



# Community Bulletin

September 20th, 2021

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## Major Howard W. Beal School Open House – Saturday, September 25 from 9:00am-Noon

In conjunction with the Spirit of Shrewsbury Fall Festival, the new Major Howard W. Beal School at 214 Lake Street will be open to the public for self-guided tours on Saturday, September 25 from 9:00am to noon. Members of the public are invited to view the interior and the grounds of this beautiful new state-of-the-art educational facility. Per state and local mandate, masks will be required when inside the school building.

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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](#).

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### **School District Items**

#### **1. [Please Note](#) – COVID-19 Testing Update: **PARENTAL ACTION REQUIRED** **(New)****

Shrewsbury Public Schools is partnering with the state [COVID Testing Program](#) to provide voluntary weekly COVID-19 testing and the Test and Stay option for close contacts at school. Please check your email from September 10th for more details about these programs. Testing is voluntary and all staff and students are encouraged to participate. ***The required consent form can be found [here](#).*** We anticipate these programs will be available from the state by the end of the month. More information will follow when available. Your child cannot participate until the parental consent form is completed.

#### **2. [Please Note](#) – Free Meals for all SPS Students**

Shrewsbury Public Schools is providing free meals to all students under the USDA's Child Nutrition Programs. All children enrolled in the district are eligible for these free meals\* regardless of their eligibility status through June 30th, 2022. *(\*This does not apply to a la carte items that are in addition to a standard meal. A la carte items may be sold for a fee at some point during the school year.)*

Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications are used to determine free or reduced cost eligibility for many school programs, such as sports, transportation, music, etc. if there is financial need. To qualify for reduced costs for programs, you must fill out a Free and Reduced Application. Applications are available online at <https://shrewsbury.familyportal.cloud>. Applications must be submitted this school year by October 8th, 2021 to continue eligibility.

If you received a letter from the Food Service Department stating your children were eligible for free or reduced meals in school year 2021-2022 as a result of a Direct Certification from the Department of Health and Human Services for school year 2021-2022, you do not need to fill out an online application.

Applications will be accepted at any time during the school year for new applicants as the need arises for families. If you need an application at any time during the school year, [visit our webpage](#) and fill out the [online application](#). Eligibility is governed by guidelines set by the Federal Government. A notification will be sent to all families stating what program they qualify for.

If you need help filling out the application, or have questions about the Free and Reduced Meal Program, please call the Food Service Department at (508) 841-8819 or email Beth Nichols, Food Service Director, at [bnichols@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:bnichols@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us).

### **3. Please Note – Extended Day Program 2021-2022**

The Extended Learning program has limited openings in the before- and after-school programs for students attending Beal, Coolidge, Floral, Paton, Spring, and Sherwood.

Extended Day offers a structured enrichment program led by experienced, professional staff. Students can choose from a variety of planned activities each day including art, gym games, dramatic play, outdoor play, and many special projects and clubs. Students in grades 1-6 also have a period of quiet homework time. A snack and drink are provided each day.

The program is located in each of the school cafeterias and students go directly to the program at school dismissal. There is no transportation for Extended Day. Parents must pick up their child no later than 6:00 p.m. The before-school programs at the elementary schools open at 7:00 a.m. and parents may drop off anytime between 7:00 - 8:30 a.m. Our staff will ensure students get to class at the start of the school day. Please note that there is no morning program at Sherwood.

Program details, tuition rates, and registration instructions can be found on our [website](#).

### **4. Please Note – Volunteer Interpreters Needed for the District**

Do you speak English and another language well enough to help teachers or school administrators communicate with other families who speak that language? Teachers and staff sometimes need help to communicate with a parent or caregiver who may speak a language other than English. They may need help making a phone call or communicating during a

conference or other parent/caregiver meeting. **We are especially in need of interpreters for Russian, Chinese, Arabic, and Vietnamese.**

Interpreters are very important for teacher conferences, which take place on Tuesday, November 2nd. If you are available to help in any capacity, please give us your contact information and availability by [completing this form](#). We will be in touch when help is needed.

