



# Community Bulletin

August 28th, 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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## **Youth Athletics and Activities**

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## **School District Items**

### **1. [Please Note](#) – Cafeteria Help Wanted (New)**

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 preparing 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, 75 Cypress Avenue, Shrewsbury MA 01545 or email to Heidi Doyle at [hdoyle@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:hdoyle@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us). If you have any questions, please call Heidi Doyle at (508) 841-8855.

### **2. [Please Note](#) – New Street Address for Shrewsbury High School (New)**

At the May 2023 Annual Town Meeting, a change of address was approved for Shrewsbury High School, changing it from 64 Holden Street to 75 Cypress Avenue.

There are multiple reasons for making this change, including future possibility of road repairs receiving state funding and ability for the Shrewsbury Police Department to enforce moving violations on public roadways. Previously, the stretch of roadway from Holden Street to the building was considered a "driveway" and now it is a public road.

### **3. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Public Schools Offers Meals at No Cost for Students**

Shrewsbury Public Schools will be participating in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. As part of this program, Shrewsbury Public Schools will offer healthy meals every school day. The Massachusetts legislature has provided funding to make meals available at no cost to all students during the school year 2023-2024, regardless of household income. However, families should still complete a Meal Benefit Application as this provides data for key funding for academic resources and may also connect families to

additional benefits. This data will also support the additional funds provided by the Commonwealth for this pilot. For more information about this program, please click [here](#).

#### **4. [Save the Date](#) – Music Drive by the Shrewsbury Schools Music/Theater Association, September 23rd**

Please save the date for the 68th annual Music Drive, taking place the morning of Saturday, September 23rd. All high school theater and music students should plan to participate in this one-time, four-hour event to sell season concert tickets in our neighborhoods and help raise funds for our theater and music departments. This one event alone earns as much as \$16,000 for use by our performing arts directors and teachers, and we need full community support to accomplish this!

We are in great need of adult drivers! Each year we need 40 to 50 parents to help drive the students out on their routes. It is a tremendous task to find enough drivers to help us in this event. Please consider helping this year! Visit [myssma.com](http://myssma.com) to learn more and volunteer to drive!

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### **Community Items**

#### **1. [Please Note](#) – Scarecrows on the Common, September 18th–October 20th (New)**

For the nineteenth year, the Shrewsbury Garden Club is excited to sponsor Scarecrows on the Common in conjunction with the annual Spirit of Shrewsbury Fall Festival. Shrewsbury residents, businesses, clubs, and organizations are encouraged to create a scarecrow and place it on the Town Common. Dates for the display are September 18th through October 20th. For more information, please go to [www.ShrewsburyGardenClub.org](http://www.ShrewsburyGardenClub.org) and click on the Civic Projects link.

#### **2. [Save the Date](#) – Annual Reliant Foundation 5K, September 30th (New)**

On Saturday, September 30th, the annual Reliant Foundation 5K road race will be held at Shore Park in Worcester. This certified, chip-timed race attracts hundreds of runners, walkers, and spectators to raise funds in support of community grants for youth mental health and substance use prevention and recovery for people of all ages. The race starts at 9:30 a.m. with race-day registration opening at 8:30 a.m. The event features family-friendly entertainment including music by Cumulus Radio 100 FM The Pike, visits by local sports team mascots, kids' activities, refreshments, and raffles.

Early bird registration rates are available until August 31st. Online registration remains open through September 27th. To register, or for more information, visit the [Reliant Foundation website](#). The race features prizes and awards for individuals of all ages and teams. Runners, walkers, and people of all abilities are welcome. Register by September 5th to be guaranteed a complimentary runner's jersey.

Your support makes it possible for Reliant Foundation's Community Grants Program to fund services throughout the region that boost resources and increase access to mental health and behavioral health services for children and youth; build tools for recovery for individuals struggling to break free from substance use disorder; and fund impactful education and initiatives to battle the stigma and raise awareness around these issues.

