

## LAURA ON LIFE

# The dying art of proper handwriting

Beautiful handwriting is a dying art form. I am not talking about calligraphy or oriental writings; just plain old good handwriting. It's something you don't see very often.

I was standing in line at the grocery store – something I spend a large percentage of my life doing – when the lady in front of me pulled out her checkbook. At first, I thought, “Who writes checks at the grocery store these days?”

That was until I saw her handwriting. If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I would've thought a computer had done it. Now I knew why she writes checks at the grocery store. Handwriting like that deserves to be admired by other people! She should get some kind of award for that!

I spent many of my elementary school years practicing cursive handwriting. Pages and pages of loops and dips were laboriously and tediously formed and presided over by my grade school teachers before we could even begin to make real letters. Even with this early meticulous attention to details, my handwriting skills leave much to be desired. My handwritten pages now look like a snail had somehow crawled into an inkwell and slithered across my paper. Those lovely loops and dips are a thing of the past. Speed became more important than aesthetics.

If my handwriting is bad, my children's handwriting is atrocious. I thought I would give them some handwriting worksheets during

the summer to strengthen their fine motor skills. By fall, I may be able to read the work they did in school.

I started them with the loops I remembered from grade school. I demonstrated: round and round and round, all the way to the end of the line and start again on the next line. Then I left them to finish the task.

I'm not sure what I expected when I returned to check on them. Lyrical loops and delicious dips, I supposed. What I got was pages of geometric figures connected together. The geometric figures were not circles or ovals or even egg-

shaped. They were more like parallelograms, triangles and pentagons. It looked like a sketch of a train wreck.

I praised them for the pentagons – those were the closest loop-like figures – and then I reminded them that loops do not have corners.

We eventually moved on to letters and the numbers which they insisted on doing from bottom to top.

Then I asked them to practice their newfound skill by writing a journal page everyday telling what they did the day before. Their entries became shorter and shorter each day as they, too, opted in favor of

speed over elegance.

They wrote: “We ate. We wrote. We went to bed.”

I praised them for using a noun and a verb in each sentence and reminded them that future generations may read this journal and conclude that they were very boring people. They were not inspired to do more. Apparently, future generations could go hang themselves.

I tried another tactic: I asked them to write an inspirational quote from a famous person each day. These may have been more for my

benefit than theirs. I knew this was the case when I read an amazingly legible version of Helen Keller's “Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement.”

I was optimistic that my children would soon develop better handwriting. According to Ms. Keller, we were halfway there!

*Laura Snyder is a nationally syndicated columnist, author & speaker. You can reach Laura at [lsnyder@lauraonline.com](mailto:lsnyder@lauraonline.com) Or visit her website [www.lauraonline.com](http://www.lauraonline.com) for more info.*

**Aeroquip HYDRAULIC HOSE**

- Fittings • Adapters

Metric Thread Komatsu

**COX BEARING & SEAL**  
1005 Broadway • Yankton, SD • 605-665-7478

**KOLETZKY IMPLEMENT INC.**

KINZE KRAUSE AGCO NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE

“Full Service Farm Equipment”  
East Hwy. 50, Yankton, SD  
1-800-827-9700 • 605-665-3872  
[koletzkyimpl@iw.net](mailto:koletzkyimpl@iw.net) • [www.koletzkyimplement.com](http://www.koletzkyimplement.com)

**the Kitchen Place**

- Kitchens
- Baths
- Office & more

309 W. 11th Street • Yankton, SD 57078  
800-249-3837 • 605-668-2168  
[www.tkplaceyankton.com](http://www.tkplaceyankton.com)

SHOWPLACE Wood Products

## O'MALLEY'S BAR BUILDING & MUNICIPAL LIQUOR LICENSE IN YANKTON, SD OFFERED IN THREE OPTIONS AT AUCTION

As we have decided to pursue other interests, we will offer the following at auction located at 204 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Yankton, SD or 2 Blocks east of the Yankton County Government Center on:

**Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> • 4:00 P.M.**

**OPTION 1: LIQUOR LICENSE — ON SALE — CITY OF YANKTON**  
Full Municipal On-Sale Liquor License for City of Yankton with a Video Lottery Endorsement for 10 Machines. New Buyer must apply for transfer of license with City of Yankton and meet all Requirements, Regulations and Criteria set forth by the City of Yankton, South Dakota Dept. of Revenue and South Dakota Codified Law. New Buyer is responsible for all fees associated with the transfer of the liquor license. Wieman Land & Auction recommends any potential buyer to seek representation if you have any questions about qualifications for transferring the Liquor License. See Broker Participation Below.

