



Community Bulletin

November 27th, 2023

Dear Shrewsbury Families,

Please note the following announcements and information related to various events or activities that may be of interest to you and your children. Announcements from non-school sources are passed on as a courtesy if they meet the requirements of the [School Committee policy](#).

School District Items

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Community Items

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Youth Athletics and Activities

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2. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse Spring Registration Now Open

School District Items

1. [Please Note](#) – Friday Lunch and Learn Sessions for Shrewsbury High School Students (New)

Do you have a student interested in computer science, a career in IT, or Video and Radio production? This week, on December 1st, the Lunch and Learn guest speaker is Darius Corcoran, an SHS alum from the class of 2012. Mr. Corcoran works in the IT department at Millis Public Schools, as a Mobile Device Support Specialist and co-teacher. He is currently co-teaching coding and basic programming for the elementary school's STEAM Lab. Mr. Corcoran's background is also in Video and Radio production, but he would like to share with students about having a flexible career in IT, how to explore and choose the right career path, and how technology has changed and shaped education. Registration is required and students can register [here](#).

Shrewsbury High School students now have the opportunity to interact with and learn from alumni and community partners during lunches on Fridays throughout the school year. Groups of up to eight students are invited to meet with invited guests during each of the four, 20-minute lunch periods. These events are specifically structured to create a casual and interactive environment where students gain insights into various career paths and connect with professionals from different fields, while having opportunities to ask questions and interact.

The schedule of speakers and student registration for all speakers can be found [here](#). Guest speakers will be added frequently, so check this link weekly. Questions? Contact kkeohane@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us.

2. [Please Note](#) – New Jobs for Students Posted

Do you have a student looking for a seasonal or after-school job? If so, please visit the [Jobs for Students](#) site. There are many employers looking for student help, including jobs for 14 years and older. All employers from the Job Fair are listed on this site and are still taking job applications. See [here](#) for a list of employers who were at the Job Fair.

3. [Please Note](#) – Annual Seasons of Gratitude and Giving for the Shrewsbury Public Schools Community

During this season of gratitude and giving, Shrewsbury Public Schools (SPS) is seeking donations of the gift cards listed below (denominations of \$50 or less, please) to provide support to SPS families in need. In addition to the giving opportunities currently underway at individual schools across the district, we invite community members to contribute to this fund to further these efforts and support our students and families.

- Uber
- Visa
- Mastercard
- Target
- Walmart
- Gas cards
- Amazon
- Grocery Stores:
 - Market Basket
 - Price Chopper
 - Shaw's
 - Stop & Shop
 - Wegmans
 - Aldi's

Gift card donations can be dropped off to the school secretary in the main office at your child's school by Friday, December 8th. Community members who do not have children in our schools are invited to bring donations to the Shrewsbury School Department Office at the Shrewsbury Town Hall, 100 Maple Avenue.

Finally, we invite parents and caretakers to let us know if your children and family are in need of support and ask that you please complete [this](#) brief form by Friday, December 1st. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Felicitie Boisvert, Shrewsbury Public Schools District Social Worker at fboisvert@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us or 508-841-5303. Thank you for your time and consideration.

4. [Save the Date](#) - Winter Pop Up Market at Maple & Main, December 7th

The Maple & Main (presented by RISE) retail shop will be hosting a Winter Pop Up Market featuring local vendors on Thursday, December 7th, starting at 4:30 p.m. [Click here](#) for more information.

5. [Please Note](#) – Free & Reduced Price Program Fees Application

Some students are eligible to receive reduced program fees if their family household meets specific income thresholds. The [free and reduced benefit application](#) is used to determine eligibility for reduced program fees.

Although Massachusetts legislature has provided funding to make meals available at no cost to all students during this school year, **families should still complete a benefit application** if they think they might qualify. This provides data for key funding for academic resources and may also connect families to additional benefits. If eligible, students can potentially receive free busing, reduced activity fees, etc. This data will also support the additional funds provided by the Commonwealth for this pilot. For more information about this program, please click [here](#).

All new and returning students must complete a new application each school year. At any time during the school year, families may apply for reduced program fees. Sometimes families experience job or income loss during the year and this is an opportune time to apply. Please [click here to apply for the free & reduced program](#).

If you have questions or need assistance with the application, please contact the Food Service Director using the contact information below:

Beth Nichols

(508) 841-8819

bnichols@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

6. Please Note – Cafeteria Help Wanted

The Shrewsbury Food Service is looking for part-time employees, full-time employees, and substitutes to work in the school cafeterias. Days and hours are flexible. Duties include: prepping food, setting up serving lines, serving students, and breakdown and clean-up. Lunch and refreshments are provided. Please [click here](#) to obtain an employment application.

