



# Warren Wealth Wisdom

*Putting Clients First*



## Big Picture Goals & Reacting When 'Life Happens'

As the first month of a new decade is drawing to a close, it's easy to get caught up in the whirlwind a new year brings – both professionally and personally. For most people, year-end typically entails setting resolutions and spending time reflecting on what they want 2020 to be from a “big

picture goal” standpoint. Sometimes, folks break it down into weekly or even daily goals, fully embracing the idea of a “fresh start.”

However, the reality is, even though it's a fresh start, life happens. You may not have as much time as you thought you might. Your family's schedule may not allow you to focus on those things you want to focus on. Perhaps the flu has hit your home hard and brought your progress to a screeching halt.

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# WWA Team News

## Reflecting on 2019

### Chris

2019 brought both joy and sadness to the Collins family. After a long battle with pancreatic cancer, and a drug trial that allowed the fight to continue, Chris' brother-in-law Steve passed away over the summer in N.C.. It is a disease the Collins family, unfortunately, knows too well - Chris' brother Dennis lost his battle to the same horrible disease a few years ago. On the positive side, Sue and Chris were able to escape some of the N.J.. winter weather and visit clients in warmer climates; they hope to see more of you this winter too! Sue and Chris' boys have been quite busy over the past year as well, with Zach now having celebrated a full year with his company, which allowed for several business trips, including 3 weeks in Australia! Garrett is beginning his second year of college, working toward obtaining his MBA and BS in four years (with no extra cost to mom and dad!). The Collins celebrated two family weddings this year, the first being for WWA family member, who is also Sue's cousin, Jenica! The second was their nephew Bryan who was married in Rhode Island. They rounded out the year hosting LOTS of family at their house for the holidays. They hosted over 70 people during the week, with three different family parties and even a visit to N.Y.. As the youngest of six kids, Chris remembers always being surrounded by lots of family, but with the losses they have experienced in the last several years, he has tremendous gratitude for their family.



Top: Chris and his family.  
Right: Chris and wife Sue



Our office holiday luncheon

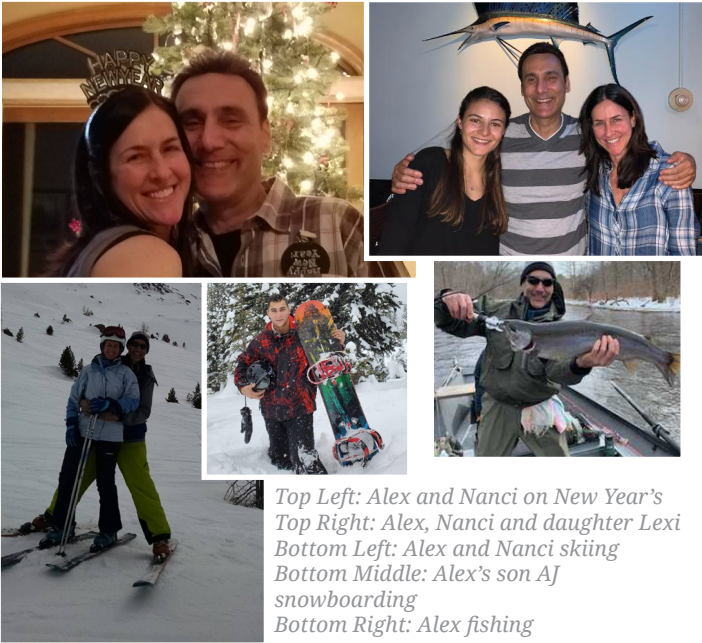


Top Left: Jen and Eleanor  
Top Right: Scott, his sister Meghan and his daughter Eleanor  
Left: Baby Eleanor showing off her happiness

### Scott

2019 was a very special year for Scott and Jen! They became parents for the first time! While they didn't have an easy road to get there, little Eleanor is exactly what they expected: crazy, beautiful, and high energy! Jen continues to run her massage therapy practice while also being the primary caretaker for Eleanor (moms are amazing!). Looking forward to the new year, Scott and Jen plan on spending a week down on the Jersey Shore, as well as visiting Jen's family in Michigan. They will also be attending a family wedding in the spring and are eager to see what else is in store for their soon-to-be 1-year-old!





Top Left: Alex and Nanci on New Year's  
Top Right: Alex, Nanci and daughter Lexi  
Bottom Left: Alex and Nanci skiing  
Bottom Middle: Alex's son AJ snowboarding  
Bottom Right: Alex fishing

## Alex

In 2019, Alex decided to take on a significant challenge to improve our business. Knowing the world has changed in many ways, Alex found that the advancements in technology have brought many opportunities for improved asset management and client service. In 2019, he found solutions to better automate many processes in the business, bringing costs down for clients and improving the service model. As some of you know, Alex enjoys skiing and fishing and he made sure to take opportunities when he could to enjoy his hobbies. Like most, he celebrated this year's accomplishments with family and friends.

