

Holiday 2021



Happy Holidays



TIME & PLACE

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TIME & PLACE

Holiday Spotlight

Thanksgiving. *It's the time when we gather to enjoy family, friends, and good food. –A day to be thankful and to enjoy. Here are a few tidbits of trivia about the holiday to enjoy with your left-over turkey sandwich.*

Did you know:

- Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863. Read about the woman who advocated for the observance at the right.
- The Pilgrims didn't wear only black and white. That type of more formal clothing was usually reserved for Sunday. It would also have been odd to see buckles on their hats. That hat style came into fashion later in the 17th century.
- Cranberries, one of the foods often associated with the holiday, were used by Native Americans to treat arrow wounds and to dye clothes. Cranberries bounce when they are ripe and are sometimes called bounce berries.
- In 1953, the Swanson Company found that Thanksgiving turkey sales were down and they had over 260 tons of unsold turkey on hand. Inspired by the airline meals of the time, salesperson Gerry Thompson created the world's first TV dinners. Those heat-and-serve turkey meals in aluminum foil trays were sold for 98¢ each.
- The first Thanksgiving football game was played in 1876 shortly after the sport was invented. The first professional football games were played on November 25, 1920—a mere 101 years ago.
- "Jingle Bells" was written as a Thanksgiving song.



Writer and *Godey's Lady's Book* editor, Sarah Hale (1788-1879), worked hard to influence the establishment of Thanksgiving as a national holiday. Her letter to President Lincoln is frequently recognized as having been a major factor in his decision to institute the observance. It is said that the last Thursday in November was chosen as an appropriate date because by then harvest was done, elections were over, and vacationers were home. She hoped that the day would bring the country together at a time of great change and "...awaken in American's hearts the love of home and country, of thankfulness to God, and peace between brethren."

Learn more at: <https://www.factretriever.com/thanksgiving-facts>

<https://thefactfile.org/facts-about-thanksgiving/>

<https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/sarah-hale>

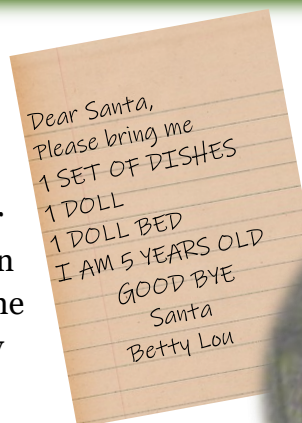
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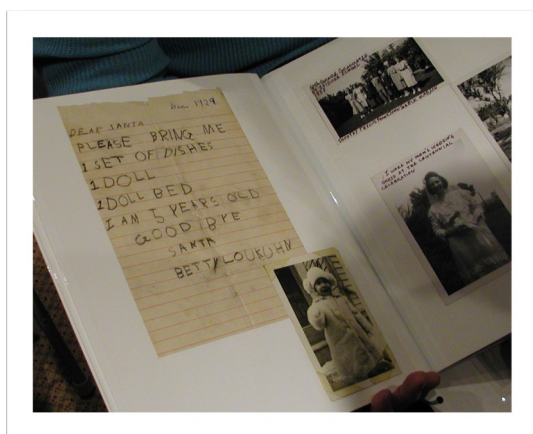


Betty Lou's Letter to Santa

In December of 1929, five year old Betty Lou Kuhn carefully composed a letter to Santa. She lived with her mother and father Joseph and Amalia (Dieter) Kuhn on the family farm in what is now Carol Stream. In fact, she and her husband, Richard Kammes, raised their family there.



We wonder if the little Betty Lou had a particular set of toy dishes or



In 2004, Mary Lou Kuhn Kammes shared her memory scrapbook at an Historical Society event.

Perhaps she had thumbed through the pages of a Sear and Roebuck or Montgomery Ward catalog and found the toys of her dreams. Farm families of the era often relied on the mail order options available to them at the time. Perhaps she had spied the perfect doll bed in a store window in nearby Wheaton. We'd like to think that Santa left the toys on Betty Lou's list under the tree in 1929 though the year marked the beginning of the hard times of the Great Depression.

Kuhn Road is named for Betty Lou's family who owned the farm for more than a century. Over the years portions of the property were sold and developed. What remains of the farmstead where the family's home once stood at 2N540 Kuhn Road is now Horizon Park.

On Our Cover

When Santa visited the ten year old village of Carol Stream in 1969, a number of his young admirers gathered round to greet him. Perhaps our readers can identify one or two of them. We'd love to know who they are.