Please forward this application to the Food Service Department C/O Shrewsbury High School, 65 Cypress Avenue, Shrewsbury, MA 01545 or email to hdoyle@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us. If you have any questions, please call Heidi Doyle at (508) 841-8855.

7. Please Note – Destination Imagination

Welcome to a new season of [Destination Imagination](#) at Shrewsbury Public Schools! All Shrewsbury Public Schools students in grades K-12 are eligible to join a team and there is no cost to participate. Registration for students and teams are open until December 1st. We hope you can join us to kick off the 2023-24 Destination Imagination Season!

If you have any questions about the program, contact Rajani Vijayakumar (rvijayakumar@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us).

8. Save the Date – Shrewsbury High School Athletic Boosters Fundraiser, December 3rd

The SHS Athletic Boosters Meat Raffle Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, December 3rd from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at 4th and 1 Sports Club in Worcester. Come support our Shrewsbury athletes for a Sunday Funday! If interested in sponsoring a table, please contact Kelly Wharton at kdoherly610@gmail.com. She is our fundraising chair and can provide more details. Thank you in advance for your support.

Community Items

1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events (New)

50+ Job Seekers Virtual Networking Group

Come meet new job seekers to expand your network, news, and views with the Massachusetts Library Collaborative's 50+ Job Seekers Group! If you are over 50 and unemployed and actively looking, underemployed, seeking a new career direction, or re-entering the job market after a gap, this group is perfect for you.

The group meets on Zoom from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on first and third Wednesday mornings, with repeat sessions on the same topics offered in the evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on second and fourth Wednesday evenings. Registration is required for each session (register [here](#) for morning sessions; register [here](#) for evening sessions). This group is sponsored by more than 60 Massachusetts public libraries. Find the full list of topics and registration [here](#). This group is sponsored by more than 60 Massachusetts public libraries.

SPL Spanish Conversation Club

Are you looking for a casual space in which you can practice your Spanish and learn more about the multiple cultures of those who speak that language? Join the Spanish Conversation Club most Tuesdays at the Shrewsbury Public Library (6:00 p.m. in the Learning Lab on the second floor). No registration required. Visit our [events calendar](#) to check dates.

¿Buscas un espacio informal en el que puedas practicar tu Español y aprender más de las múltiples culturas que hablan este idioma? Únete a nuestro club de conversación la mayoría de los martes en la biblioteca pública de Shrewsbury a las 6:00 p.m. en el laboratorio del segundo piso. No es necesario registrarse. Visita nuestro [calendario de eventos](#) para verificar citas.

SPL Spanish Culture Club

The Spanish Culture Club provides an open and casual learning environment outside of the classroom to promote learning and practicing the language as well as to celebrate the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries around the world. This club is not only about learning Spanish, but learning about Hispanic culture: cuisine, idioms, movies, food, and more. The group will meet every other Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Public Library; no registration required.

Tech Tuesday: Digital Privacy and Security

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library at 6:00 p.m. in the Learning Lab for Tech Tuesdays! This program is intended for proficient computer users aged 13+ who are familiar with navigating the internet. Laptops will be provided. Space is limited, so [registration](#) is required.

Zumba at the library

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library for Zumba®, an interval-style dance fitness party that combines low-intensity and high-intensity moves. Burn lots of calories while moving to the rhythm with Latin-inspired dance moves. The best part of it all is that it doesn't even feel like exercise! Dance fitness classes aren't just great for cardiovascular health, but also tone muscles and improve balance and flexibility. Zumba instructor Johanny Pineyro will lead this engaging class beginning at 6:00 p.m. No registration required; Wednesday, November 29th.

Inner Peace This Holiday Season Through Meditation

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Thursday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. with Bruce Faithwick, long time meditator, for a virtual presentation as he discusses the extraordinary effect of meditation. He will also present a simple, yet powerful meditation technique that will be explained and practiced during the session. This can enrich one's life and help with seasonal stress.

Bruce Faithwick is a successful business consultant in the software industry with many years of product management and marketing experience. He currently provides workshops and training to groups where he connects meditation and self development to important aspects of our lives. With over 40 years of meditation experience, he focuses his time on personal development and in helping others. If you have attended one of Bruce's workshops, you know they are special.

This program will take place on Zoom; please [register](#) to attend.

Alex Minasian Trio - Jazz Concert

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Thursday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. for an evening with the Alex Minasian Jazz Trio. Their selections will honor the legends of jazz music as well as music from the Great American Songbook. Pianist Alex Minasian has performed in famous jazz rooms.

