



# STOCKING: Treats they'll scoop up and swoon over

Continued from E1



## 7. A bead on your tastebuds

A little winter decadence, please. We are so worthy. Give us this chic tin of Joseph Schmidt Hot Chocolate Pleasure. When stirred into hot milk, the little beads of chocolate melt quickly for a rich brew. This pleasure is \$12 at Breed & Co.



## 9. Seasoning of the season

Don't get excited, Santa. This salt's not to rub. It even comes with its own little spoon. Made by Spiceburst right here in Austin, so you won't have to haul it a long way. Sprinkle this tantalizing blend of sea salt, roasted chipotle, lemon juice, vinegar, coriander and Hungarian paprika on anything from salads to venison (sorry, Rudolph). A 4-ounce jar is \$11.99 at Fresh Plus in Hyde Park.



## 10. No more sticky messes

Let's talk silicone. The Roulpat nonstick countertop workstation is brought to us by the maker of the beloved Silpat cookie sheet liner. So, naturally, we wanted to check out the 24-by-16-inch silicone mat that is coated on both sides so it does not stick nor slip. You just unroll it, knead your dough, roll out the pastry, even pat the play clay with the kids. Then wash and roll up the Roulpat until the next time. Foodies like us who still work with dough won't miss the task of scrubbing and scraping the countertop. The Roulpat is \$39.99 at Bed, Bath and Beyond.

Brian K. Diggs photos AMERICAN-STATESMAN



## 5. No doorstep jokes, please

OK, Santa, give us this tradition and keep the smart remarks to your jolly 'self. We want a fruitcake. Ahh, this is no ordinary, ridiculed holiday cake. This is a walnut fruit bar from Mary of Puddin Hill, a rich confection born in Texas. In fact, this fruitcake company began in Austin more than 50 years ago, when Mary Lauderdale, a newlywed and new University of Texas home economics grad, needed some money. Although the biz has been based in Greenville for years now, this product is \$12.50 for 12 ounces at Breed & Co.

## 6



## 6. Paddington would love it

Skip the ubiquitous orange in the toe of the stocking. We want a jar of this: Sarabeth's Orange Apricot Marmalade, a national award-winning spread, has been a favorite for 20 years. And, before it was available in Austin, we had been known to walk the streets of its native New York foolishly toting heavy shopping bags of it. With big pieces of fruit and lots of flavor, this marmalade goes for about \$13 for an 18-ounce jar at Williams-Sonoma.

## 8



## 8. Ohhhhh, aloha

Forget the bread and lick the spoon. Rare Hawaiian Organic White Honey, a creamy product that bears the Authentic Artisan Food seal from Whole Foods Market, is simply divine. An 8-ounce jar is \$13 at Whole Foods.

## 11. Spread the word

Ignore the label that suggests mixing this sophisticated Artichoke Lemon Pesto with mayo and Parmesan and baking it for a dip. This spread from Bella Cucina Artful Food is so delectable it can be eaten straight from the jar. (We know: we did it.) At \$8.79 for a 6-ounce jar at Zinger Hardware, it is much cheaper than caviar. (Santa, you could put that in our stocking and we'd be really happy, too.)

## 11



## 12. A blizzard of fun

Put a cork in it. These wine stoppers, with holiday snow globes on top, dress up even the most nondescript bottles of wine. (Better make sure we ask the kids for their IDs before allowing them to shake the globes.) Available at Grape Vine Market for \$4.99 each.



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