## Connie

In 2019, Connie mainly focused on doing extensive landscaping to her home, as well as installing a new front door. She also did a makeover of her dining room and living room. In 2020, Connie will continue her home renovations with a makeover of her master bedroom and enlarging her outside patio. Connie and her family are also looking forward to a trip to Niagara Falls and possibly Graceland (everyone knows how much she loves Elvis!).



Left: Connie and her son Chris  
Bottom: Connie's cat Rusty



Top Left: Jenica and Jim's wedding  
Top: Jenica and Jim at Christmas  
Left: Jenica and her family

## Jenica

2019 brought a lot of excitement into Jenica's world with her engagement in January and subsequent marriage to her husband Jim in May, as well as their honeymoon to the British Virgin Islands in November. She continued her work with horseshoe crabs and with the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization throughout the year. Professionally, Jenica celebrated her 6th year with Warren Wealth Associates and attended a very informative home office conference in September. In 2020, Jenica hopes to continue enhancing Warren Wealth's message and looking for further opportunities for the team to serve their community.



# Financial Goals for the New Year

## *5 Ideas That Can Set You Up for the Entire Decade*

Even though January has practically come and gone by now, it's never a bad time to review the big-picture of your finances. A new quarter, a new month, a new week or even a new day offers the unique opportunity to start fresh and take control. Here are five ideas that build on each other and can help you to get in front of your finances in 2020.

If you need help with any of these strategies, don't hesitate to contact us - we're standing by to assist you!

### 1. Make a Budget

Many people who struggle with money do so because they aren't managing it well. Setting up a first-time budget can be a struggle, but it's absolutely doable. A budget can help you reduce your spending in a specific category (like dining out) and help you save for big things (like a trip or a house).

### 2. Start Saving

As you are "finding" more money in your day-to-day because of a successful budget, you can start putting some of that away for a rainy day. We recommend saving at least 10% of your income each month, and if you can swing it, do this in addition to your retirement plan contributions. Saving can feel tough, but small changes add up to a huge difference. Consider eating out less, reducing your grocery bill, and cutting down on utilities.

### 3. Decrease Debt

Now that you've set a budget and are saving, you can start to chip away at debt. Try a snowball system, where as you pay off one thing, you apply that monthly payment toward another thing. If you tackle the lowest debt first, it will get easier and easier to take out the larger debt. Being debt-free can reduce stress levels, give you job flexibility and overall peace of mind.

### 4. Start Investing

Investing your money in smart ways can exponentially increase it over time. Investments can be placed in solutions like a stock portfolio or a retirement plan. We can help you to identify your risk tolerance and set you up with investments that align with that - so even if the market fluctuates, you can feel comfortable with your choices.

### 5. Increase Your Knowledge

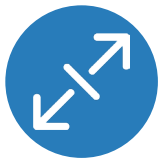
The best way to set yourself up for the long-run is to make sure you understand your finances. We can help you with this by answering your questions, but you can also spend time reading or listening to books and podcasts. Set a goal to learn one new thing about finances each month so that you can better understand how to successfully manage your money.





# Big Picture Goals & Reacting When 'Life Happens'

When life happens, it can be hard to get back on track. Here are some tips to help you check-in with the resolutions you set, get back on track, and stick with it for the long haul...



## Is your goal too broad?

Sometimes, big goals feel doable until you're actively going for them. Now that you've had a month working toward your resolution, try breaking down that broad goal into "bite size chunks". This will help you feel accomplished along the way.



## Did you give up?

If so, take some time to determine why that goal is important, and what's keeping you from working toward it. Maybe you just need slight adjustments to your routine to achieve it? If you're going to give up, ensure it's for legitimate reasons and not easy excuses.



## Do you have a vision board?

This proven method helps you to actually see your goals and intentions - whether that's the next five years or the next five months. Put it someplace you can reflect on it daily and become inspired to keep moving toward your goals.



## Do you have financial goals for 2020?

If any of your goals for 2020 revolve around your finances, or consist of making sure you've set up yourself, your business or your family for success in the future - we'd love to help! Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns about getting on the right track for the future.



# Planning for Life in 2020

Are any of the following life events in your plan for 2020? Even if they're not, it's always a good idea to keep these "on the radar" as points in your life when you should review your financial plans, retirement plans, and maybe even your estate and legacy plans. If you know that they're coming up this year, you can set an appointment ahead of time to review your plans, or for immediately following – that way life doesn't get in the way of your good intentions.

- Marriage
- Divorce
- New babies
- New grandchildren
- Kids off to college
- Retirement

- Starting a business
- Leaving or selling a business
- Buying a home
- Buying a vacation/second home
- Selling a home
- Taking a large trip, especially internationally
- Buying a car
- Selling a car
- Joining the military
- Starting a new job
- Getting a promotion

If you have any questions about what you should be doing with your plans and how they should change based on your unique situation(s), don't hesitate to contact us! We're happy to help!

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