With two degrees from NYU, Alex Minasian has, at a remarkably young age, established himself as a versatile pianist, educator, and impresario. As a pianist, Alex has studied with some of the greatest pianists in jazz history and shared the stage with jazz legends. Alex has also headlined jazz celebrations. Minasian, Disterheft, a veteran drummer Steve Williams (Shirley Horn), formed the Hanky Panky Trio to honor Hank Jones and was featured in the Netflix show, *Orange Is The New Black*.

This program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

Putin's War: His Motives, Claims, and Lies

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. with Dmitri Yakovlev, a Muscovite who supports Ukraine's freedom.

You will hear the story of Putin's rise to power, learn facts about Russian propaganda and politics, and will be able to ask questions. Dmitri is COO and co-founder of a local high-tech company, who works with a web development team in Ukraine. In 1991, Dmitri spent two nights on the barricades in Moscow streets standing up for democracy. He is a citizen of Russia and the US, with family in the US, Russia, and Ukraine. Dmitri was in Moscow on the day Putin started the war and saw the reaction of Muscovites: the unrest, the protests, the panic, the ugly support for Putin and his war.

This program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

Gentle Candlelight Yoga with Aromatherapy

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Thursday, December 14th, January 22nd and February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. as well as Saturday, February 10th at 2:00 p.m. with Georgia Johnson for a gentle yoga class. Flow with movements to nourish the body, mind and soul in slow-paced postures, ending with a meditation. Candlelight and aromatherapy create a warm ambiance. Reconnect with yourself in a space of serenity and self-care. All levels are welcomed.

Georgia Johnson has been practicing yoga since 2003 and has trained with Revolution Community Yoga and Asheville Yoga Center. Georgia believes in the power of yoga. Her classes will guide you through mindfulness and postures, at your pace. You will reset, rejuvenate and step calmly into the flow of life.

This program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

Steeped in Secrecy Boston Tea Party Talk

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Saturday, December 16th at 1:45 p.m. for this hybrid program to watch the Zoom presentation with tea and biscuits, celebrating the 250th

anniversary of the Boston Tea Party! All ages are welcome. The story of tea has always been infused with intrigue. On the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, learn about the brewing political problems tea presented in its history with Claire Evans. Then, author, genealogist, librarian, and former UK resident Debra Dudek examines the history of the Boston Tea Party's most famous partiers (and phonies), as well as how to trace participants through lineage societies and historical groups.

This hybrid program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

To register for ONLY the virtual presentation at 2:00 p.m., [click here](#).

2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens (New)

We have some great events for tweens and teens happening in December at the Library!

Please remember that program attendees in grades 5-6 must be accompanied to the library by a parent/parent's representative who will remain in the building during the program and rejoin the attendee at the conclusion of the program.

- Friday, December 1st-Sunday, December 31st - Scavenger Hunt - in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Try our monthly Scavenger Hunt! Find all the hidden items and you're entered to win a fun prize. This month's prize is a cute kitty mug with a hot chocolate set!
- Friday, December 1st - Friday Activity - 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. You made it through another week of school! Try a fun craft or activity that will change each month. No crafting experience (or talent) necessary, just try it out. This month we'll have a special guest, Roxanne from the Children's Department, with a seasonal pop-up craft!
- Monday, December 4th - DIY Spa Kits for Teens - 5:30 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. It's always a good time to treat yourself well! Join us and learn how to make an all-natural face wash, toner, and clay mask. Participants will take home the products they make to use or give as a gift! Presented by the Burncoat Center for Arts and Wellness.
- Tuesday, December 5th - Root Robots with WPI - 1:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Grades 7-9. [Registration](#) required. Let's go robots! Students from WPI will give a short presentation on robotics, then participants will get to work on a hands-on activity with Root Robots.
- Wednesday, December 6th - Introduction to Metal Casting - 7:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. Learn about the art of metal casting through a brief introduction to the various methods used throughout the ages and observe a demonstration done with pewter. Participants will be given the opportunity to safely pour pewter ornaments or finger rings and will be left with the information needed to pursue

their own metal casting projects safely with tools available in their own kitchens. This class is being presented by The Jazz Robot Studios.

