

My name is Anne Elizabeth Dungan, but I've always been known as Betsy. Many of you know my parents, Anne and Gary Dungan.

I grew up in New Orleans and attended Louisiana State University after high school graduation. I left LSU to devote time to my two great loves – hospitality service and horses – by designing and implementing a new training program at one of New Orleans' many fine restaurants, while teaching horseback riding lessons at New Orleans' only professional riding facility. My parents moved back to Harpers Ferry, and I followed a few years later to attend Shepherd University, while working full time at the Bavarian Inn and helping to care for my grandmother, June Newcomer, who was at that time in the terminal stage of Parkinson's disease.

After Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, I went back for a year to help friends rebuild their homes and businesses. Although my family has always been active in community politics, I didn't "catch the bug" until I watched my friends and neighbors down south, energized for the first time at the prospect of really being able to influence the policies and decisions that govern their communities as they put their lives back together street by street and neighborhood by neighborhood.

Now I am back in West Virginia, and am expecting my first child. I hope to bring the perspective of working young people to the legislative processes that deeply affect all of our lives. I look forward to hearing from everyone in my district and learning their ideas on how I can make things better.