

## LAURA ON LIFE

# Playing Monopoly Proves Insightful

If you want to know the true nature of a person, suggest a game of Monopoly with them.

Every characteristic, good and bad, comes out in a Monopoly game. You will learn about their business acumen, their patience, their compassion, their tolerance level, and their favorite color. I like the reds... and I'm always the iron. Ironic, since I hate ironing. Ironic, too, that ironic starts with iron.

I've known people that consistently buy Baltic and Mediterranean Avenues, not because they are the best deal, or they like the color, but because they like the location: immediately after passing GO. You get your \$200 paycheck and then you go home to your low rent apartment. Of course, buying these two properties and charging a measly \$2 for rent means, in essence, that you are a slumlord. The houses you buy are actually shacks and the hotels are tenement housing.

You have to use your imagination, here. Just



Laura Snyder

because the green and red cubes are the same ones you'd buy for Park Place, they cost less than a quarter of the price. That spells ghetto in any language.

Then you have the payers that dream of being so rich that Luxury Tax is just petty cash. I've always wondered why the Luxury Tax was paid by all passersby and not just the people that buy luxurious things: like the whole block of green and medium blue properties?

Of course, passersby would much rather land on Luxury Tax and gladly pay the \$75 than land on Pennsylvania Avenue with a

hotel.

I know people who want to be Railroad barons because they don't want to figure the math on houses and hotels. These fanatics would trade Ventura Avenue and Indiana Avenue just to get Reading Railroad. If you're the one who owns the other red and yellow properties, the railroad cartel people are your best friends.

Still they don't make sense to me. Unlike other properties, every time you collect another railroad, your income goes up. But even if you get all four railroads, you still only get the equivalent of passing GO. Many of these demented railroad barons think that if they own all the railroads they have a safe place to go when the hotels go up; as if they will ever land on them again the entire game.

If you land on a utility that someone else owns, you have to roll the dice to see what you owe. Shouldn't that be connected to how many houses you own? My electric bill is not a big surprise for me. It's

not a gamble, a roll of the dice. My water bill is only a surprise when someone forgot to turn the garden hose off for a couple of weeks. That could be considered a roll of the dice, I suppose.

Some players only want the properties that are mentioned on the Chance and Community Chest cards. They want to be the harbinger of doom for anyone who manages to tiptoe through all the hotel-ridden properties only to pick a card that sends the hapless traveler straight to St. Charles place with two hotels. Own it!

People like playing Monopoly because it gives us a feel for being high rollers with big bucks without risking anything. It's an approximation of real estate deals in a 1901 economy, except for one thing. When one runs out of money and can't pay the rent, there should be a "check's in the mail" feature. This feature would include at least 4 or 5 rounds to evict a tenant who cannot pay.

finding the right job is easier than you think



when you've got the right direction

Stop searching. The Help Wanted section of the Missouri Valley Shopper lists many possible new job opportunities. Find a career that's right for you.

MISSOURI VALLEY SHOPPER

To update the game to this millennium, they also need to include a Community Chest card that says "Government Stimulus Package." It doesn't do anything for anybody in real estate, but the bank won't let you buy more property unless you provide them with your first-born son.

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**Clay County, SD Land Auction**  
**234.38 Acres, Garfield Township**  
**Thursday, September 23, 2010**  
**10:30 AM**  
**Open House: Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010**  
**1:00-3:00 PM**

We sell at public auction the following real estate located from Beresford, SD, 9 miles south on I-29 to the Volin Exit, 3 1/2 miles west on 306<sup>th</sup> St.

This is a rare opportunity to purchase highly productive Clay County land that has been in the Silkenson family since it was homesteaded in 1884. That is 126 years of ownership by the same family! This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to expand your current farming operation or purchase as an investment. The land includes an acreage with a home, machine shed and grain bins. The real estate will be offered as two tracts:

**Tract 1: 155.36 Acres Legal: N 1/2 NE 1/4 and the S 1/2 NE 1/4 21-94-51 Clay County, SD.** According to the FSA office there is an estimated 146.4 acres of cropland, 72.7 acre corn base/83 bushel yield, a 72.5 acre soybean base/ 23 bushel yield. The land has been in corn and soybean rotation. Predominate soils include Egan-Chancellor-Davison and Egan-Clarno-Chancellor. Taxes: \$4686.82  
The tract includes a two story home, 2812 finished sq ft, 4 bedroom, 2 baths, rural water, established shelter belt, 48'x64' machine shed, grain bins and other out building.

