

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Wednesday, May 15, 2024 | 8 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 85



www.pencitycurrent.com

Two Bushongs made it right



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The staff at Dana Bushong Jewelers continues to greet and serve customers in Fort Madison as the business has more than 100 years serving the community.

100 YEARS: Name of jewelry store actually represents two Dana Bushongs



BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – There's probably not a lot of people who really know who Dana Bushong was, or more specifically, were.

The relevant part of that query is they ultimately laid the foundation for a jewelry store that is been in Fort Madison for 100 years.

Skip Young is the current fourth generation owner of Dana Bushong Jewelers in downtown Fort Madison. He's the descendant of two Dana Bushongs – Dana Ulysses Bushong and Dana Mosier Bushong, father and son. Skip is Dana Mosier's grandson and Dana Ulysses' great-grandson.

The two Danas left Bay City, Michigan in 1919 as

a 40-year-old father and a 20-year-old son because they had heard of this amazing "pen man" W. A. Sheaffer in Fort Madison and they wanted to become associated with the business.

"They walked into W.A. Sheaffer's office when it was in what is now Dr. (Mark) Pothitakis' offices and introduced themselves. The younger Dana had acquired the skill of copying signatures and doing hand-engraving from a prisoner in Michigan," Young said.

"I don't know how the two of them got together, but I did hear that the older Dana knew the prisoner and they spent time with him learning how to perfect that skill."

The skill was actually forg-

See **YOUNGS**, page 8

COMMENTARY



Livestreamed meetings should now be the norm

You don't often hear anyone extol the benefits of the Covid pandemic. But I did few weeks ago — when I stood before the Storm Lake Kiwanis club and talked about government transparency in Iowa.

I did not wade into the debate over masks, social distancing or vaccinations. It was a polite audience, but I was not silly enough to needlessly venture onto that thin ice.

What I said about the pandemic was this: State and local governments embraced, even if grudgingly, the benefits of live-streaming their board meetings during the pandemic so the public could watch from wherever they were.

When Covid closed government buildings and shut down most in-person gatherings, Iowa's cities, counties, school districts and state government agencies purchased video cameras and other technology to make it possible for them to carry their meetings using Zoom, Facebook, YouTube or similar internet or smart phone applications.

The benefits of these "virtual" meetings were quickly apparent. Many people were worried about their safety as Covid sickened or killed scores of Iowans every week. Although Gov. Kim Reynolds' emergency order directed officials to provide a way for the public to monitor these meetings from afar to protect public health, there was an unintended benefit, too — opening these meetings to more people than might otherwise attend.

The pandemic may be behind us. But

See **EVANS**, page 4

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WEATHER

WED 15 May.....Mostly sunny and warm, 73° F/ 57° F
 THU 16 May.....Showers, 71° F/ 57° F
 FRI 17 May.....Chance of showers and thunderstorms, 77° F/ 58° F

IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 05/13.....6 14 21 58 69, Powerball: 16
 LOTTO AMERICA 05/13.....115 16 26 47, Star Ball: 4 All Star Bonus: 3
 LUCKY FOR LIFE 05/13.....13 16 20 39 43, Lucky Ball: 11
 PICK 3 MIDDAY 05/13.....4 8 3
 PICK 3 EVENING 05/13.....2 3 8
 PICK 4 MIDDAY 05/13.....3 8 5 1
 PICK 4 EVENING 05/13.....8 4 0 3
 POWERBALL 05/13.....5 14 29 38 66, Powerball: 1 Power Play: 2

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Obituaries/Lee County News

OBITUARIES

PAMELA S. NEWBERRY

Pamela Sue Newberry, 70, of West Burlington, died Saturday, January 27, 2024, at her home.

Born March 30, 1953, in Burlington, Iowa, she was the daughter of Robert John and Mary Lou Moehn Koval. On March 12, 1991, she married Gary Robert Newberry in Las Vegas, Nevada. He passed away on March 23, 2020.

Pam held several jobs as a secretary, but her most memorable job, and longest running, was the time she spent as a Manager for Spencers Gifts in the West Burlington Mall until their closing in 1994.

Survivors include her mother, Mary Lou Butler of Peyton, Colorado; her son, John (Tami) Gerber of Burlington; step-daughter, Heather (Scott) Becker of Danville; six grandchildren, Libbie, Rian, Ellie, Kayla, Cole and Gavin; four great-grandchildren; two brothers, Michael Koval and Patrick (Nancy) Koval both of Burlington; four sisters, Beth Koval of Burlington, Gayla Koval of Arizona, Susan Koval of Colorado, and Jodi (David) Fitzmaurice of Missouri.

Besides her husband, she is preceded in death by her father, and one sister, Teri.

A graveside service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, May 20, 2024 at Harris Cemetery, near Dallas City, Illinois, with Pastor Nate McCarter officiating.

Banks & Beals Funeral Home of Dallas City is assisting the family. To leave an on-line condolence for the family, please visit Pamela's obituary at banksandbeals.com.

OBITUARIES

ERNEST A. MEIEROTTO

Ernest "Ernie" Andrew Meierotto, 70, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 1:30 AM at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington.



MEIEROTTO

He was born on August 27, 1953 in Ft. Madison to Andrew and Frances M. Kenel Meierotto. Ernie worked at Fruehauf for twenty years and also Shipley Construction for twenty years. He enjoyed Harley Davidsons and also John Deere equipment as well as doing mechanical work on them. Ernie's family was very fond of him as he was a great brother, uncle and friend.

Survivors include one brother, Ted (Nancy) Meierotto of West Point, IA; one sister, Julie (Jim) Cooper of West Palm Beach, FL; two nephews, five nieces, great nieces and nephews and his special friend, Nancy. Ernie was preceded in death by his parents.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A graveside service will be held at Noon on Friday, May 31, 2024 at Oakland Cemetery. The family will meet with friends from 10 - Noon, just prior to the graveside service, at King-Lynk Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

OBITUARIES

CHARLES E. WILKENS

Charles "Chuck" Edward Wilkens, 92, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 6:24 a.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison. He was born on December 14, 1931 in Nauvoo, IL to Edward & Marie Porth Wilkens.



