

# DECEMBER

The month of December is the 12th and last month of the year. It is best known for Christmas which is celebrated on the 25th. December is a busy month filled with baking, holiday parties, gift-gifting, and religious worship. Businesses work to meet their annual goals and work to prepare for the new year ahead.

**Birthstones**: Turquoise, Tanzanite, and Zircon **Zodiac Signs**: Sagittarius and Capricorn: **Flowers**: Holly and narcissus

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- 1 Dec. the First Day of Advent
- 7 Dec. <u>National Pearl Harbor Remembrance</u> <u>Day</u>
- 15 Dec. Bill of Rights Day
- 17 Dec. Wright Brother's Day
- 21 Dec. Winter Solstice Day
- 25 Dec. Christmas
- 25 Dec. The Beginning of Hanukkah
- 26 Dec. is <u>Boxing Day</u> (Canada, UK) and the first day of <u>Kwanzaa</u>
- <u>31 Dec. New Years Eve</u>

#### IMPORTANT PEOPLE

Rosa Parks – December 1, 1955, refuses to give up her seat on a bus to a white person; her arrest sparks the modern civil rights movement in the US

Jane Austen – was born on December 16th, 1775. She was English author of popular novels such as Pride and Prejudice, Emma, and Sense and Sensibility. Her novels often conveyed a feminist narrative and critique of British gentry.

Clara Barton – was born on December 25th, 1821. She was the founder of the Red Cross. Her humanitarian efforts have generated disaster relief, emergency assistance, and higher-quality education in the United States.

Marie Curie – on December 26, 1898, Marie and her husband Pierre, announced to the French Academy of Sciences that she had isolated radium. Marie Curie went on to receive two Nobel Prizes.

Click below for more information about women's history: National Women's History Alliance

December has the clarity, the simplicity, and the silence you need for the best fresh start of your life.

> - Vivian Swift Author

# N E W S L E T T E R

# CHIT-CHAT

W.O.W-WOMEN OPTIMINZING WOMEN ™ ELEVATE YOUR NETWORK, EMPOWER YOUR SUCCESS



#### There are no limitations

There are numerous opportunities to grow and expand your business or career. Each one of us has a set group of traits, habits, experiences, and opportunities. We cannot forget timing and our beliefs. Most of us pursue the academic path of courses and traditional education through our colleges thinking the receipt of a sheepskin will result in a well-paid job and numerous opportunities. Over the past several decades and more importantly, over the past couple of years we have discovered traditional education through college has a less than desirable outcome. There was a sense of betraval by some compounded by an enormous amount of debt. The luster had worn off. The rigors of the education process had dulled the passion to pursue the career of our dreams (or those of our parents). Perhaps the masses were not meant for academia. We are all well aware that the expenses of tuition, room and board, and supplies and books can lead to financial suicide and a fouryear degree cost of \$250,000 is not unheard of and may hinder your chance to purchase a car or a home. There are alternatives to learning. A local community college for an AA degree may be a better choice if one is looking on a 4year degree. The costs are much more economical and geographically closer cutting back on travel expenses. However, be certain the credits can be transferred to the next college entity. What about non-traditional opportunities like the trades such as plumbers, electricians, truck drivers, People have diverse needs and interests. The etc? resurgence and interest in the trades tell me our educators finally listened to us instead of dictating our career path. Bringing back the trades to both our high schools and communities unleashes another spectrum of employment opportunities that are both well-needed and provide a good income - perhaps even higher than those other traditional occupations available through college.

Consult with a career advisor or coach to attain further insight. W.O.W has several members to help you. Visit our W.O.W member directory <u>Membership</u> Look within. Explore yoga or Reiki partners to improve your performance and get to know yourself better. <u>Is Reiki real?</u> Did you ever wonder what your life path number is? You may want to research it on <u>LifePathNumber</u> to uncover your numerology and your key traits, strengths, and weaknesses. Some of these suggestions may be fun and exciting while exploring opportunities you never imagined.



### WOW Member Spotlight

Each month we will introduce a couple of the WOW ladies via this newsletter - Chit-Chat and look forward to introducing so many more in the future. Women like:

#### PATRICIA SANDERS-Tax Preparer

H & R Block patricia.sanders@hrblock.com Carroll Plaza Shopping Ctr (410) 848-1065 250 Englar Rd Unit R10b Westminster, MD 21157

Filing your taxes is just part of our services. H&R Block is here for your tax preparation needs. My background is in Property Management and Accounting. Since Retiring ir 2015, I joined H & R Block. Saving money and understanding your tax liabilities and benefits can be solved by contacting me.

#### Miranda Price, Vice President

Client Service Advisor Pinnacle Financial Partners 6100 Merriweather Dr. Suite 210 Columbia, MD 21044 Office: 443-873-3698 Cell: 703-855-3004 Fax: 667-786-6675 <u>Miranda.price@pnfp.com</u>

Having spent 20 years in Banking I have a passion for helping people and teaching Financial Literacy. I am a single mother to twin 11-year-olds (1 boy/1girl), love nature and hiking and love to cook and bake. My family is what drives me to keep doing what I do. I am committed to building long lasting relationships with clients to achieve their goals from home ownership, sending their kids to college, starting their own small business to retiring with peace of mind with a company that shares my same values.