The photo on the cover was cropped and enhanced to fit. We'll post the full photo on our Facebook page so readers can take a closer look and share their memories!



Charles Dickens—A Tale With a Twist

Thursday, December 9, 7:00-8:30 p.m.



A Zoom presentation performed by Terry Lynch of HFK

Register for this free event at the Carol Stream Public Library or [click here](#). Registration is required.

In this program, Dickens reflects on his life and discusses some of his best-loved works. How did the culture of his time influence his writings? Works discussed may include, but are not limited to: A Tale of Two Cities, Great Expectations, A Christmas Carol, The Cricket on the Hearth, as well as some of Dickens' short stories and non-fiction works.

Co-sponsored with the Carol Stream Public Library

This Land is Your Land

The Folksongs of Woody Guthrie

with Bucky Halker

The sounds of folk songs being played and sung drew guests to the front lawn of the Historic Farmhouse on September 25. Feet tapped and fingers snapped as folk music artist and historian Bucky Halker performed. The event was enhanced by his commentary on the origins of the genre and the people like Guthrie who created it.



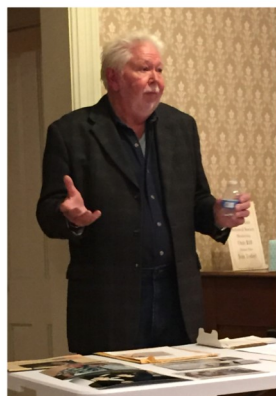
Illinois Humanities is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Illinois General Assembly [through the Illinois Arts Council Agency (IACA)], as well as by contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations.



CSHS Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

The Society held its annual meeting with election of officers at the Historic Farmhouse on October 26. President Margaret Leabru thanks members and supporters for their involvement and cited the Society's 2021 events and activities.

Retired Carol Stream Fire Protection District Lieutenant, Marty Walker, presented a story filled program. He chronicled his experiences of participating in the growth of the Village while serving as a firefighter from 1972-2012.



Congratulations CSHS Officers 2022

President—Margaret Leabru

Treasurer—Susan Benjamin

Secretary—Karen Shreve

Historian—Laura Schmidt



Carol Stream Curb-Side Christmas Sharing Program



Donation Drive November 1 – November 28

The Carol Stream Police Department Social Services Unit is now taking donations for this year's Christmas Sharing Program.

Donate new, unwrapped toys (ages 0-12) at one of the collection locations.

Donate personal care items (see Santa's List).

Donate money through the November and December water bills or send a check payable to "Carol Stream Christmas Sharing. Attn: Social Services, 500 N. Gary Ave."

