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2017 YEAR IN REVIEW







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Photo by Lance Armstrong

Thong Lu, an assistant for all of the SF Supermarkets stores, and Phat Thiem, grocery manager of the chain's 65th Street store, stand in front of the former Vic's IGA site in the South Hills Shopping Center.

Asian supermarket to fill vacancy at former Vic's IGA Market site

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

Shun Fat Supermarkets, an Asian retail grocery store chain, acquired the old Vic's IGA site in the South Hills Shopping Center. And work is underway to have a store of that chain open to the public by the summer of 2018.

This latest news ends longtime speculation regarding what business could fill the vacancy left by Vic's, which closed in March 2015.

The store, which will be known by the shortened name of SF Supermarket, will become the chain's third market in Sacramento, with the others being located at 6930 65th St. #123 and 4562 Mack Road. The future store's address is 5820 South Land Park Drive.

Altogether, the chain, which was founded in Monterey Park, Calif. in 1993 by a Chinese-Vietnamese entrepreneur and seafood wholesaler named Hieu Tran, consists of nine stores in California, two stores in Las Vegas and another one in Dallas.

Work on the future store's site began on Aug. 13, 2017 behind the privacy of chain-link fences with dark green coverings.

And among those helping a cleanup crew inside the building on that day was Thong Lu, an assistant for all of the chain's stores, and Phat Thiem, grocery manager of the 65th Street store.

At the end of that first workday, Lu and Thiem met with this publication to talk about plans for the future South Land Park store.

Lu stated that SF Supermarkets acquired the old South Land Park Drive grocery store building about three months ago, and that efforts are being made to open the store in the next 10 to 12 months.

"We're all working at SF Market over there, just to help them clean up," he said. "It's not

See SF Market, page 3

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SF Market:

Continued from page 2

our job. We're just helping them move faster."

Lu estimates the cost of completing the remodeling of the building will be about $1 million.

"That's to clean up, some new pieces, everything new," he said. "We have to remove all the refrigerators, everything. We have to clean up everything."



Photo by Monica Stark

Artists were asked by code enforcement to vacate the Panama Art Factory on 24th Street. Maria Vargas, owner of Panama Pottery, will remain in business.

Panama Art Factory tenants asked to vacate studios, retail yard to stay open for business

By MONICA STARK

Ten days to vacate. Met with that message upon arrival to their artist studios at the Panama Art Factory on the afternoon of Friday, July 7, 2017, tenants spread shock waves across social media asking their legions of friends and supporters where might they house their art supplies.

The City of Sacramento Community Development Department posted a laundry list of building violations from shoddy electrical and building artist studios within the old factory without a permit.

Artist Sandy Whetstone said she received a call from her studio mate that tenants were being asked to vacate. Shortly thereafter, she arrived to her studio and witnessed city staff posting the notices.

Meanwhile, building owner Dave DeCamilla told the Land Park News artists would be smart if they do not vacate. DeCamilla put a call into Council Member Jay Schenirer's office asking him to stop the evictions and to take a closer look at the safety of the building. "No one is vacating, first of all. If they're smart. No one is five feet away from the door. If they're that timid, fine. They don't belong there. People can get spooked for a lot of reasons. That's not me. I would not have taken this project on."

But to artists like Whetstone who chose to vacate it's not really a choice. "Basically, we're getting evicted because there's no way (DeCamilla) can get those things done in 10 days." She spoke with the inspector who said that was unlikely to happen based on interactions with the owner. A tenant at Panama for many years, Whetstone said her space previously was the office for the past owner and had been renovated to an art gallery. "I've been here for a long, long time," she said.

Two separate entities, Panama Pottery and the Panama Art Factory, fill the space now at 4421 24th St. The retail yard, Panama Pottery, did not get an eviction notice, while artists inside the factory are being asked to leave. A haven for artists, the Panama Art Factory houses 30 studios that DeCamilla had built. Varying in size and rent prices, artists can pay anywhere between $150 to $350 a month for space. Previous tenants have included notable clay artists like Marsha Schindler. Fewer clay artists have filled the space since the branding of the Panama Art Factory, while more and varied artists work out of the space.

New Visual and Performing Arts classrooms unveiled at CKM

By MONICA STARK

C.K. McClatchy High School and The Sacramento City Unified School district hosted a ribbon cutting and tour of the new Visual and Performing Arts classrooms on Monday, Aug. 28, 2017 just days before the first day of school. Local elected officials and community leaders joined together for the ribbon-cutting and reviewed progress on the auditorium and field construction.

Invited guests included Sacramento Mayor Darrel Steinberg, Sacramento Police Chief Hahn, Council Member Steve Hansen, SCUSD Superintendent Jorge Aguilar, as well as his cabinet, SCUSD President Jay Hansen, President of Sacramento City College Michael Gutierrez, Mexican Consulate Lillian Ferrer Silva and finally C.K. McClatchy staff, students, community members and alumni.

In the planning for about four years, construction of the 35,500-square-foot art center started about two years ago. From planning costs to construc-

See CKM. page 4



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This 4 bedroom 3 bath home is located on a cul de sac with access to the Sacramento River levee. It features newer roof, dual pane windows and plantation shutters. Living room with fireplace, formal dining area, family room w/ fireplace and wet bar. The spacious kitchen has granite counters, built-in cabinets and a separate eating area making this floor plan both functional and inviting. Landscaped back yard with pool, spa, and patios.

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Photo by Stephen Crowley

A ribbon cutting ceremony held on Monday, Nov. 6, 2017 kicked off the opening of the new $4.5 million athletic field and all-weather surface track at C.K. McClatchy High School. With renovations starting back last June, the project was finally completed on Nov. 1.

CKM:

Contiued from page 3

tion, the price tag for the center came to a total of $22.8 million paid for by Measure Q funding that voters passed in 2012.

On the historic registry, the character of the 1937 building has been maintained but the classrooms have been modernized. Everything from cabinets, to flooring, to ventilation to desks were all designed for the particular needs of nine classrooms, explained Principal Peter Lambert.