Thank you for your support of Shrewsbury Public Schools!

#### **5. Save the Date – SHS Athletic Boosters Bowling for Boosters, October 24th**

The SHS Athletic Boosters' 12th Annual Bowling for Boosters has been rescheduled for Sunday, October 24th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Bowlero Bowling, Route 9 West, Shrewsbury. Teams of 4-6 players each are wanted! Adults 21+ only.

The evening will feature a Halloween-themed event, including unlimited bowling, pizza, soda, raffle prizes, cash bar, and awards ceremony for best score, worst score, and best-dressed team in costume! Please see the [flyer](#) or visit the [website](#) for more information and to register. Thank you for your support!

#### **6. Save the Date – SHS Athletic Boosters Leo M. Murray Jr. Golf Classic, October 5th**

We are happy to announce that the SHS Athletic Boosters Leo M. Murray Jr. Golf Classic has been rescheduled and it will now take place on Tuesday, October 5th at Juniper Hill Golf Course in Northborough. The money raised from this event will be used to support the needs of all our athletic teams, along with funding two scholarships for graduating seniors.

We have sold out early over the past several years, so we encourage you to register quickly. The cost of the tournament remains \$135 per player, which includes green fees, cart, tournament gift, dinner buffet, and a chance to win a luxury car. You will also be able to buy-in to fun tournament contests. Your registration is confirmed upon receipt of electronic payment. If you have not already registered, please consider doing so by [visiting our website](#).

This site will also be used for sponsorship opportunities as well. If it is of interest to you or your business, please take a look. We look forward to you joining us again this year for another exciting day of golf! Thank you in advance for your anticipated support!

#### **7. Please Note – Seeking Parent Representative for SWAC (New)**

Applications are now being accepted for parent representatives to the Shrewsbury Wellness Advisory Committee (SWAC). This district-wide committee meets at SHS approximately 5 times per year (dates and times below) to discuss current health issues affecting the Shrewsbury Public Schools community and sets health-related goals in conjunction with District Strategic Priorities. The committee is made up of the superintendent, department directors, teachers, parents, and leaders of community-based organizations. Honest, constructive input from parents is a vital part of this committee!

We are seeking 3-4 parent/guardian volunteers with students in various grade levels across the district. To apply, please submit a brief statement outlining the reason(s) for your interest in this committee and how you believe you will be able to contribute to our meetings. Applications are due by Friday, October 1st, and should be submitted via email to Noelle Freeman, Director of School Nursing, at [nfreeman@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:nfreeman@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us).

The committee will meet on the following Thursday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. at Shrewsbury High School. Attendance at meetings is important, so please be sure to check your calendar for availability before committing to participation on the committee. For the most part, the work of the committee takes place at meetings with minimal need for work outside of meetings.

2021-2022 Meeting Dates: October 10th, December 2nd, January 20th, March 10th, and April 28th. All meetings will be held from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. at Shrewsbury High School.

#### **8. Please Note – Music Drive Thank You (New)**

Thank you to the entire Shrewsbury community for supporting the SSMA with this year's Music Drive. If you missed us (or we missed you) and would like to purchase tickets to this year's SHS music concert season or simply make a donation, please visit [mySSMA.com](http://mySSMA.com). We are hopeful to have full attendance at all concerts, but seating might be limited due to COVID restrictions. And special gratitude to the students, parent drivers, volunteers, and SHS directors whose hard work made this year's event such a success!

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### **Community Items**

#### **1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Fall Offerings**

Fall Online Registration - Currently accepting registration for some of our fall programs. New programs will be added throughout September based on space availability. Pre-registration is required for all Parks & Recreation programs. Space is limited.

Youth Basketball League - Accepting registration starting Tuesday, September 28th for leagues: Boys 3rd & 4th, Girls 3rd & 4th, Boys 5th & 6th, Girls 5th & 6th, Boys 7th & 8th, Girls 7th-9th, and NEW this year Boys 9th-12th league. Games are played at the Oak & Sherwood Middle Schools on Saturdays with one weeknight assigned for a team practice. Cost is \$135.

