

# **Community Bulletin**

September 19th, 2022

#### 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 <u>School Committee policy</u>.

#### **School District Items**

- 1. Please Note Late Bus Information (New)
- 2. Save the Date SEPAC General Meeting, September 22nd (New)
- 3. Please Note Volunteer Interpreters Needed for the District (New)
- 4. Please Note Employment Opportunity Destination Imagination Program Assistant (New)
- 5. Please Note Paraprofessional Support Staff Needed
- 6. Please Note Cafeteria Help Needed

#### **Community Items**

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- 2. Please Note Shrewsbury Cultural Council Proposals (New)
- 3. Please Note ShrewsburyMA Mobile App and Website Updates (New)
- 4. Save the Date Shrewsbury Historical Society's Spirit of Shrewsbury Event (New)
- 5. Please Note India Society of Worcester Fall Programs (New)
- 6. Please Note Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Fall Program Offerings (New)
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- 8. Save the Date Shrewsbury Rotary Club Recycling Fundraiser, October 16th (New)
- 9. Please Note Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens
- 10. Please Note Feedback Requested Town Strategic Plan
- 11. Please Note Apply to the Town of Shrewsbury's New Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee
- 12. Save the Date Internet Safety for Parents Live Virtual Event, September 20th
- 13. Save the Date Shrewsbury Historical Society Presentation, September 28th
- 14. Please Note Spirit of Shrewsbury Event Details & Volunteers Needed
- 15. Please Note "Shrewsbury's Got Talent," September 24th

- 16. Please Note Shrewsbury Senior Center "Think Ahead" Event, September 22nd
- 17. Please Note Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services Group Programs
- 18. Save the Date Reliant Foundation 5K Road Race, October 1st

#### **Youth Athletics and Activities**

- 1. Please Note Shrewsbury Basketball Association Winter Travel Team Tryouts
- 2. Please Note Take Charge Hoops Mini Fall Basketball Clinic

#### **School District Items**

#### 1. Please Note – Late Bus Information (New)

We are thrilled to announce that we will continue to offer FREE late bus services for students at Shrewsbury High School, Oak Middle School, and Sherwood Middle School starting Monday, September 19th. Late buses will run on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The buses will depart from SHS at 3:30 p.m. and from the middle schools at 4:00 p.m. Please visit the <u>Late Bus webpage</u> for more information.

# 2. Save the Date – SEPAC General Meeting, September 22nd (New)

Please join the Shrewsbury Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) for our first General Meeting of the year on Thursday, September 22nd from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Zoom. SEPAC membership is free and open to all parents and guardians of children receiving special education services. We will hold elections for board positions and discuss plans for the upcoming year - input and suggestions are welcome and encouraged! We will also have time for sharing and support at this meeting. Please email <a href="mailto:shrewsbury.sepac@gmail.com">shrewsbury.sepac@gmail.com</a> for the Zoom link and agenda.

#### 3. Please Note - Volunteer Interpreters Needed for the District (New)

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 and Brazilian Portuguese.

Interpreters are very important for teacher conferences, which occur on November 8th this year. If you are available to help in any capacity, please give us your contact information and availability through <a href="mailto:this.link">this.link</a>. We will be in touch when help is needed. Thank you for helping Shrewsbury Public Schools!

# 4. Please Note – Employment Opportunity - Destination Imagination Program Assistant (New)

Shrewsbury Public Schools is currently accepting applications for an assistant for the Destination Imagination program. The assistant will be responsible for working with the Coordinator to help facilitate the program including teams, team managers, volunteers, meetings, challenges, and competitions. Stipend payment is \$749. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please see the <a href="SchoolSpring listing">SchoolSpring listing</a> on <a href="Our website">our website</a> for more information and to apply.

# 5. Please Note - Paraprofessional Support Staff Needed

If you or someone you know is interested in making a positive difference in the life of a child, please consider joining us as a paraprofessional in our schools. We are in need of: child-specific aides who work to support individual students with special learning needs; applied behavior analysis technicians who typically work to support individual students on the autism spectrum; and special education instructional assistants. Experience working with children is a plus but not required, and we will provide training. There are positions open at all grade spans, both full-time with benefits and part-time, and the hours are great for parents with children in school. For more information and to apply, please go to <a href="https://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/hr/currentopenings">https://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/hr/currentopenings</a>. If you have questions, please email Lindsey Stasiowski, Human Resources Manager, at <a href="https://stasiowski@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us">lstasiowski@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us</a> or call her at (508) 841-8483. Thank you!