Some of the upgrades of the auditorium include: new heating and air conditioning, new chairs and seating for 1,200 audience members, a new electrical system, a new floor on the stage and ADA compliance. The orchestra pit has now been moved out of the auditorium and is in a separate performance room where the school can have a full orchestra. It will have state-of-the-art lighting and sound control, a transformation that will make it one of the most technologically advanced theaters in the Sacramento region, Lambert explained.

The seven performing arts and music teachers worked directly with administration and architects to help with the design of the classrooms and also for creating the curriculum and course of study for the academy.

Primarily for use by students, the theater will be made available to the public for outside groups when not in use by the school or school groups.

The architect is Rainforth Grau Architects. The contractor for the rebuild is Clark and Sullivan.

McClatchy High School Opens New Athletic Field: Improvements end conditions that were dangerous and outdated for student athletes

A ribbon cutting ceremony held on Monday, Nov. 6 kicked off the opening of the new $4.5 million athletic field and all-weather surface track at C.K. McClatchy

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Track:

Continued from page 4

High School. With renovations starting back in June, 2017, the project was finally completed on Nov. 1.

Last summer, the Sacramento City Unified School District board approved more than $4.5 million in funding to make the much-needed improvements. The project was made possible thanks to Measures Q & R. The measures help local schools make upgrades and renovations that are very much needed. Many of our neighborhood schools are 50 years old and need significant updating. The measures are necessary to maintaining the quality of our local schools.

Fifth String moves to Curtis Park

By MONICA STARK

Because of the likes of corporations like Amazon, John Green, the owner of the Fifth String says he's winding down the store's retail operations to focus more on teaching and to offer performance space – something that only a personal touch can offer.

Green said he was in the process of securing a location near Broadway that will provide more space for live performances and will benefit customers with adequate parking. (*Update: The address is 2900 Franklin Blvd.*)

"I like it down there because it's between city college and Sac State and it's a really great location – it's just a wonderful building."

While he's leaving a charming 1920s building at 3184 N St. in East Sacramento, the price is high for what's he's been getting. "The problem with this building is the archaicness of how old it is in terms of its heating, air, plumbing and electricity. And the rents are high. The building doesn't have adequate heating and air for the really hot days. All of that is a little bit of a problem."

With a passion of teaching, he's bringing along his seasoned staff to Broadway. "They are very happy with it. They love the feel as I do."

And with that, he says it doesn't feel weird to leave East Sac. "My passion and that of everybody here is teaching... It's just crazy how long this business has been around, but retail changed. Retail's pretty much a dying market. Everything about the store is great. It's just time to move on. Going to the teaching side, that's one thing you can't get online very well, although I have a bunch online. God, I've been teaching the world how to play guitar the last three years on YouTube."

A Certified Public Accountant, Green makes his money "fighting the IRS and tax preparation." Many musicians in town receive accounting services from him and he plans on moving his CPA practice, along with the music school to the Broadway location. "Catch you all on the flip side," he wrote in an announcement on his personal Facebook page.



Photo courtesy

Construction is nearing completion at the Fifth String, which has moved to Curtis Park from East Sac.

Also, of note, Hop Gardens Taproom continues construction inside the old Coffee Garden, which will be next door to the Fifth String. Hop Gardens will feature a 25-foot bar top serving 24 of the best taps out there. And, undoubtedly, the taproom would be nice for people attending shows at the Fifth String.

Hop Gardens Taproom to open in Curtis Park

By MONICA STARK

Walls have fallen and construction is underway over at the Hop Gardens Taproom in Curtis Park for this family-oriented beer hall. To gradually open without notice, a grand opening celebration will soon follow a few weeks later, said co-owner Matt Hawkins. Joining wife Jeannine and father Pete, Matt said the family-run business will feature unique ales, lagers – "the beers in Sacramento that no body else is bringing."

The location of the former Coffee Garden, 2904-2906 Franklin Blvd.., features a huge back patio with just over 3,000 square feet, which Matt says will include a full size bocci court and a chalkboard play area for the kids.

While primarily a taproom, Hop Gardens Taproom will also serve wood-burning pizza made in an oven from Andrea Mugnaini who Sonoma Magazine calls the maker of the

See Taproom, page 6

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Hop Gardens Taproom is under construction in Curtis Park at the old Coffee Garden.

Taproom:

Continued from page 5

"Rolls Royce of pizza ovens", a prized possession used at successful local eateries like Masullo Pizza on Riverside Boulevard.

Creating an upscale beer-hall with community-driven pub style tables inside and a garden atmosphere outside Matt says will separate Hop Gardens from other taprooms around town, as they will add food and activities for kids. "A lot of the places that you go to that have really good craft beer, they don't really specialize in food so you're kind of left with mom and dad go out, but the kids can't. The back patio will be more picnic style for people to sit around drink beer, watch bocci ball, eat pizza."

The garden area out back could be space available for private events with a capacity of about 150 people, and as there would be enough real estate inside for customers, the business could keep its regular flow of beer consumption.



Photo by Monica Stark

Broadway Comics & Cards was set to close its brick-and-mortar business on Broadway. Owner Wilson Lew said he's taking his business completely online after rent increases forced him to close the doors.

Broadway Comics & Cards announces closure of its brick-and-mortar location

By MONICA STARK

"I can't pay the rent." And with those words and great sadness, Broadway Comics & Cards owner Wilson Lew has decided to close the doors with Jan. 10, 2018 as the last day. "With my rent rising twice in less than 12 months, the sales have not kept pace, and with trends for more and more people buying online it only reinforces my decision."

After the announcement, long-time visitors have come by the nearly 30-year-old Land Park institution. With everything on sale – 40 percent off graphic novels, 50 percent off all back issue comics and 20 percent off everything else – the store has maintained a steady flow of customers.

"Ever since I announced the closing, all these people have been coming in and I haven't seen them in years. I would say, 'Oh my gosh, it's good to see you again. It's like a big family reunion."

Lew first opened the store on Feb. 19, 1988, shortly after graduating from Sacramento State in 1985, back when there was no internet. "And now, because of the internet and, probably, Amazon, I have decided to join the ranks of the online sellers," Lew said.

He's had numerous parents thank him for providing kids a safe place to stay and play and helping them not get involved into something like drugs or crime. Most of his business has been selling the Yugioh and Pokemon cards and he's had better luck selling books online.

