



Natalie's Neighborhood Newsletter

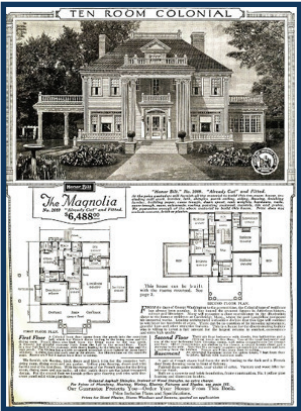
The Truth about Amazon's Tiny Homes

You can buy just about anything on Amazon, including a house “kit.” This is not a new concept. Between 1908 and 1940, you could buy 370 different house kits from a Sears and Roebuck catalog. The homes look just like any other, from cozy bungalows to two-story colonials.

The Sears kits included most of the materials needed. Once delivered, the houses were assembled by the new homeowner, relatives, friends and neighbors. Other homeowners relied on local carpenters or contractors to assemble the houses.

This is similar to what we’re seeing today via Amazon. Amazon itself is not manufacturing these homes. Like most products on Amazon, the sellers are third parties, so it pays to dig deep into the reviews before purchasing. That said, what are you likely to get in one of over 40 different Amazon-era tiny homes?

What you WON'T get... A foundation. Hook ups to your water, sewer, or electricity. Permits. Land to put it on. Sometimes no windows or doors. Sometimes no plumbing or wiring...just the frame of the house. Read the fine print. Due to the lack of hook-ups, many tiny homes are “off-grid,” meaning they use solar panels for electricity, a well or tank for water, and composting toilets for sewage.



What you WILL get... An inexpensive option for an extra “mother-in-law” apartment, guest house, or first home. Kits start at \$4,990 for essentially a cabin-feeling garden shed. At the other end, kits go for \$64,000 for a 1,300 sf two-story home. Then there are some that are not really kits, but pre-fabricated homes, like the \$149,591 Log House. The dividing line between “kit” and “prefabricated” home is fuzzy, but generally a kit can be put up by a determined home owner, whereas the prefab home requires a construction company.



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LOOK
INSIDE!
Pg. 3



Team Member Spot Light!

Trying to move into your next home before fall?

*It takes 60-90 days to close on a home.
Schedule a buying appointment now to
aim for a fall closing.*

925-580-9829

NATALIE SWANSON
REAL ESTATE TEAM
BUILDING COMMUNITY...ONE FAMILY AT A TIME



Want to Win a \$10 Coffee Card?

It’s easy to win! Just send in the answer to the quiz below. Each month, all correct entries have a chance of winning a coffee card. Put **QUIZ** in the subject and **email it to:**

Quiz@NatalieSwanson.com

You could be next months winner!

July Quiz Question:

I am always in front of you, but you will never see me. What am I?

Last Month’s Answer:
Indonesia

Congratulations to last month’s winner:
Judith McMurry



Having a garage sale? Need directional signs?

We have them! Just contact us and we will bring them to you!

Homes@NatalieSwanson.com
(925) 580-9829



GAME:
Match the Kitchens to Their Era

Each of the kitchens on the right contains a number. Put the numbers next to the decade they most closely match, from the oldest to the newest.

- 1950s/60s _____
- 1970s _____
- 1980s _____
- 1990s _____
- 2000s _____
- 2019s _____

Answers at the bottom (don’t peek).



Adventure Jobs Over 50: Traveling Brand Ambassadors

Here’s a story from www.nextavenue.org that might give you some new ideas about retirement.

After Silvana and Allan Clark’s youngest daughter went off to college, the couple got the itch to travel and try something new. They were fans of the charity Soles4Souls, which provides footwear for poor people in the United States. Silvana approached the nonprofit with an idea: If Soles4Souls would buy the Clarks an RV, they would drive around the country, giving away free shoes and promoting the organization.

The Clarks were effectively offering themselves as brand ambassadors. The charity signed on and gave them the titles “Sole Ambassadors.” For 19 months, the Clarks lived out of a Soles4Souls-branded RV, never once returning home. After arriving in a town, they’d receive shipments of shoes and would sort, organize and distribute them out of the RV.

While the Clarks created their own ambassadorship, there are many Brand Ambassador “gigs” available online. A little digging, a little negotiating, and you might find an ambassador gig that fits with your retirement plans.



