

"Don't spend time beating on a wall, hoping to transform it into a door."
- Coco Chanel

SPOOKY PEANUT BUTTER SPIDER COOKIES



DIRECTIONS

Position oven racks in the top and bottom thirds of the oven and preheat to 375 degrees F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. Separate the chocolate candy balls into larger and smaller balls. The larger balls will make up the spider bodies and the smaller balls the heads.

Whisk together the flour, baking soda and salt in a small bowl. Cream the sugar and butter in a medium bowl with an electric mixer on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the vanilla and egg and mix until thoroughly combined, about 1 minute. Add the peanut butter and mix until creamy, about 1 minute. Turn the mixer speed down to low and add half of the flour mixture. Beat on medium until incorporated, then turn the speed down to low again and add the rest of the flour mixture. Beat on medium until incorporated.

Roll the dough by hand into 1-inch balls, place about 1 inch apart on the prepared baking sheets and bake, rotating the pans halfway through, until the cookies are light golden brown and have spread to about 2 inches wide, about 16 minutes. The cookies are done when they smell very peanut buttery and the tops feel dry and slightly firm when pressed with fingers.

Meanwhile, melt the chocolate over a double boiler. Remove from the heat and let cool briefly so that it is slightly thickened but still pipe-able.

When the cookies are done, remove them from the oven and transfer them to a cooling rack. Immediately push 2 chocolate candies directly into each hot cookie, putting a smaller chocolate ball toward the edge of the cookie and a larger chocolate ball directly behind it in the center of the cookie.

When the melted chocolate has thickened slightly, put it into a plastic bag and cut a small hole in the corner to create a piping bag. Pipe 8 legs on each cookie, starting from the point where the 2 chocolate candies meet. Pipe the front 4 legs so that they curve up toward the head and the back 4 legs so that they curve backward beyond the body. Reserve the remaining chocolate in the piping bag for the pupils of the eyes. To make eyes, pipe two 1/4-inch circles on the "heads" of each spider with the cake decorating gel. Pipe a tiny dot of the reserved melted chocolate in the center of each to make the pupils.

INGREDIENTS

- One 5-ounce box small ball-shaped chocolates, such as malted milk balls
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- Pinch of fine salt
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 cup smooth peanut butter
- 2 ounces semisweet chocolate
- 1 small tube white cake decorating gel

OCTOBER 2020

October is the tenth month in the Gregorian calendar, received its name from the Latin numeral octo meaning "eight", because in the original Roman calendar it was the eighth month.

BIRTHSTONE: Opal
FLOWER: Calendula
HOLIDAYS/EVENTS: 31st - Halloween

INTERESTING FACTS:

- 1692 - The Salem witch trials ended via a letter from Massachusetts Governor William Phips.
- 1775 - The United States Continental Congress ordered the establishment of the Continental Navy (later renamed the United States Navy).
- 1810 - Oktoberfest begins: In Germany, the Bavarian royal family invited the citizens of Munich to join the celebration of the marriage of Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen.
- 1880 - John Philip Sousa, the first recorded popular music star, became the leader of the United States Marine Band.
- 1880 - First electric lamp factory was opened by Thomas Edison.
- 1908 - For \$825 each, Ford's Model T car was put on the market.
- 1923 - The Walt Disney Company was founded by Walt Disney and his brother, Roy Disney.
- 1926 - Winnie the Pooh, by A. A. Milne, was first published
- 1950 - Peanuts by Charles M. Schulz was first published.
- 1957 - The USSR launched Sputnik 1, the first artificial satellite to orbit the Earth.
- 1971 - Walt Disney World opened near Orlando, Florida.
- 1979 - The first Gay Rights March on Washington, DC - the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, demanded "an end to all social, economic, judicial, and legal oppression of lesbian and gay people" and drew 200,000 people.
- 1982 - Sony launched the first consumer compact disc player



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MISSION STATEMENT: At Mid-Step Services, we are dedicated to providing residential, vocational, educational, and recreational services to people with intellectual disabilities in a caring, supportive environment where each individual is encouraged to reach his or her highest potential.

