



# Shrewsbury Community Newsletter

A Borough of Shrewsbury Publication

July 2009

## Shrewsbury Borough School News

### Shrewsbury Borough Students Win First Place in Northeast Region

A team of four Seventh Grade students from Shrewsbury Borough School participated in a competition that is sponsored by the U. S. Army. The “eCybermission” challenge was to identify a problem affecting a local community and then to develop a solution. The students had learned about the existence of contaminated drinking water in wells and aquifers in southern NJ. This problem is linked to the use of commercial fertilizers on lawns and farms. Responding to this information, they developed their own eco-friendly fertilizer, Biochar, and tested its effectiveness against commercial brands. Biochar has been known to be an effective fertilizer used as far back as the ancient Amazonian Indians. The students created their own blend from peat moss, bone meal, and the char from burned wood. The results of their experiment in growing grass seed proved Biochar’s effectiveness in growing tall, full grass without the negative effects of harmful phosphates in the groundwater. Calling themselves the “Biocharmers”, the team has presented its findings at Shrewsbury’s Environmental Fair as well as to Shrewsbury’s Environmental Commission. With the help of their local watershed ambassador, Andrea Spahn, who assisted them in testing their collected groundwater, they hope to share their findings with neighboring municipalities.



From left to right: Dana Pusterhofer, Katie Robinson, Sallyann Jauch, Melissa Banal, and Fable Avison

Fable Avison, Melissa Banal, Dana Pusterhofer, and Katie Robinson have been successful in winning First Place for the Northeast Region, and will be competing at the national level in Washington, D.C. in late June, accompanied by their teacher/advisor, Sallyann Jauch. For more information about their project, visit their website at: <http://www.thebiocharmers.weebly.com>.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Summer Reading Program	2
Superintendent's Note	2
First Aid Free CPR Classes	2
Recycling Drive/Earth Day	3
Shredding Day	3
Baby Wipes Disposal	3
Tree Pruning	4
Tree Stake Removal	4
Drug Alliance	5
Recreation Survey Results	6
Basketball Camp	6
Thank You	7
Budget	7
Mark Your Calendar	8

Visit the Borough

Website at

[www.shrewsburyboro.com](http://www.shrewsburyboro.com)

#### Newsletter Articles Wanted

Anyone interested in having an article published in the next issue, please contact Izzy Grieco at 732.741.4200, x106 or email at [igrieco@shrewsburyboro.com](mailto:igrieco@shrewsburyboro.com). All local groups and organizations are encouraged to submit articles.

## ***Readers Are Leaders Summer Reading Program***

The Kiwanis Club of Red Bank has been the staunch sponsor of the Shrewsbury Borough School *Readers Are Leaders* program since 1999 encouraging hundreds of youngsters to read. The Kiwanis through their untiring support have demonstrated strong community commitment, selfless giving, and belief and support in reading as the basis of a strong educational foundation.

Encourage your children to participate in this summer's *Readers Are Leaders* program. Imagine it takes only *ten* books on the appropriate reading level to help fend off reading loss and maintain the reading gains earned throughout the school year. The children gain from reading an understanding of others and will be better able to make positive, creative contributions to our world.

---

### ***Superintendent's Note:***

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members:

While this year has been abuzz with discussion of regionalization and consolidation of school districts state-wide, the Shrewsbury Borough School has enjoyed a year of unprecedented academic growth and a rededication to excellence. The faculty and staff of SBS have worked diligently this year to improve the quality of instruction for all of our students. The next school year brings a renewed commitment to improving our school in every aspect. Our students will start the next year with a completely revised program of curricula and far greater access to technology in the classroom than ever before. We also look forward to implementing a departmentalized, middle school approach for our fifth grade students which will offer a thorough transition and preparation for the middle school grades. Shrewsbury Borough School is proud to offer a Pre-Kindergarten program for our three and four year-old students, a program which exceeds the state's expectation for mandated Pre-K in New Jersey. The school will fully implement MAP and Learnia testing as a means to gather pertinent student data necessary to providing the most relevant education for each of our students. Next year we will continue to welcome the community into SBS to celebrate our successes and experience the truly exciting learning environment that we provide.

