This is Ms. Susa from the Shorewood Public Library. Did you know, a long, long time ago people around the world celebrated their New Year on November 1? So, the evening before marked the end of summer and the beginning of the darker, colder, winter season. This is when we now celebrate Halloween. It has become a holiday tradition to gather with community, neighborly get-togethers, and visiting door-to-door for trick or treat. It is a time for food and decorations of the season. What better way to welcome friends, neighbors, or little ghouls than with a festive Halloween wreath on your door or window?

1-Take a large, cardboard circle and draw a smaller circle in the middle. A paper plate or the cardboard from a pizza will work great. Cut out the middle circle to make a wreath shape. You can make Halloween mummies, pumpkins, ghosts, or bats to decorate your wreath. To make the mummy, you start with the gingerbread person shape. Use a rectangle shape, like the end of a ruler to make an “X” in the middle of the paper. Add another rectangle down the middle of the “X” for the body and a circle at the top, for the head. Color this shape all black, add some eyes, then wrap white yarn or string all around the body, arms, legs, and head. Be sure to leave a bit of the eyes showing. Adhere the mummy to the wreath with glue or a staple. Decorate the edge of the wreath with colors of stripes or dots—anything you like!

2-To make a ghost, trace your hand on white paper. Cut out your new ghoul and add a silly face. Adhere to the wreath. You can make some circles on paper for pumpkins, color them orange or cut scraps of orange paper from a discarded picture or magazine. Glue on the circle and add any shape eyes, nose and mouth. Adhere to the circle wreath. Trace your hand again and cut out two. Color these all black and attach them together where your wrist would be, to make a brave bat. Add eyes and adhere to the circle anywhere it fits. You can make all the shapes or a few of the same one. Now add a silly Halloween saying and a string on the back to hang up on your door to welcome friends and neighbors to a holiday gathering.

Ms. Susan says, “Beware of happy or haunted happenings!”