VISION STATEMENT: Mid-Step Services, Inc. will be the most respected service provider in the state; known for the opportunities we provide to consumers, employees, and families.



VOLUME 14, ISSUE 10



MID-STEP SERVICES EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

INSIDE:

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Make sure it's clean - Change when Dirty.
Do NOT wear someone elses.
Do NOT let someone else wear yours.
Make sure it fits snug but not to tight.



OCTOBER 2020



Progress on the new site for the future Pier Center for Autism!



The Pier Center is part of Siouxland's Big Give October 6th!
<https://www.siouxlandbiggive.org/>

Siouxland Big Give is a 24-hour day of giving where Siouxland community members are encouraged to donate to their favorite local charities!



NEW APPAREL STORE

Opening Soon!

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR FLYERS!

Multiple designs, colors, and items to choose from.



IN THE KNOW

THANK YOU

Impressions has been CRAZY BUSY this last month and continues to be. Thank you to everyone who has helped during the end of the month newsletter madness. I appreciate you all for helping Impressions remain successful during this time. Impressions has taken in over 80 new customers since March. I try my best to balance my outside customers and internal Mid-Step Orders. The houses and main office patience with me has been greatly appreciated! Reminder I have a discount on Christmas/Holiday Cards for MSS Employees! The orders have started coming in already. :)

- Amanda Hawkins, Impressions Print Shop & Graphics Manager

OCTOBER Happy Anniversary! MID-STEP MILESTONES

ONE YEAR

Amonia Sayonkon, 7th
Laura Ochoa, 14th
Waltena Olivarez, 14th
Rebecca Larson, 28th
Russel Warren Jr., 28th
Jessica Rolfes, 28th
Carter Crum, 28th

TWO YEARS

Kimberly Reynolds-Mallett, 1st
Karlie Haglund, 22nd

THREE YEARS

Cathy Meyers, 2nd
Amanda Hawkins, 9th
Marysol Hernandez Cortez, 30th

FOUR YEARS

Ailyn Bolanos, 24th

SIX YEARS

Nicole Bacan, 1st
Janet Turbes, 1st
Suzanne Whitmore, 6th
Tina Cobbs, 23rd

SEVEN YEARS

Larry Walters, 7th

NINE YEARS

Rosa Mendoza, 3rd

ELEVEN YEARS

Cheryl Cale, 12th

TWELVE YEARS

Linda Klemmensen, 20th

SIXTEEN YEARS

Susan Mcintosh, 18th

SEVENTEEN YEARS

Julie Vanderham, 27th

TWENTY THREE YEARS

James Struthers, 3rd

THIRTY YEARS

Kim Wood, 1st

THIRTY FIVE YEARS

Nancy Mullally, 28th

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**Brooklyn Farrell is the Residential Supervisor at Park View House 3
She has been with MSS for 4 Years**

Brooklyn
Farrell



What do you enjoy most about your job? **Getting to see members make progress in daily living skills and activities**

What are some activities that you have participated in with members or at the agency that you have really enjoyed?

Splash Pad, Swimming, Picnics, Opening presents on Christmas morning.

What is your favorite color? **Purple**

Which restaurant or fast food establishment is your favorite? **Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen**

What is your favorite movie or TV show? **Law and Order SVU**

What is your favorite sports team? **Nebraska Huskers!**

What is your favorite music or song? **Elvis**

What do you enjoy doing when you're not at work? **Binge watch Netflix, Hangout with my boyfriend, friends, and family**

Do you have children, grandchildren, spouse or pets you would like to mention?