WILKENS

He married Dolores A. Rhode on October 29, 1955 in Fort Madison, IA. She preceded him in death on September 29, 1981. He married Barbara J. Phillips Bryant on July 11, 1992 in Fort Madison, IA. He worked at the Iowa State Penitentiary with 38 years of service, retiring as Deputy Warden. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was a member of Holy Family Parish, the Knights of Columbus and volunteered for Meals on Wheels and the Fort Madison Food Pantry. He enjoyed making pies, refinishing furniture, biking, gardening and mushroom hunting.



Chuck is survived by: his wife: Barb Wilkens of Fort Madison, IA; 3-sons: Jeff (Ginger) Wilkens of Fort Madison, IA, Mike Wilkens of Fort Madison, IA & Tom (Cathy) Wilkens of Fort Madison, IA; 7-grandchildren: Reyna Wilkens, Lane (Courtney) Wilkens, Jordan (Jenny) Wilkens, Cameron (Nick) Kindig, Nicole (Braxton) Boyer, Nicholas (Christina) Bryant & Andrew (Kaci) Bryant; 8-great grandchildren & 3 on the way and 1-sister: Rose Marie Bonar of Arkansas. He was preceded in death by: his parents, first wife, 1-brother: Paul Wilkens & 1-sister: Emmarie Wilkens.

A visitation will be held from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. on Friday, May 17, 2024 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 17, 2024 at Sacred Heart Church with Rev. Gary Beckman officiating. Burial will be held at Sacred Heart Cemetery. Memorials have been established for P.A.W. Animal Shelter or the Fort Madison Food Pantry. Online condolences to Chuck's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

Keokuk PD to do alcohol compliance tests at area businesses

KEOKUK - The Keokuk Police Department has made the commitment to keep alcohol out of the hands of underage individuals in Keokuk. In partnership with The Best You Coalition, the Keokuk Police Department strives to educate local retailers on the best practices concerning alcohol sales and to enforce Iowa's alcohol laws to maintain a compliant retail environment in the community. The Best You Coalition has emphasized prevention, by providing Merchant Alcohol Training, signs, guides, and other information to local businesses, free of charge.

Within the next 30 days, the Keokuk Police Department will be conducting alcohol compliance checks at local businesses. These compliance checks will consist of underage buyers, working with Officers from the Keokuk Police Department, and entering local

businesses to try to purchase alcoholic beverages. Merchants selling to underage buyers will be cited on the scene and referred to the Lee County Attorney's Office for criminal prosecution. Businesses found in violation of Iowa's alcohol laws will be referred to the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division for administrative action.

Criminal penalties for a licensee selling alcohol to an underage person will result in a \$1925 fine. An employee selling alcohol to an underage person will result in a \$645 fine. However, issuing citations is not the purpose of this partnership. This partnership aims to help local businesses avoid violating Iowa's alcohol laws, such as selling to underage individuals and to help the community avoid the problems associated with underage drinking.

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INSURING WHAT MATTERS MOST.

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PEN CITY CURRENT
It's Black & White and Read all over

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

DOUGLAS K. ARNAMAN

Douglas Kent Arnaman, 67 of Burlington, IA formerly of Donnellson, IA passed away Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington, IA after a courageous fight with pancreatic cancer.



ARNAMAN

He was born March 27, 1957 in Waterloo, IA the son of Harold and Betty Arnaman. Douglas graduated from Central Lee High School with the class of 1975.

On July 4, 2011 Douglas was united in marriage to Shirley Denney at the Little White Chapel in Las Vegas, NV. She survives.

Other survivors include two sons, Anthony Arnaman (Stefanie) of West Branch, IA and their children, Payton, Gracie and Holden and Clinton Arnaman (Quintasha) of Tempe, AZ and their children, Kemora, La'Mari and Ja'Von, his parents, Harold and Betty Arnaman of Ft. Madison, IA, one brother, Dan Arnaman of Donnellson, IA, one step-daughter, Erica Christe of Greenfield, IN, one step-son, Shane Christe of Belleville, IL, four step-grandchildren and one step-great-grandchild. He is also survived by one sister-in-law, Dianne Payne of Raleigh, NC, two brothers-in-law, Richard Denney of Fairfield, IA and Wesley Denney (Lisa) of Boiling Springs, NC, two nephews and one niece.

Douglas had been employed by Silgan Containers in Ft. Madison, IA until his retirement in 2019, after forty-two years of employment. He then worked at Centre State International and most recently at Hy-Vee in Burlington, IA.

He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles #152.

Douglas enjoyed spending time outdoors boating, bicycling, attending car races, golfing, fishing and having bonfires. He also enjoyed taking motorcycle rides and working in his yard, spending hours mowing and trimming to make it immaculate. He stayed active and loved weightlifting. Douglas was a people person and loved pulling pranks on people just to make them laugh. He was an enthusiastic fan of his grandson Holden's basketball games. Douglas created many memories with his family while taking many vacations to the Lake of the Ozarks through the years. He liked watching sports on television. Douglas was a devoted husband and father who treasured the time he spent with his family.

According to his wishes, he has been cremated and there will be no services.

Memorials may be made to Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House, 1306 South Washington Street, West Burlington, Iowa 52655.

The Vigen Memorial Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy
 Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

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OBITUARIES

ROBERTA J. MILLER THURMAN

Roberta "Bobbie" Joann Miller Thurman 66, of Kahoka, Missouri, passed away on May 9, 2024 at the Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Illinois.