For Lew, it's not the end, he says, as he will be taking the fight to the internet and selling stuff there. and doing shows.

King of Jazz: Restored by NBC/ Universal, premiered at Tower Theatre for benefit gala

By Matias Bombal

In 1930, an unprecedented mixture of art and technology melded elements of music, dance, theatre, design and visual artistry into a great melting pot of jazz on film. The movies had only been "talking" for three years. Sound for movies was new, so was an early Technicolor company process of taking movie camera images through red and green filters and reproducing almost all colors of the spectrum for color on screen. Added to this canvas of color and sound; music of all forms offered by Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra, comedy blackouts from famous vaudeville stars, dancers in impressive Broadway type choreographies staged by director John Murray Anderson and sets lavish in art-moderne design which would win an Academy Award. Universal Pictures released "King of Jazz" at FOX's 1,652 seat Criterion Theatre in Los Angeles on April 19, 1930.

The film vanished somewhat into obscurity, after a second, shorter version re-release in 1933. In 1975 a television screening by the BBC re-awakened interest in the movie, followed by versions for U.S. TV Cable channels in March of 1984. This was a truncated version, far from the splendor and beauty of the original release. MCA then released it to home video in 1983 and 1995 on VHS, but a video engineer mixed blue into the picture, destroying the two-color process's original beauty and design and red-green color balance. It has not since been in any other format to be seen in any version.

After years of lobbying from film historians such as

See King of Jazz, page 7



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King of Jazz:

Continued from page 6

David Stenn, Ron Hutchinson and others, in December of 2013, the film was officially entered into The Library of Congress' National Film Registry, triggering Universal Pictures to begin a serious and monumentally expensive restoration of more than three years. At the same time, a remarkable and scholarly 303 page coffee table book about the movie's colorful history and restoration, "King of Jazz: Paul Whiteman's Technicolor Review" was written and released by James Layton and David Pierce. (www.kingofjazzbook.com)

The 2016 restoration, by NBC/Universal, of the 1930 two-color Technicolor Universal Super-Production "King of Jazz" has created a sensation everywhere it is shown. Beginning a few months ago with the Museum of Modern Art New York, then The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Los Angeles, this early musical movie has begun to move across the United States and Europe in select road-show events and special film festivals, like Los Angeles' Cinecon and screenings as far away as Australia.

It was shown in Sacramento for its Northern California Premiere for one showing only, to benefit The Sacramento Traditional Jazz Society, Feb. 22, 2017, at 7pm at the Tower Theatre at 16th and Broadway, nestled at the south end of downtown. The premiere brought notable persons from Hollywood and New York to Sacramento, including historians, Universal Studios executives and musicians as this has not screened in the San Francisco/bay area as the state capital was chosen for the honor.

Original ad campaign from 1930 reproduced for Sacramento Tower Theatre premiere.

Why was it a big deal? Primarily because it captures exactly the best in entertainment in 1930 in a time capsule, now clearer, sharper and brighter than when it was new. The restored two-color Technicolor allows you to witness, with a palpable vibrancy, an era mostly seen today in black and white, if at all. Then there's the music; along with some hot jazz renditions of tunes like "Happy Feet" written by Milton Ager with lyric by Jack Yellen, this film has the first ever performance on film of "The Rhapsody in Blue" by the man and his orchestra that commissioned George Gershwin to write it for them, Paul Whiteman.