**Tract 2: 79.02 Acres: Legal: N 1/2 SE 1/4 21 94 51 Clay County SD.** According to the FSA office there is an estimated 79 acres of cropland, 39.1 acre corn base/ 83 bushel yield, a 39 acre soybean base/ 23 bushel yield. The land has been a corn and soybean rotation. Predominate soils include Egan-Chancellor-Davison and Davison-Tetonka-Egan. Taxes: \$1605.76

**TERMS:** 10% nonrefundable down payment day of sale with the balance due on or before October 25, 2010. Sale subject to 2010 lease, farms are available to the new owners for the 2011 crop year. The home is available to move in March 1, 2011. Title insurance and closing costs split 50/50 between buyer and seller. 2009 taxes due in 2010 paid by the seller. 2010 taxes due in 2011 will be paid by the seller. Sold subject to existing easements, restrictions, reservations, or highway of record, if any. Statements made the day of sale take precedence over all written advertising. Real Estate licensees are agents for the seller. Sold subject to confirmation of owners.

**Evelyn C Silkensen & Karl and LaDonna Schulz**  
**David Stuart, Closing Attorney**  
For additional information, maps and pictures visit: [www.westraatkins.com](http://www.westraatkins.com)

Joel R. Westra, RE Auctioneer,  
Beresford, SD 605-310-6941

Pete Atkins, RE Auctioneer,  
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**Newcastle Consignment Auction**  
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Ed Huwaldt 402-337-0784 or Kelly Konken 402-254-3472  
Consign early for best results!

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**LOCATION-LOCATION-LOCATION**  
**7,800 sq. ft. Commercial Building on 1.3 acres**  
**AT AUCTION**  
Near Gavin's Point Dam Recreational Area on Hwy 52!  
**Monday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> • 6:00 PM**  
Located — 43583 SD Highway 52, Yankton, SD  
**OPEN HOUSE: Saturday August 28th 11AM to 12 noon & Friday Evening Sept 3rd 5PM – 6PM**

This commercial property is in a prime location, just 1/4 mile East of Gavin's Point Dam or 4 miles West of Yankton, SD on one of the busiest highways in South Dakota. Campgrounds located just across the highway.

This building has 7,800 sq ft with a showroom of 47x38, 2 front retail areas, 3 storage rooms, 2 offices and a public bathroom. This is all attached to a heated & cooled shop with service area and storage area. There are 2 garage doors connecting this area to the showroom. There are 3 deep bays, 2 with 14ft high doors (one is 12ft high), work area of 46x80 and a second floor storage area the same size. The North end of the building contains cold storage with a 10ft high door. Amenities include commercial water heater, propane furnaces (one in showroom--one in the shop), and commercial air lines plumbed throughout the building. This all sits on 1.3 acres with the building sitting on the West side that gives room for parking or expansion.

**This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for purchasing some of Yankton's best commercial Real Estate with endless possibilities. If you have been looking for that special spot to move or open your own business, this is it!**

**TERMS:** \$25,000 nonrefundable down payment due day of auction with the balance due on closing on or before Oct 13, 2010. Taxes are prorated to day of closing. Possession on closing. Title insurance and closing costs will be split 50/50 between buyer & seller. Yankton Title Company is the closing agent. Auctioneers are acting as agents for the seller in this transaction.

**LEGAL:** The South 251.41 feet except the West 35 feet of the North 45.41 feet, Lot 3, Parcel D and the South 226 feet except the North 20 feet, Lot 1, Parcel E and the East 100 feet and the North 34.63 feet of the South 286.04 feet, Lot 3, Parcel D in the NE1/4 of the NE1/4 Sec 17-93-56, Yankton County, South Dakota. Taxes are \$3970.34

**WAYNE KOLDEN, OWNER**  
Formerly Kolden Performance Marine

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