#### 6. Please Note – Cafeteria Help Needed

Shrewsbury Public Schools' food services department is looking for full-time, part-time, and substitutes to work in the school cafeterias. Duties include preparing food, setting up serving lines, serving students, and breakdown and clean-up. Lunch and refreshments are provided.

Please click <u>here</u> to obtain an employment application. Please forward this application to the Food Service Department C/O Shrewsbury High School, 64 Holden Street, Shrewsbury MA 01545 or email it to <a href="https://hdo.com/hdo/hoursbury.k12.ma.us">hdoyle@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us</a>. If you have any questions, please call Heidi Doyle, Monday-Wednesday at (508) 841-8855.

#### **Community Items**

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

#### 12 Lifestyle Factors That Affect Our Well-Being More Than Food

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library with Lifestyle Reset Coach Lori Kendall-Taylor on Thursday, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m. for this health workshop. People are taught to change their diets and eat lots of organic fruits and vegetables; however, what people put into their mouths is not their only source of nourishment. If someone has already changed their diet and still feels unhealthy or lacks passion and energy, they may be lacking in one or more of twelve factors that support a healthy and fulfilling life. In this workshop, participants will discover the factors that affect their well-being and truly nourish them as well as create an action plan for a happier and healthier life. This event will take place in person at the library; please register to attend.

#### Mekong River Journey

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Saturday, September 24th at 2:00 p.m. for this program with world traveler Bob DeCoteau. Bob will share his experiences from his trip up the Mekong River from Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), Vietnam to Siem Reap, Angkor Wat, Cambodia, during which he traveled by small boat to get a better view of life along the riverbank. Participants will experience the growth of the modern city of Saigon and trace the history of this fast-growing metropolis, then cross over into Cambodia and see life on one of the largest lakes in Southeast Asia, known as the Tonle Sap. While in Cambodia, attendees will spend time at the largest religious temple monument in the world, Angkor Wat. Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library. This event will take place in person at the library; please register to attend.

#### "The Environment & Modern Agriculture" Film Screening

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Tuesday, September 27th at 7:00 p.m. for a screening of a documentary film examining the relationship between agriculture and the environment. The worldwide demand for animals, products, and crops impacts ecosystems and human health through climate change, natural resource depletion, environmental pollution, and wildlife extinction. Watch to learn how humans can help create a better future, starting today! This event will take place in person at the library; please register to attend.

#### Author Talk: Beverly Beckham

On Wednesday, September 28th, the Friends of the Library will have their annual board meeting at 6:30 p.m. Following their business meeting, author and speaker Beverly Beckham will give a talk at 7:00 p.m. that the public is welcome to attend. No registration is required.

Beverly Beckham began her writing career in 1979 and her articles and essays have appeared in newspapers and magazines around the world; she currently writes a Sunday column for the Boston Globe. Beckham is the author of *A Gift of Time*, a collection of personal essays; *Back Then, a Memoir of Childhood*; and *The Best of Beverly Beckham*, a Boston Globe ebook. Beckham's articles often give a voice to people who cannot speak for themselves. However, she is most known for her reflective words and ability to make her readers appreciate the extraordinary joys in everyday life.

#### Meditation for Healthy Living

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Thursday, September 29th at 7:00 p.m. for this meditation workshop. Gerry Gorman will present research on how meditation can improve our physical, mental, and spiritual health. He will present effective methods for creating a more satisfying lifestyle, including harmonious relationships and a deep sense of peace. Attendees will learn effective strategies and have a chance to practice a simple but profound meditation technique that can help reduce stress, enhance relaxation, and promote inner growth.

A student of meditation for over 40 years, Gerry studied with two of the most respected mystics of our time. He describes a very practical form of meditation and explores how this practice can help each of us develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. This event will take place virtually on Zoom; please register to attend.

#### Goodbye OverDrive . . . Hello Libby!

Do you currently use OverDrive to access ebooks and audiobooks? Are you worried about making the switch to Libby? Bring your device and join the Shrewsbury Public Library for a class in our Learning Lab to get help with the transition! Dates include:

Friday, September 30th, at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, October 20th, at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, November 10th at 5:30 p.m. Monday, December 5th at 6:00 p.m.

This program is intended for current OverDrive users. Registration is required; please visit our events calendar.

