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BREAKING NEWS

IHRA Announces Participants for '07 Annual Breakfast & Program

Continuing its efforts to further "meetings-of-the-minds" with multiple-line, field sales professionals and their manufacturer principals, the International Housewares Representatives Association (IHRA) announced the participants for its March 2007 program, to be held the second morning of the International Home & Housewares Show in Chicago. [more>](#)

Black Friday, 'Cyber Monday' Not Busiest Shopping Days

Images of crowded malls, long lines and cranky shoppers are usually associated with Black Friday, but according to a Reuters article, the day after Thanksgiving did not even rank as one of the top five busiest holiday shopping days last year. [more>](#)

Wild Oats to Close 8 Stores

Natural foods retailer Wild Oats Markets Inc. announced Tuesday plans to close eight stores on December 16, reports a *Denver Post* article. [more>](#)

New Resources, Dedicated Buyers Highlight Tabletop Week at 7 W

Enthusiastic, high-caliber buyers enjoyed extensive new tabletop resources, dramatic tablescapes on display and top-notch events during The Art of Entertaining at the recent New York Tabletop Week at 7 W New York. [more>](#)

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Gosling's Gourmet Warms Up Winter

In time for the holidays and wintry weather, **Gosling's Gourmet** introduces its Hot Buttered Rum Toddy Mix, made in small batches with brown sugar, butter, Madagascar vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves. Easy to make with hot water and Gosling's Black Seal Rum, a mugful will make you forget there is snow outside. For more information, visit www.goslingsrum.com.