She was born on August 25, 1957 the daughter of Lyle Dean and Betty Mortimer Miller, Sr. in



MILLER THURMAN

Keokuk, IA. Bobbie graduated from Gorin High School. She then furthered her education and attended Dayton's School of Hair Design. From 1994 to 2000, she shared her talents as a cosmetologist at Regis Hair Salon in Keokuk. In addition to her career in cosmetology, Bobbie dedicated herself to healthcare, serving as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in various nursing homes, including Lexington Square in Keokuk and the Clark County Nursing Home in Kahoka.

Bobbie had a creative spirit and a love for transforming everyday items into treasures. She enjoyed spending time in her yard, decorating her home, and watching scary movies. Most of all she loved spending time with her family.

She is survived by a daughter, Angela Clay (David) of Ewing, and one son, James D. Morgan of Kahoka, five grandchildren, Corey McCutcheon, Zachary McCutcheon, Emily McCutcheon and her fiancé Trevor Hageman, Deann Morgan and Amberly Morgan and a great granddaughter, Norah Winkler. She is also survived by two brothers, Billy Lee Miller of and Danny Ray Miller (Tracy Lynn) all of Granger, MO, two sisters, Mary Francis Miller Hemingway and Bonnie Dee Miller Elder both of Kahoka, MO and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother Lyle Dean Miller, Jr.

According to her wishes there will be no services or visitation.

Memorials may be made to the Vigen Memorial Home for funeral expenses.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Kahoka is assisting the family with arrangements.

On-line condolences may be made to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

BACK PAIN?

Do You Have Hip Pain? Are You As Stiff As a Board When You Try to Get Up From a Chair? Have You Run Out of Hope?

How 5 Lies About Low BACK PAIN May Keep You Hurting, Frustrated & Exhausted...Forever!

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Dr. Jason James, D.C.

I'd be stupid to make such a claim if I couldn't back it up. But I am so confident we can help your back, I insist on giving you a 100% SATISFACTION PLEDGE at James Healthcare. I hate empty promises, and I also hate the lies most folks have been told about their backs. That's why it's important I expose these MYTHS about back pain.

MYTH #1: Sciatica (pain down your leg) is always caused by a herniated disc!

No way...even though most doctors will sell you a \$3,000 MRI at the first sign of leg pain. But they don't tell you about a 5-inch muscle in the hip that can squeeze the sciatic nerve. And it feels EXACTLY like you've got the worst slipped disc on earth. It's a major discovery and...

The good news is that it can be easy and inexpensive to correct! How? Just keep reading! But first, here's a picture to show you where the pain comes from:



MYTH #2: Stiffness from Arthritis means you're getting old...and it must be the reason for all your pain and stiffness!

Not true, because thousands of folks with arthritis in their backs have absolutely NO PAIN! Then why do YOU feel like your back will snap if you bend forward or twist too fast? Because the truth is:

Your stiffness may be caused by a hidden, even more dangerous problem than arthritis, and it can lead to a hip replacement!

You see, most folks believe that something mysterious (like maybe an "arthritis fairy"?) waved a wand over them, and they're cursed... doomed to suffer forever.

But did you know that many arthritis problems are CAUSED by a combination of unseen imbalances in the spine and surrounding muscles? It's the most common cause of hip replacements but not that hard to correct if we catch it in time. It's like the tires on your car...

If the alignment is off just a teeny-weeny bit, at first you don't notice, but over a few thousand miles you start to see signs of wear...that is, if you're lucky enough to catch it before a flat on the freeway ruins your day. In your spine, you're lucky if you catch untreated imbalances before they ruin your spine! How to fix them? Just look at Myth #3.

MYTH #3: Your Back is "Out"!

Sure, that's exactly how it feels. But guess what, we found that's usually not the case. It sounds good, but we now know better. You see, there are 7 different reasons for that painful, locked-up and stuck feeling that causes so much misery:

- low-grade spasm
- pelvis torque and tension
- imbalance of hips

- fallen or dropped arches
- stiff vertebra joint
- adhesions in leg muscle
- pinched nerve

It's NOT just your spine, and it's NOT just your muscles. As a matter of fact, if one of the major muscles that stabilize the spine is partly spasmed, a "2nd stringer" will have to carry the load. But this is a serious problem...

It's like having your plumber doing all the dangerous electrical work!

Sure, he may get it done, and it may work at first, but how long until there's a fire? Or your back locks up? Which leads me to our next myth:

MYTH #4: "It's Only a Muscle!"

Boy, it's scary how many people think muscle problems are no big deal. Unfortunately, tight, bound-up, and spasmed or tight muscles can wear out joints faster than you can say, "Charley Horse!"

That's why it's important to examine the spine AT THE SAME TIME as the muscles that control it. It's also why we've had such outrageous success with even the worst backs at James Healthcare. Because we deal with BOTH the spine and muscles at the same time. We have spine doctors (chiropractors), pain doctors (nurse practitioners) and muscle professionals (therapists) and together they deliver an outstanding way to help "bad backs". This ties in to Myth #5 and the diagram:



MYTH #5: "Muscle Relaxants" will help your muscles heal! Good grief, NO!

Your muscles tighten up for a reason, and muscle relaxants are like turning back the clock on a time bomb...you know it's still going to blow up! Sure, you may feel better now, but you'll pay later...and pay "in spades"! So don't fall for these lies about your low back. They'll keep you hurting, frustrated and exhausted forever!

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER:

Turn over in bed without pain waking you up?

Get up in the morning without being as stiff as a board?

Be able to stand for as long as you want without sitting down for relief?

Lean forward over the sink without that "stabbing" in your back or leg?

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- Bent—crooked off to one side and can't stand up straight if your life depended on it
- Trigger Point...zinging pain to butt-cheek
- Stiff as a board...creak and groan when you first get out of bed in the morning
- Traitor...can't trust your back and what it's going to do—or when!
- Vice-like...constantly locked down tight!
- Shooting...vicious but short-lived
- Lumbago...hard to pin it down—just seems to hurt all the time, but it's hard to say where
- One-sided...right at that "bone" on one side
- Jack hammer...pounding off and on like a heartbeat or a toothache in your back
- Aching from 1-5 years
- Chronic pain for over 5 years

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From the Front

Some school districts livestream athletics, but not meetings

EVANS- Continued from Page 1

live-streaming government board meetings should not be a thing of the past — although an Iowa school board demonstrated misplaced priorities last week when it decided to pull the plug on live-streaming its meetings.

