

# For the record

## CALENDAR

**TODAY**  
**Grand Meadow sesquicentennial kickoff celebration**, Grand Meadow Community Center, Grand Avenue, Grand Meadow, (507) 754-5908, 5 p.m.-7: p.m. This free event will kick off Grand Meadow's sesquicentennial celebration, to be held during Meadowfest on June 22-24. Visit with community leaders and preview events planned for this historical event. Free cake, ice cream and root beer.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 21**  
**Team Believe Texas Hold 'em Tournament**, Eagles Club, Austin, 2 p.m. Sign-up begins at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$20.

**Free community meal**, Christ Episcopal Church, 301 Third Ave. N.W., Austin, 433-3782, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. This free meal is held the third Saturday of every month. Everyone is welcome.  
**DoubleKK Specialty Inc. Spring Fling. Dog Park promotion**, 803 18th Ave. N.W., Austin, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Photos taken for ugliest dog and cutest dog contests. Big prizes! Free dog licensing. Free pet food samples. Chance to win Twins tickets and other prizes. Come shake paws with Sparky, the Austin Fire Dept. mascot.

**MONDAY, APRIL 23**  
**AARP Driver Safety first-time class**, LeRoy Community Ed., High School, LeRoy, (507) 324-5741, ext. 245, 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Eight-hour, first time class for drivers age 55 and over. Qualifies for 10 percent premium discount on auto insurance sold in Minnesota. Valid for three years.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 24**  
**Austin Audubon program**, Jay C. Hormel Nature Center, 1304 21st St. N.E., Austin, (507) 433-7527. Meteorologists love Minnesota. Smack dab in the middle of North America, it's buffeted by nearly all manner of weather patterns, and, save for mountains, contains a fairly wide range of environments. Mark Seeley, extension climatologist/meteorologist with the National Weather Service, will present. 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25**  
**Women of the Moose soup and sandwich**, Moose Lodge, Austin, 5 p.m.-6:30

## PUNCHLINE

A detective who had spent his entire career in plain clothes retired from the police force and bought a farm.  
 "What kind of crops do you plan to grow?" the police chief asked.  
 "Carrots and potatoes," the man replied.  
 "Why carrots and potatoes?"  
 "They're reminders of my glory days as an officer."  
 "How can that be?" questioned the chief.  
 "Because," answered the ex-detective, "they're undercover crops."  
 — Submitted by Bob Keith, Rochester

Share your yuks with us! Send email to news@postbulletin.com. Include "joke" in the subject line and your name and city in the message.

## LOTTERY NUMBERS

<b>Minnesota Daily 3</b> Thursday: 0-3-5	<b>Wisconsin Supercash</b> Thursday: 11-12-19-31-32-34
<b>Northstar Cash</b> Thursday: 7-16-17-23-24	<b>Wisconsin Badger 5</b> Thursday: 5-6-15-27-31
<b>Iowa Cash Game</b> Thursday: 4-5-10-25-33	<b>Wisconsin Pick 3</b> Thursday: 0-5-1
<b>Iowa Pick 3</b> Thursday: 2-2-0	<b>Wisconsin Pick 4</b> Thursday: 6-3-5-1
<b>Iowa Pick 4</b> Thursday: 7-7-1-3	

# Austin Post-Bulletin

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THANK YOU FOR READING THE AUSTIN POST-BULLETIN

# HRA board divided on director process

**By Heather Rule**  
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The Austin Housing and Redevelopment Authority continued evaluating the future of its executive director position at its monthly meeting Thursday, and board members were divided over recent actions in the process.

The HRA board's current executive director is Jim Hurm in a part-time position. The board must look at which option is right for HRA: either full time or part time, and with Hurm or with someone else.

Board members disagreed over whether the HRA board should have been able to discuss Hurm's recommendation to explore City Engineer

Jon Erichson's interest in a part-time position as HRA executive director prior to Hurm bringing it to the Austin City Council at its April 2 work session.

"It was not about who Jim was recommending," said board member Marilyn Prenosil. "It was about how he went about it."