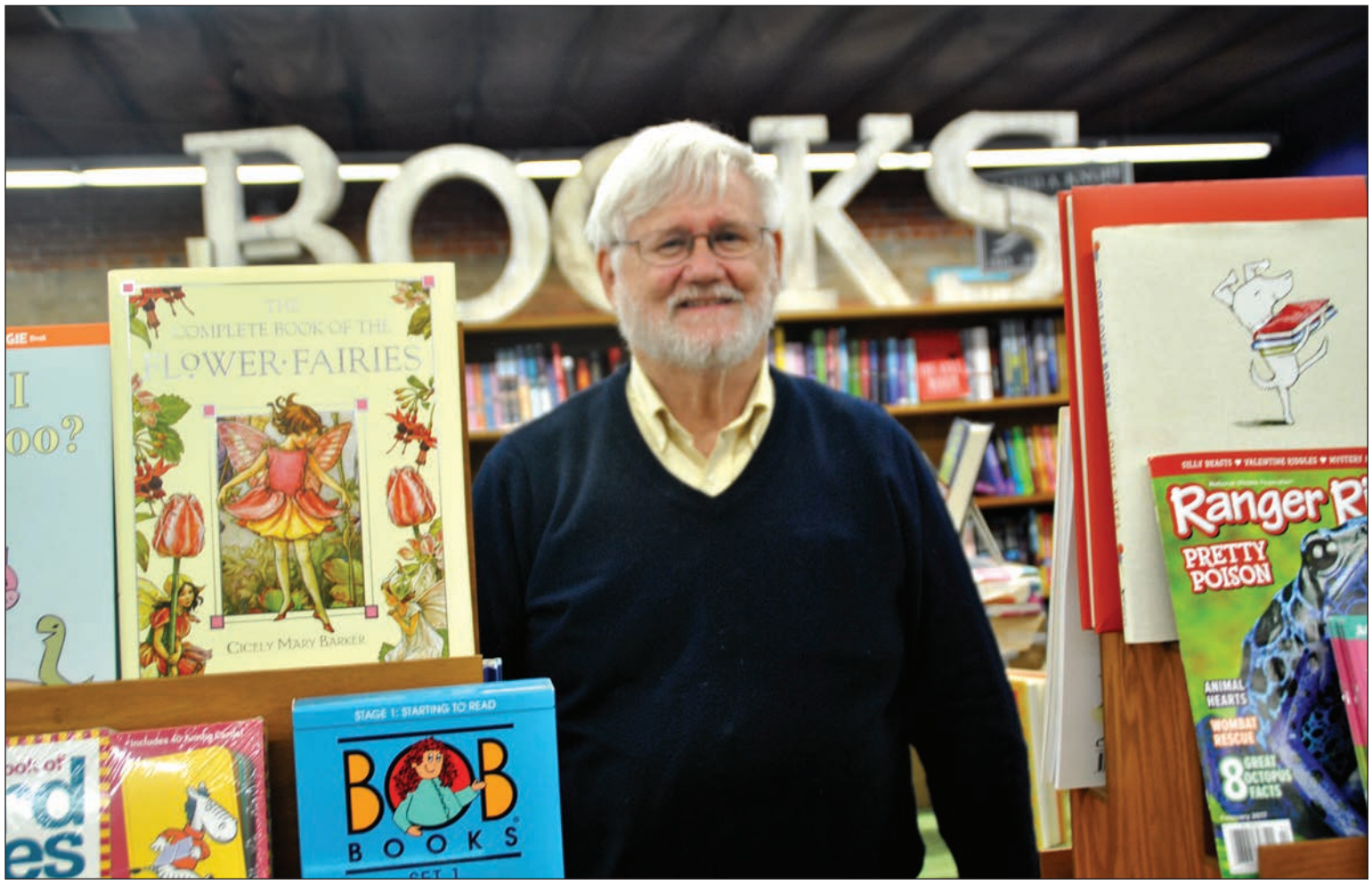


Photo by Monica Stark

Stan Forbes, the owner of Avid Reader, stands inside the bookstore's former location near Tower Theatre. Avid moved up Broadway to the old CarQuest auto parts shop.

Books on Broadway: Avid Reader at Tower moved down the street to old CarQuest Autoparts, Dimple expanded into Avid

By MONICA STARK

A literary Renaissance is underway on Broadway. As of last March, Avid Reader has been open for business in its new location, the old Carquest Autoparts shop, located at 1945 Broadway, just four blocks and across the street from its former spot near Tower Theatre. A few months later, Dimple stocked the former Avid Reader location with used books and vinyl, a welcome addition to the current record store.

Avid owner Stan Forbes said the new location is better for the bookstore. "We're mostly just going to make use of the glass. The old old auto parts place has 1,300 square feet. It's all windows and there's a 15-space parking lot. (The former location) has no windows. It's like a bunker. There's no way of knowing it's a bookstore. (The auto parts) place: you can't miss it."

Making use of the large glass windows of the auto parts shop has allowed Avid Reader to display books for all passersby to see. "The whole side of Broadway will be kids books," Forbes said with excitement. Besides the big windows, Avid's new location will include a permanent space for events.

For Dimple, the acquisition has enabled the store to expand. "We were interested of course because we're next door," Dimple Records co-owner Dilyn Radakovitz said. "And, I think this makes sense for us just because the Broadway store is so cramped that we have pushed so much product... This will give (the store) a little bit more room."

Similar to the Arden location, the layout on Broadway has the record store in its current sport and books and vinyl in the addition. Radakovitz said the goal is to get books into every location. "That's what (moving into Avid Reader) would do and

See Books, page 8



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Books:

Continued from page 7

we wouldn't be competing with Avid because they'll be doing new books. We do mostly used and we buy back books from customers."

Last year, the Davis location of Avid Reader celebrated 30 years and the Sacramento location celebrated 10 years in Land Park. The previous 13 years before coming to Land Park, Sacramento's Avid Reader was located downtown.

While about half of bookstores have failed over recent years, Forbes explains the longevity of Avid Reader, as follows: "This is puffery, but everybody knows who the Avid Reader is. We have real Sacramento penetration," he said, listing events like Authors on the Move, library fundraisers and the store's two to three author readings a week. "We run around the countryside doing events. We have a lot of coverage that way; people know who we are."

1928 Tri-Motor airplane flies in Sacramento for the first time at Executive Airport

By MONICA STARK

A model of the first upscale commercial airliner in existence sailed through southern Sacramento County, demonstrating to passengers commercial flying at the start of the Art Deco era. With multiple flights from -- Jan. 26 to 29, 2017, -- the 10-passenger airplane known as the Ford Tri-Motor seated guests on the lap of luxury with each person enjoying both a window and an aisle seat. The 89-year-old plane appealed to the adventurous and art deco aficionados.

Movie buffs may recall the scene in Temple of Doom when Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford), a young Vietnamese kid named Short Round (Jonathan Ke Quan) and nightclub singer Willie Scott (Kate Capshaw) board the Tri-Motor also known as the "Tin Goose" (with its all metal body). The memorable part occurs when the plane crashes into the side of a snowy mountain in the Himalayas. With no parachute on board, Jones pulls out an inflatable raft, to which Scott yells: "A boat? We're not sinking; we're crashing."

Fortunately, Jones' strategy was not the escape plan for pilot Cody Welch and passengers aboard the Tin Goose in Sacramento on Jan. 26. In fact, it was a safe and non-eventful landing and after the first excursion's return to Executive Airport, Welch told the Land Park News: "It's so much fun to land. We snuck up on the ground today." Welch, a retired Boeing 757 Captain for a major airline, helped develop the Experimental Aircraft Association's Ford Tri-Motor Tour program, and was its chairman.

Having flown Tri-Motors for 25 years, to Welch it's a great privilege. "I'm getting to fly a plane from the early airline days, literally these are the first commercial airlines and I'm getting to share that with passengers and have people have a trip back in time," he says.

About 20,000 people each year take advantage of that opportunity nationwide. All the 15 pilots are volunteers who do weekend gigs. Welch does about one per month. Not his first journey to Sacramento, as an airline pilot, Welch said he remembers "one foggy night. Only the ducks were walking."

While not the first visit to Sacramento for Welch, it was for the Tri-Motor. And on the first day, 140 reservations were made for the 20-minute trip, a number volunteers double for an estimated total amount of tickets sold, since about half are purchased right before the trip.

Elk Grove Ford gave a large presentation-size check for $4,000 – a generous donation that did not go unnoticed by the pilot who few passengers along the Sacramento River down to Elk Grove. Flying over suburbia the trip took a turn at the Ford Dealership. Said Welch: "They were really nice to sponsor and the least we could do is give people a chance to see (the dealership). So, we made a turnaround at the Ford dealership."

