## **Pumpkin Pie Bites**

- 2 store-bought or homemade pie crusts
- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- ½ cup heavy whipping cream or evaporated milk (room temperature)
- 1 egg, room temperature
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- Whipped cream for topping
- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
- 2. Roll out pie dough. Using a 2½ inch round or fluted cookie cutter, cut out 24 pieces. Gently press into the wells of a mini muffin pan. Use your thumb to press the dough down in the center and gently up the sides of each cup. Alternately, using a 3¾ to 4-inch round or fluted cookie cutter, cut out 12 pieces and gently press into the wells of a standard muffin pan. Place in the refrigerator to chill.
- 3. Meanwhile, in a large mixing bowl, whisk the pumpkin puree, heavy cream, sugars, pumpkin pie spice, cinnamon, salt and vanilla.
- 4. Remove the muffin pan(s) from the refrigerator Fill each well of the mini muffin pans with 1½ tablespoons of filling. If using a standard pan, add the pumpkin filling about ¾ of the way full. Tap pan on the counter to create a smooth, even filling. Bake until crust edges are golden, and the center filling is set
  - Mini muffin pan: Bake at 400 degrees for 5 minutes, then reduce temperature to 350 degrees and bake an additional 15 minutes
  - Standard muffin pan: Bake at 400 degrees for 5 minutes and then reduce temperature to 350 degrees and bake for an additional 20-35 minutes

- 5. Let the pies cool in the pan for 5 minutes, then transfer to a cooling rack to cool completely.
- 6. Store in the refrigerator in an airtight container for up to 3 days or wrap in plastic and freeze in an airtight container for up to months.
- 7. Garnish with a dollop of whipped cream or as desired.