Skills & Drills Basketball Clinic - Tuesday evenings starting October 12th for grades 3rd & 4th and 5th & 6th at Sherwood Middle School Gym. Cost is \$66.

Chalk it Up Halloween Theme! - Pumpkins, ghosts, black cats, and haunted houses! Families are able to create funny, scary, or sweet designs for everyone to see. We supply the chalk, you create the designs! Bring some painters tape or cutouts to build your work of art! Sign up the whole family! Sunday, October 17th from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Paton School Playground Area. **FREE EVENT!**

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball - Intermediate on Mondays, Advance on Tuesdays, and Recreational on Thursdays. Program starts in October. Website lists fees, times, dates, and schedules.

Social Skills Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Saturday, October 16th from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. at Dean Park South Pavilion. Cost is \$52.

Restaurant Ready Workshop - Grades 2-7 on Thursday, October 14th from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Middle School Cafeteria. Cost is \$42.

Home Safety - Ages 9 and up on Saturday, October 2nd from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Dean Park South Pavilion. Cost is \$37.

Visit our new website! [shrewsburyma.myrec.com](https://shrewsburyma.myrec.com) Old accounts do not work in the new system. Please build a new household and we can approve it for you.

## **2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library September Events for Tweens & Teens**

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

- Fridays - Each Friday after school we'll have a different game or activity! Drop in for guessing games, puzzles, board games, and more.
- Wednesday, September 22nd - Fancy Hand Lettering - 3:30 p.m. on Zoom. Grades 5 - adult. Register [here](#).
- Friday, September 24th - Teen Take & Make: Retro TV Phone Stand - 3:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary - grab a kit to take home.

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

Volunteer positions available at Shrewsbury Public Library - Teens and tweens, we need YOU to volunteer at the library this school year! We currently have openings for in-person volunteer roles as well as ongoing virtual volunteer opportunities. The deadline to apply for our current in-person volunteer roles is Tuesday, September 14th at 5:00 p.m. See more information about available roles and how to apply [here](#).

### **3. Save the Date – Worcester Center for Crafts Programs, October through May (New)**

Worcester Center for Crafts is running a series from October through May of free craft and performance programming for the community. This “handcraft bash” is suitable for youth and families and is free to all. Click [here](#) to see the flyer, which includes details about each month’s events.

### **4. Save the Date – Scarecrows on the Common, Through October 17th**

For the 17th year, the Shrewsbury Garden Club is sponsoring Scarecrows on the Common. Any Shrewsbury resident, individual, group, family, or business may display their scarecrow creation on the Town Common starting September 20th through October 17th. For more information, please visit [www.ShrewsburyGardenClub.org](http://www.ShrewsburyGardenClub.org).

### **5. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Rotary Club Recycling Fundraiser, October 17th (New)**

The Shrewsbury Rotary Club is hosting a Community Recycling Fundraiser on Sunday, October 17th from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Town Hall (100 Maple Avenue). Please click [here](#) to see the flyer for information about items that will be accepted. Proceeds benefit service projects of The Shrewsbury Rotary Club. Please contact Beth Casavant at (508) 641-8174 or [bethcasavant@gmail.com](mailto:bethcasavant@gmail.com) with questions.

### **6. Please Note – Shrewsbury Cultural Council Grant Funding, Closes October 15th**

The Shrewsbury Cultural Council announces that proposals to receive funding to support community-oriented arts, humanities, and science programs are due Friday, October 15th. These grants can support a variety of artistic projects and activities in Shrewsbury -- including exhibits, festivals, field trips, short-term artist residencies, or performances in schools, workshops, and lectures.

The Shrewsbury Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) serving all 351 communities in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots



cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences, and humanities every year. The state Legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to every community.

This year, the Shrewsbury Cultural Council will distribute \$18,768 in grants, the largest amount in the history of the Shrewsbury Cultural Council. Previously funded projects include: Assabet Valley Mastersingers, Arts on the Green, Bad News Jazz & Blues Orchestra, and EcoTarium Days.