I would like to thank both the school community and the community at large for their overwhelming support of everything that we have accomplished this year, and for everything that we endeavor to do in the future at SBS. I would like to remind everyone that as we start next year our goal is to be 100% paper-free. Please check our school website frequently for important school news. Best wishes to all for a safe, restful summer!

Sincerely,

*Brent A. MacConnell*

#### **Important Dates:**

**August - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation (TBD)**  
**August - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation (TBD)**  
**Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> - Pre-K Orientation**  
**Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> - K Orientation**

**Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> - First Day of School**  
**Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> - Labor Day (School Closed)**

---

### ***Shrewsbury First Aid***

Shrewsbury First Aid will be offering FREE CPR courses to all residents of Shrewsbury Borough at the Shrewsbury First Aid Building. Anyone interested in taking CPR and getting certified or have questions, please email: [sfacpr@gmail.com](mailto:sfacpr@gmail.com) that you are interested, and we will send you a registration form. Space is limited, so please register early!

## ***Environmental Sponsors Another Successful Electronics Recycling Event and Earth Day Fair***

On April 25, the Environmental Commission hosted its third annual Electronics Recycling Event and Earth Day Fair, held at the grounds of the Shrewsbury Boro Hall. More than 110 community members dropped off over 6,500 pounds of computer equipment, televisions, household appliances and other electronics, saving all of that waste from ending up in landfills and leaching metals into the soil.

The Earth Day Fair, held in conjunction with the recycling event, helped to increased community awareness and participation in a multitude of environmental issues, including recycling, reducing waste, and ground water pollution, just to name a few. Participants included the Biocharmers, Circle Chevrolet, DCH Kay Honda, GeoGenix, George Wall Lincoln-Mercury, Master Composter of Monmouth County, Master Gardener of Monmouth County, Native Plant Society of New Jersey, Shrewsbury Cub Scouts Pack 50, Shrewsbury Environmental Club, Shrewsbury Garden Club, and the Shrewsbury Shade Tree Commission. Local businesses also contributed refreshments and products to the event. Thanks to ACME, Bagelmasters, BioBag, Dean's Natural Food Market, ECOVER, Inc., Food Circus Super Markets, Inc., Lowe's of Eatontown, Paul David Partywares, Starbucks, Stokers Deli & Subs, and Whole Foods Market – Middletown for making the day even more enjoyable!

---

## ***SHREWSBURY BORO HOSTS SHREDDING DAY***

On Saturday, June 6, Shrewsbury Boro hosted a county wide Shredding Day, sponsored by the Monmouth County Recycling Department. County residents were permitted to bring up to 100 pounds of paper for shredding at no cost to them. A steady stream of residents kept the mobile shredding unit busy from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. In total, over 13,640 lbs of paper were shredded on Saturday, filling the truck to capacity. The shredded paper was then sent to a local recycling center, keeping 13,640 pounds of paper out of the landfills!

---

## ***BABY WIPES AND OTHER MATERIALS BEING DISPOSED OF IN TOILETS AND DRAINS CAUSING COSTLY REPAIRS***

The Two Rivers Water Reclamation Authority has been experiencing an increase in pump problems in our area related to residents flushing non-degradable items such as baby wipes, handi-wipes, and shop towels down drains.

The Authority is required to remove everything from the sewer down to microscopic sized particles; a large fibrous wipe will clog pump intakes and Authority personnel must remove these pumps to remove these non-biodegradable materials. The proper disposal of these items is in the household trash.

Plumbing in your home can also be clogged by the improper disposal of wipes, grease and other materials which homeowners must clear themselves or hire a plumber to remove.

Both circumstances cause unnecessary cost to ratepayers and homeowners and can impact the environment. The Authority is requesting that each and every ratepayer/homeowner think before they flush materials down the toilet or pour things such as grease or chemicals down the drain and of its impact not only being costly but also the impact on the environment.

