



Coweta County Board of Education
District 4: Linda Menk (Incumbent) and Norman Lundin
Primary Election: May 22, 2018
Chamber Mission: Champion increased economic prosperity for our members

Candidate	Linda Menk	Norman Lundin
Age	68	78
# Years in County	14	26
Education	Bachelor's degree from Abraham Baldwin School of Nursing. Various Courses via Clemson University. National Council for Housing Management (NCHM) and American Society of Testing & Materials (ASTM) required for Chief Underwriter certification.	Northeastern University, Boston - Mechanical Engineering. Rhode Island School of Design - Bachelor of Architecture. Harvard University, Graduate School of Design - attended studies in Master Planning and Urban Design. USAF - Courses in advanced engineering, senior management, Air Command and Staff, Air War College, National Security Management, National Defense University Industry - many courses and seminars on specialized military/industrial applications.
Work Experience	1988-present: Mortgage Banker /Chief Underwriter / Director - Vice President tenures with various top 10 multifamily housing lenders focusing on new construction development of Class A apartment communities in GA, NC, SC, FL, TX and NV. Prior to 1988, I was associated with an Atlanta-based shopping center development group with the Loehman's Shopping Center anchored facilities in FL and TX.	1964-75: Architectural firms in Boston area. 1975-78: Planning Director, City of Quincy, MA. 1978-80: Terra Tech International, Riyadh - VP Design & Construction. 1980-89: Active duty US Air Force: San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Aurora, CO. 1990-2008: Megadoor, Inc., Peachtree City. 1999: Retired USAF: 35 years Active Duty, Air National Guard and USAF Reserve.

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Community Experience	<p>Prior to moving to Newnan, I was involved with Meals on Wheels, a non-denominational Christian faith-based visitation program, and pet rescue. I've served on the National Mortgage Bankers Association Advocacy Council to assist with legislation to serve the multifamily housing industry with both the US House of Representatives and Senate. In 2009, my focus shifted to involving myself in activities that promote and support the preservation, protection and adherence to the Constitution. My shift in focus has been based on concern for protecting the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to EVERY American based upon the Constitution. My motivation is to leave this behind to the benefit of my grandchildren and ALL children - without their freedom and liberty handed down by my generation, fully intact, as written, I, as their grandmother will have left them with nothing of value to build their lives upon. And, over the past 4-5 years, as my friends and many neighbors are "aging," I've focused on being the "extra pair of hands and feet" families need during a loved one's health recovery and hospice. As you can see, the projects I've been involved in over the past 10+ years don't appear noteworthy to many people, but they mean something to me. Just trying to give back to my country and those around me without any fanfare or recognition.</p>	<p>Board of Directors, Viking Club, Braintree, MA. President of Junior League of the Swedish Charitable Society of Boston. President of International Club of Boston. President of Swedish Club of Denver. Corporate Member of Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce, Boston and Atlanta. Society of American Military Engineers, Boston, San Francisco, Washington, Denver, Atlanta, Honolulu, Germany. Order of the Eastern Star, Colorado and Georgia. Carroll County Master Gardener, Georgia.</p>
Personal Information	<p>I enjoy cooking and entertaining in my home a great deal. My second "hobby" is needlework.</p>	<p>Married to Ann since 1967. Daughters Lori, Teri, and Wendy. Five grandchildren. Hobbies include photography, model railroads, model ships, and travel.</p>
Political Experience	<p>As previously stated, an advocacy representative for the MBA to the U.S. House and Senate to draft and promote legislation that addresses the needs of multifamily housing development, management and financing. Presently, I serve as the 1st Vice Chair for the Coweta County Republican Party.</p>	<p>Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Executive Committee – Planning Director, City of Quincy, MA. Governors Economic Development Council, State of MA. Coastal Zone Committee. Massachusetts Growth Policy Committee. Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority. Swedish Charitable Society of Boston. HQ Air National Guard, Washington, D.C.: National Environmental Committee, National Energy Policy Committee, Excellence in Design Awards Committee. NATO, Brussels, Belgium – Industrial Infrastructure Committee, representing the U.S.A.</p>
Question 1	<p>Location and convenience. Perhaps expanded business growth potential if handled correctly.</p>	<p>The school system's outstanding reputation, both for college-bound and vocational education.</p>