At the April 16 city council work session, HRA board member and city council member Roger Boughton said Hurm was just the conveyor of the message regarding a recommendation about the position. Boughton also offered an apology to Hurm that night, on behalf of himself and the HRA, regarding comments made at the April 14 Coffee with the Council meeting. That

was where HRA Board Chair Marv Repinski and Prenosil questioned Hurm's seemingly premature recommendation that Erichson be considered for the job.

Prenosil asked Boughton Thursday how he could speak for the entire HRA board during that apology. Boughton said Hurm deserved that apology "on behalf of me," and he apologized for speaking for the HRA board in his apology.

"You were a step ahead of the board," Prenosil said.

Prenosil said she had looked at past minutes from former Austin HRA boards and offered a comparison.

"I think we ask more questions," Prenosil said. "We ask

more questions and that's what we need to do."

Ultimately, the decision about the executive director position is up to the HRA board, Prenosil said. Board member Joyce Poshusta and Boughton agreed.

"We all need to come together," Boughton said. "And I think we've got a great board with lots of skills. We're learning. We're making mistakes. And so we're here to bring things together."

The discussion had run its course for Poshusta. She suggested the board start looking at the executive director position at the next meeting.

"I think we just need to move on to the next item on the agenda," Poshusta said.

## OBITUARIES

### Andrew C. Sonnek — Rochester

Andrew Charles Sonnek, 38, died Wednesday, April 18, 2012, at his home in Rochester, of natural causes.

A memorial service will be held Tuesday, April 24, at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Waldorf.

Visitation will be held at Bruss-Heitner Funeral Home in Wells on Monday, April 23, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., with a Rosary at 8 p.m. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church on Tuesday. Father Peter Klein will officiate.

Bruss-Heitner Funeral Home in Wells is in charge of the arrangements. www.brussheitnerfuneralhome.com.

Andrew was born Oct. 4, 1973, in Wells, to Charles Dominic and Betty Jean (Bartelt) Sonnek. He graduated from Waldorf-Pemberton High School, the class of 1993. He then attended Riverland College in Albert Lea to become an electrician.

He was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local #343 in Rochester. Andrew enjoyed classic cars and antique tractors, and enjoyed tinkering with all things mechanical. Family was very important to him, especially his nieces and nephews. He would come home in the fall of the year to help out during the harvest season.

Andrew is survived by his parents, Charles and Betty Sonnek of Waldorf; brothers and sisters, Charles "Rick" (Kandy) Sonnek of La Crescent, Tim (Barb) Sonnek of New Prague, Beth (John) Thompson of Rochester, Amy (David) Adams of Minneiska, Steve (Vonnie) Sonnek of St. Clair, Chris (Karen) Sonnek of New Richland, Kellen Sonnek of Minnesota Lake, Perry Sonnek of Woodville, Wis.; Joy Sonnek of Waldorf, Sara (Russ) Kientz of Kansas; Peter (Lori) Sonnek of Waldorf, Anthony (Brenda) Sonnek of Mapleton and Matthew Sonnek of Duluth; brother-in-law, Trevor Buswell of Guyton, Ga.; many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins along with their families, and numerous good friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, sister, Ruth Ann Buswell and brother, Jonathan Charles Sonnek.

### Steven D. DeGrand — Rochester

Steven Douglas DeGrand, 63, of Rochester, passed away Thursday morning, April 19, 2012, at his home.

Steve was born Sept. 17, 1948, in Fargo, N.D., to Ralph and Elaine DeGrand. He loved playing hockey for and graduated from Devils Lake Central High in 1966. On Sept. 17, 1977, he married Mary Rubin at St. John's Lutheran Church in Elkton. He worked as a watchmaker and later worked for Conoco. He was affectionately known to so many as "Captain Conoco."

Steve always lived life to the fullest and made the best of every situation. Everywhere he went, he left a lasting impression and became a friend to everyone he met.

Steve is survived by his wife, Mary; two sons, Steven E. (Natalie) DeGrand and Christopher M. (Nicole) DeGrand; two grandchildren, Charlie and Kyleigh; three sisters, Sam Daniels of Minneapolis, Susan Lee and Sharon Rusness both of Fargo, N.D.

A celebration of life visitation will be held from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 22, at The River Park Chapel at Macken Funeral Home.

