

#### Be a Mentor

January is National Mentoring Month, the perfect time to consider becoming a mentor. Research shows that youths who are mentored have higher self-esteem and do better in school, often moving on to higher education. They also have a lower risk of engaging in risky behavior.

As a senior, you have experiences, knowledge and skills that are extremely valuable to a young person. By sharing what you've learned, you can help your mentee solve problems and accomplish goals. You may even learn something new yourself!

The ultimate purpose of mentoring is to provide young people with a trusted adult who cares about them. You can be a safe person with whom a child or teenager can share their concerns as well as new and exciting things in their life.

Mentoring is often done through specific community programs, but there's no reason you can't find someone to mentor on your own. You are sure to discover that mentoring is fun and beneficial for both of you!

#### **JANUARY 2025**



## Good Luck in the New Year!

When the bells ring out on New Year's Day, another year begins. On this day, the earth has come full circle and starts on its path again. Superstitious or not, many encourage luck by eating special foods on New Year's Day.

People of Dutch origin celebrate the circle by including donuts in their feast to bring them good fortune. In southern parts of the U.S., some bank on black-eyed peas or red beans and gravy to do the trick. Others swear that corned beef and cabbage will bring them luck and prosperity in the coming year. In some cultures, the leaves of the cabbage represent paper money and are said to symbolize prosperity. Japanese Americans eat a set of foods called "osechi ryori." Each food represents a special kind of good luck, such as good health, fertility or long life.





MEMORY CARE

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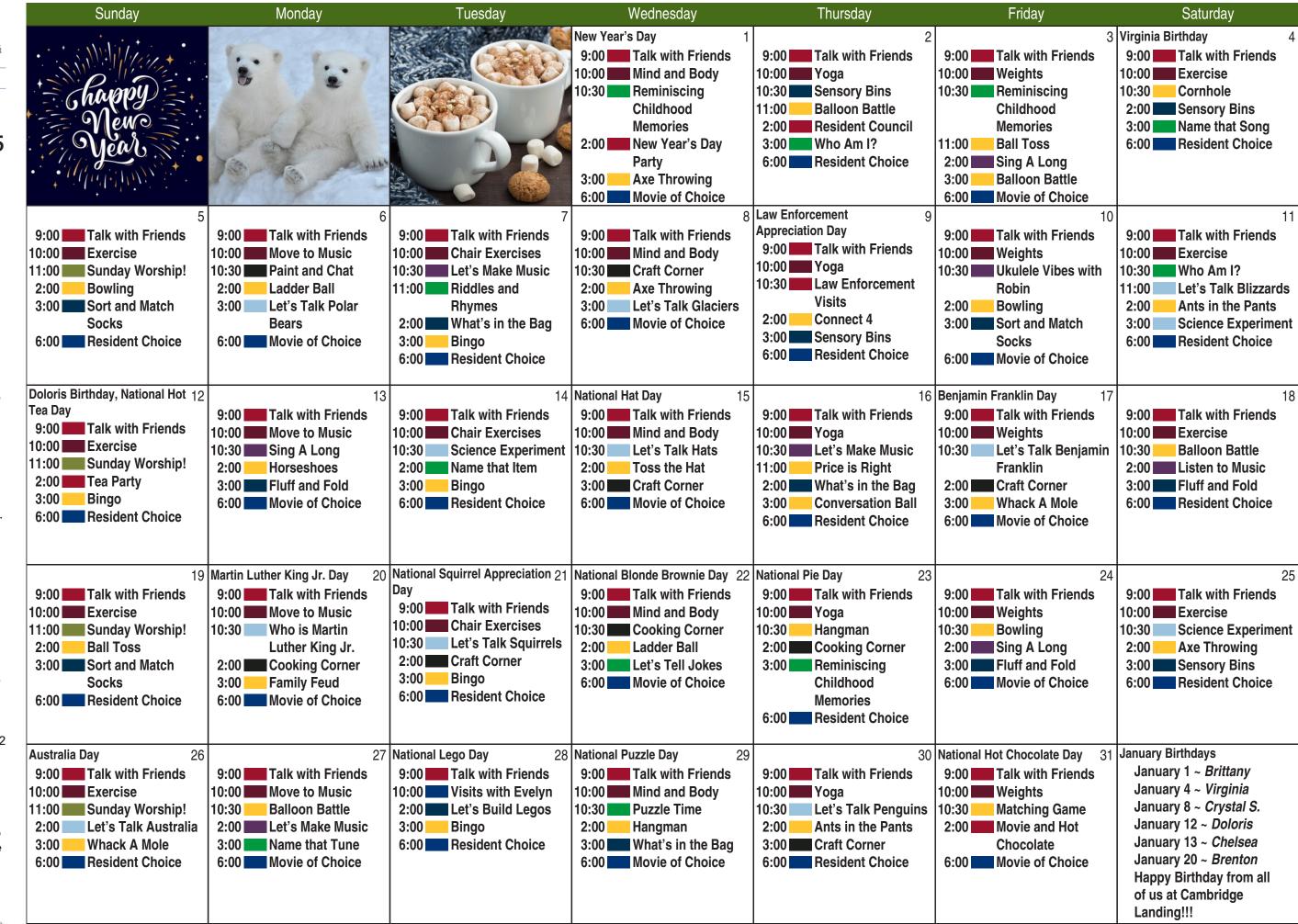
### 5 Things About: January

- January is the coldest month in the Northern Hemisphere and the hottest month in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Scholars say the name January derives from the Latin word for "door."
- With the exception of leap years, January begins on the same day of the week as October.
- The birth flower for the month is the carnation.
- The third Monday of January is recognized as Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

# Fun Phrases for January

Give a shoutout to each season by displaying a letter board somewhere in your home. These trendy signs come with letters so you can spell out a new message whenever you want, whether creative, witty or inspiring. Try these ideas for January: "Snow Place Like Home," "New Year, Who Dis?" or "12 New Chapters, 365 Blank Pages."

"The imagination is a palette of bright colors. You can use it to touch up memories—or you can use it to paint dreams."
—Robert Brault





#### A Dream Remembered

In January, we honor the life, service and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. He organized nonviolent boycotts and protests against racial discrimination and directed a 250,000-man march on Washington, D.C., where he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. He became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, and his leadership led to reform in civil rights laws for all people. This year, take a moment to remember King and the movement toward equality he inspired.

## Memorable Melody: 'Frosty the Snowman'

"With a corncob pipe and a button nose and his eyes made out of coal," a jolly, happy snowman named Frosty came to life for millions of kids in 1950 in the lyrics of this holiday song. Beloved actor and "Singing Cowboy" Gene Autry recorded the tune as a follow-up to his hit "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." An animated TV special based on the song first aired in 1969, and has become a timeless holiday classic.





### Hot Cocoa Pancakes

Enjoy a warm and cozy breakfast with these festive flapjacks.

#### Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 cup 2% or nonfat milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups ready-made pancake mix
- 1/4 cup water
- chocolate syrup
- marshmallow spread
- pancake syrup

#### **Directions:**

Heat a skillet over medium-low heat or an electric griddle to 375° F.

In a microwave-safe bowl, mix cocoa powder, sugar, milk and vanilla until well combined. Heat in the microwave for 30 seconds. Next, combine the cocoa mixture, pancake mix and water. Stir until large lumps disappear, but do not beat or overmix the batter.

Pour slightly less than 1/4 cup batter onto the lightly greased skillet or griddle. Cook for 90 seconds, or until bubbles appear on the surface. Flip the pancake and cook it for 30 seconds more. Repeat with the remaining batter.

Find more recipes at Culinary.net.