- Friday, December 8th - Friday Movie - 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Celebrate the end of the week by relaxing with a movie and snacks! Movie TBD, stop by the Teen Office if you have a good suggestion.
- Tuesday, December 12th - Great for Gifting: Mason Jar Cookies - 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. All ages. No registration necessary. Need a gift that shows you care? Drop in for our series Great for Gifting! At this workshop we'll make Mason Jar Cookie sets. We'll provide all the ingredients you need to make delicious cookie mixes in a charming mason jar, complete with instructions. We'll have a few varieties to choose from, like classic chocolate chip and cowboy cookies or the more adventurous lemon crispies. Give it as a gift or treat yourself to something nice! Also in this series: Jasmine Hot Compresses on December 20th. Younger children may require adult assistance).
- Tuesday, December 12th - Choose Your Own Adventure Book Club - 6:00 p.m. in the Children's Program Room. Grades 4-6. [Registration](#) required. We'll be reading out loud one book from the Choose Your Own Adventure® series at each meeting and everyone will help decide which path we will take. Participants will receive an Adventurer's Passport to collect badges, and raffle tickets for each club meeting they attend. FREE PIZZA!
- Thursday, December 14th - Teen Writing Club - 7:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. Writers and aspiring writers are invited to join this new club for teens. Bring a work in progress or try something new. Over the course of the hour we'll write, brainstorm, work with prompts, and enjoy snacks. Writers of all skill and experience levels welcome - we're here to have fun! This club will meet on the second Thursday of each month during the school year
- Friday, November 15th - Friday Snack Craft - 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. What's more fun than food? School is over - come hang out and create something delicious. A new seasonal snack creation each month! Those with food allergies should please exercise caution.
- Monday, December 18th - Teen Advisory Meeting - 8:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. What is Teen Advisory? It's a way for you to connect with the library and make your voice heard. It's a chance to see your ideas and opinions come to life. It's an easy way to earn volunteer credit by attending monthly meetings. Join us to meet some new people, eat snacks, and help us make our Teen Room (and library) THE BEST!
- Wednesday, December 20th - Great for Gifting: Jasmine Hot Compresses - 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A. All ages. No registration necessary. Need a gift that shows you care? Drop in for our series Great for Gifting! At this workshop we'll make Jasmine Hot Compresses. Participants will create handmade hot compresses with a soothing scent - great for chilly winter days. Younger children may require adult assistance).
- Friday, December 22nd - Friday Trivia - 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary. Drop in for trivia fun! We'll do trivia lightning rounds - try one or stay for the whole game!

- Thursday-Friday, December 28th-29th - December Vacation Escape Rooms - Various times in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. [Registration](#) required. Are you feeling clever, bold, sneaky, curious, adventurous? Come try our December Vacation Escape Room! Designed in collaboration with our Teen Advisory, these Escape Rooms will test your wits and your teamwork. Sessions will run on Thursday, December 28th at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm and Friday, December 29th at 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Escape Room sessions will last approximately 30-45 minutes. Please sign up for ONLY ONE session or waitlist. Each participant must sign up individually. Each session has room for 6 participants - coordinate with your friends! Sessions may be canceled if there are an insufficient number of participants registered.

Check our [digital calendar](#) and [online calendar](#) for more details and registration!

3. Please Note – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Programs

Pre-registration is required for all of the Parks & Recreation programs. Space is limited. Visit our [website](#) for more information and registration and follow us on Facebook or Instagram for updates and photos!

Shrewsbury Playground Survey

If you have not already done so, please complete the Playground Survey! Passed as a CPA project at Town Meeting in May of 2023, a formal playground assessment for the Town is currently underway. At this time, we would like to invite you to share your feedback regarding the playgrounds here in Shrewsbury. Please [click here](#) to complete the survey.

Paint Night

Friday, December 8, 6:30-8:00 pm at the Senior Center, \$35/person

An Instructor from Canvas N' Cup will lead us through creating a winter themed masterpiece on canvas. This activity is appropriate for ages 8 and up, families welcome! Children under age 14 must have a parent/caregiver present. Cost is per person and includes all materials.

Winter Program Guide

The Shrewsbury Rec Winter 2024 Program Guide is now available for viewing! Click [here](#) to check it out! Winter Program Registration will open on Wednesday, November 29 at 10 am.

Our Adaptive Program Meeting is rescheduled for Wednesday, Nov 29, 2023, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Senior Center. If you are interested in exploring how we can all work together to improve our adaptive program offerings and inclusion practices to support community members of all ages with disabilities in recreation programs, please join us!

Please [click here](#) for the Parks & Recreation website.