**Option 2: O'Malley's Bar (Real Estate Only)**  
Legal Desc: The West 1/3, East 1/2 of Lots 10 & 11, Block 25, Todd's Addition, City of Yankton, Yankton County, SD  
To view property: Call George Cwach at 605-660-4028 or Wieman Land & Auction at 800-251-3111 or go to [www.wiemanauktion.com](http://www.wiemanauktion.com) for pictures

This is a Great Opportunity to own a Downtown building with lots of Heritage and Character. The Real Estate includes a 25'x82' Two Story Building on a 25'x88' lot located conveniently in the Heart of Downtown Yankton. Building has been well-maintained with many updates in the last 6 years. Included with the real estate are the O'Malley's business name, the Historic O'Malley Neon Sign, and all owned bar fixtures and equipment. The Inventory is not included. 2010 Assessed Value is \$110,500 and the current taxes are \$2,314.72.

**Option 3: O'Malley's Bar with Liquor License (Turn-Key Business)**  
Broker Participation: Wieman Land & Auction Co., Inc., invites and Encourages Buyer Representation at this Auction. A 2% commission is offered to any South Dakota licensed real estate agent that procures a sale and successful closing on any of the three options listed above. All Buyer Representation must be disclosed in writing 24 hours prior to the start of the auction. Call Auctioneers for more Details.

**TERMS:** Cash Sale with 15% Non Refundable Down Payment on Sale Day and the balance on or before Sept. 22, 2010, with possession on closing. A Warranty Deed will be given on the real estate and Owner's Title Insurance will be used with the cost split 50/50 between buyer and seller. Closing fee will be split 50/50 between the buyer and the seller. Taxes will be prorated to the closing date. The property is sold subject to owner's confirmation and to any easement of record. Wieman Land & Auction Co., Inc., is representing the seller in this transaction. Come prepared to buy!

**O'Malley's Bar**  
**George & Debra Cwach - Owners**  
**Wieman Land & Auction Co., Inc.**  
Gary & Rich Wieman, Brokers  
800-251-3111 • Marion, SD  
Jerry Pollard, Closing Attorney  
Yankton, SD • 605-665-5222

# GUN AUCTION

Sunday, July 18 - 1 pm - Be on Time  
Located 4-H Grounds, Lake Andes, SD

Hunters & collectors don't miss this auction.  
Firearms are all in above average to near new condition.

**RIFLES**  
Savage model 99 lever act. 300 Savage rotary mag. ser. no 603721; Rem. model 700 ADL bolt act. .243; Weatherby Vanguard VGX bolt act. 30.06 w/ Bushnell 3x9 scope; Savage model 111 bolt act. 7MM mag.; Savage model 111 bolt act. 25.06 w/ 3x9 scope; Herters bolt act. 25.06 w/Tasco 3x9 scope; Stevens model 200 bolt act. 22-250 w/Simmons 3x9 scope; Marlin model 336 CS lever act. 30-30; SKS 7.62x39 semi-auto rifle, folding stock; Kel Tel sub 200 40 S&W semi-auto rifle; Marlin model 60.22 auto w/ 4x scope.

**SHOTGUNS**  
Win. model 1200 pump 12 ga. 3 in.; Win. model 1200 pump 20 ga. 2 3/4 in.; Win. model 1300 pump 12 ga. 3 in. winchoke; Win. model 1300 defender pump 12 ga. 3 in.; Win. model 1400 auto 20 ga. 2 3/4 in. winchoke; Diamond pump 12 ga. riot gun; Rem. 870 Express pump 12 ga. 3 in.; Charles Daly pump 20 ga. 3 in.; Mossberg model 835 pump 12 ga. 3 1/2 in. Accu mag choke; Mossberg model 185 bolt act. 3 in. repeater; Mossberg model 185 bolt act. 20 ga. 2 3/4 in. repeater; Mossberg model 190 16 ga. 2 3/4 in. bolt act. repeater; Sears Roebuck model 20 Ranger bolt action 16 ga. 2 3/4 in.; Conn Arms 12 ga. s.s.

**HANDGUNS**  
Ruger Super Black Hawk stainless steel .44 mag revolver; Colt New Frontier single act. .22 revolver, 4 1/2 in. barrel; Ruger security six double act. 357 mag. revolver, 4 in. barrel; Dan Wesson double act. 357 mag. revolver, 4 in. barrel; S&W double act. 38 special revolver, 4 in. barrel; Ruger P95 DC 9mm auto.; Jennings model 48 .380 auto; Hi Point Firearms model C9 9mm Luger auto; Sedco model SP 22 .22 auto; Repo .44 black powder percussion cap revolver.

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
3 gun cabinets misc. scopes, holsters, gun cases, cartridge boxes, shooting tripod, plus a large amount of ammo for the firearms to be sold.

**Beverly Scott, OWNER**

For more info and photos, go to  
[www.sdauctions.com](http://www.sdauctions.com)

Terms - Cash Not responsible for accidents.

**PETERSON AUCTIONEERS**

Glen Peterson - RE #234 - 605-369-2638 - Springfield, SD  
*Farm - Household - Real Estate*