning in May, before school is out for the summer! We are looking for volunteers to assist with the following:

- Organize and/or repair last year's games
- Create new games (or provide new game ideas!)
- Evaluate and select photo booth vendor
- Call local businesses to solicit prize donations (e.g. coupons for free food or activities)
- Organize leftover prizes from last year and purchase new prizes

Whether you have a little time to give or a lot, we will find a job for you! If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact me at [julie\\_will@comcast.net](mailto:julie_will@comcast.net) !

Thanks!

Julie Christman

*“Alone we can do so little, **Together** we can do so much.”*

*~Helen Keller*

Dr. Michael Solon was the beloved principal at Bradford Heights Elementary School in the Downingtown Area School District for the past 9 years. He and his family have been community members of Chester County for years with their children attending schools in the West Chester Area School District. Dr. Solon passed away at the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year and he left behind a wife and five children. His youngest child is in kindergarten and his oldest will graduate from college in May.



Over the past several months since the untimely and unexpected passing of Dr. Solon, the Bradford Heights Home and School Association in coordination with teachers, school and district administrators, parents, the Stonegate Home Owners Association, West Bradford Township and the Chester County Running Store have been working together to organize a thoughtful event that can remember their school's respected leader, while supporting his family. Dr. Solon's wife and children continue to deal with the challenge of living without their husband and father. They need your support now and... this is what strong loving communities do.

We are pleased to announce that on Sunday, May 17 a 5K and Family Walk titled, **Running and Strollin' for Dr. Solon**, will be held at Bradford Heights Elementary School. A Community Fair will follow. All of the proceeds from the afternoon, minus event expenses, will go to the 5K Memorial Fund. This fund has been established to benefit Dr. Solon's wife Heather Barcio-Solon and their 5 children. This is a chance to lift up the family of a man who lifted so many.

Event registration can be accessed online by visiting [www.runCCRS.com](http://www.runCCRS.com). Here you will find the registration and additional information such as race options and the full event schedule. We have created modest pricing for the event, with discounts available up until April 15. The first 600 participants to register are guaranteed a t-shirt on race day. Feel free to share the site information with family and friends, and sign up soon to take advantage of the discounted rates!

This event is a great sponsorship opportunity for companies, local organizations and families. To learn more about the sponsorships available, contact Lori Grier at [lorigrier@gmail.com](mailto:lorigrier@gmail.com).

Sunday, May 17 promises to be a very special day. Bradford Heights Elementary school and all community members have the opportunity to honor Dr. Solon and provide needed support for Dr. Solon's family, his true legacy.

Sincerely,

Running and Strollin' for Dr. Solon  
Event Committee

*“Love your family. Spend time, be kind and serve one another. Make no room for regrets. Tomorrow is not promised and today is short.” ~author unknown*

*From my whole family to yours, thank you for your support and love throughout this unforeseen journey. ~ Heather Barcio-Solon (aka Mrs. Dr. Solon)*



# SPIRIT NIGHT

**COME SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!**

DU THE  
WAVE  
EAT THE  
CHICKEN

Thursday, April 23rd

5:30 - 8:00 pm

**At Chick-fil-A of Lionville**

**20% OF ALL SALES DURING THE ABOVE TIME  
FRAME WILL BE DONATED TO BENEFIT**

Cub Scout Pack 221



of Lionville

610-594-2070

**Must present this flyer to cashier to receive donation.**



FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

EMAIL

PHONE

RACE TYPE  5K RUN  
 WALK  
 KID'S MILE



GENDER  M  F AGE   \*Required  
 circle one

ADULT:  S  M  L  XL circle one  
 CHILD:  S  M  L circle one

**REGISTRATION DATES / PRICES:**

Kid's Mile	\$ 10.00
5k Student Until April 15th	\$ 15.00
5k Student through Race Day	\$ 20.00
Adult Until April 15th	\$ 25.00
Adult through Race Day	\$ 30.00

**RACE DAY TIME SCHEDULE:**

1:00 PM	Race Day Registration
2:00 PM	Kid's 400m Preschool Dash
2:15 PM	Kid's Mile Run
2:30 PM	5k Run & Family Walk
3-5 PM	Community Fair

**TIMING AND RESULTS:**  
 Results will be posted live at [www.runccrs.com](http://www.runccrs.com)  
 The disposable MyLaps Bibtag system will be used to ensure quick, accurate results.