#### Halloween Hauntings

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Monday, October 3rd at 7:00 p.m. for a live performance of two American tales of suspense, "The Shadows on the Wall" and "The House That Was Not," in which professional actress Michèle LaRue portrays eight very different characters. Both were written in the days of ominously flickering candles and kerosene lamps, but more than one hundred years later, they're even scarier!

In the wake of a sudden mysterious death, "The Shadows on the Wall" gathers four siblings in a familiar but threatening New England parlor. "The House That Was Not" lures an unsuspecting

new bride across the Nebraska prairie. Authored by Mary E. Wilkins Freeman (1903) and Elia Wilkinson Peattie (1898), respectively, these tales evoke the America of a century ago, enthralling audiences today. This event will take place in person at the library; please <u>register to attend</u>.

#### The Music of West Africa

Join the Shrewsbury Public Library on Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00 p.m. for a performance and educational demonstration by Sean Gaskell on the kora, an ancient 21-stringed harp from West Africa. He will feature traditional songs that are the heart and soul of the kora's musical repertoire.

The kora is traditionally played by oral historians known as Griots, often called Jalis or Jelis. Many songs tell stories of war, hardship, love, and loss, all while presenting the history and fabric of Mande society of which the instrument originates. Visits to Brikama, Gambia, and West Africa provided Gaskell the opportunity to study the kora under the instruction of Moriba Kuyateh and his father, the late Malamini Jobarteh. This event will take place in person at the library; please register to attend.

#### 2. Please Note – Shrewsbury Cultural Council Proposals (New)

The Shrewsbury Cultural Council announces that proposals to receive funding to support community-oriented arts, humanities, and science programs are due Friday, October 17th by 11:59 p.m. According to Council spokesperson Brian Clark, 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 \$18,700 in grants. 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 <a href="mailto:scc@shrewsburyma.gov">scc@shrewsburyma.gov</a>. Application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available online at <a href="https://www.mass-culture.org">www.mass-culture.org</a>.

#### 3. Please Note – ShrewsburyMA Mobile App and Website Updates (New)

The Town is excited to announce another improvement to our online presence, the ShrewsburyMA mobile app! The ShrewsburyMA app is for residents and community members to download to access the Town website in a new way. You will be able to browse news and events, meeting agendas, and get notifications on your mobile devices. Please <u>click here</u> for the Apple download link and <u>click here</u> for the Android download link.

The Town's website, <a href="mailto:shrewsburyma.gov">shrewsburyma.gov</a>, was updated on August 18th. The goal of the project is to make the website easier to navigate, easier to find the information you are looking for, more accessible, and to update the appearance of the site. In the coming weeks, you may continue to notice some new pages on the Town's website that are "under construction" as we work to finalize new content for you to enjoy and find what you are looking for. The Town will let the community know when this project is complete. You can download the mobile app today through the Apple App Store or the Android App Store. There will also be a period for community feedback that will begin approximately a month after the website refresh occurs. Please contact <a href="mailto:tgalusha@shrewsburyma.gov">tgalusha@shrewsburyma.gov</a> or the Office of the Town Manager at (508) 841-8508 if you have any questions.

#### 4. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Historical Society's Spirit of Shrewsbury Event (New)

The Shrewsbury Historical Society invites students, families, and the community to join us during the Spirit of Shrewsbury Fall Festival on September 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will be three performances. Stop in anytime.

#### Lessons in a 19th Century Schoolhouse

- ENTER the 1830 Brick Schoolhouse on the Town Common (17 Church Rd.)
- EXPERIENCE a day in the life of a 19th century "scholar" as you are transported back in time with teacher/presenter Lynne McKenney-Lydick.
- LEARN your three R's using slate chalkboards and original lessons.
- CONNECT with your town's history and become a history buff!

This program is supported, in part, by a grant from the Shrewsbury Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

#### 5. Please Note – India Society of Worcester Fall Programs (New)

The India Society of Worcester's Cultural and Language School <u>Open House</u> will be held September 18th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We are looking forward to Indian language classes starting again right here in Shrewsbury at the newly expanded ISW's India Center. Registrations for Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Gujarati, Marathi & Sanskrit are now open - <u>click here</u> for signups. Classes start on September 25th or 26th, based on the language

selected. This year, we have the introduction of an 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. Registrations are open for all languages and parents are encouraged to register as soon as possible, as it helps with the placement. We also want to thank our dedicated teachers, because without them and the staff this would not have been possible.

