



July 2025



FIREWORKS-FREE FUN: CELEBRATING THE 4TH WITHOUT THE BOOM

For many, the Fourth of July is filled with fireworks, festivities, and fanfare. But for some—especially residents with pets, young children, or those who live with PTSD—loud, sudden noises can be more stressful than celebratory.

If you're looking to enjoy the spirit of Independence Day without the booming distractions, there are plenty of meaningful, festive, and peaceful alternatives to make the day special.

1. Host a Red, White, and Blue Potluck

Invite neighbors or family members to share a meal made with patriotic flair. Think fruit salad with strawberries, blueberries, and whipped cream; red punch with frozen blueberry ice cubes; or mini flag-themed desserts. It's a wonderful way to gather, celebrate freedom, and connect with others—all without the noise.

2. Get Crafty with the Kids (or Just for Fun!)

Set up a simple crafting station with materials from the dollar store. Try making:

- Paper lanterns with red and blue designs

- DIY pinwheels that spin in the summer breeze
- Handprint flags or sparkler-free "firework" art using glitter and paint

These activities are a great way to engage kids, decorate your space, and enjoy the holiday creatively.

3. Movie Night with a Side of History

Celebrate America's birthday with a cozy, air-conditioned movie night. Patriotic picks like *National Treasure*, *Hidden Figures*, *The Sandlot*, or *A Capitol Fourth* (a PBS special featuring music and fireworks on screen only!) make for a meaningful evening without any real-life explosions.



4. Create a Memory Jar

Take a moment of gratitude and reflection by writing down what freedom means to you, or what you're most thankful for this year. Place

these slips in a mason jar and invite family or friends to do the same. Read them aloud over dessert or save them as a new yearly tradition.

5. Enjoy Nature's Quiet Beauty

Plan a peaceful evening walk at dusk or a picnic at a local park before sunset. Watch the sky change colors, listen to the sounds of summer, and savor the slower pace of a fireworks-free night.

6. Offer Comfort to Others

If you know someone who struggles during fireworks season, consider reaching out. Invite them to one of your quiet celebrations, or simply check in to show you care. A little kindness can go a long way.

No matter how you choose to celebrate, the heart of Independence Day lies in togetherness, gratitude, and freedom. A quiet Fourth can still be a meaningful one—and perhaps even more memorable in its simplicity.

From all of us at Mark Dana Management, we wish you a safe, peaceful, and joy-filled July 4th!

STRAWBERRY CHEESECAKE BITES

INGREDIENTS:

- 8 oz Softened Cream Cheese
- 2 cups Powdered Sugar
- 1 teaspoon Vanilla
- Blueberries & graham crackers for topping (optional)
- 20-30 Large Strawberries

DIRECTIONS:

1. Prep strawberries by washing and drying completely.
2. Cut out the stem and leave hole in the top of the strawberry. Now cut the very bottom of the strawberry off flat so that they can stand on their own.
3. In a mixer, add cream cheese, vanilla and powdered sugar and blend until combined.
4. Pipe this mixture into the strawberry tops. Top with graham crackers and a blueberry to add the red, white and blue.
5. Serve and eat immediately.



SUDOKU PUZZLE CORNER

		4	6		8	2		
	9				3	5	4	
5				9				1
		3		8				5
2		1				4		3
9				1		6		
7				4				2
	5	6	2				8	
		8			6			

Fill all empty boxes with a number 1-9 so that the no number repeats in the row, column, or boxes.

		5				6		
			6		4			
6	7			1			4	3
4		6		8		3		2
2			4	7	3			6
	5	3		9		4	8	
3			5	4	2			9
9		4		6		2		5
5	2						6	4

CREEKSIDE MANOR

1601 Lakeside Ave
Henrico, VA 23228
(804)261-6642
www.MarkDanaVa.com



JULY 2025 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Rent Due	2	3 Pest Control 100 - 200	4 Office Closed Independence Day	5
6	7	8	9	10 Late Notices at 10:00 am Pest Control 300 - 400	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Pest Control 500 - 600	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Pest Control 700 - 900	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

COMMUNITY CORNER

- Happy Independence Day!
- As a reminder, all fireworks are prohibited.
- A friendly reminder rent is due on the first of the month. A late fee will be applied to rent not paid in full by 10:00 am on the 10th of each month. (if not otherwise stated).
- The only forms of payment we accept are checks, money orders, or credit/debit cards (with a \$5 fee). Please do not drop cash or change in the drop box for payments.
- Residents, please note the extermination date for your building. You will not get another notice. Maintenance or Management may be assisting Dodson in the apartments.
- If you have a maintenance emergency after hours or when the office is closed, please call 1-800-224-4787. Do not call the office phone after hours or on the weekends.

COMMUNITY CORNER CONTINUED

- We ask that you please keep a slow speed in the parking lot as there are younger tenants outside. We also ask that you please keep from throwing any objects in the parking lot.
- Our property is a non-smoking property.
- Our property is a DRUG FREE PROPERTY, NO DRUGS ALLOWED!
- Any vehicle other than your primary vehicle, such as Company vehicles, should be parked in guest parking
- Please dispose of trash in your trash can or community dumpsters. Trash thrown on the ground or left in the hallway is not acceptable. Please do not leave trash in the breezeways by your door, as it is not allowed. Do not place furniture in the dumpsters or leave any furniture outside the dumpsters, and please break down all boxes before putting them in the dumpsters. Doing so will help keep the dumpsters from filling up quickly.
- Reminder - There is only 1 pet allowed per apartment (25 lbs and under - Breed Restricted). Pets are not allowed in your apartment until the office has been notified first. All pet vaccinations must come from a vet. Visitors/guests are not allowed to bring pets, nor are you allowed to keep/maintain pets that are not yours.
- All tenants are required to display a Creekside Manor parking pass on their windshield. If you are a tenant and do not have one, please bring the Property Manager your current registration, and one will be assigned to you.
- Just a reminder the swimming pool hours are 10:00 am - 8:00 pm.