



The foODie

Getting a bite out of the local food scene



About the writer

Features reporter

Lisa knows what's cooking in the Mohawk Valley.
Contact Lisa: e-mail or (315)792-4952

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Holiday recipes, packaging ideas on blog

Posted Dec 04, 2010 @ 03:04 PM
By **LISA KAPPS**

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From butter cookies to Kentucky butter cake to butter caramels; real butter is a key ingredient in baking and candy-making.

Even if the ingredient isn't in the name of the dish, butter can make everything better – especially holiday baked goods.

On **The Gift of Goodness** blog, America's Dairy Farmers are offering recipes, as well as simply chic packaging tips for the holidays.

Guest bloggers will include the writers of CakeSpy, Haute Apple Pie, Domestifluff, Pro Bono Baker, Forkable, Storybook Woods and The Sometimes Crafter, as well as other popular bloggers.

One delicious-looking post bakes up **Penuche Pumpkin Cakes** – a moist pumpkin cake topped with a type of fudge rather than icing.

And baking the cakes in small canning jars is genius – individual portions that are adorable and easy to wrap.

Another post for a **Browned Butter Financier Cake** also caught my eye.

The simple packaging – wrapped in a square of striped linen – was as attractive as the nutty loaf cake.

While candy-making isn't foolproof, the recipe for **Spiced Apple Caramels**, flavored with apple cider, apple pie spice and cinnamon, seems simpler than most.

Any of the recipes on the blog make a delicious hostess gift or you or unique addition to a plate of holiday baked goods.

Or, you could keep a stash of them on hand for giving, in case a neighbor or friend stops by with an unexpected gift.

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