

Guest Column



by **Gina Mosey**,
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HISTORY GIVES US A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE ON THE VALUE OF THE HUMAN ELEMENT, TODAY

You may recall, as I do, 50 years ago today - July 21, 1969 - humans made footprints on the moon. I watched the landing with my parents live on TV, along with an estimated 600 million others (20% of the world's population). I remember thinking I wouldn't want to go to the moon because it must be uncomfortable to wear all that hardware.

The moon landing wouldn't have happened without the power of a computer, and it wouldn't have happened without the senses of a human.

The journey is driven mostly by two computers - one in the Command Module, the other in the Lunar Module. Both are the same. Each is the size of a small safe deposit box. It weighs 70 pounds and knows 38,000 words. It is an impressive piece of technology in its day. It makes all the calculations necessary to fly the astronauts 240,000 miles to the moon.

Three minutes into the lunar descent, Commander Neil Armstrong is bothered by the fact that he is seeing craters pass by his window sooner than he should. He quickly realizes the computer wants to land the Lunar Module four miles past the planned landing zone. That will put it down in a crater filled with boulders. A landing there will be catastrophic.

Using the skills of an excellent pilot - using his human knowledge, experience, and trust - he makes a command decision and takes manual control of the spacecraft. He quickly looks for, and finds, a flat patch of the moon the computer couldn't see.

On the audio recordings of the event, you can hear Armstrong say "contact light." He eases Eagle down onto the moon's surface like a boss. "OK. Engine stop." A moment later he says, "Tranquility base here. The Eagle has landed." Humankind is on the moon.

The extra distance burns more fuel than originally planned. Only about 40 seconds of propellant burn time is left in the tank.

So, what's my point of sharing all of this in a column about real estate?

Simply this: here on this planet, most people today begin their real estate search with the power of a computer and end it with the senses of a REALTOR®, and with good reason.

Only a REALTOR® can look out your window and help you land. They can help you find the right house, make the best deal, and process all the paperwork. Having a partner along with you for, perhaps, the biggest journey of your life can make all the difference on earth.

Next time you are in the market for residential real estate, take inspiration from our trip to the moon and contact a REALTOR® - you'll find the experience out of this world.

That's who we R®!



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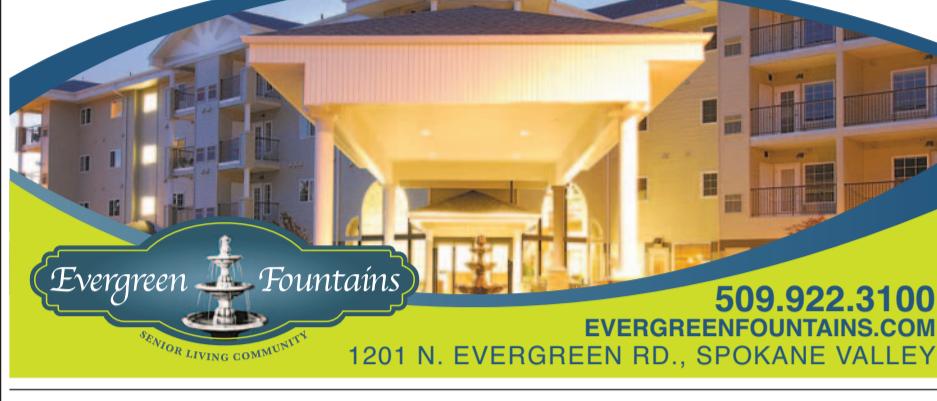
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