### **3. Please Note – Volunteers Needed for Spirit of Shrewsbury (New)**

The Spirit of Shrewsbury committee is looking for volunteers for Saturday, September 23rd during the Spirit of Shrewsbury weekend. Minimum age is 15. Volunteers will be helping vendors load and unload their equipment and supplies, as well as any other help they need. At least 50 volunteers are needed. Shifts are Saturday, September 23rd from 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. or Sunday, September 24th from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. and 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

To register, complete [this form](#) on the Spirit of Shrewsbury website. Volunteers will be given free pizza as well as free vendor giveaways. Please meet volunteer coordinator Shyla Ram at the front desk before beginning your shift. You will receive a SOS Volunteer t-shirt when you sign in. Questions can be directed to Shyla at [shyla.ram09@gmail.com](mailto:shyla.ram09@gmail.com). Thank you for supporting the Spirit of Shrewsbury!

### **4. Save the Date – Worcester Children's Chorus Auditions, September 5th & 6th (New)**

Children and youth ages 8-18 throughout central Massachusetts are encouraged to sign up for Worcester Children's Chorus auditions for the 2023-2024 concert season on September 5th and 6th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Assumption University. The audition fee is \$25; financial assistance for audition fee and annual tuition is available. Tuition ranges from \$625-\$750 depending on age level. Click [here](#) for the audition form.

Worcester Children's Chorus provides professional-level choral singing instruction and an enriching program for each child. Weekly rehearsals lead to exciting performance opportunities locally throughout central Massachusetts in venues like Mechanics Hall, Polar Park, or Worcester Art Museum. The music education your child or youth will gain is meaningful, serious, and fun, or as we like to say, "serious fun!" Learn more [here](#) about our after-school program for youth singers in central Massachusetts.

## 5. **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!

### Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Senior Center (98 Maple Ave) – last date is September 20th

### Food Truck Thursdays

Thursdays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Lawn through October 12th

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

## 6. **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. Upcoming dates: September 6th & 20th.

### Tech Tuesday: Digital Privacy and Security

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library at 6:00 p.m. in the Learning Lab for Tech Tuesdays! The Tuesday, September 5th class will cover Digital Privacy and Security. Attendees will learn how to assess potential risks in their digital privacy, some specific tools and strategies you can implement as part of a security plan, and how to take action when your data has been breached. 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.

### Wood Burning Workshop

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Tuesday, September 12th at 12:00 p.m. with local woodworker Frank St. Pierre for a workshop on wood burning. Participants will learn how to transfer designs to small (1/8 in.) plywood stock in various shapes and sizes using carbon paper. The design is then burned onto the wood using a special tool. The tool can be compared to a large pen or pencil with a hot tip, which is used to trace the design onto the wood. Because of the heated tip, each participant will be required to sign a liability waiver before participating. Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library. This program will take place in person at the library; please [register](#) to attend.

## **7. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Children (New)**

We have some great events for children happening in September at the Library!

- Friday, September 1st through Saturday, September 30th - [Banned Books Reading Challenge](#) - For kids ages 5-12. Reading is empowering! Learn about new perspectives and celebrate the freedom to read with books that have been challenged or banned throughout the years. Log your reading to earn badges throughout the challenge. Read any book and log it through Beanstack. Each book you log will award you a raffle ticket to enter to win your own copy of a banned book. Register [here](#).

- Saturday, September 9th at 2:00 p.m. - [Grandparent's Day Crafternoon](#) - Celebrate grandparents with this drop-in crafternoon. Geared toward children ages 3+. Crafting available while supplies last.
- Monday, September 11th at 10:00 a.m. - [Courtyard Storytime](#) - Join Miss Sonja for singing, dancing, and stories in the fresh air. No registration or tokens needed. Geared toward kids age 1+. In the case of inclement weather, the program will be canceled.
- Tuesday, September 12th at 4:30 p.m. - [High Holiday Storytime](#) - Join us at the library for a High Holiday-themed story time including songs, stories, and a craft. This program is geared for kids 2-8. No registration is required; admission tokens will be handed out beginning at 4:00 p.m. and will be available until they run out.
- Monday, September 18th at 6:00 p.m. - [Buzzz... the Bee is Here - Spelling Bee for Kids](#) - For kids in grades 3-5. The library is hosting a spelling bee! Participants will be picked through a lottery system. If your child gets in, you will be contacted by September 11th. If you are interested, please send the following information to [splkids@cwmars.org](mailto:splkids@cwmars.org): child's name and grade; parent's name, email, and phone number.