Tutoring classes are also offered by high school volunteers to help support the community programs at the India Center. They will help prepare your child in subjects including math, English, Spanish, French, speech, and more. The tutor and tutee will meet online once a week, one-on-one (no group classes). <u>Click here</u> for more information.

Just a reminder, India Center's Free <u>Health Stop</u> has been providing health care since 2005 and is open to all. It is held on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at 152 Main Street, Shrewsbury. Services are provided to anyone regardless of their financial, immigration, and insurance status. Email <u>schoollead@iswonline.org</u> for more information.

#### 6. Please Note – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Fall Program Offerings (New)

<u>Fall Online Registration</u> - Currently accepting registration for fall programs listed below. Additional programs will be added throughout September/October. Pre-registration is required for all of the Parks & Recreation programs. Space is limited.

<u>Dodgeball</u> - Mondays starting October 17th at Sherwood Middle School from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

<u>Adult Indoor Pickleball</u> - Mondays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m. Visit our website for fees, dates, and schedules.

<u>Adult Co-Ed Volleyball</u> - Intermediate on Mondays or Wednesdays, Advanced on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Program starts the week of September 19th. Visit our website for fees, times, dates, and schedules.

<u>Preschool/Tots Activities</u> - Now accepting registration for Bitty Basketball, All Sports, Baseball, and Lil Dragons Karate.

Adult Yoga - Thursdays starting on September 29th.

Visit our website! <u>shrewsburyma.myrec.com</u> Create a new account if you have not done so within the past year.

#### 7. Please Note – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Youth Winter Basketball League (New)

### Shrewsbury Parks & Rec Program Registration

<u>Youth Basketball League</u> - Registration starts September 27th at 10:00 a.m. for leagues by grade: boys 3rd & 4th, girls 3rd & 4th, boys 5th & 6th, girls 5th & 6th, boys 7th & 8th, girls 7th-9th, and boy's 9th-12th. Games are played at Oak and Sherwood Middle Schools on Saturdays with one weeknight assigned for a team practice. Cost is \$150.

Skills & Drill Basketball Clinic - Now accepting registration for Tuesdays starting October 4th at Sherwood Middle School for 3rd and 4th grade (6:00 to 6:45 p.m.) and 5th and 6th grade (6:45 to 7:30 p.m.). Cost is \$75.

<u>Tiny Tykes Basketball</u> - Classes for 1st and 2nd graders will be available on Thursday evenings this winter. Dates and times to be announced soon!

#### 8. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Rotary Club Recycling Fundraiser, October 16th (New)

Got Junk? The Shrewsbury Rotary Club will host a recycling fundraiser on Sunday, October 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Town Hall. It will cost \$40 per car load, or there are low single item fees. Higher rates apply for hard to recycle items including TVs, computer monitors, car seats, powered yard equipment, and appliances with freon. Please see the <u>flier</u> for more information. Contact Beth Casavant <u>bethcasavant@gmail.com</u> or (508) 641-8174 with questions. All proceeds will benefit the Shrewsbury Rotary Club.

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

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

- Monday, September 26th Read the Rainbow Book Group 7:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. Grades 9-12. Registration required.
- Monday, September 19th Teen Advisory Launch Party 8:00 p.m. in the Teen Room.
  Grades 5-12. Registration required.
- Friday, September 23rd Signing Basics 3:30 p.m. in Meeting Room A. Ages 7-adult.
  No registration necessary.
- Friday, September 30th Friday Crafternoon 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary.

Check our <u>digital calendar</u> and <u>online calendar</u> for more details and registration!

#### 10. Please Note – Feedback Requested - Town Strategic Plan

The Town has entered into its next phase of the Strategic Planning process! After the first round of community feedback, the Board of Selectmen have drafted Strategic Outcome Areas and are looking for feedback from the community on each area. More details on the Strategic Outcome areas can be found on the <a href="Strategic Planning webpage">Strategic Planning webpage</a>. Participate today by visiting <a href="GetInvolvedShrewsbury.com">GetInvolvedShrewsbury.com</a>. Households can expect to receive a paper survey to fill out and return to the Town in the coming days. Reach out to the Office of the Town Manager with any questions at (508) 841-8508.

