



Community Bulletin

September 26th, 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 [School Committee policy](#).

School District Items

1. [Please Note](#) – William James College INTERFACE Referral Service **(New)**
2. [Please Note](#) – Parents and Caregivers of SHS Students - Your Feedback Needed **(New)**
3. [Please Note](#) – SAT Prep Course **(New)**
4. [Please Note](#) – Employment Opportunity - Daily Substitutes **(New)**
5. [Please Note](#) – Late Bus Information
6. [Please Note](#) – Volunteer Interpreters Needed for the District

Community Items

1. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services Groups **(New)**
2. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Fall Program Offerings **(New)**
3. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Parks & Recreation Youth Winter Basketball League **(New)**
4. [Save the Date](#) – Full Moon Walk **(New)**
5. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Public Library Events
6. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Public Library Events for Tweens & Teens
7. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Cultural Council Proposals, due October 17th
8. [Save the Date](#) – Shrewsbury Rotary Club Recycling Fundraiser, October 16th
9. [Save the Date](#) – Reliant Foundation 5K Road Race, October 1st
10. [Save the Date](#) – Shrewsbury Historical Society Presentation, September 28th

Youth Athletics and Activities

1. [Please Note](#) – Shrewsbury Basketball Association Winter Travel Team Tryouts
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School District Items

1. Please Note – William James College INTERFACE Referral Service (New)

The Shrewsbury Public Schools, in partnership with the Town of Shrewsbury, is pleased to announce our partnership with William James College INTERFACE Referral Service. The William James INTERFACE Referral Service is an outpatient mental health resource and referral helpline available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to assist residents and public school students in Shrewsbury and other subscribing communities to access outpatient mental health service referrals. What makes this service unique is that they do not provide merely a list of providers, but rather matched referrals to outpatient mental health professionals and practices who best meet the caller's needs, insurance or fee requirement, specialty request, and availability. Additionally, here is a link to a [YouTube video](#) about INTERFACE, as well as a [flier](#) with what to expect when you reach out to INTERFACE.

2. Please Note – Parents and Caregivers of SHS Students - Your Feedback Needed (New)

The SHS School to Career Leadership Team is seeking student and parent/caretaker feedback regarding school to career programming, as we continue our efforts to expand job shadowing, internship, and related life experiences at Shrewsbury High School. Additionally, we are seeking to increase opportunities for students during the SHS Career and Trade Fair in early February. Please share your feedback through [this link](#).

Students in grades 9 through 12 will be provided with [this survey link](#) this week in school. Thank you for your ongoing support of our students!

3. Please Note – SAT Prep Course (New)

The Shrewsbury High School Spring SAT Prep Course will be offered once again through Shrewsbury High School. The course will begin the week of October 25th and run through the week of December 13th. Classes will meet remotely on Tuesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a total of seven night sessions.

Test taking strategies will be emphasized in this class. Class size will be kept small, allowing for a great deal of individual attention. Enrollment is strictly on a first-come first-served basis; the course is open to juniors and seniors. Students will also take two in person, full-length SAT exams, which provides reinforcement for skills taught during the course and test-taking experience.

The cost of the program is \$220 for Shrewsbury residents and \$250 for non-Shrewsbury residents. This class will run only if there is sufficient demand. Additional information and registration forms are located at Shrewsbury High School in Mrs. Monopoli's office on the third floor, the School Counseling office, or can be downloaded from the [Shrewsbury High School School Counseling webpage](#). Please contact Jen Lundsten if you have any questions at jalundsten@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us or (508) 841-8810.

4. Please Note – Employment Opportunity - Daily Substitutes (New)

Keep calm and Substitute! Shrewsbury Public Schools is currently seeking daily substitutes for the 2022-2023 school year.

Being a substitute is a great opportunity and a perfect fit for those who are changing careers, just entering the workforce, or for individuals who are seeking a flexible work schedule. We also hire many of our regular paraprofessional positions and long-term substitute teachers from our daily substitutes. This is a great entry position to be considered for full-time employment.

The Daily Substitute rate is \$100/day. If you are looking to join a dynamic school district and positively impact students' academic and creative successes, apply today! We are interested in candidates who are invested in the achievement, equity, and access of all learners in and beyond the classroom. Please [click here](#) to apply.

5. Please Note – Late Bus Information

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 [Late Bus webpage](#) for more information.

6. 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 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 [this link](#). We will be in touch when help is needed. Thank you for helping Shrewsbury Public Schools!

Community Items

1. Please Note – Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services Groups (New)

Enrollment is now open for our NEW 6-week Social Emotional Learning group for children in third and fourth grade, as well as fifth and sixth grade! This will also be an opportunity to engage with peers and foster new friendships. These groups are facilitated by a Master's level clinician and a Master's level intern.

Social emotional learning has been shown to increase academic success, positive social behavior, and confidence, as well as decrease emotional distress. These groups are designed to support children in identifying, understanding, and managing emotional experiences, developing skills to establish and maintain positive relationships, and learning and practicing skills to communicate successfully with others. Developing these skills now will better prepare adolescents to navigate school, friendships, family, and other road bumps life may throw at them!

Social Emotional Learning Group for Grades 3rd and 4th

The six week session begins on Tuesday, November 1st and all sessions will be held on Tuesdays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. For questions and registration, email ARobinson@syfs-ma.org. Please note that we will not be able to accept new group members after the second session.

Social Emotional Learning Group for Grades 5th and 6th

The six session group begins on Thursday, November 3rd and all sessions will be held on Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. For questions and registration, email ARobinson@syfs-ma.org. Please note: we will not be able to accept new group members after the second session.

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

Fall Online Registration - 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.

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

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

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball - 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.

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

Adult Yoga - Thursdays starting on September 29th.

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

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

[Shrewsbury Parks & Rec Program Registration](#)

Youth Basketball League - 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 registrations 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.

Tiny Tykes Basketball - Registration starts September 27th at 10:00 a.m. for Thursday night classes for 1st and 2nd graders starting December 15th at Sherwood Middle School. Cost is \$84.

4. Save the Date – Full Moon Walk (New)

“There is something about the Moon.” To find out what, join the Shrewsbury Trails Committee for a guided walk under the full Hunter’s moon on Saturday, October 8th from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Lake Street Park on Lake Street. Chris Williams, local amateur astronomer, will provide a telescope and guidance for close up viewing. Some planets may be visible, too. Meet in the

Park's lower parking lot next to the sports field. Rain date is Sunday, October 9th, at the same time. For more information, email the Trails Committee at trails01545@gmail.com.

5. Please Note – Shrewsbury Public Library Events

"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 [register to attend](#).

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](#).

6. 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.](#)
- Friday, September 30th - Friday Crafternoon - 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room B. Grades 5-12. No registration necessary.

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

7. Please Note – Shrewsbury Cultural Council Proposals, due October 17th

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 scc@shrewsburyma.gov. Application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available online at www.mass-culture.org.

8. Save the Date – Shrewsbury Rotary Club Recycling Fundraiser, October 16th

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 [flier](#) for more information. Contact Beth Casavant bethcasavant@gmail.com or (508) 641-8174 with questions. All proceeds will benefit the Shrewsbury Rotary Club.

9. 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 [Reliant Foundation website](#) or view the [event flier](#).

10. 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 shrewsburyhistory@townisp.com.

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.

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 [click here](#) to register, and [click here](#) for the full details of the winter travel team.