Vicky Thompson of Elk Grove said she was surprised by the choice of route and thought it was interesting seeing her hometown from that viewpoint: "I wasn't expecting him to go that way." Regarding the landing, Thompson said, "It was the smoothest I've witnessed and ever been a part of in my entire life."

Celebrating the 89th birthday of family member Diane Wilcox, daughter Sandra Scott and husband Jim Scott of Cameron Park came to aboard the Tri-Motor. Diane, whose birthday isn't until Aug. 4, said the trip is her "early gift." Sharing the same birth year as the Tri-Motor, Diane and the plane have something in common.

Antique collectors, the Scotts decorate their home with items from the Art Deco period. "Our whole front room is Art Deco, the bar, dining table," Sandra said.

"We are kind of antique collectors back in the Art Deco period," Jim added. "This plane is 1928 and that was at the beginning of Art Deco. So it's like, when would you be able to fly in a 1928 airplane?"

See Best of 2017, page 10

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Best of 2017:

Continued from page 8

Vic's Ice Cream celebrated 70th anniversary

By MONICA STARK AND LANCE ARMSTRONG

Nostalgia was in the air last February when Vic's Ice Cream celebrated a milestone in its storied history.

While offering 70-cent, single scoop ice cream cones and grilled cheese sandwiches, and anniversary T-shirts and bumper stickers, this local institution recognized its 70th year in operation at the northeast corner of Riverside Boulevard and 8th Avenue.

The special event, which was held from Feb. 2 through 5, 2017, drew many people of all ages, including those who remember the early days of the business, which first opened its doors to the public on Feb. 2, 1947.

Jim Coombs, who grew up around the corner from Vic's, said that he was among the early customers of this popular neighborhood business.

Coombs, a 1957 graduate and former teacher and counselor at C.K. McClatchy High School, mentioned that he purchased ice cream cones at Vic's for 5 cents each, and also attended kiddie matinees at Tower Theatre at 16th Street and Broadway.

At the time of Coombs' early visits to Vic's, the business was owned by its founders, Vic Zito and Ash Rutledge.

Vic and Ash met while they were both serving in the Coast Guard during World War II.

Following their time in the Coast Guard, they would spend evenings together enjoying ice cream at Gunther's Quality Ice Cream on Franklin Boulevard.

Due to their love of Gunther's, Ash and Vic eventually decided to open their own ice cream business.

Although Vic's name was the one selected to represent their business, Vic's untimely death in 1966 left Ash to continue as the primary face of this ice cream parlor for four decades.

Ash died at the age of 90 in 2010, and the tradition of Vic's has continued through his son, Craig, who is a 1969 graduate of John F. Kennedy High School.

With its menu of nearly 31 ice cream flavors, and various seasonal flavors, soda fountain beverages, and sandwiches and hot dogs, as well as a vintage interior, Vic's has many regular customers, who arrive to satisfy their quests for both quality food and nostalgia.

Oto family celebrated 50 years in grocery business on Freeport Boulevard

By LANCE ARMSTRONG

The Oto family, owners of Oto's Marketplace, celebrated a special milestone. Last year marked 50 years since their late patriarch, Masashi "Ted" Oto (1927-2016), began working in the grocery business on Freeport Boulevard.

The family's current store opened in a newly-constructed building at 4990 Freeport Blvd. in 2007, and it was there that they welcomed the community to a celebration with entertainment, Asian food booths, food tastings and demonstrations.

The celebration, which was held on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 9 and 10, 2017, drew hundreds of people, including many longtime customers of Oto family-run businesses.

Entertainment included performances by the Island Sunset Band, Rendevous (a band from the Bay Area), Sacramento Taiko Dan, the Otahi Marama Hawaiian Dance Group, and opportunities to spin a wheel for prizes.

The event also presented flavored, shaved ice treats made by Osaka-Ya, a historic business in the old Japanese district on 10th Street, south of Broadway.

As part of the event's attractions, Sen. Richard Pan (D-Sacramento) presented a California Legislature resolution honoring the Oto family's business history.

A portion of the resolution, which is signed by Pan, Assembly Member Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento) and Assembly Member Jim Cooper (D-Elk Grove), reads:

"Holding pride of place as one of Sacramento's oldest Japanese markets and familiar to generations of Sacramentans as a specialty grocery store stocked with a large and tantalizing selection of Japanese and Asian foods, some of the freshest fish locally available, quality meats, farm-fresh produce, and much, much more, Oto's Marketplace will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary in the year 2017, upon which occasion, Oto's and the Oto family members, who have owned and operated this much-loved business in its various incarnations for more than a half century, are deserving of special honors and accommodations."

Hey Diddle, Diddle: Maddie is over the moon

By MONICA STARK

Maddie was just a 5-month-old Scottish Highland calf when she brought to life the cow who jumped over the moon from the classic Mother Goose nursery rhyme: Hey Diddle Diddle to Fairytale Town. Residing in Farmer Brown's Barn with Eeyore, a miniature Sicilian donkey, Maddie, et al, are becoming fast friends.

Amusement park guests had the opportunity to vote for their favorite name for the new cow from Feb. 6 through March 12, 2017. The three name options were Maddie, Merida and Fiona. Maddie was the winner!

Hailing from Fiddletown, Maddie loves to eat fresh grass and mountain grass, which is a type of grass hay. Her parents, Sheila and William, still live at the farm.

Maddie's breed is one of the oldest breeds in existence and the closest to original wild cattle. Additionally, this breed is unique for their small size, two coats of long wavy hair and gentle nature.. Her long wavy hair also will help her keep warm in the winter and cool during the summer.

Fairytale Town has a team of Animal Keepers that provide care for Fairytale Town's animal family. With her long coat of hair, Maddie requires brushing multiple times per day. Her hooves also get cleaned every day.

Born on Oct. 19, 2016, Maddie is nearly fully grown and staff at Fairytale Town hopes she will be there for many years. "We love her! She's very friendly and loves meeting guests of all ages," says Kathleen Richards, marketing coordinator.

