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SP FOOD

TAKE THE CAKE

BY KIRSTEN OTT

SMACK ON THIS

Caffeine junkies feening for their next fix will likely be excited to learn that they don't have to put so much pressure on their bladder with the diuretic drink known as coffee. A new-on-the-scene product, **VE2 Energy Gum** is a convenient way to get your "get up and go" kick. The chewable boost is packed with key energy-sustaining ingredients, including vitamins B6, B12, niacin, ginseng, guarana and caffeine. The proprietary sugar-free formula has an unique appeal. Because caffeine is quickly absorbed by the oral membrane, VE2 Energy Gum delivers energy, alertness and endurance in as little as five minutes

without the typical energy-drink crash afterward. Two pieces of VE2 Energy Gum are equal to an 8-ounce cup of coffee or an energy drink, and at \$1.79 for a 10-piece pack, VE2 is ushering in a new alternative to energy drinks that is more portable, less expensive and doesn't require an immediate bathroom break as soon as it is consumed. It's currently available at **Fry's Electronics**. www.ve2energy.com. **SP**

When she's not checking out restaurants, interviewing chefs or nodding off after her fifth glass of wine, Life, Food & Style. Kirsten Ott dishes culinary and cocktail insights. E-mail her at kirstenott@sundaypaper.com.