# 11. Please Note – Apply to the Town of Shrewsbury's New Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee

The Committee shall be comprised of an intentionally diverse group of seven (7) members appointed by the Board of Selectmen and one (1) member of the Committee shall be a high school-aged Shrewsbury resident junior or senior student serving a one-year term set to expire June 30, 2023. View the <u>vacancy notice</u> for more information. Interested applicants must be residents of the Town and are asked to submit a letter of interest and qualifications to the Office of the Board of Selectmen, 100 Maple Avenue or by email to <u>selectmen@shrewsburyma.gov</u> no later than September 20th at 4:30 p.m. Please contact the Office of the Town Manager at (508) 841-8508 with any questions.

#### 12. Save the Date - Internet Safety for Parents Live Virtual Event, September 20th

Please join us for a live virtual presentation for parents on internet safety, brought to you by The United States Attorney's Office, Worcester County District Attorney's Office, Homeland Security Investigations, and Lunenburg Police Department. "Keeping Kids Safe and Secure Online: A Project Safe Childhood Presentation" will start at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20th. The presentation will include information on social media, cyberbullying, gaming, and protecting against online predation, among other topics. Please <a href="click here">click here</a> to register and <a href="click here">click here</a> for more information. The password for the event is PSC1. If you have any questions or difficulty registering, please contact Karen Legace at <a href="karen.legace@usdoj.gov">karen.legace@usdoj.gov</a>.

#### 13. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Historical Society Presentation, September 28th

Shrewsbury Historical Society presents "Reading Historic Paintings" by Tom Kelleher on Wednesday, September 28th. This will be an in-person presentation at the Shrewsbury Historical Society (17 Church Road). Wearing a mask is a personal preference. The program will be available afterwards on Shrewsbury Media Connection. If you have any questions, please email <a href="mailto:shrewsburyhistory@townisp.com">shrewsburyhistory@townisp.com</a>.

Art from the past was produced for many reasons. This entertaining and informative PowerPoint discussion is interactive and invites audience participation. It offers tips on teasing out more information from early paintings than what is readily apparent. Participants will also be able to view the unveiling of the latest painting to become part of the Society's collection!

Tom Kelleher is currently Historian and Curator of Mechanical Arts at Old Sturbridge Village in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. He regularly teaches and demonstrates at museums and historical societies around the country. Tom holds a Master's in history from the University of Connecticut, and writes often for a variety of magazines and journals, including Early American Life.

#### 14. Please Note – Spirit of Shrewsbury Event Details & Volunteers Needed

The Spirit of Shrewsbury Fall Festival will take place on Saturday, September 24th at Oak Middle School. There will be many different activities for everyone - craft shows, exhibitions, costume competitions, activities for kids, Shrewsbury's Got Talent competition, food vendors, and more. A parade will be held on Sunday, September 25th. Please <u>click here</u> for more details.

Details of events on September 24th:

- The children's parade will take place at 12:30 p.m. at the expo.
- This year's costume competition theme is the 70's era and Mardi Gras. Get your outfit together and show it off! Prizes will be given to different age groups. Space six feet apart and march with a parent or guardian around the front lawn.
- We will have our very first dog show at SOS! This informal dog show is sponsored by Dog Topia and starts at 1:00 p.m.

Spirit of Shrewsbury is looking for volunteers to help with this year's celebration. We will need approximately 50 volunteers on Saturday, September 24th from 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. We will also need volunteers on Sunday, September 25th to help with the parade route from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m (approximately 20 volunteers needed) and the senior tea from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. (approximately 6 volunteers needed). Those who volunteer on September 24th will receive a free t-shirt, pizza, and a volunteer certificate. If you are interested in volunteering, please click here to sign up or email Shyla Ram at <a href="mailto:shyla.ram09@gmail.com">shyla.ram09@gmail.com</a>. Thank you for your help!

#### 15. Please Note – "Shrewsbury's Got Talent," September 24th

Please come and take part in the Shrewsbury's Got Talent competition. Children and adults can showcase their talents, including singing, dancing, acting, juggling, magic, martial arts, playing instruments, standup comedy, doing impressions, and anything else! Solo performances only. Prizes will be awarded to the top three in each age group category. This event is organized

jointly by India Society of Worcester and the Spirit of Shrewsbury Fall Festival and will take place on Saturday, September 24th at 10:00 a.m. at Oak Middle School. The last date for registration is September 18th. Please <u>click here</u> to register.