ANSWERS: 1960s 6 / 1970s 1 / 1980s 3 / 1990s 4 / 2000s 5 / 2013 2



COMING SOON: LIVERMORE!

5692 Oakmont Circle, Livermore
323 Covellite Lane, Livermore

Say Yes to Saying No

Do you say yes to requests that commit you to things you don't really have time for or that make you feel stressed? There are many reasons that people say yes, when they want to say no: They feel a sense of duty and obligation. They want to be liked or appreciated. They don't want to miss out on something by saying no. They feel flattered. They want to avoid even the smallest hint of confrontation.

When you should say no, here are a few tips that might help:

- Know your priorities. If something doesn't fit in with your beliefs or needs, don't do it. Say no. Stand your ground.
- Don't over explain about your situation. Just politely say no. Or say that you have a different priority that you need to take care of.
- Say no as soon as possible to avoid dragging the situation out.



Thank You!

Special thanks this month to...

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| • John & Caterina Culhane | • Jas & Raj Sidhu |
| • Martin & Cynthia Van Slyke | • Aneesh Nainani |
| • Liane Burton | • Sharath Bandela |
| • Terry & Patricia Carty | |

I hope you feel comfortable introducing me to the people you care about, so I can help them with their real estate needs.

Team Member Spotlight



Andrea Purl

Admin Specialist

Meet Andrea Purl, the newest member to the Swanson Real Estate Team. Andrea joins our team as an Admin Specialist and Realtor, licensed since January, 2015. Andrea's attention to detail and organizational skills are instrumental in her current responsibilities assisting our Director of Operations and our Production Manager with day to day tasks. You may run into Andrea hosting our broker tours around the Livermore Valley or out and about with her twin boys, Bryce and Bradley.

Andrea and her husband Robert, are Livermore natives and love spending time with their boys. Anything outdoors and adventurous, camping or barbecuing with friends is where you are likely to find the family of four in their spare time.

Please join us in welcoming, Andrea Purl, to the Swanson Team.



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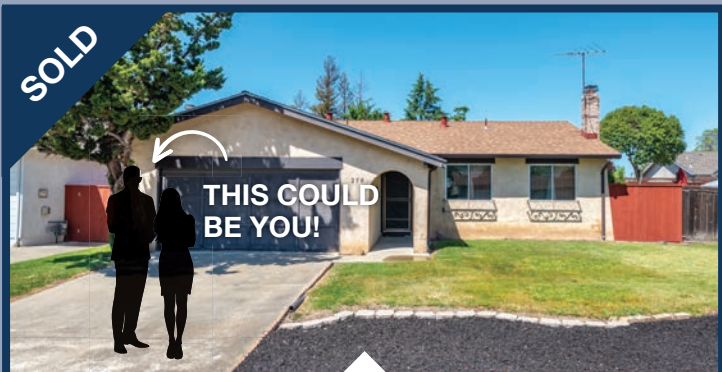


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Postal Customer



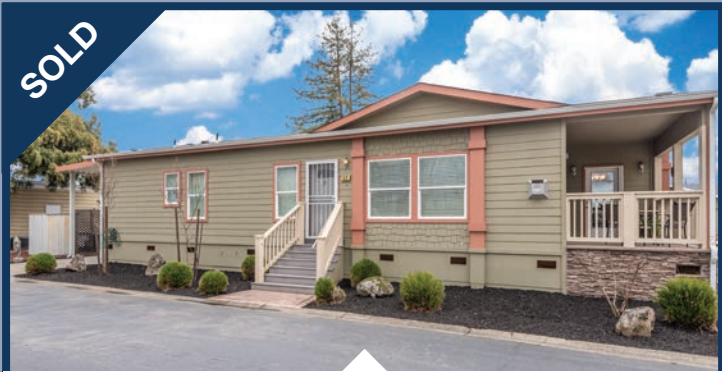
3990 Princeton Way, Livermore, CA **\$726,000**



250 Amber Way, Livermore, CA **\$635,000**



2948 Chateau Way, Livermore, CA **\$1,265,000**



3263 Vineyard Avenue, #52, Pleasanton, CA **\$369,000**



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