4. Please Note – Shrewsbury Historical Society Events

Shrewsbury Historical Society Upcoming Programs

- December 2, 2023: Yuletide Market 3:00-4:30, “All Aboard, Encore! Model Holiday Train Exhibit and Penny Candy Sale”
 - Enjoy the festive holiday themed Lionel O Gauge Model Train! Featuring old fashioned penny candy. Prepackaged bags of penny candy: 10 pieces for 10 cents, while supplies last.
- December 13, 2023: “125th Anniversary Celebration of the Shrewsbury Historical Society “ by Erik Larson, President
 - The Shrewsbury Historical Society was established in 1898, and has remained a vibrant organization for over 125 years! Come view some of the oldest Shrewsbury artifacts in our collection, learn how the Society started, and hear about how the Society continues to preserve historic resources, provide outreach and serve our community.
- January 24, 2024: “Shrewsbury Charitable Society “by Tom Kelleher
- February 28, 2024: “Hebert Candies, Past to Present: Creation of the Candy Mansion “ by Paul Smith (at Hebert Candy Mansion)
- March 27, 2024: “Needle & Thread: The Art and Skill of Clothing an Early 19th-Century Family “ by Rebecca Beall
- April 24, 2024: “Spectacle and Substance: Tracking a Tale of Victorian America “ by April Jones Price
- May 22, 2024: Annual Meeting and “Having Fun: Wish You Were Here: Historical Society Game Night!” by Erik Larson, President

Mission Statement

The Shrewsbury Historical Society was organized on January 7, 1898, and incorporated on June 23, 1902. The purpose of the Society shall be to keep alive and increase interest in the history of the Town of Shrewsbury; to collect and preserve items of special value, traditions, and curiosities; to encourage general public interest in its work; and to maintain such personal properties and real estate that may come under the control of the Society.

5. Save the Date – Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library Annual Open House, December 2nd

Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library present our Annual Holiday Open House. Join us Saturday, December 2nd from 10 am to 1 pm. This is a holiday favorite with fun for all ages. Activities include winter holiday crafts for kids, holiday magnet making, dreidel playing, holiday tattoos, holiday scavenger hunt, holiday card making, plus a special story time with Santa from 12 to 1 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

6. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services Annual Appeal

In 2021, a national study revealed that 44% of adolescents had experienced persistent sadness or hopelessness in the prior year, and nearly 20% seriously considered attempting suicide. The US Surgeon General released a public health advisory regarding youth mental health as a result. Similarly, mental health issues in older adults continue to be underestimated and brushed off as a “normal part of aging.” Currently, two-thirds of seniors with mental health problems do not get the treatment they need.

Please join us to help Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services work towards its mission of strengthening the emotional and social well-being of individuals and families through equitable access to mental health counseling and social services programs.

SYFS is working tirelessly to ensure that people of all ages can access the services they require when the services are needed. SYFS has developed innovative programming to help limit time spent on waitlists and offers support to people when they are hurting. Our staff have expertise in supporting individuals and their families across the lifespan. We are dedicated to forming relationships with our clients and removing barriers to ensure that they continue to grow and live meaningful and fulfilling lives.

Please [click here](#) to donate to Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services. Your generosity and support is needed this year to ensure children, youth, families, adults, and seniors receive the services they need to provide them health, hope, happiness and opportunity.

7. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services Holiday Support Group

For many, the holidays are a very challenging time. You are not alone; we are here to support you. SYFS will be offering a weekly, online, support group for individuals struggling during the holiday season. This group is intended for individuals 18 and older.

The holiday support group will meet from November 14 through December 19 on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 2:45 pm. Please [click here](#) for the video call link.

Please contact Abigail Westerlind with any questions: 508-845-6932 ext. 403

8. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Yuletide Market and Light the Common, December 2nd

The Annual Yuletide Market and Light the Common will be Saturday, December 2, from 4 to 8 p.m. on the Town Common. It opens at 4 p.m. and at 4:45, 31,000 lights on the Common will be flipped on in a dazzling display!

There'll be new food trucks, more artisanal gifts and vendors, and more fun for all ages. Don't miss this unique opportunity to stroll the festive Town Common, while getting a jump on holiday shopping. Admission is free, but pets are not allowed. For more information and parking locations, [click here](#).

Youth Athletics and Activities

1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth Soccer Spring 2024 Season

Registration is now open for the Spring season for all Shrewsbury Youth Soccer age groups (pre-k through grade 12). Our season is scheduled to start in early April 2024 and will run to the end of the school year. We have had waiting lists for most age groups in the last few seasons, so register early. Click [here](#) to register.

2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse Spring Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the Spring 2024 travel season for all Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse age groups (girls and boys in grades 1-8). Come out for this fun, fast-paced sport. All experience levels are welcome! The season will run from early April to mid-June, with indoor pre-season practices starting in mid-February. Regular games will be on Sundays with the season culminating in a fun 3-game jamboree. Click [here](#) to register! Email us with any questions at info@shrewsburylacrosse.com.