See page 11

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Taking charge to change the world: Local kids club formed out of a desire to help others

By MONICA STARK

Woken at 2 a.m. and told she had to pack a bag, 11-year-old Ella of Glen Ellen didn't know what was going on around her. Ella, whose home was completely destroyed by the recent fires in Napa, spoke with friends in Sacramento about the fire and making it out safely.

As the world around her immediately changed, Ella's peers gathered in the Little Pocket home of Gisele Matocq, age 12, wondering how she was coping and feeling the need to do something to ease the girl's loneliness. On Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017, they gathered together to make 31 friendship bracelets, and collected (as of that evening) 30 backpacks, 86 items of school supplies, 453 diapers, 736 wipes, 53 pair of new socks, 18 clothing items, and 320 travel-size toiletries to help fire victims like Ella.

Each donning a shirt with the words "KIND IS COOL" across the front, the kids regularly visit Gisele for gatherings, or as they call them "club meetings" during which time projects are decided upon and worked on.

The Sunday, Oct. 15 gathering of the club, aptly called, Kids Can Change the World, came on the heels of the fires that ravaged Northern California, affecting their friends. As Gisele explained, "My friend's mom came up with the idea because one of their friends is a fire victim and is feeling a little lonely, so we decided to make friendship bracelets for them."

Gisele's genuine ambition to help those in need has been infectious among those whom she's approached regarding the kids club. Her mother, Lisa, says Gisele has always enjoyed helping those less fortunate and doing community service projects, but decided that the impact would be greater (and the activities more fun) if she invited some friends to join her. They they formed the kids community service club earlier this year. Around the same time, while shopping at Target, Gisele found a T-shirt with the logo, "KIND IS COOL" and decided that not only did she want to buy it, but she thought it would be a perfect club shirt, as it sends a powerful message and would convey the sentiments of the club members. She and her mom Lisa learned later that the KIND IS COOL shirt is part of Target's anti-bullying campaign.

By February of last year, there were more than 20 kids in the club, ages 8-13, and Kids Can Change the World Club of Sacramento has been off and running. The club has about the same amount of kids as are in her entire seventh grade class at Genevieve Didion K-8, but club members hail from various schools in the area -- Sutter and Cal middle schools, Brookfield and Merryhill.

Every club member receives a KIND IS COOL shirt upon joining. From making Valentine's Day cards for senior citizens to collecting food items for the homeless and helping abandoned animals, the group promotes kindness at every level and rejects any type of bullying.

Asked about the impetus to take on such a responsibility, Gisele said, "My brother and my family were always doing a bunch of projects and so was I, so I decided to start the kids club because I wanted to get more done and it's more fun because it's with my friends."

On a given Sunday, you will find them sitting around Gisele's living room, readying themselves for the meeting. "They just come for the meetings," Gisele says about her friends. "They'll sit on the couch and chairs and I'll just be right in front of the fireplace." And if they can't make the meeting but want to do the project, they can make it ahead of time, she says.

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What's happening, Land Park?

FRIDAY, JAN. 12

DIABETES ACADEMY EDUCATIONAL SERIES: Diabetes Academy is a series of classes dealing with diabetes. This class will deal with diabetes medicines: what are they, when to use and how do they work. Free of charge. Pre-registration required.. Class will be held Friday January 12, 2018 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

SATURDAY, JAN. 13

STORYTIME AND BOOK SIGNING BY LOCAL AUTHOR: Pocket resident and author Ameshia Arthur will read from and sign copies of her children's book, "Brown Boy Brown Boy What Can You Be?" at Underground Books, 2814 35th St. from 4-5:30 p.m. The book features children of color as characters and is designed to convey to that same audience the wide range of vocations available to them that they might not ordinarily consider, such as airline pilot, artist, horticulturist and oceanographer. Light refreshments will be available.

TUESDAY, JAN. 16

FINANCIAL FRAUDS: Financial fraud is a deliberate act of deception involving financial transactions and it affects everyone. Join us in this presentation that will teach you ways to identify fraud and help you avoid becoming a victim. We will cover common schemes that scammers use, as well as resources available if you might be a victim. Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held Tuesday, Jan.16 from 10 to 11 a.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext. 330, www.accsv.orgs.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17

HEALTH BENEFITS OF TEA: Come with a friend and learn the healing properties of teas such as Green, White and Oolong, bought at your local grocery stores. Handouts in the class will allow you to enjoy the tea instead of taking notes. Pre-payment of $20 and pre-registration required. Drop-in rate of $25 at the door .Class will be held Wednesday, Jan. 17 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

FRIDAY, JAN. 19

FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR WOMEN: This workshop highlights the unique financial challenges women face and provides a forum to share their insight and wisdom in small groups. Through case studies of women at major stages in their lives and their financial challenges, this workshop will offer strategies for establishing and maintaining financial security. Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held Friday, Jan. 19 from 1 to 2:30p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT WORD: Microsoft Word has been the standard word processing software for decade. In this introductory class, students will learn how use templates to prepare letters, essays, newsletters, flyers, and basic documents that can include photos. Basic knowledge of MS word is a prerequisite for the Microsoft Publisher (Beginner) class. Free of charge. Pre-registration required. Class will be held Friday, Jan. 19 from 1 to 2 p.m. at ACC Senior Services, 7334 Park City Drive. For more information, call (916)393-9026 ext 330, www.accsv.orgs.

SATURDAY, JAN. 27

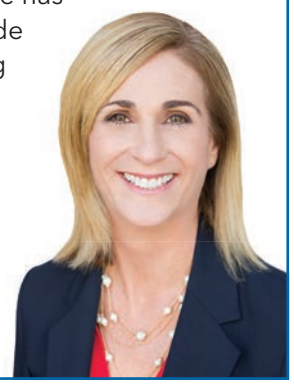
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See more What's Happening, page 15



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What's happening, Land Park?

SUNDAY, JAN. 28

RECITAL AT ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: Harpsichordist and organist Nancy Metzger will perform a recital at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (15th and J streets) starting at 2 p.m. $10 suggested donation.

MONDAY, FEB. 12

TOASTMASTERS VALENTINE'S DAY POTLUCK: Brush up on your public speaking skills and bring a dish to share. Prepare a speech to deliver in a safe environment. Free event, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Eskaton Monroe Lodge, 3225 Freeport Blvd. For more information, contact mikenerby@gmail.com or call Mike at 847-5409. klassytalkers.toastmastersclubs.org.