WOW Annual Memberships are available on the WOW website: <u>HTTPS://WOWWOMENUS.COM/ME</u> <u>MBERSHIP/</u>







Looking for something to do? John Street Quarters, Westminster adjacent to the Fire Department. KICK OFF YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON WITH US! FEATURING UNIQUE, BEAUTIFUL, AND HANDCRAFTED TREES • Silent Auction with Virtual & Buy Now Options • Live Music • Cash & Carry Table • Artisan Gifts • Photo Booth • Raffles | ShepherdsStaffCC www.shepstaff.org 410.857.5944 info@shepstaff.org | Silent auction ends Sunday at 2 pm, with tree pickup from 4 to 6 pm. A Christian Outreach and Support Center 18th ANNUAL

OR Sharing with our Carroll community - The event is on Dec. 7th from 11 am to 3 pm at the American Legion Post 31 - <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/.../international-food-tasting...</u> We are taking only 7 vendors for this event. If you are in the Carroll/Baltimore area and make it, please let us know.

For \$70, you get two event tickets, including a table and two chairs, so you can sample all the food available. We also accept food donations if anyone from around the world is interested in donating a dish. <u>https://expandingboundaries.org/international-food../</u>

## Support our Non-Profits

## PAID SUBSCRIBER BENEFITS and New Opportunities

Noon Talk with Barb is a new weekly session in Membership Courses designed to help you elevate your business with actionable insights.

Join every Wednesday from 12 Noon to 12:30 in the Mighty Networks Membership.

Opportunities to showcase your business and host your own course are available in 2025. Subscription Members Only.

### Reflecting on 2024 and Building Your Best 2025

ricia Soderstrom, Digital Operations Specialis

As 2024 winds down, it's the perfect time to pause, reflect, and plan for an even brighter 2025. It's true, I am a planner. I love paper and digital planners. I love to sit with colored pens filling in my goals pages and creating a plan for success. It's important for me to have flexibility and to allow margin in my life. I've learned the importance of dreaming about the life I want and being intentional to implement what I need to make that happen. I am just as intentional about what I want for my business. I've learned to allow space in my calendar to include family and friends, learning, and hobbies. Part of my planning includes a year-end business review. Creating a year-end business review helps you celebrate achievements, learn from challenges, and refocus your energy.

Start by getting a spiral notebook. Ask yourself the following questions

- What were my biggest wins this year?
- What challenges taught me the most
- What do I need to change?

Don't forget to acknowledge personal and spiritual growth, relationships, and obstacles you overcame.

Once you've reviewed your year, turn your insights into action for 2025. Set SMART goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) that align with your vision. Break them into quarterly milestones and create a plan to track your progress.

You'll want to write down the main goals and then begin to think about what it will take to achieve them. Don't be afraid to brainstorm and make your page messy. Once you've clarified how you will achieve your goals rewrite or type them out so you can review them each quarter. I like to write out my main goal and then break it down into quarterly, monthly, and finally weekly actions on my planner in the goals section. If you don't have a planner with a goals section there are many quarterly goals workbooks online that can be downloaded for free.

Remember, this isn't about adding stress to your already busy life, it's about growth and alignment and living life on purpose. Take time to appreciate how far you've come and step into 2025 with confidence and clarity!

## **IMPORTANT WOW DATES**

## WOW Virtual Meeting

December 2, 2024, 10:00 TO 11 a.m.

#### VIA ZOHO MEETING

WOW UPDATES: DISCUSSION-WOW OPPORTUNITIES, BEST PRACTICES, ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2024 & GOALS OF 2025. CO-HOST: TRICIA SODERSTROM - DISCUSSION-BASIC TIPS AND TECHNIQUES, CALENDARS AND TIPS FOR SUCCESS! LINK: <u>https://meet.zoho.com/baPIbfCdLJ</u>

Meeting ID: 1092028729 | Password: LBh82P click and join on the membership page!

## **In-Person W.O.W**

There is no in-person W.O.W event for December. Our next in-person W.O.W event will be in March, 2025



# \$50 for each paid new member referral.

2 FREE hours of consultation time with me for 3 paid referrals.

offer valid until 12/31/24

Join W.O.W-Women Optimizing Women's Annual Membership with Free Limited Access Membership!

Relevate Your Network, Empower Your Success! Relevate Your professional and personal connections to the next level. W.O.W invites you to join our vibrant, supportive community of ambitious women.

#### Membership benefits include:

- Exclusive access to a diverse network of businesswomen to build lasting relationships and referrals
- Monthly virtual and in-person events, guest speaker series featuring industry leaders
- Peer mentorship opportunities and access to our private online community
- Newsletters, podcasts, and interviews to showcase your business
- Support for economic growth, career development, and confidence in technology and resources
- PAID MEMBERSHIPS ONLY: Your name and business spotlight on our website Member Directory, giving you serious recognition
- Access online resources, discussions, and valuable insights to enhance your career and personal development.
- Forge meaningful connections and grow personally and professionally with W.O.W!



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Numerology.com Life Path Number How to Calculate viewed November 22, 2024 Medical News Today Medically reviewed by Kerry Boyle D.Ac., M.S., L.Ac.,

Dipl. Ac., CYT — Written by Tim Newman — Updated on July 12, 2024 viewed November 22, 2024

Visit the <u>WOW FB</u> or <u>Website Events Page</u> for details.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY!

Please email your contact and business information to our WOW admin, Tricia Soderstrom -hello@triciasoderstrom.com