The optics of the decision by the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows school board are terrible. The shortsighted decision should trouble residents of the district and should lead Iowans elsewhere to pressure their local elected officials to livestream their meetings if they are not already doing so.

The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows decision should also bother members of the Legislature and Gov. Reynolds, because, at its core, the decision shows school leaders want as few people keeping an eye on the board and school business — whether that involves local property taxes, the school curriculum, the choice of books or any other topic.

For more than 50 years, the public has been able to attend meetings of city councils, school boards and county supervisors. Most people never do. While some may have little interest in the decisions being made, there may be other factors involved. Some people may have a child-care conflict, health problems or a disability that keeps them away. They may lack transportation. They may be at work or be out-of-town when the meetings are held.

Live-streaming and keeping an online archive of past meetings gives more people a ready alternative for keeping tabs on what local boards are discussing and deciding.

Here's an example: Three years ago, the Grundy County Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on a proposed wind turbine ordinance. The governor had lifted her emergency order, and the board decided to stop carrying its meetings online.

But the Grundy Center newspaper stepped in and live-streamed the hearing and posted the full video online afterward. More than 200 people were able to “attend” the hearing that way, and listen to comments for and against the ordinance, without needing to drive to the courthouse in Grundy Center.

The Grundy County supervisors offered no good reason for ending their live-streaming — other than saying it was inconvenient and is not required by Iowa

law. Making the meetings more accessible to the public meant nothing to the supervisors.

The Clarion-Goldfield-Dows school board offered similar justification for ending live-streaming of its meetings. It is worth noting, though, the school district will continue to livestream athletic events.

School board members said if people truly want to know what the board is discussing, people can adjust their schedules and attend the meetings in person. One more detail worth mentioning: The school board's meetings start at 4:30 p.m.

Another school board member said ending the livestream will take away the ability of board critics to record the feed and later edit members' comments to embarrass them or take their statements out of context.

Such logic is troubling. While Iowa's public meetings law does not require government board meetings to be live-streamed, the spirit of the law certainly suggests openness and transparency should be the norm, so people can better understand the basis and rationale for decisions government boards make.

Many of Iowa's 325 public school districts have found themselves under the microscope by parents, taxpayers and Iowa lawmakers. These people believe there has been inadequate transparency by school leaders and their governing boards.

Live-streaming these meetings is not a cost issue. In the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows district, the video camera, microphones and related technology already are in place. No additional employees are needed to run the cameras during meetings.

District administrators are to be commended for making student events available so parents, grandparents and others who are not able to attend the games can watch from home. What they fail to understand is that it sends an embarrassing signal to the tax-paying public when the school district is not equally committed to making it more convenient for people to view school board meetings where important issues get debated and decided.

If the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows board does not reverse itself, and if other hold-out local governments do not begin providing remote access to their meetings, perhaps the Legislature should step in and amend the public meetings law to require government boards to let the public watch remotely without having to be there in person.

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Monday, May 13
Lasagna, Cottage Cheese, Breadstick

Tuesday, May 14
Burnt End Sandwich, Potato Salad, Baked Beans

Wednesday, May 15
Sausage & Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes

Thursday, May 16
Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, May 17
Grilling on the Sidewalk

For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

05/09/24 - 1:09 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 600 block of 23rd Street.

05/09/24 - 12:05 - Fort Madison Police arrested Jeremy Francis Skelton, 33 of Fort Madison, on charges of simple assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/09/24 - 1:22 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of 2nd Street.

05/09/22 - 1:28 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1100 block of 22nd Street.

05/09/24 - 2:17 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 500 block of 12th Street.

05/09/22 - 2:45 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jason Alexander Peck, 44, of Fort Madison, on a charge of assault with intent causing serious injury. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/10/24 - 11:19 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3700 block of Avenue L.

05/10/24 - 6:52 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of 25th Street.

05/10/24 - 11:27 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of Avenue H.

05/11/24 - 3:53 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Kole Riley Bryant, 34, of Fort Madison, in the 1400 block of Avenue M, on charges of OWI and possession of a controlled substance.

05/11/24 - 5 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jason Theodore Kokjohn, 43, of Fort Madison in the 3000 block of Avenue O, on a charge of 2nd-degree criminal mischief. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/11/24 - 11:27 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue E.

05/11/24 - 11:34 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue E.

05/12/24 - 11:31 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 700 block of 23rd Street.

05/12/24 - 11:52 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1000 block of Avenue E.

05/13/24 - 1:32 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited David Shawn Wiseman, 49, of Fort Madison in the 2800 block of Avenue I, on a charge of unsafe turning.

5/13/24 - 7:57 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1800 block of Avenue L.

05/13/24 - 8:39 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1000 block of Avenue H.

05/13/24 - 8:53 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 900 block of Avenue H.

05/13/24 - 9:24 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1000 block of Avenue G.

05/13/24 - 10:21 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3400 block of Avenue O.

05/13/24 - 12:36 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1300 block of Avenue E.

05/13/24 - 7:01 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2200 block of Avenue G.

05/13/24 - 9:20 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jeremy John Lee Smrt, 44, of Fort Madison in the 1700 block of Avenue F on a charge of domestic assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

Keokuk Police Report

05/09/24 - 11:31 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested a 12-year-old male on charges of minor use of tobacco products. He was released to parents.

05/09/24 - 11:39 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested a 12-year-old male on a charge of minor use of tobacco products. He was released to parents.