Online condolences are welcome at www.mackenfuneralhome.com.

### Millicent Kunz Scheid — Spring Valley

Millicent Kunz Scheid, 96, of Spring Valley, passed away Monday, April 16, 2012, at the Ostrander Nursing Home in Ostrander.

Millicent was born April 3, 1916, in Rosholt, S.D., to Charlie and Ida Knudson. She had worked as a nurse's aide for many years.

She is survived by seven children, Elaine Juday, Janice Finch, Daryl Kunz, Harland Kunz, David Kunz, Lois Troupe and Donald Kunz. She is also survived by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Robert Kunz and Roman Scheid; one son, Robert Kunz, Jr.; and two grandsons, James Kunz and Donald "Charlie" Kunz.

No services are planned at this time.

### June A. Travis — Spring Valley

Funeral services for June A. Travis were held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 20, 2012, at our Saviors Lutheran Church in Spring Valley, with the Rev. Dennis Timmerman and the Rev. Laura Fladten officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Friends may call at the Hindt Funeral Home in Spring Valley from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, April 19. Visitation will continue at the church from 10 a.m. until the time of service on Friday.

June Travis, 83, of Spring Valley, was called home by God on Tuesday, April 17, 2012. She passed away surrounded by her loving family.

She was born July 26, 1928, near Ostrander, to Julius and Hilda (Peterson) Swenson. She attended school through the eighth grade and was later united in marriage to William Travis at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa, on Sept. 3, 1967. Together, they owned the Spring Valley Sales Barn for a number of years before retiring in 1979.

June enjoyed baking, making pies for the Spring Valley Sales Barn for many years. She also enjoyed quilting, antiques, going for rides with her dog, Jake, in her Cadillac and music with Julie every Thursday.

June is survived by her children, Dennis Christopherson of Rochester, Curtis (Tina) Christopherson of Olympia, Wash., and Scott (Maureen) Travis of Rochester; 15 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William, daughter, Linda Betts, son, Wyatt Christopherson, sister, Helen, and three brothers, Lawrence, Algy and Donald.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the nurses and staff at Seasons Hospice in Rochester.

Memorials are preferred to Seasons Hospice or to Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Spring Valley.

## DEATH NOTICES

**David Allen Biester**, 47, of Rochester, died Sunday. Macken Funeral Home, Rochester.

**Violet E. Buchanan**, 89, of Oakland, died Thursday at Saint Marys Hospital in Rochester. Clasen-Jordan Mortuary, Austin.

**Daniel S. Crabtree**, 83, of Brownsdale, died Thursday at his home. Clasen-Jordan Mortuary, Austin.

**Bernard Charles Devney**, formerly of Rochester, died April 11, at Evergreen Hospital in Kirkland Wash., following a fall.

**Mirlen Fett**, 82, of Austin, died Thursday at St. John's Hospital, Maplewood. Clasen-Jordan Mortuary, Austin.

**June Laura Keck**, 82, of Owatonna, died Wednesday at Saint Marys Hospital in Rochester. Michaelson Funeral Home, Owatonna.

**William R. "Roy" Kennedy**, 85, of Kellogg, died Thursday at St. Elizabeth's Health Care Center in Wabasha. Abbott Funeral Home, Wabasha.

**Karl Larson**, 61, of Red Wing, died April 7, 2012. Mahn Family Funeral Home, Bodelson-Mahn Chapel, Red Wing.

**Jennie M. Rauh**, 95, of Stewartville, died Thursday at the Stewartville Care Center. Griffin-Gray Funeral Home, Stewartville.

**Andrew Charles Sonnek**, 38, died Wednesday at his home in Rochester of natural causes. Bruss-Heitner Funeral Home, Wells.

**Sherman W. Stoflet**, 72, of Kasson, died Thursday of cancer. Ranfranz and Vine Funeral Homes, Rochester.

**David E. Vande Weerd**, 49, of Spring Valley, died Thursday at Rochester Methodist Hospital. Thauwald Funeral Home, Spring Valley.

This is a list of all deaths submitted to the Austin Post-Bulletin. The Austin Post-Bulletin provides you with a complete and comprehensive list of local obituaries each day.

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