## *Tree Pruning*

Trees have three obvious features that distinguish them from other living plants. First, they produce woody stems, roots and branches that do not die back - but continue to grow year after year. Second, trees live longer than any other living organism on the planet. Third, trees are the largest organism on this planet.

All of these features contribute to the fact that we need to care for and maintain them. Why do we need to prune trees? Trees must be pruned to produce strong, healthy and attractive plants. The main reason to prune ornamental and shade trees include safety, health and aesthetics. Extreme examples of pruning are pollarding, pleaching, espalier and topiary. Keep in mind, proper pruning can enhance the form and character of plants, whereas improper pruning can destroy a plant.

Producing strong structure should be the emphasis when pruning young trees. When trees mature, the aim of pruning will shift to maintaining tree structure, form, health and appearance.

Pruning Approaches:

- 1) Crown thinning: is used primarily for hardwoods, is the selective removal of branches to increase light and air in the crown. Avoid producing "lion's tails" - tufts of foliage at the end of the branch. Just drive by my house to see these.
- 2) Crown raising: is the practice of removing branches from the bottom of the tree to provide clearance for pedestrians, vehicles, and line of sight for roadways.
- 3) Crown reduction: used when a tree has become too large for its space - especially under power lines when the top branches are cut back. This method of last resort is also called drop crotch pruning, and is preferred to topping because it results in a more natural appearance.

Pruning cuts should be made carefully so that only branch tissue is removed and stem tissue is not damaged. If done right, the tree will heal and cover the wound quickly. Topping trees and tipping branches are harmful to the tree and to be avoided. Hand pruners are used for branches under 2.5 cm diameter. There are two types of hand pruners: anvil (straight blade that cuts the branch against a small block) and by-pass (curved cutting blade that slides past a broader lower blade much like scissors). To prevent unnecessary tearing or crushing of tissue, it is best to use a by-pass style pruner. Slightly larger branches that cannot be cut with a hand pruner, may be cut with lopping shears (up to 7 cm) or a small pruning saw (up to 10 cm). Then there are pruning saws, pole pruners (for branches beyond reach) and chainsaws for branches greater than 10 cm diameter. To avoid the need to make cuts like this, prune when branches are small. Contact a certified arborist for work that is beyond your expertise to ensure the work is done safely and properly.

When we bought our house, we only had one tree in the back yard - a beautiful cherry tree, *Prunus 'Kwanzan'*. We lost it because of improper care, but have tried to plant a new tree each year. This year we finally planted a new cherry, *Prunus 'Autumnalis'*.

*by Ellen Preissler*

---

## **TREE STAKE REMOVAL**

There is evidence to suggest that staking a tree when it is planted is not necessary at all and that trees do just as well without staking. If you have a tree that is staked, it is not necessary to leave the stakes in after the first growing season after the tree was planted. For those homeowners who have received street trees from the Shade Tree Commission, please remove the stakes and any wrapping from around the trunk and make sure there is nothing to constrict the growing tissue of the bark. Please contact any member of STC if you have a question about a street tree or would like to request a tree.

*by Nancy Schmaltz*

## *Shrewsbury Community Alliance for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse*

Happy summer to everyone! We all know that the summer season brings many wonderful celebrations; graduations, Fourth of July, beach barbecues. Please help us keep our community safe by reinforcing the ‘**Parents Who Host Lose the Most**’ message. Underage drinking is unhealthy and illegal for our youth and parents need to be aware of the legal consequences for these minors and themselves. During this party season and throughout the year, also remember the **Hero Campaign** noted on our local police vehicles. “**Be a Hero, be a Designated Driver**”. As an additional safety measure, don’t leave home without local cab # **in** your cell phone. **Keep in mind that if you drink, sobering up takes time. If you go to bed at 2 am with a BAC of .170 (.08 is the legal limit for those 21 or over) by 8 am your BAC is still .08** (Monmouth University – Party Smart Pamphlet, Student Govt. Assoc.).