ONLINE REGISTRATION: [www.runCCRS.com](http://www.runCCRS.com)

**INCLUDED WITH RACE ENTRY:**  
 Guaranteed race shirt to the first 600 people.

**RACE COURSE:**  
 The Solon 5k will start and finish at Bradford Heights Elementary School where Dr. Solon was the Principal and will run through the Stonegate community roads.

**AWARDS:**  
 Awards will follow the race.

**BENEFITTING:**  
 The Running and Strollin' 5k is being held in the memory and honor of our principal, Dr. Solon. Funds raised during the Running and strollin' Solon 5k will benefit the Solon "5k Memorial Fund"

**Waiver and Signature:**

In consideration of the acceptance my entry, I, intending to be legally bound, do hereby for myself and my heirs, executors, administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may accrue against the persons and organizations affiliated with the race including but not limited to the Chester County Running Store, CK Timing, Bradford Heights Elementary School, Downingtown Area School District, the Barcio / Solon Family, all sponsors, volunteers, staff, subcontractors, agents, attorneys and representatives for any and all injuries that I may suffer while participating in the event or en route to and from the event. I consent to the use of my image in photos, videos and audio recording and film, of my participation in the event. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for this competition, my physical condition verified by a licensed M.D. during the last 6 months. As part of the waiver, I acknowledge that I have read and understand all of the above. NO REFUNDS. The participant understands that the entry fee is non-refundable and non-transferable (unless specifically stated on the online registration form). The participant also understands that the Event will take place rain or shine, at Race Director's discretion. The Race may also be canceled due to natural hazards or other factors not under the control of the Race Director. If race is cancelled for any reason, there are no refunds.

SIGNATURE:

ALL ENTRANTS MUST SIGN WAIVER.  
 UNSIGNED ENTRIES CANNOT BE ACCEPTED (PARENT/GUARDIAN IF UNDER 18)  
 MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: "5K MEMORIAL FUND"

**Mail Entry To:**  
 Attn: 5k Memorial Fund  
 Bradford Heights Elementary School  
 1330 Romig Road, Downingtown, PA 19335

# Why Small Conversations Make a Big Impression



## **Short, frequent discussions can have a real impact on your child's decisions about alcohol.**

Talking to your child at an early age about drinking is the first step toward keeping them alcohol-free. But as they enter junior high and high school, the pressure to try alcohol increases. It's important to continue the conversation throughout adolescence.

## **Talking often builds an open, trusting relationship with your child.**

Children are more likely to avoid drinking when they have a strong, trusting relationship with their parents. Get into the habit of chatting with your child every day. It will make it easier to have serious conversations about things like alcohol, and will make your child more comfortable coming to you for advice.

## **Lots of little talks are more effective than one "big talk."**

Sitting down for the "big talk" about alcohol can be intimidating for both you and your child. Try using everyday opportunities to talk— in the car, during dinner, or while you and your child are watching TV. Having lots of little talks takes the pressure off trying to get all of the information out in one lengthy discussion, and your child will be less likely to tune you out.

## **When you do talk about alcohol, make your views and rules clear.**

Take the time to discuss your beliefs and opinions about alcohol with your child. Be honest and express a clear, consistent message that underage drinking is unacceptable. When they feel that you're being real and honest with them, they'll be more likely to respect your rules about underage drinking.

## **As children get older, the conversation changes.**

What you say to a 9-year-old about alcohol is different from what you say to a 15-year-old. Children also can't learn all they need to know from a single discussion. Make sure that the information you offer your child fits their age. As they get older, you can give them more information and reinforce your rules. Create your personalized Action Plan to get age-appropriate tips.

## **Remember that the conversation goes both ways.**

Although talking to your child about your thoughts about alcohol is essential, it's also important to hear their point of view. Give your child the opportunity to ask you questions, and listen to what they have to say. Children who have parents who listen to their feelings and concerns are more likely to say "no" to alcohol.