05/08/24 - 4:24 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 1400 block of Main Street. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Alyssa Blair Hardy, 34, of Fort Madison was exiting from McDonalds when she was struck by a non-motorist, Heather Tripp. Tripp suffered injuries to her legs and arms and was transported to an area hospital.

05/10/24 - 12:02 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 700 block of Exchange St.

05/10/24 - 1:01 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 900 block of Johnson Street.

05/10/24 - 3:45 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 400 block of Franklin St.

05/10/24 - 9:58 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 700 block of Palean St.

05/10/24 - 10:36 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1400 block of Ash Street.

05/10/24 - 2:30 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 300 block of Park Street.

05/10/24 - 2:58 p.m. - Keokuk Police cited Bryan Wayne Vanskike, 32, of Oquawka in the 300 block of N. Park Drive.

05/10/24 - 3:42 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident on Plank Road. According to the report a vehicle driven by Haylee Marie Tedrow, 18, of Keokuk struck a vehicle driven by Kelly Kaye Grogan, 54, of Keokuk in the intersection of Washington and Plank Roads. Tedrow was cited for failure to obey stop sign and yield right of way. No injuries were reported.

05/10/24 - 4:33 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Charles Zachariah Bittner, 45, of Keokuk, at the Keokuk Police Department on a warrant for domestic abuse assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/10/24 - 7:16 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block of Main Street.

05/10/24 - 7:54 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1600 block of Stripe St.

05/10/24 - 8:02 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 600 block of S. 7th Street.

05/10/24 - 10:17 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a hit and run on Pawnee Drive.

05/10/24 - 11:47 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 600 block of S. 7th Street.

05/11/24 - 2:03 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a one-vehicle accident in the 900 block of Main Street. According to the report a vehicle driven by Lindy Marie Bell, 36, of Keokuk, failed to negotiate a northbound turn onto 9th street traveling over a curb and striking a building on the corner causing damage. Bell was charged with failure to maintain control. She complained of injury, but no transport was indicated.

05/11/24 - 2:04 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 100 block of Main Street.

05/11/24 - 2:23 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Lindy Marie Bell, 36, of Keokuk, at the police department, on charges of OWI and Interference with official acts. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/11/24 - 2:35 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 900 block of Timea St.

05/11/24 - 4:15 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 100 block of Main Street.

05/11/24 - 4:15 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident on the Keokuk-Hamilton Bridge. According to the report a motorcycle driven by Cody Lane Davis, 32, of Keokuk, was chasing a vehicle driven by Donovan Jacob Harwood, 14, of Keokuk to get a license to file a police report. Davis lost

control and struck Harwood's vehicle. Harwood didn't stop at the scene and continued into Illinois, but later reported to Keokuk Police Department. Davis was cited for failure to have a valid license or permit. No injuries were reported.

05/11/24 - 9:15 p.m. - Keokuk Police cited Caleb Robert Murphy, 25, of Keokuk at the Keokuk Police Department on a charge of assault.

05/12/24 - 6:22 a.m. - Keokuk Police cited Equilius Marquis Lee, 20, of Keokuk, at the Keokuk Police Department on a charge of driving while barred.

05/12/24 - 10:30 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of S. 18th Street.

05/12/24 - 11:56 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1300 block of Oak St.

05/12/24 - 12:22 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of N 16th Street.

05/12/24 - 12:47 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3500 block of Main Street.

05/12/24 - 5:57 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 700 block of Ridge Street.

05/12/24 - 6:24 p.m. - Keokuk

Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1000 block of Main Street.

05/12/20 - 8:10 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 100 block of Main Street.

Lee County Sheriff's Office

05/10/24 - 12:53 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jesse Virgil Johnson Booth, 32, of Keokuk at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/10/24 - 6:54 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Taylor William Scott, 32, of Fort Madison at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/10/24 - 8:46 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Brian Lee Drury, of Miles, at the sheriff's office on temporary hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/11/24 - 6:49 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Kenneth Allan Thompson, 48, of Donnellson, on Fairway Court on charge of contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on his recognizance.

05/11/24 - 9:21 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies ar-

rested Stevie Nicole Walker, 34, of Argyle, at the intersection of Hwy. 218 and Argyle Road, on charges of speeding, operating without a registration, no valid driver's license, no proof of insurance, and a warrant. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

05/13/24 - 12:30 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Darcie Kim Leffler, 43, of Fort Madison in the 2200 block of Hwy. 218 on charges of drug trafficking (5G to 100KG Meth), drug stamp violations, possession of a controlled substance, unlawful possession of prescription drugs and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/13/24 - 10:53 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Robert John Gurzenda Blindt, 42, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on warrants for contempt of court and failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

05/13/24 - 4:12 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Maury Hunley Littleton, 43, of Keokuk in the 500 blocks of Orleans on a charge of sex offender violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 5/7/2024

At 5:30 P.M., Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Thele, Roller, Amandus,

Gray, Yager, Andrews and Rink present. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 4/16/2024; Liquor License Amendment: Vinnie's Longbranch; Liquor License Renewals: Casa Jalisco, LLC, Fort Madison Rotary Club and Quality Inn & Suites;

Setting public hearing for Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 5:30 P.M. on the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget Amendments; Claims dated 5/1/2024; April Manual Claims, Library Claims; and Payroll of 4/19/2024 and 5/3/2024. On motion, Council approved Special Event Permits: Old Settlers

Association Music in the Park and Old Settlers Association Halloween in the Park and waived the associated fees. Fort Madison Public Library Director Sarah Clendineng presented the 2024 summer reading programs and activities. On motion, Council approved Ordinance D-112

amending Ordinance D-61, Title 10, Chapter 25: Floodplain Management Zoning Code. On motion, Council approved the second reading amending Ordinance D-100, Title 2: Boards & Commissions, Chapter 1: General Provisions, 2-1-1 Members. On motion, Council approved the second reading amending Ordinance D-47, Title 2: Boards and Commissions, Chapter 9: Historic Preservation Commission. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-37, accepting the

submitted plat of survey and waiving subdivision requirements (Title 11 - Subdivision Regulations) for Curtis Kokjohn, for property located at 2116 290th Avenue, within two miles of City Limits. Public Works Director Mark Bousset provided an update on the Gethsemane Cemetery drainage progress and the 2024 Road Resurface Plan. The meeting adjourned at 6:32 P.M. /s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor ATTEST: /s/ Justina M. Cullen, City Clerk