**Webpage:** Please visit our webpage on [www.shrewsburyboro.com](http://www.shrewsburyboro.com) under Commissions. It contains the following important information and is updated monthly:

**Resource Guide and Hotline #'s**

**Resources for Parents**

**Resources for Teens** (including Hotlines, signs of alcohol poisoning, refusal skills)

**Current News** on the latest trends and research on substance abuse

If you see an article on substance abuse issues you think we should post please contact the Alliance at [wildelloyd@aol.com](mailto:wildelloyd@aol.com).

### **Recent Substance Abuse Programs in our community:**

**May 28<sup>th</sup>: DARE Program: Risks of underage drinking/driving with SBS 8<sup>th</sup> graders.** Congratulations to Officer Jessica Boyd for organizing such an informative event! Thanks also to Shrewsbury Police Officers; Lt. Ferraro, Sgt. Fitzgerald, Officer Turner, Officer Cerminaro; Officer Pete Gibson from the Little Silver Police Department; Eda Ferraro, Ginni O’Dor and Superintendent Brent MacConnell.

**June 1-4<sup>th</sup>: RBR’s Project Prom: Risks of underage drinking/driving with RBR Seniors.** Congratulations to RBR School Resource Officer/Little Silver Police Officer Peter Gibson for an outstanding job again this year! Kudos to the Shrewsbury Police Officers who assisted and Shrewsbury resident Mitchell Ansell, Esq. for his powerful words on the legal consequences of drinking and driving.

### **Upcoming Events/Programs:**

-Currently updating Resource Guide and Hotline numbers

-Saturday, **October 3** @ 8:30 am: Walk Like MADD, MADD fundraiser, CentraState Medical

-**October 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>** – SBS Red Ribbon Week (national substance abuse prevention education week)

-**March 18, 2010** – RBR “Surviving the Teen Years” Parent Forum

### **Current Trend Alert:**

Monmouth County is seeing an increased presence of **heroin and cocaine**. The newspapers have noted huge drug busts in Asbury Park by the Prosecutor’s Office. These harder drugs, as well as marijuana, are showing up in more powerful, purer forms.

61% of teens say **prescription drugs** are the easiest drugs to find. Please lock your medicine cabinets and make your children aware of the dangers of using someone else’s prescription medication. Teens tend to believe that they are safer than street drugs since they come from a doctor. They are just as deadly and very addictive. **Please discuss the dangers of drug use with your children. Reference our Resources for Parents on the webpage to find out more about these drugs and signs and symptoms of use. If you see signs of abuse, please seek help immediately.**

Authorities confirm that Actor **David Carradine** died from “The Choking Game” that we discussed last quarter. See our webpage for more information on this dangerous ‘legal’ high some teens are trying.

**Your Alliance meets at 7 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at Boro Hall. Please consider joining our group!**

## ***SHREWSBURY RECREATION SURVEY RESULTS - 2009***

Thank you to all who took the time to participate in the 2009 Shrewsbury Recreation Survey. There were just under 100 respondents to the survey with the activities receiving the greatest interest as follows:

**Youth (K-8):** The top three activities selected by this group are lacrosse, skiing, and tennis (note: bowling was in the top three but is no longer being considered).

**Teen (9-12):** The top three activities selected by this group are ski trip, volleyball, and battle of the bands.

**Adults:** The top three activities for this group are tennis, skiing, and Broadway show.

Based on the results, Shrewsbury Recreation has taken the following actions:

- **Lacrosse** - Shrewsbury Recreation has partnered with Little Silver to offer recreational lacrosse for the spring of 2009. Following the '09 season, an evaluation of whether to keep this joint arrangement or offer a Shrewsbury Recreation lacrosse program will be made.
- **Tennis** – A youth and adult tennis program is currently being planned for the summer of 2009. More information will be forthcoming.
- **Skiing** – A bus trip to a local mountain (Catskills, Poconos) will be coordinated for the winter of '09/'10. More details to follow this Fall.
- **Volleyball** – A teen volleyball night will be planned for the fall of 2009. More information to follow.

Your participation in the survey is appreciated. If you have any additional comments or questions, please email them to: [shrewsburyrecreation@yahoo.com](mailto:shrewsburyrecreation@yahoo.com). If you would like your email address removed from our future mailings, please send an email with that request.

