



December 2025

## DECEMBER MOMENTS THAT BRING US TOGETHER

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.

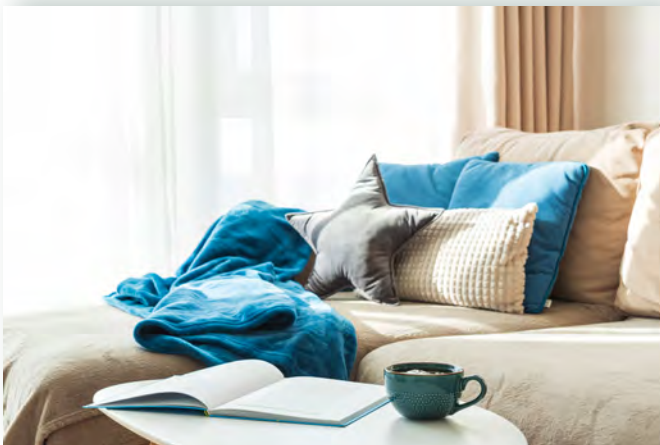
December is also a time when many people like to show kindness. A simple wave to a neighbor, holding the door for someone who has their hands full, or checking on a friend who lives alone can make a big difference. Even the smallest acts can help our communities feel warm, safe, and welcoming. You never 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

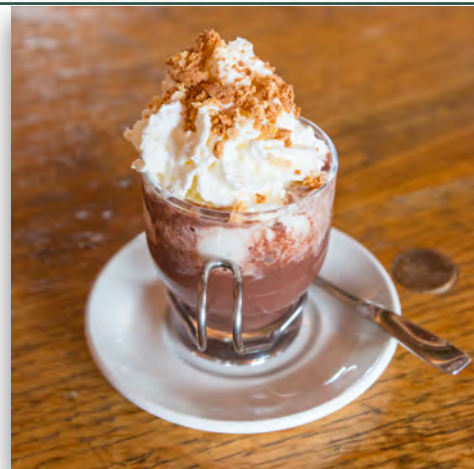
Pour the blended mixture into a medium saucepan. Add the heavy cream, cocoa powder, cinnamon, and salt. Warm over medium heat until hot but not boiling.

### 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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# HILLCREST MANOR

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## DECEMBER 2025 CALENDAR

| Sunday                                  | Monday               | Tuesday | Wednesday                                    | Thursday                                     | Friday  | Saturday |
|---|----------------------|---------|--|--|---|----------|
|   | 1<br><b>Rent Due</b> | 2       | 3  | 4  | 5<br>Dodson                                       | 6        |
| 7<br>Pearl Harbor<br>Remembrance<br>Day | 8                    | 9       | 10<br><b>Late Notices<br/>at 10:00 am</b>    | 11   | 12  | 13       |
| 14<br>Hanukkah<br>begins at<br>sundown  | 15                   | 16      | 17   | 18<br><b>Office Closed</b>                   | 19  | 20       |
| 21<br>Winter Begins                     | 22                   | 23      | 24<br><b>Office Closed<br/>Christmas Eve</b> | 25<br><b>Office Closed<br/>Christmas Day</b> | 26<br><b>Office Closed<br/>Kwanzaa<br/>Begins</b> | 27       |
| 28                                      | 29                   | 30      | 31<br>New Years Eve                          |  |   |          |

## COMMUNITY CORNER

- ▶ We would like to wish you and your family a safe and joyful holiday season! Thank you for being a valued resident of the Hillcrest Manor community!
- ▶ A friendly reminder that rent is due on the first day of the month. Please do not drop blank or incomplete money orders/checks in the drop box. Money orders/checks should be payable to "Hillcrest Manor," and your name and apartment number should be included in the memo. To pay your rent by card, please use the link provided. If you do not have the link, contact the office and we will be happy to provide it for you. **Please do not forget to add the \$5 technology fee when paying online. If paying late, include additional late fees to your balance due.**
- ▶ Any payments made to management are applied to past due balances (Rent, Court, Late Fees, Damages, etc.) before being applied to current balances. The only time payments will not be applied to past due damages is if you have a written payment arrangement with management and it is current.
- ▶ Please remember to contact the Management Office to receive written approval prior to installing any security camera or similar recording devices. Kindly refer to the prior memo distributed to all residents.