

REVIEWED

Pat Day Hartwell

Position sought: Idaho Senate, District 11

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SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF IDAHO

I was born in Boise and went to Cloverdale, Homedale and Kuna schools and then attended College of Idaho for two years. I married my husband, John Hartwell of Meridian, and moved to Moscow for him to get his Masters in Nuclear Chemistry from the University of Idaho. I am 68 years old and we have been married 48 years. We have two children and 3 grandchildren. I have a B.A. in Law and Justice from Central Washington University.

We moved to Caldwell in 2012. We wanted to be closer to my family and to have a larger farm (20 acres) in a warmer climate. My mother, Dorothy Day of Kuna, was born in Wilder and grew up in Canyon County. My father, Robert S. Day, was a lifelong dairy farmer and raised registered Jerseys. My grandmother, Cora Stephens, lived in Canyon County from 1923 to 1986. I lived in Caldwell from 1965 to 1967.

After my husband's graduation, we moved to Richland, Washington where in addition to raising our family, I did volunteer work with minority and at risk youth and served on the City Human Rights Commission. I became a VISTA volunteer for two terms working with Legal Aid and began aiding domestic violence and rape victims.

In 1978, we back moved to Idaho and I continued my 30 year career working with crime victims. I worked as a paralegal in the law firm Holden, Kidwell, Hahn and Crapo for 4 years. I helped set up the domestic violence shelter and rape crisis program in Idaho Falls and helped build some 15 programs around the State. We formed a statewide, non-profit organization to train and work together for common goals; I served as President for 4 years. We succeeded in gaining permanent statewide funding for shelters and the formation of the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence.

Later I was appointed to the Council, we gained federal funding for all victims of violent crime and I was elected Chair of the Council. Later, Attorney General Larry EchoHawk appointed me to his committee to study victim's right in Idaho. We developed the Constitutional Amendment

for Victim's Rights for Idaho. This created the right for the victim to be in the court room during their assailant's trial and many other important rights. We then formed a campaign committee. It had to pass both houses of the legislature and then was adopted by 82% of the people. I worked for many other changes to aid victims. By the time I retired, I was Executive Director of the Rape Response & Crime Victim Center continuing to provide 24/7 services for some 7 counties in Eastern Idaho for 26 years. I also worked two years for Adoptions In Idaho with women placing their babies for adoption.

I was a 4-H Leader for 15 years, I was Citizen of the Year for the City of Idaho Falls in 1990, and Soroptomist of the Year. I was a founding member of the Idaho Falls NAACP. I received the Outstanding Victims Services Practitioner Award in 1999 for the State for Idaho.

While we miss our friends in Idaho Falls, we love it here and enjoy the spinning and weaving community and our small farm. My husband and I have raised sheep since our kids were in 4-H in the late 70's and we began specializing in raising wool sheep in 1991. I am involved in three spinning and weaving groups. We raise Romney, Wensleydale and CVM sheep for handspinners and I have a fiber arts shop and sell their wool as well as spinning wheels, yarn and other fiber art tools.

Voters should vote for me because we need change in the statehouse.

The 78,000 people in the gap desperately need health care coverage and that was foolishly denied by this past session of the legislature. Health experts around the state say that denial has led to loss of life and permanent and on-going damage to people's health. I visited with many people who had enormous health bills and with their small businesses etc. just couldn't figure out how to keep going. This is a great shame on us. At the same time, it is huge foolishness. We are paying enormous indigent bills through the counties and the hospitals say they are eating some of these bills as well. We are turning down federal dollars that we have no trouble accepting for highways, education, and other programs. Let's stop it and join the majority of the United States by accepting Medicaid expansion.

Education is one of my priorities including continuing increases in teacher's salaries, reducing college costs, working for more vocational programs. I think we can do this with money from

the general fund and not wasting money on frivolous lawsuits and continuing to reduce costs by reducing incarceration. By our Idaho Constitution, we are to provide “a general uniform and thorough system of public free common schools.” Funding levels are now near those of 2009. We need to prioritize increases in educational funding. The funding to aid an early reading program this session was important. I think financial aid to students for college and vocational training will provide the greatest incentive for post high school studies. The legislature should have a study committee on tuition free community colleges. I don't like hearing of kids paying fees and various charges, public school is to be FREE.

We should raise the minimum wage; and ease it in over time based on the Oregon model where the wage is different based on the cost of living in that particular region or area. This would increase productivity. It would put money in the pockets of people who spend it which would boost the economy. It would also increase state revenue.

I support water rights and re-charging the Aquifer. I support free speech and am for adding the words. I am pro-choice.

Our government would work a lot better with a two party system where ideas are vetted and people's voices are heard. The failure of this legislature is in the imbalance in both parties representation so there is no competition. This election hinges on having a huge turnout of people coming out and voting for real changes. The one party domination seems to squelch ideas. Cooperating with the other party is important too. We need a big voter turnout. Change can happen. We can do it.