ONGOING

LADIES GOLF CLUB IN LAND PARK: Did you know there is a women's golf club that regularly plays at William Land Park? Women can discover the joys of golf, build new social relationships and get fit the fun way by joining the William Land Women's Golf Club. This 9-hole group meets Thursday mornings. It's open to women of all ages and golf abilities. Questions....or want more information....please call 916-422-0831 or email gretjen@comcast.net

BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY VIDEO GAMES AND VIDEO GAME SYSTEMS DRIVE: The Belle Cooledge Library is looking for video games and working game systems for our afterschool teen space program for next year. If you have any video games or working game systems that you would like to donate please bring them to the Belle Cooledge Library and we will provide a tax receipt. What is Teen Space? Join other area teens in our community room for our afterschool Teen Space! Hang out, geek out and mess around with friends and snacks! Seriously, what could be better? Teen Space occurs weekdays from 3 - 5 PM (except Thursdays 1:30 - 5 p.m.), is free, and open to teens between the ages of 12 - 18. (During the school year) All Library programs are free and open to the public a library card is not required! Belle Cooledge Library is located at 5600 South Land Park Dive. Library hours are Tuesdays noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

JANE AUSTEN READING GROUP AT ELLA K. MCCLATCHY LIBRARY: This monthly group reads the works of Jane Austen and meets the third Saturday of each month in the Ella K. McClatchy library from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. All Austen fans are welcome. 2112 22nd St.

LAND PARK VOLUNTEER CORPS WORK DAYS: Help the corps with various work projects in William Land Park after a very wet winter.. First Saturdays of the month from 9 a.m. to noon. Meet at the Base Camp located in the picnic grounds directly behind Fairytale Town.

FAMILY FRIDAYS AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY: Spend some family time together this summer at the library with Family Fridays! Each Friday, in the Community Room there will be board games, cards, Wii gaming, arts and crafts, toddler toys, and a reading nook! This is a Summer Reading Challenge: Read by Design event each Friday from 3 to 5 p.m., 5600 South Land Park Drive.

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH SACRAMENTO: The friendliest club in Sacramento, the Rotary Club of South Sacramento meets every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Casa Garden, 2760 Sutterville Road.

SAC TRANSIT RIDERS UNION WEEKLY MEETING: Interested in democratizing transit and putting the "public" back into "public transit"? Sac TRU's weekly meetings, held every Saturday from 1-3 p.m. addresses these issues. Organize Sacramento, 1714 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818

POP-UP BOOK SALE AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY: Every first Tuesday of the month from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., the book sale features books for all ages. Support your local library and pick up some great reads! All proceeds from the sale benefit library programs. The Friends Bookstore will be open regular hours. The sale is held at the entrance to the library. 5600 South Land Park Drive

SUNDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET AT THE ELKS LODGE, NO. 6: From 8:30 to 11 a.m., enjoy eggs, omelets, corn beef hash, bacon or sausage. 6446 Riverside Blvd.

BABY STORYTIME AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY –Nursery rhymes, fingerplays, simple stories, and songs designed to encourage a range of early literacy skills. For children up to about 18 months old. Each child must be accompanied by a participating adult. Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive.

TODDLER STORYTIME BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY – Toddlers ages one to three and their caregivers will enjoy fun songs, stories, and fingerplays. After the storytime, there will be a stay and play group. Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY – Preschoolers ages three and older and their caregivers are invited for fun songs, stories, fingerplays and a play activity. Thursdays at 11 a.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento.

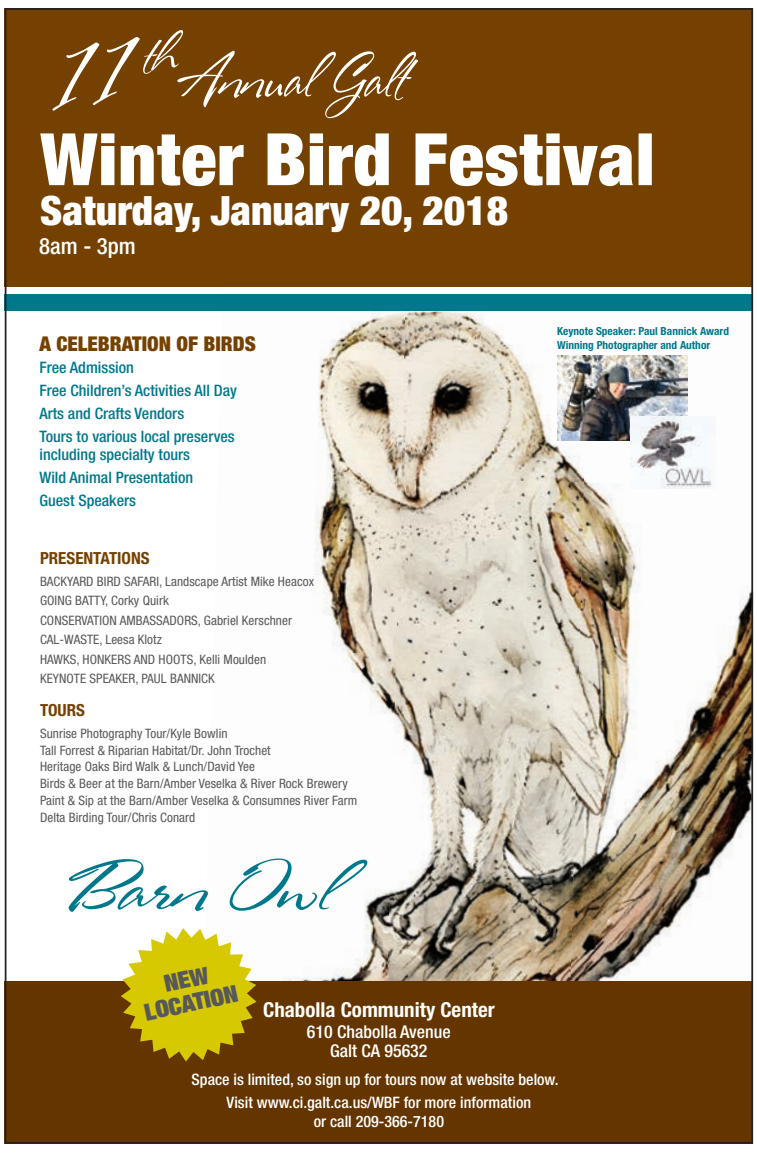
BELLE COOLEDGE LIBRARY PRESENTS SING ALONG WITH MISTER COOPER – Join neighborhood favorite Mister Cooper for 30 minutes of music time and freeze dancing for families. Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 South Land Park Drive.