Donation Sites: Village Hall, WDSRA, CS Library, and the Holiday Inn

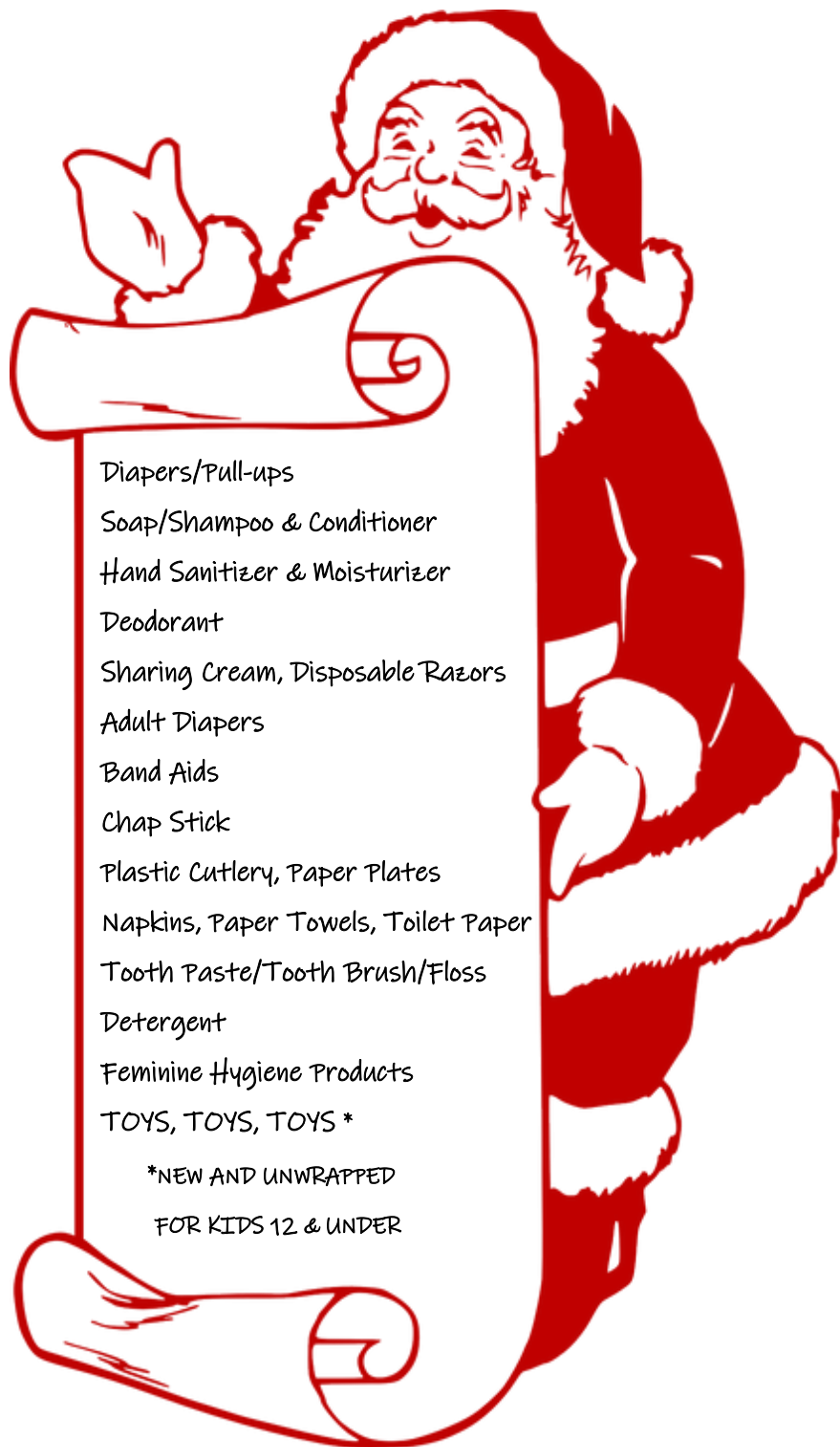
Volunteer — 630.871.6280

For the safety of both volunteers and guests, pick-up will again be curb-side and guests will NOT have to exit their cars to receive food and presents.

Guests must pre-register to participate.

Registration begins November 15th and runs through December 3rd at the Social Services Unit, 500 N. Gary Avenue (2nd Floor, Village Entrance).

Registration hours: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday – Friday.



Diapers/Pull-ups

Soap/Shampoo & Conditioner

Hand Sanitizer & Moisturizer

Deodorant

Sharing Cream, Disposable Razors

Adult Diapers

Band Aids

Chap Stick

Plastic Cutlery, Paper Plates

Napkins, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper

Tooth Paste/Tooth Brush/Floss

Detergent

Feminine Hygiene Products

TOYS, TOYS, TOYS *

*NEW AND UNWRAPPED

FOR KIDS 12 & UNDER

Thank You for Caring!



Wishing You the Happiest of Holidays

All the Best in the New Year!



Norman Rockwell's Santa on the December 1920 Saturday Evening Post cover.

The Santa little Betty Lou Kuhn imagined in 1929 probably looked a lot like the Santa Claus we know today. The familiar image of the jolly round man was popularized between 1863 and 1881 by Thomas Nast, a cartoonist for *Harper's Weekly*. He depicted Santa's workshop at the North Pole, his book of naughty and nice children, and reindeer. Norman Rockwell and Coca Cola cemented the depiction of Mr. Claus in a bright red suit as we know him.



Thomas Nast's Santa from an 1881 Harper's Weekly.

A Little Bit More About Christmas in the 1920's

- ♦ Americans liked full round Christmas trees, the wider the better.
- ♦ Tinsel was a favorite decoration for the Christmas tree. A tinsel manufactured in Germany of lead alloy foil with tin bonded on top was popular. Other tinsel was made of ultra-flammable paper-covered aluminum.
- ♦ Paper decorations were common, including red tissue honeycomb bells that folded open.
- ♦ Snow Babies figurines, the kind that are found even today, date to the 20s.
- ♦ Adhesive seals that required licking were used to fasten gift wrapping. Scotch tape had not yet been invented.

[Read more here.](#)