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EXPENDITURES		PAYROLL 4/19/2024	
General	\$40,693.83	General	\$212,264.25
Special Rev.	260,775.42	Emp. Benefits	7,279.54
Road Use	22,082.10	Road Use	26,173.78
Debt	0.00	Water	34,673.21
Capital	50,648.08	Sewer	31,683.43
Water	98,383.99	Solid Waste	16,673.43
Sewer	69,947.52	Airport	434.40
Sld Waste, IWC	10,310.58	Storm Water	3,147.68
SW Utility	2,856.43		\$332,329.72
	\$555,697.95		

REVENUES		PAYROLL 5/3/2024	
General	\$51,689.86	General	\$212,191.79
Special Rev.	302,753.37	Road Use	26,317.41
Road Use	475.00	Water	34,555.00
Debt	1,752.66	Sewer	31,107.85
Capital	173,563.56	Solid Waste	17,795.77
Water	374,458.81	Airport	312.77
Sewer	332,726.56	Storm Water	3,228.05
Sld Wst & IWC	97,056.00		\$325,508.64
Sewer	20,504.70		
	\$1,354,980.52		

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CLAIMS - MAY 7, 2024

ACCESS LEASING SYSTEM, PRINTER LEASE	774.99	DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP, WALL SPLIT/PARTS	1,242.00
ACCESS SYSTEMS, COMPUTER/IT LEASE	5,740.36	DOG WASTE DEPOT, DOG WASTE BAGS	224.95
AIR COMPRESSOR SERVICES, LUBRICANT	1,097.44	DONNA AMANDUS, TRAINING	13.00
ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC	36,175.89	DOUDS STONE, LLC, ROADSTONE	3,593.66
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, BAGS/BATTERIES/FLASH DRIVES	243.93	DR&G SERVICES, DEPOSIT REFUND	127.24
ANSER IOWA, WATER ANSWERING SERVICE	232.00	DRAIN DOCTOR LLC, REPAIR	170.00
ASKEW SCIENTIFIC CONSULTING, PRE-TREATMENT STUDY	2,925.00	DUNKIN GARAGE & TOWING, VEH MAINT	75.00
B&B PROPANE, HEAT	305.25	ELLIOTT DIAMOND INC., HYDRAULIC PUMP/FILTER	1,268.94
BITUMINOUS MATERIALS & SUPPLIES, HOT PATCH	2,144.18	ELLIOTT EQUIPMENT CO., HYDRAULIC PUMP	1,268.94
BJ 'S PERFORMANCE, TIRE REPLACEMENT	895.37	ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE ASSN, NUTRIENTS	208.70
BRYSON HENNIGAR, TRAINING	77.76	EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING, WEEKLY SAMPLE	355.24
BURLINGTON GLASS COMPANY, WINDOW REPLACEMENT	112.25	FARM & HOME SUPPLY, SAFETY UNIFORMS	102.98
BURLINGTON MUNI WATER, BACTERIA SAMPLE	170.00	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, LLC, PVC PIPES	689.69
CITY OF FORT MADISON, LEACHATE DISCHARGE	5,180.66	FIRE SERVICE TRAIING BUREA, CERTIFICATION FEES	100.00
COLE HELLING REIMB, UNIFORMS	230.00	FORT MADISON WATER DEPT, WATER USAGE	22.53
DAILY DEMOCRAT, PUBLICATIONS	838.18	FRATCO, STEEL LINER PIPING	1,862.91
		GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEM, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	368.27
		HACH COMPANY TEST-	