FAMILY STORYTIME AT ELLA K. MCCLATCHY LIBRARY – Every Tuesday at 10 a.m. for books, songs, stories and fun. Miss Lindsey and her guitar always make this storytime a fun event. Everyone is welcome to stay for our STEAM stay and play activity of the day. Recommended for ages 0-5. Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Ella K. McClatchy Library, 2112 22nd St., Sacramento.

YOGA CLASSES AT PARKSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH: **Svaroopa ©/Restorative Yoga** classes are a journey into yourself. Beginning by walking through the door, settling in a relaxation pose, guided through self awareness, breathing and poses. The poses are propped to meet your deepest muscular tension. As the support of props, specific alignments and the weight of your body gently reach into these deep tender areas, your spinal muscles release and let go. Side effects of this deep release are Bliss, resolving stress and fear, and a deep appreciation of yourself. Physical effects that have been reported are pain relief, improved respiratory, circulatory, immune, neurological systems and more. Walking out of the class you feel a greater sense of wellbeing. This is a body, mind and spirit filled experience. Thursdays 7:15-9:00pm advanced. Questions 916-833-9444.
Hatha Yoga – breath, meditation, and postures with various forms of movement to help release tension throughout the entire mind and body. You'll sweat a little, relax a lot, and leave feeling strong, calm and connected.
*Hatha Flow is Level 1-2 class and is suitable for active beginner and intermediate students. Wear comfortable, form-fitting clothes. Questions, Call (718) 578-5258 or email: eva@evacollins.com
Hatha Flow Classes Thursdays 5:45-7:00pm. All Classes held at Parkside Community Church Fellowship Hall
5700 South Land Park Drive; 916-428-7927.

DO YOU HAVE AN UPCOMING OR MONTHLY EVENT?
Let us know.
e-mail Monica: editor@valcomnews.com



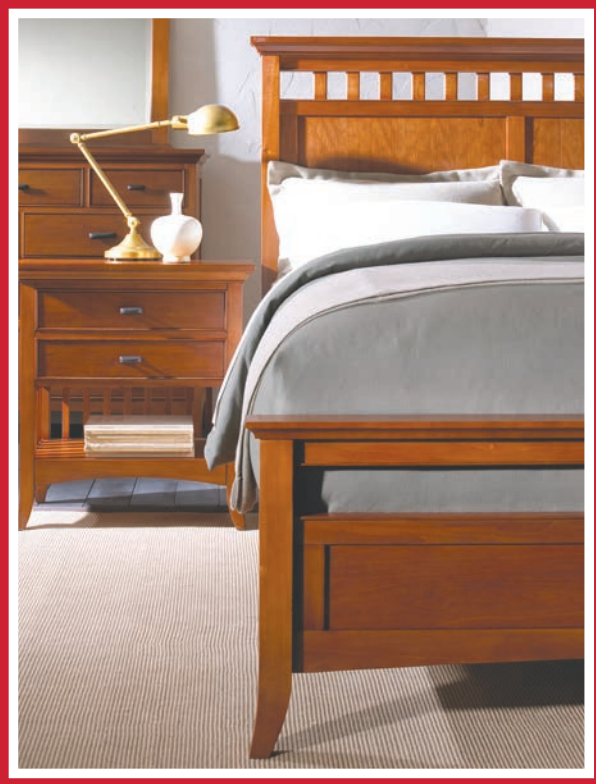


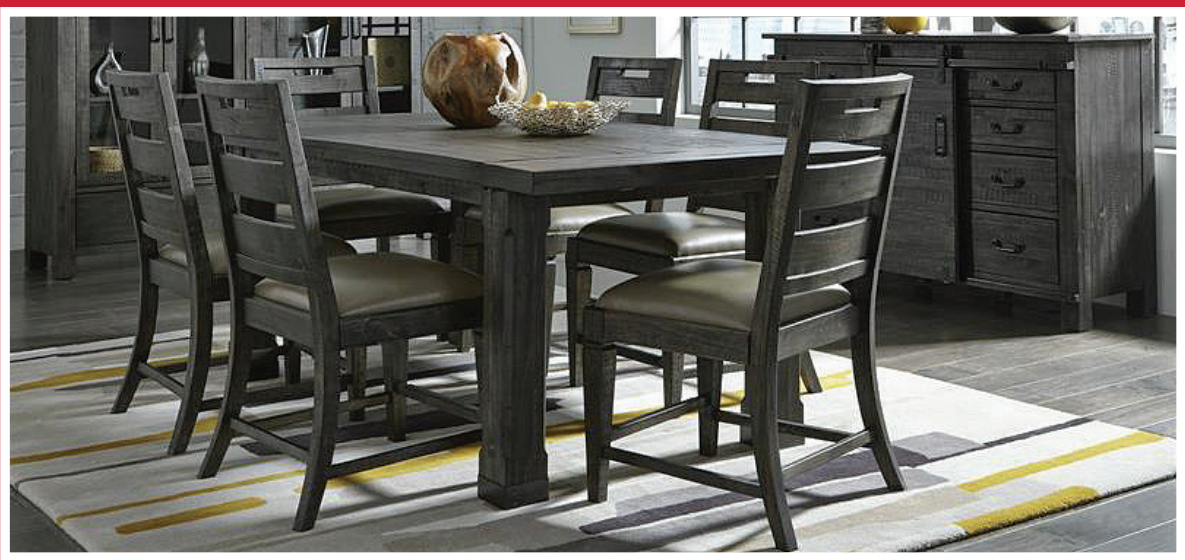


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