

December is a special month in every Mark Dana community. The days feel shorter, the air gets colder, and many of us find ourselves spending more time at home. Even though winter can be chilly, this season brings many chances to slow down, enjoy simple moments, and feel connected to the those around us.

One of the nicest things about December is that it invites us to enjoy the little things. A warm cup of cocoa, the sound of a favorite holiday song, or the glow of lights in a window can make our day brighter. Families may enjoy

cooking a warm meal together or watching a classic movie at home. Seniors might enjoy sitting with a good book or looking through old photos that bring back happy memories. Kids often love crafting, drawing, or helping decorate the home. These small activities make the season feel cozy and full of joy.

December is also a time when many people like to show kindness. A simple wave to a neighbor, holding the door for someone who has their hands full, or checking on a friend who lives alone can make a big difference. Even the smallest acts can help our communities feel

warm, safe, and welcoming. You never know how much a kind word or a friendly smile might mean to someone during this time of year.

Another special part of December is the feeling of togetherness. Even though all of our Mark Dana communities are in different parts of Virginia, we all share the same wish for a peaceful and joyful season. Some of us celebrate holidays, while others simply enjoy the quiet calm that winter brings. No matter how you spend the month, we hope you feel supported, connected, and at home.

As we wrap up another year, we encourage everyone to take a moment to reflect on the good things—big or small—that happened over the past twelve months. December gives us a chance to start fresh, look forward to a new year, and celebrate the strength of our communities.

From all of us at Mark Dana, we wish you a warm, safe, and happy December filled with comfort, kindness, and moments that make you smile.



Brown Sugar Banana Hot Chocolate

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups Milk (any type)
- 1 cup Heavy Cream
- 1 medium ripe Banana
- 2 Tbsp Brown Sugar
- 1 Tbsp Cocoa Powder

- 1 tsp Cinnamon
- 1/2 cup Chocolate Chips
- 1/2 tsp Cinnamon
- 1 tsp Vanilla Extra
- Pinch of Salt



DIRECTIONS:

1. BLEND THE BANANA BASE

In a blender, combine the banana, milk, and brown sugar. Blend until smooth.

2. HEAT THE MIXTURE

Pour the blended mixture into a medium saucepan. Add the heavy cream, cocoa powder, cinnamon, and salt. Warm over medium heat until hot but not boiling.

3. ADD THE CHOCOLATE

Stir in the chocolate chips until fully melted and the drink becomes creamy and smooth.

4. FINISH AND SERVE

Remove from heat and stir in the vanilla extract.. Pour into mugs and top with whipped cream and extra chocolate or cookie crumbs if desired.

HOT CHOCOLATE WORD FIND

BEVERAGE
PEPPERMINT
CANDY CANE
SPRINKLES
CHOCOLATE
DELICIOUS
SUGAR
CREAM
MILK
HOT

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CRAIGMONT MANOR

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DECEMBER 2025 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Rent Due	2	3 Pest Control	4 4th Annual Christmas Gathering	5	6
7 Pearl Harbor Day	8	9	10 Late Notices at 10:00 am	11	12	13
14 Hanukkah begins at sundown	15	16	17	18 Office hours will be limited to 8am-11am	19	20 Craigsville Christmas Parade 6pm
21 Winter Begins	22	23	24 Office Closed Christmas Eve	25 Office Closed Christmas Day	26 Office Closed Kwanzaa Begins	27
28	29	30	31 New Years Eve			

COMMUNITY CORNER

- From all the staff here at Craigmont Manor, we wish you a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year! We hope you finish 2025 with peace in your heart and look back with gratitude, free of regrets.
- Please remember to check your smoke detector each month. May you embrace the past, stand confident in the present, and step boldly into all that lies ahead.
- The 4th Annual Christmas Gathering will take place at Craigsville Town Hall from 2:00 pm 5:00 pm on December 4th.
- Please join us in welcoming our newest neighbor, Bobby Dull, who just moved in this month.
- A friendly reminder that rent is due on the 1st of the month. To avoid a late fee and court cost, be sure your rent and water are paid before 10 am on the 10th. If you pay with your credit or debit card, include the \$5 fee.
- The after-hours maintenance emergency number is (800)224-4787. This number is to be used for maintenance emergencies only.
- Augusta Health Free Mobile Clinic will be at Town Hall from 10am 2pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month. They offer acute care, wellness checks, vaccinations, and more!
- ► Resident of the Month: Barbara Freeman

 All of us here at Craigmont wish Barbara a heartfelt farewell as she begins an exciting new chapter in her life. Barbara has been a wonderful friend to us all, and our Craigmont community will truly miss her!