



# Community Bulletin

December 11th, 2023

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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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## School District Items

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

Do you have a student interested in Business, Accounting, Isenberg School of Management, or being a CPA? This week, on December 15th, the SHS Lunch and Learn guest speaker is Dan Quinlivan, an SHS alum from the class of 2015. Dan has an undergraduate Degree in Accounting from Isenberg School of Management (UMass Amherst) and attended Villanova School of Business for a Master's in Accounting and Data Analytics before obtaining Certified Public Accounting (CPA) License. He will share his experiences working in a fast-paced environment providing client service and Mergers & Acquisitions consulting to Fortune 500 companies, startups, and Private Equity firms at KPMG (a "Big 4" firm). He can also provide insight into the opportunities and career path in public accounting, or discuss his experiences at Isenberg. 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](mailto:kkeohane@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us).

### **2. Please Note – Shrewsbury High School Alumni Association Grants**

The Shrewsbury High School Alumni Association has awarded grants to student groups, classes, and organizations each year since 1994. Applications for this school year are being accepted through December 31. The grant program relies on contributions from alumni and friends. For information on how to donate, see <https://www.shrewsburyalumni.org>. Details on applying for a grant can be found [here](#).

### **3. Please Note – Shrewsbury High School DECA Club in Need of Volunteers**

Shrewsbury High School's DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) Team is busily preparing for its first of the season DECA competition on Wednesday, January 11th and Thursday, January 12th, and is actively seeking members of our community to volunteer as

judges - for one day or two! DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

Shrewsbury's DECA student membership has increased from 60 student members last year to over 200 this year! Please read the information below and sign up to help if you are interested and able. Be sure to select Shrewsbury - Jason Andreola on the form to confirm that you are representing our district!

Judges can volunteer for either day (Wednesday or Thursday) or on both days. Judges are needed to:

- Read papers before the January 10th competitions
- Evaluate written and roleplay presentations on the day of the event

Contact Judge Coordinator Edward O'Connor at [occonnor@pathfindertech.org](mailto:occonnor@pathfindertech.org) with any questions. Click [here](#) to learn about what a DECA judge does and click [here](#) to sign up. Thank you for your consideration!

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## Community Items

### **1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Young Adults Helping Out Others (New)**

Join Shrewsbury Y.A.H.O.O. (Young Adults Helping Out Others) and help keep Shrewsbury beautiful and provide assistance to your neighbors with fall and spring clean-up! We are looking for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors, as well as adult chaperones to perform spring and fall clean-up assistance for older adults in our community who need help. No power tools will be used - simply raking and bagging yard debris for pick-up. This program will take place over 4 or 5 weekend days in the spring and fall for 4 hours each day. You will be able to add this experience to your college and career resumes, build meaningful relationships, and develop leadership skills and a sense of community.

Please join us for information sessions on Tuesday, January 16th at 5:00 p.m. or Saturday, January 20th at 9:00 a.m. at the Shrewsbury Senior Center (98 Maple Avenue). Please contact Casey Bogan at [cbogan@shrewsburyma.gov](mailto:cbogan@shrewsburyma.gov) for more information.

### **2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events**

#### 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 for adults to learn and practice 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. Visit the library's [events calendar](#) to confirm dates (December 13th & 27th).

### 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.

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.

### 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](#).

### 3. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens

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!
- 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, December 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!

#### **4. 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.

##### Winter Program Guide

Registration is now open for winter programs! Click [here](#) to check it out!

We will be making snowman tealight ornaments, hot chocolate mason jar gifts, sugar cookie mason jar gifts and terracotta snowman decorations!

##### February Break Camps

Minds In Motion STEM Programs - Tuesday 2/20-Friday 2/23  
Chemical Creations for ages 6-10, 9am- Noon

CSI for ages 7-11, 12:30-3:30 pm

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

## **5. Please Note – Shrewsbury Historical Society Events**

### Shrewsbury Historical Society Upcoming Programs

- 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.

## **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 – First Day Hike 2024, January 1st**

The Shrewsbury Trails Committee invites you to start the new year with our annual First Day Hike in Lake Street Park, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Monday, January 1st. This is an all-ages event and is excellent for the whole family. The local scout troops are eager to show you some of the trails and Trails Committee members can provide color commentary. There will be a warm campfire and hot cocoa and marshmallows to toast. There is nothing like being out in the fresh air with the whole new year in front of you! Please dress for the weather and be advised that in case of inclement weather we will have to cancel.

### **9. Please Note – Spelling Bee Workshop**

Are you fascinated by words and intrigued by the challenge of spelling bees? Join our workshop! Run by a Shrewsbury High School student, this workshop is tailored for students

eager to delve into the intricacies of the English language, this workshop offers a comprehensive exploration of words and their components. Participants will emerge with a deep understanding and skill in the craft of spelling bees! All proceeds will go to EKAL, a non-profit organization designed to provide education to underprivileged kids. Please [click here](#) for details.

## **10. Please Note – Tufts “Adventures in Veterinary Medicine” Program**

Tufts University’s [Adventures In Veterinary Medicine \(AVM\)](#) program is expanding for 2024 and applications are open for STEM-oriented 7th and 8th grade students who are interested in working with or studying animals!

Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University is the only vet school in New England and we offer a unique opportunity for middle school learners (as well as [high school](#) students) to explore veterinary medicine in a highly interactive and hands-on environment. This spring and summer our North Grafton campus will again offer AVM for 7th and 8th graders.

Each middle school session is a week-long, in-person, full-day, commuter experience led by our faculty and students in our veterinary labs and classrooms - including our new state-of-the-art simulation lab - and on our farm. Students will learn and gain exposure to things like how to suture and palpate, be introduced to handling small and large animals, as well as learn basic animal CPR and ultrasound, AND even practice a variety of skills on our near life-like and animatronic models; the same ones our own students use!

We are eager to welcome students this coming April and June. You can find details, join our mailing list, and access the application [here](#).

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## **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](mailto:info@shrewsburylacrosse.com).

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