For local guidelines and complete information on the Shrewsbury Cultural Council, contact us at [scc@shrewsburyma.gov](mailto:scc@shrewsburyma.gov). Application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available online at [www.mass-culture.org](http://www.mass-culture.org).

## **7. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Domestic Violence Vigil, October 13th (New)**

The 2021 Shrewsbury Domestic Violence Vigil, sponsored by ADVISE (Against Domestic Violence in Shrewsbury Education project), is a vigil to remember victims and survivors and to raise awareness about domestic violence. The vigil will be held on Wednesday, October 13th, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Common (Main Street and Route 140). In the event of inclement weather, the vigil will be canceled.

Elected officials and leaders from our community will speak about how they work to prevent domestic violence, assist victims, and hold perpetrators accountable, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Domestic violence affects a broad spectrum of our society, but it is largely unrecognized or, worse, tolerated. The Shrewsbury community is invited to join in the vigil to remember those who have suffered domestic violence and to express a unity of purpose to eliminate domestic violence. Additional details and updates on this event may be found by calling the ADVISE Hotline, (508) 842-0056, or viewing the flyer [here](#).

## **8. Save the Date – Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library Meeting, October 6th (New)**

Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library's Annual Fall Program and Meeting will be on Wednesday, October 6th.

Boston actor Kathryn Woods recreates the remarkable life of famous abolitionist, feminist, and escaped slave Sojourner Truth, one of the most significant figures in American history. Woods memorializes Sojourner Truth at the end of her life with recollections of her early days as a slave and her relationship with God. Sharing poignant stories, Woods uses Sojourner's own words and the spiritual music she may have sung to recreate this inspiring woman.



The performance is suitable for teens and adults and is free and open to all. Friends' membership is not required, but registration is required. To register, visit the [website](#) or call the library at (508) 841-8609 x 3. For more information, please see the [announcement](#) and [flyer](#).

#### **9. Please Note – Public Works Logo Design Contest, Closes September 30th**

Creative high-schoolers - we need your help! The Department of Public Works is holding a contest to design our new logo. Any student living in Shrewsbury entering grades 9-12 in Fall 2021 may apply. Group submissions are welcome. The contest will run from August 1st through September 30th. The winner will be notified by October 8th. Full contest details are available online at [shrewsburyma.gov/contests](https://shrewsburyma.gov/contests).

#### **10. Save the Date – Cub Scouts Pack 114 Open House, September 27th (New)**

Calling all future Cub Scouts! Pack 114 will be hosting a very fun open house at the First Congregational Church on Monday, September 27th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for boys and girls in grades K-4 interested in Cub Scouts! There will be fun events planned for the kids, while adults can meet with some of the Pack leadership, ask questions, and get more information. No registration, no pressure, just an information night about who we are as a family Pack.

Families who would like to sign up with the Pack can join us on Monday, October 4th, anytime between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. at the First Congregational Church for Pack 114's Registration Night. Parents interested in learning more are encouraged to contact Pack 114 Chairperson Sue Scott and Cubmaster John Conlin at [cubmaster114.fcc@gmail.com](mailto:cubmaster114.fcc@gmail.com) and to visit the Pack on [Facebook](#).

#### **11. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Historical Society History Week, September 18th-27th**

Shrewsbury Historical Society and Shrewsbury Media Connection proudly present the 13th Annual Shrewsbury History Week, September 18th through September 27th, on SPAC TV 328 HD and 28. [Click here](#) to see the featured programs relating to Shrewsbury History.

Schedule may repeat the following week. Some programs are also available at the Shrewsbury Media Connection [Online Library](#).

#### **12. Please Note – India Center Language Classes, Starts September 25th & 26th**

Indian language classes will be starting again right here in Shrewsbury at the newly expanded ISW's India Center. Registrations for Hindi, Telugu, Tamil Gujarati, and Marathi are now open

for September 2021-2022. [Click here](#) for signups. Classes start September 25th/26th, based on language selected. Conversational-level classes for adults are also offered. [Click here](#) to see the flyer.