*Shrewsbury Recreation Committee*

---

### ***Summer Youth Basketball Camp***

Date: 8/3 through 8/7  
Time: 9 am to 11 am  
Ages: 7 to 14 Girls Only  
Cost: \$50 per player  
Location: RBR High School Little Sliver, NJ



Phone: 732-742-6324  
Email: [info@rbrathletics.org](mailto:info@rbrathletics.org)

**To Register Online:**  
[www.rbrathletics.org/girlsbasketball](http://www.rbrathletics.org/girlsbasketball)

**NOTE: Camp is limited to first 100 registrations**

# THANK YOU

The Borough of Shrewsbury would like to express its sincere gratitude and appreciation to the following Groups who helped with the June 5, 2009 fire at Memory Lanes.

## Fire Department's

Shrewsbury, Shrewsbury Ladies Auxiliary, Red Bank, Little Silver, Little Silver Fire Dept. Women Auxiliary, Northside (Tinton Falls), Eatontown, Oceanport, Sea Bright River Plaza, Lincroft, Monmouth Beach, Fort Monmouth, Neptune, Brevent Park and Wanamassa

## The EMS Squads that were present at the fire are as follows:

Shrewsbury First Aid Squad, Little Silver EMS, Red Bank EMS, Fair Haven First Aid Squad, Fairview First Aid Squad, Lincroft First Aid & Rescue Squad, Leonardo First Aid & Rescue Squad, Neptune First Aid Squad

## Additionally, the following also responded:

Monmouth County Sheriff's Department Fieldcom Unit (provided communications and support for EMS agencies), Neptune OEM (Set up Rehabilitation Tent), MONOC (Provided an ALS rig as standby until fire was out)

## List of Businesses (given certificates of appreciation)

Jersey Shore Chapter of American Red Cross – Tinton Falls, The Windmill Restaurant – Red Bank, Red Bank Volvo – Red Bank, LaRosa's Bakery – Shrewsbury, Dunkin Donuts – Shrewsbury

## BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY 2009 MUNICIPAL BUDGET ADOPTED JUNE 15, 2009

### Revenue and Appropriation Summaries

Summary of Revenues	Final 2009	Final 2008
	Budget	Budget
1. Surplus	1,135,000.00	955,007.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	1,253,891.00	1,344,468.52
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	200,000.00	150,000.00
4. a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	6,062,972.72	6,052,972.72
b) Additions to Local District School Tax		
Tot. Amt. to be Rsd. by Taxes for Sup. Mun. Bud.	6,062,972.72	6,052,972.72
Tot. Gen. Revs.	8,651,863.72	8,502,448.24

Summary of Appropriations	Final 2009	Final 2008
	Budget	Budget
1. Operating Expenses:		
Salaries and Wages	3,737,000.00	3,613,275.00
Other Expenses	2,933,629.15	3,370,302.38
2. Deferred Charges and Other Appropriations	664,249.00	189,012.87
3. Capital Improvements	20,000.00	40,000.00
4. Debt Service (Include for School Purposes)	893,816.09	876,883.30
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	403,169.48	412,974.69
Total General Appropriations	8,651,863.72	8,502,448.24
Total Number of Employees	73	73

The Borough tax rate is \$.745 per \$100. The Borough tax increase for 2009 was \$.00.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### *Dates to Remember*

August 3 thru 4	Summer Youth Basketball Camp, RBR High School, Little Silver 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
August 5	5th Grade Orientation (TBD)
August 6	6th Grade Orientation (TBD)
August 19	Pre-K Orientation
September 3	First Day of School
September 7	Labor Day (School Closed)
October 3	Walk Like MADD Fundraiser, CentraState Medical at 8:30 a.m.
October 19-23	SBS Red Ribbon Week
March 18, 2010	RBR "Surviving the Teen Years" Parent Forum

Borough of Shrewsbury  
P.O. Box 7420  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Red Bank, NJ  
Permit No. 28



Postal Customer - Residential Only  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702