

## LAURA ON LIFE

# Encourage your growing children

My son fancies himself a horticulturalist. Not the garden-variety horticulturalist, but the sandbox variety.

This year, his interests have taken him to a place where he likes to make something out of nothing. Seeds, which are almost nothing, is where he started this past spring.

He planted tomato seeds in an egg carton, inside the house, and fussed over them like a mother hen. He agonized over whether to keep them protected inside the house or re-plant them outside when the time came. I felt exactly that way before my two oldest sons were ready to start college.

About six plants actually made it through the egg carton stage and were replaced outside. He mourned the loss of each plant that didn't make it past the egg carton.

"Mom, how do farmers keep their plants alive long enough for a harvest?"

I do not have a green thumb by any stretch of the imagination, but I know how to grow strong, independent children. My motherly advice to my son was:

"Son, the plants that didn't make it weren't strong enough to develop into a full-grown tomato. Take good care of the others and soon you will have your harvest."

He planted them in a flower garden on a side of the house that doesn't get much sun. He thought that if he planted them in a safe place where the sun wouldn't fry them, he wouldn't have to water them as often. My would-be gardener was surprised when their growth was stunted and they didn't produce... uh, produce.

"You cannot protect them from the wind, rain, and sun and expect them to grow," I said. I was thinking about his first few months of Taekwondo. "You have to challenge

them and then support them through it. Try putting your plants in full sun and water them often."

So he transferred three of the plants to his old sandbox, which had plenty of sunshine, and he planted some pumpkin seeds there to keep them company.

The pumpkin seeds began to grow. As they grew, they wandered all over the sandbox. One even started growing up a nearby tree. They sprouted plenty of flowers, but no pumpkins. My son was confused. They had sun. They had water. They were growing, but... no pumpkins.

My advice was: "You have to give them boundaries. They are putting too much effort into spreading out and not enough into production. You need to make them stop spreading and then they will start producing."

Experimenting with that advice, my son cut



Laura Snyder

three feet off the vine that was growing up a tree. Two days later, a tiny pumpkin developed just before the cut.

He was very pleased with his pumpkin's progress but, now, two of his tomato plants had invited some pests to their place – caterpillars – and now the plants looked like they might not make it.

I told him, "You must be very mindful about those that they

spend time with, and vigilant against harmful intruders. Not everything out there will be good for them. There are parasites that thrive on destroying your good work."

He distributed a natural pesticide on the ground around the remaining plant and hoped that it would be enough to deter the caterpillars.

It was. Yesterday, he picked five toma-

toes from his plant. The look on his face when he held the ripe fruit of his labors was priceless. He was amazed. He was in awe. He was so joyously proud.

...I knew exactly how he felt.

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

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## AUCTION

**Saturday, Oct. 16 -- 11 a.m.**

LOCATION: 1109 Main Street, Tyndall, SD Real estate sells first

Real Estate consists of a 2 story 3 bedroom home with full basement, 24x26 attached garage and storage building. This nice older home offers recent heat pump with propane backup, central air, recent roof and siding, 2 baths, fireplace, beautiful hardwood woodwork and floors and very nice floor plan. Here is a home with lots of character and endless potential on a corner lot with an excellent location.

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Lots 1 and 2, Block 2, south Tyndall.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** \$7,500 non-refundable down payment day of auction with balance due upon delivery of Warranty Deed. Title insurance will be used with a 50-50 cost split between buyer and seller. Possession upon receipt of final payment. 2010 RE taxes prorated to closing. Announcements day of auction take precedence over printed material. Peterson Auctioneers are representing sellers.

**A line of antiques, collectibles, shop, household and miscellaneous items along with a pickup will be sold.**

**A complete listing will appear in the October 13 issue.**

## Jim and Maxine Fryda, Owners

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TERMS: Cash Not Responsible for Accidents

**Bon Homme County Cropland, Pasture and Acreage**

## AUCTION

**Monday, Oct. 11 -- 11 a.m.**

LOCATION: from Springfield, SD, 3 miles north on Highway 37 and 1/2 mile west

**Tract 1:** The S 495.5' of N54S' of E440' of NW1/4 2-93-60 - 5.01 acres. This tract consists of a 1,188 square foot 1 story 2 bedroom home with 2 car detached garage. This property situated on 5 acres offers a propane furnace, central a/c, all major appliances, B-Y Water and a great location on a blacktop road, only 5 minutes from access to the Missouri River.

**Tract 2:** NW1/4 of 2-93-60 less tract 1, 147.13 +/- acres. This tract is presently all pasture, a portion of which is suitable for tillage or hayland. Here is a pasture that is well fenced and cross fenced with good grazing rotation and weed control practices implemented.

**Tract 3:** Combination of Tracts 1 and 2.

**Tract 4:** NE1/4 2-93-60 - 151.40 +/- acres. This tract is all cropland with predominant soils being Yankton-Alcester and Homme-Onita and a soil rating of .789. Here is a highly productive level to very gently sloping farmland, some of the best Bon Homme County has to offer.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** 10% non-refundable down payment day of auction with balance due upon delivery of Personal Representatives Deed. Title Insurance will be used with a 50-50 cost split between buyer and seller. 2010 real estate taxes paid by estate. Possession of building site at closing, the balance March 1, 2011. Announcements day of auction take precedence over printed material. Peterson Auctioneers are representing seller.

## Peter J. Warrington Estate

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For photos go to [www.sdauctions.com](http://www.sdauctions.com)  
**Greg Walpole, Personal Representative**  
**Lisa Rothschild, Attorney for Estate**