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

## **8. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library: Change in Rules for Age of Students Allowed Without an Adult**

*Please note: Students who are in Grade 6 or younger may not be at the library without a parent or parent's representative, and students in Grades 7 & 8 may only access the library unattended without a parent or parent representative for a maximum of two hours.*

We've had many discussions with our library staff and community partners to try to create a safe environment for middle school aged kids. We restricted the students to the young adult and community commons sections of the library, offered age-appropriate activities, and volunteered to help monitor and supervise the students during the time they were in the library. These efforts did help somewhat; but, put simply, we cannot safely supervise and manage the number of students at the library. Behavioral issues also continue to impact overall safety and disturb other patrons' use of the library. There is also concern for students' safety while walking to the library and through the center of town and in the parking lot, as many children have been observed to disregard traffic.

At a properly posted public meeting, the Board of Library Trustees voted unanimously on June 20, 2023 to change the Child Safety Policy regarding when children can use the library building without adult supervision in response to the above. The updated policy, effective July 1, 2023 reads:

*Children through grade six must be continually attended and supervised by a parent or parent's representative while in the library. Children in grades seven and eight may be left unattended for a maximum of two hours.*

#### **9. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Employment Opportunity**

The Shrewsbury Public Library is hiring a part-time Youth Services Assistant. This is a non-benefited position. The Youth Services Assistant will be part of our dynamic Youth Services team and work in conjunction with the other team members and be responsible for planning and implementing fun, educational, and STEAM-focused programs for children 0-18. Please see the [full job description](#) for more information.

#### **10. Save the Date – SELCO Community Open House, October 6th**

SELCO will be holding its first Community Open House on Friday, October 6th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at SELCO's service area at 30 Municipal Drive. Parking will be available at Paton School. This event will feature tours of the Johnson Substation, Touch-A-Truck, kids activities, giveaways, Boston Trolley Dogs food truck, free popcorn, bounce house and inflatable games, information on rebates and incentives such as heat pumps, EVs, weatherization, yard equipment, solar, appliances and more, Electric Vehicle displays, SELCO Stream demo and raffle, green screen fun sponsored by Shrewsbury Media Connection, and more! Click [here](#) for the event link and [here](#) for the Facebook link.

#### **11. Save the Date – Community Locker Room: Kids Playing It Forward, Sports Gear and Equipment Collection, September 16th & 17th**

Community Locker Room is a local non-profit organization started by a few Shrewsbury moms that collects gently used sports gear and equipment and redistributes it to children and recreation programs in surrounding under-resourced communities.

They will be collecting gear and equipment at the Town Hall in Shrewsbury on:  
Saturday, September 16th 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Sunday, September 17th 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Being involved in sports has so many benefits for kids and teens. Please help us get these children off the sidelines and into the games by donating your gently used gear and equipment. Please [click here](#) for their flier with more information on the Community Locker Room.



## **12. Save the Date – India Society of Worcester Cultural and Language School Open House, September 17th**

Registrations for Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Gujarati, Marathi, and online Sanskrit are now open for September – [click here](#) for signups. Classes start September 24th or 25th, based on language selected.

Try Indian Cultural and Yoga assembly which will be held on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and will have a mix of various activities for kids. Conversational-level classes for adults are also offered. Early registrations by September 12th will get you free books. We also want to thank our dedicated teachers, because without them and the staff this would not have been possible. Send an email to [schoollead@iswonline.org](mailto:schoollead@iswonline.org) for more information.

Just a reminder, India Center's Free [Health Stop](#) since 2005 provides health care and is open to all. It is held on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Services are provided to anyone regardless of their financial, immigration, or insurance status.

[Sign up](#) for ISW's free newsletter for all our activities.

