



THERESA MANZELLA

for House District 85



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Well...I wasn't blessed to be born in the beautiful Bitterroot Valley of Montana, but I got here just as soon as I could! After spending an extended working vacation here in 1991, I became a proud resident in 1992.

Mom and dad were married for 14 years before I was born on Thanksgiving Day, 1964, the only child of Nick and Trudy Manzella. Momma is a kind hearted liberal and Daddy is a self made, conservative. The past 20 years as a conservative, small business owner, living in a liberal world has helped me gain clarity on many things. I firmly believe in teaching a man to fish vs. giving him one. If the man is so weak with hunger that he does not have the strength to fish, I'll certainly share some of mine until he's strong enough to fish for himself, but I fully expect him to fish, just as soon as he's able.

After high school, I did what everyone in Michigan did at that time, and got a job in the auto industry. First as temporary employee at Pontiac Motors Headquarters, soon being hired permanently by Electronic Data Systems. "Promote based on performance" was the EDS policy; not on education and seniority, as was the GM policy. At 24; I was promoted to Supervisor, becoming the youngest on staff, working side by side GM employees. I was responsible for the training, productivity and evaluation of 18 Consumer Advisors. My team had the best numbers...number of calls and letters processed, attendance and advancement of people; but yet I made ½ as much money as my GM counterparts. GM was going through its first corporate restructure at the time and I could read the writing on the wall. It was time to follow my dream of raising performance horses out west, and it never occurred to me that I might fail.

I sold my home, packed up my belongings in the front of my 4 horse, stock trailer, loaded two horses in the back and 2 cats and a dog in the cab with me, and headed for Montana. I settled in Sula and was blessed to be taken under the wings of so many honest, hard working people. Feeling akin to the land, Ag is near and dear to my heart and I support ranchers and the ranching life style 100%.

In 1994 I moved onto the property where I currently reside, in Charlos Heights. That's where my education in conservatism really began. Living within my means has always been important to me and I was raised with the philosophy that if I couldn't provide it for myself, I simply didn't need it. I spent the next 12 years single, building my facility, my horsemanship skills and my business. The result is a 52 acre, multiple residence, safe and functional horse training and breeding facility, most of which is paid for, and 23 State, Regional and National High Point Year End Championships in my chosen discipline of Reining. It was around that same time frame that I came to know the Lord as my personal Savior and learned the distinct difference between believing in God and knowing the Lord. He saw fit to bless me with my Cowkids for Christ Youth Horsemanship program, and to date, I consider it "our" greatest accomplishment. In 2009, I was awarded Business Person of the Year by our Chamber of Commerce.

I married Ken Lengyel in 2006 and he's been a tremendous asset and influence in my life. Former Marine, honest, hard working, committed, loyal, patriot, who holds his Master Electricians license in Montana, and now Alaska, where he has been working for the past year and a half. It is with his complete support that I pursue this political path.

In 2009, being spurred to action after an extreme case of horse abuse that visited our valley, the Lord orchestrated the beginning of the Willing Servants, Inc, which is a 501c3 non profit horse rescue and rehoming project, focused on horse welfare while preserving owners rights. This innocent attempt to do a good deed catapulted me smack dab into the middle of the Animal Rights movement, which has played an important role in preparing me for politics. It is out of a genuine love and deep concern for our country and our state that I have chose to enter this new arena.

JUST SAY



TO THE BIG GOVERNMENT RUNAWAY!

Theresa Manzella



Paid for by Theresa Manzella for HD 85