## **What you do is just as important as what you say.**

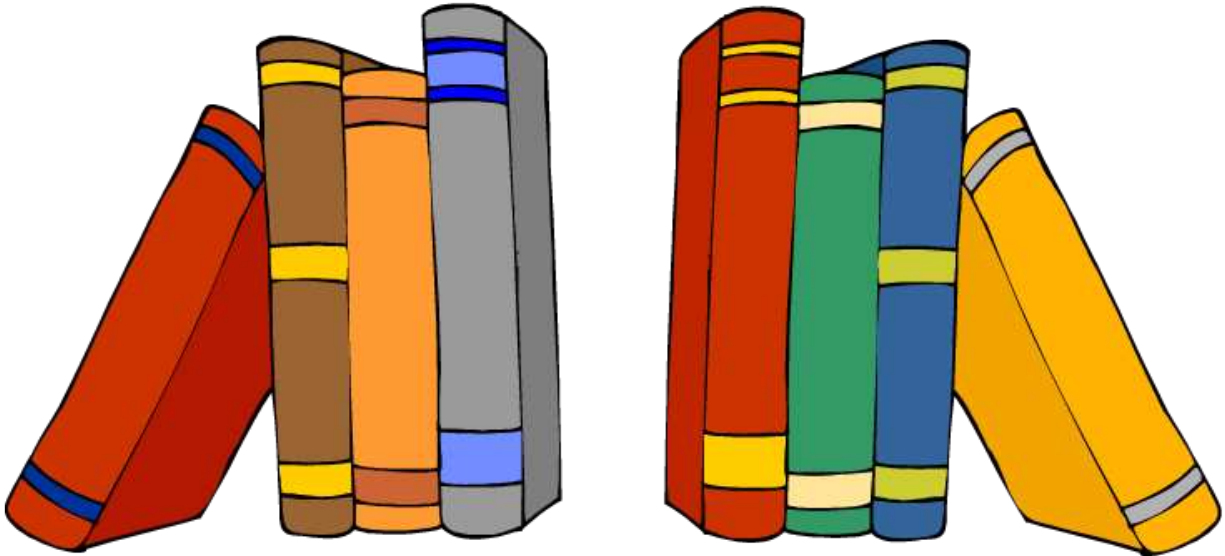
In addition to talking often with your child about alcohol, it's important to set a good example. If you choose to drink, you can positively influence your child by drinking in moderation and NEVER driving when you've been drinking.

*Share your thoughts with other parents on our Facebook  
Downingtown Safe Homes*



# Used Book Sale

**Time to clean off those shelves and donate those books!**



**APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> - MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**Stock on great books for summer reading!**

Your donations of books for children and adults are needed!

Place donations in the school lobby marked "Used Book Sale".

~ ~ ~

Shopping will take place during library time and before/after school.

Parents are welcome to shop anytime.



Uwchlan Hills  
**MUD RUN**  
 May 2, 2015

LET'S GET READY  
 TO MUD RUN!

Whether you're young or young at heart, you've gotta admit there is no better way to get fit and have fun than getting down and dirty with your bestie at the UHES 3rd annual Mud Run!

\*\*\*\*Bring a trash bag and a change of clothes and/or a towel to sit on in the car.

ALL AGES ARE  
 WELCOME TO  
 PARTICIPATE

Mud Run T-Shirts are available  
 for PRE-ORDER ONLY (\$8)

PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY  
 4/17/15

Size	Quantity
Small(Y)	_____
Med(Y)	_____
Large(Y)	_____
Small(A)	_____
Med (A)	_____
Large (A)	_____
XL (A)	_____
Total (\$):	_____

\* Y-Youth, A-Adult

LOCATION:  
 Uwchlan Hills

50 Peck Road  
 Downingtown, PA19335  
<http://www.dasd.org/Domain/16>  
 Questions: [uhmudrun@gmail.com](mailto:uhmudrun@gmail.com)



All Ages  
 welcome!

Registration starts at  
 9:15AM

Course will be available  
 10A -12P with multiple  
 heats

Early Registration by April 17, 2015  
Mail Registration and payment to:  
50 Peck Road, Downingtown, PA 19335

# REGISTRATION

Pre reg -\$10 /person (\$30 cap /family)  
\$12 /person after 4/17/15  
Checks Payable to: UHHS

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

1. FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

2. FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

3. FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

4. FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_



## UWCHLAN HILLS MUD RUN RELEASE

I certify that my child and/or myself is covered by medical/health insurance and has no existing condition which would make participation in the mud run hazardous to me/him/her or any other player. My child and/or I promise to play in a sportsman like manner and understand that inappropriate behavior could result in disqualification from events and/or removal from the mud run. I/We will not hold the Downingtown Area School District, the coaches, officials, field supervisors and trainers, sponsors, or the team

managers, responsible for injury or damage resulting from normal mud run activities. I/We grant permission for participation and approve of myself and/or child(ren) being photographed and/or videoed for promotional purposes.

### SIGNATURE REQUIRED

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT (IF OVER 18 YEARS):

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GARDIAN (IF UNDER 18 YEARS)

\_\_\_\_\_