Tutoring classes will be offered by high school volunteers to help support the community programs at the India Center. They will help prepare your child for the upcoming academic year in subjects including math, English, Spanish, French, speech, lego, chess, and many more. Tutor and Tutee will meet online once a week, one-on-one (no group classes). [Click here](#) for more information.

Just a reminder, India Center's Free [Health Stop](#) has been providing health care since 2005 and is open to all. It is held on Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at 152 Main Street. Services are provided to anyone, regardless of their financial, immigration, and insurance status.

Plus, we offer daily [free online yoga](#) for the community!

### **13. [Save the Date](#) – Spirit of Shrewsbury Events, September 24th-26th**

The Miss Shrewsbury Pageant - Friday, September 24th, 6:00 p.m. at Congregational Church: Girls in grades 1-11th can participate with no experience necessary and gain valuable leadership skills such as voice projection, elevator speech planning, and stage presence. Workshops to prepare are free and open to all ages - see our [website](#)! Sign up today and be the 2021 Miss Shrewsbury!

Craft Fair and EXPO - Saturday, September 25th, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Oak Middle School: 50 vendors, lots of fun for the whole family! Volunteers needed! Sign up [here](#) to volunteer. Volunteers can be age 16+ and will get a free t-shirt and pizza. Click [here](#) for more information.

Costume Competition Event - Saturday, September 25th, 12:30 p.m. at Oak Middle School: Calling children of all ages! Wear a costume and join the parade at 12:15 p.m. at the Girl Scout tent. Three categories of prizes will be rewarded - originality, best costume, and funniest.

Virtual Parade - Sunday, September 26th, 1:00 p.m. broadcast on SELCO channels: First ever virtual parade (no in-person parade)! Make a TikTok-style video of how you spend the parade as if you were in front of the 90 year old tent! Upload it and become part of the official Spirit of Shrewsbury parade this year. Make your video on any street, be creative, and be safe. Click [here](#) for the invite!

### **14. [Save the Date](#) – Reuse and Recycling Event, September 25th**

The Reuse and Recycling Event will be on Saturday, September 25th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Westborough High School. The event is sponsored by WE CAN (aka Shrewsbury Farmers Market), Zero Waste Westborough, and the towns of Grafton, Northborough, Shrewsbury, and Westborough.

Please see the [flyer](#) for prices and list of items accepted. Cash only. Many items are being collected for free to be donated to nonprofits. Here is a partial list of items accepted for FREE:

- Assorted clothing and textiles (clean, dry, and odor-free)
- Appliances, pans, utensils, new or like-new craft and office supplies, good unwanted new holiday gifts, unexpired canned food items, wooden furniture, building items, doors, windows, and tools.

For more information and map, visit [wecan-ma.org](http://wecan-ma.org) or contact Missy Hollenback at (508) 284-7314.

#### **15. [Save the Date](#) – Shrewsbury Historical Society Virtual Program, September 22nd**

Shrewsbury Historical Society presents “Traditional New England Cider Making: History and Techniques” by Dennis Picard on Wednesday, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m. This virtual program will also be taped and rebroadcast on Shrewsbury Channels 28 and 328 and available on-demand online at [www.shrewsburymediaconnection.org](http://www.shrewsburymediaconnection.org). For any questions, please email [shrewsburyhistory@townisp.com](mailto:shrewsburyhistory@townisp.com).

About the Presentation: What today is understood as “apple cider” is not the same as cider during the 18th and 19th century. Cider was considered the normal drink in New England, to be consumed at every meal. The basic method of making cider is relatively simple and because it is, so much could go wrong! Learn about the mills, machinery, and products of New England’s cider-making tradition.

About the Presenter: Mr. Picard began his career in 1978 at Old Sturbridge Village and has been a museum professional in the “Living History” field for over 35 years. He has authored many articles on the lifestyles and folkways of New England and served as a consultant for many Historical Societies and Museums.

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