Boyfriend - Will, and BIG BOSS TANYA GIFFIN

Cheddar's
SCRATCH KITCHEN

LAW & ORDER
SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Christine Walker, 1st
Ericela Rodriguez, 1st
Cali Cook-Sorenson, 3rd
Sadie Saucedo, 4th
Travis Collyns, 5th
Quincy Christie, 9th
Theresa Turner, 10th
Madeline Neal, 11th
Naomi Montague, 12th
Sommer Welch, 12th
Arabe Gishe, 15th
Lisa Hollowell, 16th
Nancy Mullally, 16th
Sydney Reynolds, 18th
Tammy Torres, 18th

Ashley Bradbury, 18th
Raymond Cota, 20th
Jodi Roling, 20th
Gary Smith, 23rd
Samantha Schoenherr, 23rd
Jennifer Jorgensen, 23rd
Tricia Woods, 23rd
Ashley Aesoph, 23rd
Ryan Zeisler, 24th
Thomas Hackett, 24th
Michael Jenkins, 26th
Yanira Lozano, 29th
Kimmarie Ritchie, 29th

WELCOME NEW HIRES

SPRING HILL APARTMENTS

Yasmin Segundo, HCBS Asst.

LEECH

Brianna Nixon, HCBS Asst.

MAPLE VIEW

Agrey Bosire, HCBS Asst.

SOUTH ROYCE

Yanira Lozano, HCBS Asst.
Ubah Mahamed, HCBS Asst.

MARSHAL

Sem Nzoko, HCBS Asst.

CHEROKEE

Thersia Fuhrman, HCBS Asst.
Aubrey Harkins, HCBS Asst.

BLUFF VIEW

Marcy Ellard, RLA
Aries Francis, RLA
Jennie Parker, RLA

PARK VIEW

Hailey Knapp, Dlet Aide
Sabrina Henry, RLA
Payton Berge, Dlet Aide
Chesney McGinty, RLA
Angelina Sebastian Jose, RLA
Andrea Ramirez-Estrada, BS Tech

COURAGE

Amodou Napo, RLA
Whisper Payer, RLA
Keenan Woodruff, Cook
Alexis Simpson, Cook
Ryan Zeisler, RLA
Tywana Johnson, RLA
Karin Smith, RLA
Anthony Smith, RLA

PIER CENTER

Taylor Zahnley, BEH Tech
Chad Stensaas, BEH Tech
Katrina Mae San Nicolas, BEH Tech
Erin Elizabeth Nuetzman, BEH Tech

Submissions needed for

STEPPING STONE

Email content, ideas, and feedback to

amhawkins@midstepservices.com

EARN MORE rewards!

You **love** working for Mid-Step Services because your job is important and rewarding. You feel good that you are involved with the care of others. So spread the word! If someone you recommend joins Mid-Step Services for our **2nd shift**, which is any shift that begins in the PM, you will receive a **\$100 gift card** after that person has been here for one month. You will also earn **\$500** (if that person is full-time) or **\$250** (if part-time) after that person has been here for 3 months. If it is any other shift, you will receive a **\$25 gift card** after that person has been here for one month. You will also earn **\$500** (if that person is full-time) or **\$250** (if part-time) after that person has been here for 3 months.



Halloween Word Search

Q M T J V M P L P L S W R Y N Y
S B R L E F W H X B V C L P K W
P H P Q V F T O S H T F X H X H
O B F H D J I J N O T E L E K S
O R Q C A N D Y I F U Q I O O B
K G H O S T S L K J J E N D O S
Y M Z L G J F C P H E K Y J X Y
I T E C O S T U M E S L A H X A
V G A X B K L M U M M Y H A K S
E A A B L Z S T P P I B U L H M
D M W F I T P A R T Y Q G L C U
A E Y Q N U G E S S L H Z O T S
S S B J E C C R F F K X P W I Y
T R I C K U P T J A S L Z E W E
F T Z Q W P X B J Q A B I E U W
M T V C R J K U D T M U S N H O

BOO
GAMES
HALLOWEEN
PARTY
SPOOKY
WITCH

CANDY
GHOSTS
MASK
PUMPKINS
TRICK

COSTUMES
GOBLIN
MUMMY
SKELETON
TREAT