

Women IN BUSINESS



**LORRI
TRUCKE**

Trucke's 1-Stop

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN YOUR LINE OF WORK AND WHAT GOT *you* STARTED?

"I didn't have a gas station prior to this. I was more into accounting and bookkeeping since I was young. My mother had a tax service, so I learned from her. I've been doing this work for about 40 years now. I got into it because it was an icy day and my husband slipped on the ice and hurt his ankle and couldn't walk so, I said 'I can pump gas' so that's how it started.

Then I realized more bookkeeping was needed there too so once he started feeling better, I stepped in to help out. And then we grew, it started out as a little business. We had many nights of crying, going:

“How are we going to afford this place?”

And that was when it was \$300 a month... But if you try, it's hard work.

WHAT WOULD YOU TELL *your* YOUNGER SELF?

"Have confidence. Sometimes I was bashful and afraid to ask people questions back then. I was afraid to make phone calls because I thought I didn't know enough. I can say afterwards, you need to actually look for answers. Don't be afraid to ask questions. You don't have all the answers, that's why we have doctors and lawyers etc."

WHAT PIECE OF PROFESSIONAL ADVICE HAS HELPED YOU IN *your* CAREER?

"I realized that if you're going to have a business, it doesn't matter what your business is you need to have good records, good bookkeeping and if you don't have that, you don't have a good business. And that was given to me by my mother. She was featured in Amazing Women in America in 1988. She had a tile business with 30 employees and that was back when women were not in that society, especially construction. And that also falls on me, when I got the gas station they were like:

“ A woman pumping gas?
You've got to be kidding. ”

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE FUTURE *women* LEADERS?

"Like I said before, have confidence. Look for people that know more than you. It's okay to find out that someone else knows more than you. Get their responses, have them work with you, make a team."

WHO IN SEASIDE THAT IS A WOMAN IN BUSINESS INSPIRES *you?*

"I look up to all the women in Seaside. There are so many that run real estate businesses, there was a lady who started her own brokerage firm, **Theresa Brown** who set up my employees, so they have a retirement fund when they leave.

I also remember going to the Seaside hospital when I cut my finger at work when we had the meat slicer and doctor was a woman and the nurse was a man. And that was back 30 years ago and I thought that was so unusually but it was a wake up call to say:

“ Any of us women can do what we want and put our mind to. ”