#### 16. Please Note - Shrewsbury Senior Center "Think Ahead" Event, September 22nd

Everyone ages 50-150 are invited to Shrewsbury Senior Center's "Think Ahead" event on Thursday, September 22nd from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. This event is a great opportunity for people ages 50-60 in particular to learn about the resources available to them as they enter this next chapter of their lives. Topics include SHINE (Medicare) counseling, financial planning, job training, healthy living, community assistance, and empowerment. We will have speakers from AARP, SHINE, and Elder Services of Worcester. Please click here for the event page.

#### 17. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services Group Programs

#### Parent Support Group

Enrollment is now open for a new session of our 6-week support group for parents of children who are struggling with depression, anxiety, or other mental health challenges. Parents are often focused almost entirely on the needs of their children, sometimes to the point that they ignore their own needs and feelings. This group is a chance to address your needs. We will cover topics including the importance of parental self-care and parental social support, parental feelings of guilt, grief, and shame, as well as accessing and navigating the treatment system. This group will be co-led by a licensed clinical therapist and Masters level intern and will be free of charge. The six week session begins on September 23rd and all sessions will be held virtually from 12:00 to 12:45 p.m. For questions and registration, please email <a href="mailto:ARobinson@syfs-ma.org">ARobinson@syfs-ma.org</a>. Please note that we will not be able to accept new group members after the second session.

#### Art Therapy

Enrollment is now open for our NEW 6-week Art Therapy group for 5th and 6th graders! The intention of this group is to create a safe place for children to experience and creatively express their emotions, as well as cultivate opportunities for self-expression, mindfulness, acceptance and self-compassion. The art therapy exercises will include a variety of techniques ranging from collaging and textiles to drawing, painting, sculpting and writing. Kids will walk away with some really cool artwork, but the focus will be on the process not the product. They will learn to let go of critical thoughts and judgements that could impede the creative process. Navigating the challenges of adolescence today is hard and this group will be a place where kids can increase coping and social skills through creative expression. No artistic expertise necessary! The group will be led by a local Visual Arts Educator/Certified Therapeutic Art Life Coach and a Masters level intern and will be free of charge. The six week session begins on September 19th and all sessions will be held from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. For questions and registration, please email

<u>ARobinson@syfs-ma.org</u>. Please note that we will not be able to accept new group members after the second session.

#### 18. Save the Date – Reliant Foundation 5K Road Race, October 1st

On Saturday, October 1st, Reliant Foundation will hold the annual Reliant Foundation 5K Road Race at Shore Park in Worcester. The event attracts hundreds of runners, walkers, and spectators to raise funds in support of the Foundation's Community Grants Program.

The road race begins at 10:00 a.m., with race day registration opening at 8:30 a.m. The event features free, family-friendly entertainment and great raffles.

Registration remains open through September 29th. There is no cost for spectators to attend. To register or for more information, visit the <u>Reliant Foundation website</u> or view the <u>event flier</u>.

#### **Youth Athletics and Activities**

#### 1. Please Note - Shrewsbury Basketball Association Winter Travel Team Tryouts

Fair play and good sportsmanship are the SBA trademarks and our goal is to prepare boys & girls grades 4th through 8th for high school play by teaching each player the fundamental and technical skills of TEAM basketball in a highly competitive environment. For those that have played organized basketball, you will find Travel Ball a rewarding experience as they build upon their existing skill sets and truly take their games to the next level. The program is open to ALL Shrewsbury residents who possess a general understanding of the game and are interested in competitive, structured basketball against other towns' select teams.

Tryouts will take place on October 1st and October 2nd from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. Please <u>click here</u> to register, and <u>click here</u> for the full details of the winter travel team.

#### 2. Please Note – Take Charge Hoops Mini Fall Basketball Clinic

The Shrewsbury High School boys varsity basketball coaches Adrian Machado and Gerry Nowosacki will be sponsoring two Saturday morning basketball clinics for boys and girls in grades 3-12. The focus will be on individual skills to be incorporated within the game/scrimmage process. The daily routine will consist of warm up techniques and conditioning, drill stations for skill development, and group instruction and demonstrations for individual and team strategies.

<u>Where</u>: Shrewsbury High School Field House <u>When</u>: Saturdays September 24th and October 1st

Time: Daily sessions will run from sign-in at 8:30 a.m. and program from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

<u>Cost</u>: \$75.00 (\$10.00 discount for siblings)

Please <u>click here</u> for the complete flier and application. If you have any questions, please contact Gerry Nowosacki at (508) 842-6014 or <u>gym21rat@aol.com</u>.