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PUBLIC NOTICES

<p>ING, SUPPLIES 1,009.12 HOENIG TREE SERVICE INC, TREE REMOVAL 650.00 HOLT SUPPLY COM- PANY, PUSH BUTTON ASSEMBLY 709.36 HOPP MECHANICAL SERVICES, REPAIR BOILER 200.00 HOTOP FABRICATION REPAIR, SLIDE HAND- RAILS 240.33 HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, BANDSAW BLADE 834.21 HUMBURD AUTO SERVICE, REPAIRED FRONT END 282.00 IA DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, 2ND QTR TER- MINAL FEES 708.00 IDEAL READY MIX COM- PANY, INC, CEMENT 1,593.63 INNOVA DISC GOLF, DISCATCHERS/TEES 12,748.04 IOWA BRIDGE & CUL- VERT, BRIDGE 27 I.AVE F 23,961.18 IOWA DIVISION OF LA- BOR, SERVICE BOILER INSPECTIONS 80.00 IOWA FIRE CHIEFS AS- SOC., MEMBERSHIP 25.00 IOWA ONE CALL, LO- CATES 58.30 IOWA POLICE CHIEFS ASSN, ANNUAL DUES 150.00 JIM BAIER INC., RE- PLACE SENSOR/BAT- TERY 617.80 KIESLER'S POLICE SUPPLY, INC, AMMO 707.70 KIMBALL MIDWEST, DRILL BITS/BULBS/ WASHERS 160.47 KIRBYBUILT, MEMORIAL BENCH 1,141.08 KUCKELMAN LAW OF- FICE, RECORDING FEE 52.00 KYLE KNEPP, CLOTH- ING/WINTER ALLOW 288.82 LIBERTY UTILITY IOWA, HEAT 767.43 LYNCH DALLAS, P.C., PROF FEE 3,779.21 MACQUEEN EQUIP- MENT, SWEEPER BELT REPAIRS 6,193.15 MARTIN EQUIPMENT, LAMP/FILTERS 411.99</p>	<p>MCFARLAND JANITORI- AL, SUPPLIES 31.97 MENARD - WEST BUR- LINGTON, FAUCET/ CLIPS/PAINT 453.76 MUNICIPAL EMERGEN- CY SERVICE, UNI- FORMS 1,192.25 MICROBAC LABORA- TORIES LLC, SLUDGE SAMPLE 465.75 MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY, HEAT 2,513.93 MIDLAND SCIENTIFIC INC., TEST SUPPLIES 493.84 MIDWEST SAFETY COUNSELORS, COM- PRESSED GAS 319.24 MIGUEL LANDEROS, NUISANCE 1,115.00 MOHRFELD ELECTRIC, REPLACED BREAKER ISSUE 1,678.08 MOTOR PARTS & EQUIPMENT CO, AIR FILTER 171.06 MOWEN CLEANING SERVICE LLC, JANITO- RIAL SUPPLIES 1,250.96 MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC., MONITOR COV- ERS/REPAIR KITS 9,860.09 O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE, INC., DEGREASER/ GLOVES/LIGHTS 283.71 PEN CITY CURRENT, PARKS JOB POSTING 59.99 PITNEY BOWES, ME- TER RENTAL FEE 171.00 POSTMASTER, FORT MADISON, WATER BILLS/PAST DUE POST- AGE 1,996.43 QCANALYTICAL SER- VICES, LLC, TRAINING 450.00 QUALITY FLOW SYS- TEMS, INC, REPAIRING PUMPS 20,070.00 RED LION RENEW- ABLES, ELECTRIC 6,548.94 S.H. ENTERPRISES LTD., HAULING SLUDGE 6,572.50 SARAH CLENDINENG, ADOPT-A-GARDEN RE- IMBURSE 64.03 SCS ENGINEERS, AR DEPT., PROF FEE 538.13 SE IA REGIONAL PLAN-</p>	<p>NING COMM, SEIBUS (JAN-MAR) 2,125.00 STEWART AUTO- MOTIVE, REPAIRED TRANSMISSION 1,530.22 TAMI RILEY, REFUND 25.00 TRUCK REPAIR INC, REPAIR 2,390.87 US PLASTIC REPAIR, REPAIR OLD SET- TLER'S SLIDE 950.00 USA BLUE BOOK, ADAPTER 3,442.22 UTILITY EQUIPMENT COMPANY, 2" BRASS ELBOWS 2,920.35 VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC, PROF FEE 4,917.00 VESSCO INC., CIRCUIT BOARDS 1,007.47 VESTIS, UNIFORM/ SHOP SUPPLIES 136.29 VOLTMER, INC., AWOS REPLACEMENT 124,693.25 WATER SOLUTIONS UN- LIMITED, CHLORINE 2,280.00 WILSON DISTRIBUTOR SERVIC, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES 89.00 TOTAL 329,013.46 GENERAL 26,615.59 SPECIAL REVENUES 1,898.16 ROAD USE 17,760.36 CAPITAL PROJECTS 38,324.30 WATER 52,652.89 WASTEWATER 54,198.23 SOLID WASTE .. 9,265.40 AIRPORT 125,442.10 STORM WATER 2,856.43 TOTAL 329,013.46</p> <p>MANUALS - APRIL 2024</p> <p>ACCESS LEASING SYS- TEM, PRINTER LEASE 774.99 ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC 29,929.09 ANSER IOWA ANSWER- ING SERVICE - WATER DEPT 220 CENTURY LINK, PHONE/INTERNET 193.94 CHASE CARD SERVICE, MARCH 2024 FEES 3,355.63 IOWA DEPT. OF REVE- NUE, SALES TAX - WET</p>	<p>TAX 14,636.05 IOWA WATER ENVIRON- MENT ASSN, REGISTRA- TION 80 MIDWEST GROUP BEN- EFITS, MONTHLY FLEX ADMIN FEE 21,707.66 PERMAR SECURITY SERVICES, SECURITY OLD FORT 262.14 PRO MOTORSPORTS, GRAVELY MOWER 24,647.56 UTILITY EQUIPMENT COMPANY, BRASS EL- BOW & COULINGS... 650 WELLMARK BC/BS, HEALTH INS PREMIUM 111,683.89 WEX BANK FUEL US- AGE - MARCH 12,385.42 TOTAL 220,526.37 GENERAL 9,350.65 SPECIAL REVENUES 131,679.09 ROAD USE 4,321.74 CAPITAL PROJECTS 12323.78 WATER 45,731.10 WASTEWATER 15749.29 SOLID WASTE .. 1,045.18 AIRPORT 325.54 TOTAL 220,526.37</p> <p>LIBRARY CLAIMS 4/18/2024</p> <p>ABC FIRE EXTINGUISH- ER, ANNUAL FIRE EXT INSPECT 82.35 ACCESS SYSTEMS, INK 154.50</p>	<p>AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES 355.31 BAKER & TAYLOR, SHELF MATERIAL 1,940.90 BLACKSTONE PUBLISH- ING, SHELF MATERIAL 211.96 CENGAGE LEARNING INC./GALE, SHELF MA- TERIAL 51.33 DEMCO, BOOKMARKS/ KIT 55.77 DISCOUNT SCHOOL SUPPLY, PIPE CLEAN- ER/FOIL PAPER... 103.82 DODD PRINTING & STA- TIONERY, PAPER 117.98 EXCEL IT SERVICES, CLOUD BACKUP ... 26.83 GREENWOOD CLEAN- ING SYSTEM, AIR FRESHNERS 295.91 KANOPY, INC., PLAY CREDITS 39.00 MEDIACOM BUSINESS, PHONE/INTERNET 329.77 MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY, HEAT 243.18 MOWEN CLEANING SERVICE LLC, JANITO- RIAL SERVICE 905.10 OTC BRANDS, INC, GAME PRIZES 67.95 OVERDRIVE, INC, EB- OOKS 119.76 PETTY CASH - SARAH CLENDIN, SNACKS 13.77 QUILL LLC, BATTERIES 136.06</p>	<p>WT.COX INFORMATIN SERVICES, SHELF MA- TERIAL 906.87 TOTAL 6,158.12 GENERAL 4,727.59 SPECIAL REVENUES 1,430.53 TOTAL 6,158.12</p>
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From the Front

Jewelry store began as handshake with W.A. Sheaffer

YOUNGS - Continued from Page 1

ery, Young said, but it was never used with that intent by his grandfather. However, he said he felt the prisoner was incarcerated for something along those lines.

