

## MARKET BASKET

## OFF THE SHELF

By Renée Enna



## Greek expedition

Rosemary Barron leads an appetizing journey in "Meze: Small Bites, Big Flavors from the Greek Table" (Chronicle, \$18.96), a guide to the small dishes (akin to *tapas*) that are served throughout Greece. The 60 alluring recipes include eggplants in spicy tomato-parsley sauce, savory honey-pear pies and sage-grilled chicken souvlakia and olives. Many recipes boast ample introductions that relay a dish's geographical, historical and/or culinary significance. David Roth's sumptuous photographs add to its charms. The book is sold at some Barnes & Noble bookstores and online at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

## Man-size treats

The size of Carol's Cookies elicited various remarks. (Our favorite: "Is this a cookie, or a pizza?") The sweet behemoths, from Highland Park baker/businesswoman Carol Goldman, measure 4 inches across, 2 inches deep and weigh in at about 6 pounds. They can easily serve two people. Or, given Sunday's holiday, one Dad. They have the texture of scones but boast a rich cookie flavor. Varieties include oatmeal-raisin with pecans, milk chocolate chunk and chocolate chip without nuts. They cost \$2.50-\$3 each at Sam's Wines & Spirits, Sunset Foods and Neiman Marcus. Tins are sold by mail: Seven cookies cost \$23; a dozen, \$30. Shipping is extra. To order, call 847-634-4500 or visit [www.carolscookies.com](http://www.carolscookies.com).



## The real thing

Tasters enjoyed the fresh-tasting flavor of back bacon from The Real Canadian Bacon Co., based in Troy, Mich. (The company imports the back bacon, also known as "peameal bacon," from Canada, hence the name.) This meat, from the lean muscle along a hog's backbone, undergoes a sweet cure—it's not smoked, like American versions—and is rolled in a cornmeal coating. The meat is naturally sweet and pleasantly salty with a richness that belies the lean cut. It's shipped frozen, sliced or as roasts; prices range from \$27 for three pounds of sliced back bacon to \$70 for two 5-pound roasts. Shipping is extra. To order, call 866-222-6601 or visit the Web site, [www.realcanadianbacon.com](http://www.realcanadianbacon.com).

## Vegetarian groundwork

Boca's soy-based Ground Burger makes it easy for cooks to make many meatless entrees, such as tacos, meat balls and meat loaf. The burger is pre-cooked, so it will be ready to eat once it's heated through. A 1/2-cup serving contains 70 calories, 8 gram of fat and 11 grams of protein. A 12-ounce box of three pouches (each pouch contains the equivalent of 1/2-pound of cooked, drained ground beef) costs \$3.50 to \$3.80 at Sunset Foods, Dominick's, Treasure Island and Jewel-Osco.