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 that next week's
 casual. **Page 18**

KITCHENWARE:
 what's cooking u
 products. **Page**

Radio Retuned

A CENTURY AFTER MARCONI and a generation since they were left for dead, radios are back, as premium products such as the Tivoli iYiYi are being sold all across the home furnishings spectrum. **See Top Story, page 8.**



New CEO Like It

By Barbara T

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BED HEAD®

TIGI

Helen of Troy introduces a new line of Tourmaline and Nano Technology™ hair care appliances that will lift

RETAIL

WAL-MART, marking yet more changes to its senior ranks, has appointed two to newly created positions. Bill Simon has been named chief operating officer, with all five operations presidents—representing more than 3,400 stores—now reporting to him. Pat Curran will become executive vice president of people. Both Simon and Curran will continue reporting directly to Eduardo Castro-Wright, president and chief executive officer of Wal-Mart Stores U.S. Simon joined Wal-Mart from Brinker International, where he was senior vice president of global business development, overseeing the company's portfolio of restaurants outside the United



Bill Simon



Pat Curran

States. Curran most recently was senior vice president of Wal-Mart's store operations for the mid-Atlantic and Southeast areas. The retailer is still evaluating who will succeed Curran in his previous role, said a company spokesman.

JOAN FABRICS CORP., a large upholstery fabric supplier, and its wholly owned subsidiary Madison Avenue Design, which creates specialty designs for Joan Fabrics and other parties, have filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. The companies filed in Delaware, and plan to utilize Chapter 11 to reorganize their business and financial operations. The companies said they have entered into debtor-in-possession financing agreements with their lenders, led by Bank of America and its administrative agent, and CIT, its factor, for more than \$10 million. Interim management firm Carl Marks Advisory Group has taken over day-to-day operations. Richard

Heller of Carl Marks was named chief operating officer... **KIRCH INDUSTRIAL CO.**, a clock manufacturer, has named Steven Horovitz sales director, a new position for the company. Horovitz will be responsible for expanding the sales force and pursuing additional retail accounts, particularly gift and specialty

stores. He reports to Kevin Wu, vice president of marketing. Horovitz is a veteran of the clock industry with more than 25 years experience, most recently with the Bulova Clock Co.... **JARDEN CORP.** has acquired Pure Fishing, a global provider of fishing-related products. Pure Fishing produces fishing tackles, lures, rods and reels, and markets them under brand names such as Abu Garcia, Berkley, Mitchell, Stren, Trilene and Gulp. The purchase price consisted of \$300 million in cash, a \$100 million five-year note with a 2 percent coupon and warrants exercisable into Jarden common stock with a strike price of \$45.32. According to a Jarden statement, Pure Fishing will join The Coleman Co. as part of Jarden's Outdoor Solutions segment... **LACQUER CRAFT** has appointed Phillip Siler vice president of sales and marketing, a new post in which he is responsible for building a business unit to service the American marketing companies of Universal and Legacy Classic Furniture. Siler has been with Universal Furniture for the past two and a half years as its vice president of merchandising. Siler will report to Mohammad Amini, president of Lacquer Craft, and will be based in Lacquer Craft's manufacturing facility in Jiashan, China. Succeeding him at Universal is Jeff Stone, the new vice president of merchandising. He reports to Randy Chrisley, president and chief executive officer. Stone, most recently vice president of merchandising for Schnadig, has extensive experience in case-goods product development and sourcing... **MAGNIFLEX**, an Italian mattress manufacturer, plans to open its first U.S. showroom next month. The showroom will open in the SoHo area of New York and will measure 2,025 square feet. The space will feature eight of Magniflex's leading mattresses, including its signature Gold mattress, which retails for \$24,000, and its Gold matching pillow... **SPRINGS GLOBAL** has named Carmen Waite its vice president of top-of-bed merchandising. She succeeds Bruce Wolno, who left the company to pursue another opportunity. Waite has been with Springs since 1990, most recently as a key merchant in the company's top-of-bed business. She will report to John de la Roche, senior vice president, bedding merchandising. In other changes, Springs announced that Rich Langone, vice president of creative development, and Amy Newman, a stylist in the merchandising group, have both resigned to pursue outside opportunities. No successors have been named for Langone or Newman

Abbyson to Open Home

By Jennifer Quail

CHATSWORTH, Calif.—Abbyson Corp., known as a supplier of area rugs and furniture, is set to open its first retail venue, The Power of Home, at the Westfield Topanga Canyon mall here this spring.

Working with the tag line "Your Vision. Your Design. Your Home." the 8,000-square-foot store's concept



The Power of Home
Your Vision. Your Design. Your Home.

The first Power of Home location is scheduled to open in May.

was created to bring to the consumer a unique shopping experience with a range of design assistance.

The Power of Home will have a variety of home products at mid- to upper-level prices. The store will include bedroom, living room and dining room furniture; accessories and floor coverings; and even wireless, touch-screen home connectivity technology. Plans are to expand into kitchen and patio furniture. While Abbyson products will naturally be included among the mix, the store's assortment will not be limited to that brand. The products found in the store will also be available on an

e-commerce Power of Home. The Power of Home ASID-certified touch-screen customers' actual interior also host and event others even munity an

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Reed & Barton, Designer Partner for New Tabletop

NEW YORK—Silversmith Reed & Barton is partnering with designer Thomas O'Brien on a comprehensive tabletop collection that will debut at the spring tabletop show here.

Marquee names are not new to the tabletop category, where designer lines have proliferated in recent years, but it is the first of its kind for Reed & Barton.

The collection, which spans dinnerware, glassware, flatware, and a range of giftware and accessories, also introduces the flatware company to the dinnerware category.

"Working with an influential designer like Thomas has given us an incredible bridge to the tastes and routines of the consumer we want to cultivate, and those we hope to reinvigorate, about fine tableware," said Tim Riddle, chief executive officer of Reed & Barton, in a statement.

The collection is targeted at department and specialty stores and tabletop. — Allison Zisko

The deal is a first for

THE MARKETS