The younger Bushong worked with that prisoner and learned that doing the signatures upside down and inverted was a way to perfect copying signatures.

Their meeting with Schaeffer was to show him that the younger Bushong was a good engraver and that would be a nice marketing addition to the pens to add signatures to the pens.

At first Sheaffer didn't warm to the idea and the two left with a handshake and a hotel credit, but while in the meeting, both Danas saw a sheet on Sheaffer's desk with a signature and they quickly made an upside down copy and took it back in to the pen magnate.

Young said Sheaffer told them he would think about it, and then he sent someone over to the hotel to invite the two to dinner. After that, the younger Bushong stayed in Fort Madison, while the older Bushong made his way back to Michigan.

He worked in the Sheaffer jewelry store before it became the pen business doing maintenance and engraving and doing watch repair from Royal Law of Law's Jewelers. They did the first few pens with signatures and they were wildly successful. By the time the relationship was over, Young's grandfather had engraved more than 300,000 pens.

He was recognized in Ripley's Believe It Or Not. A book published in 1937 showed that Bushong did 40,000 pens. He died in 1957.

Young also has a note from Bing Crosby that was written to his grandfather commending him on the quality of the work and that his Sheaffer pen would be on his office desk.

Young never met his grandfather or great-grandfather because he was born in the 60s and said he didn't get the creative gene.

"I've never understood that. I can't draw a duck. I know that for his first whatever number of pens that's how he did it, but over time he was able to not have to do that.

In 1923 the older Bushong moved back to take over Mr. Sheaffer's jewelry store, but he didn't want to do that with the pen business taking off. There was another store called Theo Ernst Jewelers that was there since the 1860s, Young said. He said Ernst owned the jewelry store Sheaffer bought from him. The older Bushong helped merge the Sheaffer and Ernst jewelry in 1923. The two Bushongs opened that store under the merger due to the Sheaffer store being "wildly mismanaged".

"W.A. basically funneled all the current cases, a clock, the floor cases, and the whole Sheaffer/Ernst jewelry store into Dana Bushong Co. Inc.," Young said. "On March 1, 1924 in that building across the street with a handshake, W.A. Sheaffer said he was done with the jewelry and told the two if they do a great job, he would give them all his cases and they could move the business wherever they want."

Young said in 1924 Sheaffer signed the business over to Dana Bushong and, until March 1, 1925 he ran it as the owner and manager, but kept the name as the Theo Ernst Jewelry Store. In 1925 they eliminated the Sheaffer and Ernst names from the ownership and it became Dana Bushongs.

In 1933, the company incorporated and became the 19th jewelry store in Iowa.

Jane Bushong, Skip's mother, became a hand model for Sheaffer television commercials in her late teens and met Skip's father on the television set of the Jackie Gleason show in Chicago.

"She would go to Chicago and they would do these film things and tv was done live in the 30s and 40s. My dad had the camera on mom's hand and she was doing the fine line pen. Meanwhile Jackie's getting powder on in a seat nearby. They used two cameras back then - one for the commercial and one for the live studio and they'd unplug one camera's wiring and run it over to the other because they didn't have multiple," he said.

"But my dad ran the camera up mom's hand to her arm and to her face and was like, 'Wow, you're beautiful. Would you go to dinner with me?' and mom was like, 'No!'" But they eventually came to "Yes" and got married in 1955.

He said his mother came back in the 1980s to bring

the Chicago market back to Fort Madison and stocked the store with really expensive stuff.

"She got disillusioned very quickly and I was still at the University of Kansas when she called me and said I was coming home that day," Young said.

He told her that he wasn't. He wanted to finish up his journalism degree and go do what people do, but she threatened to sell the store if he didn't come home. So he did in 1983 while he was dating his wife, Michele.

He said Michele became the power behind the jewelry store and brought it into its contemporary. Skip said he hated the business.

"I'm an artist, a festival-goer, guitar player, people talker. Don't make me go back there," he said.

He was working with his older brother and they didn't get along so Skip ended up buying both his old younger brothers out of the business and he and Michele took sole ownership of the business.

"I paid a small ransom to my brothers in 1985 and married Michele the next day on June 1 and Michele and I became 100% owners of this," Young said.

"My original plan was to sell the place for a couple hundred thousand dollars, which is more than I paid for it, and go do nothing or go work for a paper or something. But that never worked about because Michele, truly - loved - doing this."

Young got involved deeply in the community and set the business on its current path, he said.

"She is 100% the driving force behind this business. It's not me. It's her," Young said.

Michele died on Sept. 8, 2023 leaving Skip and his two daughters Lauren Roddefer and Katherine Young to run the business.

Young said now it's those two driving the business with his mentorship and he's looking forward to when they have learned enough about the business to take it over completely.

Skip and Michele have two other children, Natalie and William. Lauren's husband Bryan Roddefer is also working with Skip in the shop.

"They are their mom. They are little Micheles. They're very community anxious. They go to tourism meetings, they're painting a bench, they're putting our float back in the parade, all the stuff I didn't want to mess with. Their marketing is fantastic," he said.

"Now I have as much time as it takes to get comfortable leaving. I don't think I'll ever completely leave and I plan to spend time here whether I'm the owner or not."

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