## **13. Save the Date – Barefoot Half Marathon, September 3rd**

If you don't have any plans for "Labor Day Weekend, we would like to invite you to the third Barefoot Half Marathon on Sunday, September 3rd at 6:30 a.m. Have you ever witnessed someone running barefoot? Do you even know about this event that has been happening in Worcester county since the pandemic? The half marathon will start in Sterling and finish at Shrewsbury High School. You are invited to "Sweat for Education" or just cheer for the runners.

This event is organized by "Nap Briye," a non-profit organization with a mission to create a digital platform to provide good quality, free, and accessible education to underprivileged children in Haiti. Our mission is to reduce the percentage of people who do not have access to education and increase the literacy rate in Haiti. The Haitian educational system yields the lowest total rate in the education realm of the Western Hemisphere. Despite being the first black independent nation in the world, Haiti's economic and social development continues to be hindered by political instability, increasing violence, and unprecedented levels of insecurity, which exacerbate fragility. Education is the key to success. Without education, there will be more insecurity due to delinquency. With education, we will have hope for a better future.

You can join us and "Sweat for Education," volunteer, donate, and tell your friends and family about this event. Check our [website](#) or google 2023 Barefoot Half Marathon. Feel free to share it on your personal social media and follow us.

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## **Youth Athletics and Activities**

### **1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Colonials Amateur Baseball Club**

The Shrewsbury Colonials AAU baseball program is very close to fielding a 12U team for the 2024 season. We are gathering interested candidates. The tryouts are to be determined but are tentatively scheduled for the end of August at North Shore Baseball Field, Parker Road.

Indoor training will begin mid-January into early April, incorporating a complete program with pitching and hitting instruction from qualified instructors. There will be double headers either Saturday or Sunday between early April into early June/July for a 20-25 game schedule, including tournaments. This allows the boys to play in a highly competitive environment while still playing Little League ball, with little interference.

Players will be evaluated for available roster spots and notified of results shortly thereafter. If interested, please fill out the [contact form](#). A registration and waiver form will be sent to you with more information on the teams. If you have a conflict with the tryout date, we will schedule an additional day/time for a make-up session.

If you are interested in a 12U 2024 team tryout or have any questions about the program, please contact Kevin Martin at [mphco@verizon.net](mailto:mphco@verizon.net) or Coaches Nick Martin at [nmartind1@gmail.com](mailto:nmartind1@gmail.com) and Casey Boudreau at [casey.boudreau22@gmail.com](mailto:casey.boudreau22@gmail.com).

### **2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth Soccer Fall Season**

Registration is still open for the fall season for Shrewsbury Youth Soccer minis age groups (pre-kindergarten through grade 2). Our games are currently scheduled to start on September 9th, with practices starting 1-2 weeks before. Please [click here](#) to register.

We have migrated our Registration System to Sports Connect. Some important points for registration:

- If you do not currently have a Sports Connect account, you will have to create one and add each of the players you would like to register for the fall.
- You do not have to upload a birth certificate.
- No uniform order is required for Pre-K to Grade 2 (it is provided as part of your registration).

### **3. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth Lacrosse Fall Clinic Powered by Scoops Lacrosse**

Starting September 10th, Scoops Lacrosse will be running a 5-week fall lacrosse clinic open to boys and girls ages 3-8 in Shrewsbury. Scoops Clinics are designed for kids who are interested in learning as well as continuing their development of lacrosse. Kids will be broken into different groups based on age and/or skill levels. Most importantly, Scoops Clinics are designed for maximum amounts of fun, confidence building, and pure lacrawsomeness. The only equipment necessary is a lacrosse stick. We are pad-free at Scoops.

Click [here](#) to register. Reach out to [alison.smith@shrewsburylacrosse.com](mailto:alison.smith@shrewsburylacrosse.com) with any questions!

#### **4. Please Note – Shrewsbury Little League Girls Softball Fall Registration**

Learn and play softball in a competitive and fun environment. The season runs from September 9th through October 22nd and is open to ages 4-16. No experience necessary. Practices will be held 1-2 times per week after school or on weekends, with one game per week held on weekends. Click [here](#) to register. Non-Shrewsbury players are welcome if your town does not offer a fall program. Any questions? Please email us at [shrewsburygsb@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburygsb@gmail.com).

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