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Describe what you believe makes Coweta County most appealing to both current and future residents.		
Question 2 What top 3 assets does Coweta County possess which attract new business and stimulate growth of existing businesses?	Location to transportation corridors I-85 feeding into I-285 and I-75, Hartsfield Jackson airport, railway. Low crime rate. Convenient shopping.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outstanding educational opportunities for students. 2. Lower tax rates than other parts of the U.S.A. 3. Outstanding community assistance organizations such as Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Authority, etc.
Question 3 Describe how you would use your elected position to help business growth in Coweta County.	<p>I would continue the path I've been following - being a "listener" and "problem solver" to address the needs of teachers, school system staff, parents, and concerned citizens. Advocating for a school voucher program that provides full parental control over school choice for their children without being penalized by the lack of tax incentives currently benefitting public education - growth in our county is going to bring a variety of education vehicle needs and as a community we need to be receptive and proactive relative to the ability to accept and meet those needs.</p> <p>Promote a readdress of the current Coweta senior citizen real estate tax reductions on school taxes. With the 2020 reassessment looming over us, many of our seniors who have worked to have a mortgage-free home and paid into the school tax system for 50+ years are now being forced to sell their homes due to rising taxes. This situation is currently occurring and subject to increase with the 2020 reassessment of home values. Do we really want to be a community known for fostering anti-senior citizen policy especially when considering the other ways seniors improve and support the tax base of the county?</p>	Showcase our CEC and how it interacts with business to provide the educational track to work with businesses to provide a seamless flow from high school/college directly into a well-trained work force. Also, going into college with credits towards graduation.

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<p>Question 4 List the greatest need(s) in Coweta to continue its prosperity.</p>	<p>The ability to meet specific diverse needs relative to: Grow housing by class, cost and variety of stock (single family, apartment communities, condos, active senior housing - both market rate and affordable, etc.). Expand and increase education vehicles (public K12, charter, private, Montessori, home schooling facilities to support home school families, faith-based schools, military academies, etc.). Continue to support the CEC and expand its presence in the region. Demonstrate the ability to expand transportation corridors and decrease the growing congestion. Provide a more inviting/supportive attitude toward small business owners outside of the downtown Newnan area. Increase more industry that requires highly skilled, specialized professionals to expand business growth both in the county and internationally. Coweta would be a prime location for research/development businesses. Alpharetta has grown their presence in the technology arena by adding 150+ companies over the past 4+ years while being disadvantaged by distance to Hartfield Jackson airport. Again, Coweta is a prime location and we need to attract this job creation sector. Coupled with this should be apprentice programs that work in conjunction with our CEC and school systems to nurture our young people and retrain adults who have been displaced from other careers and skill sets. Engage the retired, senior population via organizations such as SCORE to advise citizens on business development. GA Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute is another organization which serves Coweta. Explore how we can utilize their programs and services to maximize our citizens' ability to tap into positive growth-oriented enterprises and government operations.</p>	<p>A well-balanced tax system. Government has only the revenue flow of taxes to provide for the services healthy communities need to survive and prosper. Fiduciary responsibility is required at all levels of government to provide that proper balance.</p>
<p>Question 5 If elected, what do you want your greatest accomplishment to be during your term of office?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protecting taxpayer dollars by seeking ways to decrease costs while improving services. 2. How are our tax dollars being invested, why, what is the ROI to the community, does it meet both short- and long-term needs, is it necessary at the moment, have all avenues to address the need been thoroughly addressed, etc.? 	<p>To see that the Coweta County Board of Education works as a team for the benefit of our school system and our future leaders. No grandstanding for political reasons. Outstanding education first.</p>

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	<p>3. Promoting more diverse education options for parents that meet the needs of their children.</p> <p>4. Listening and learning from the teachers who speak the school system needs from their hands-on experience. Their suggestions for improvement have been invaluable.</p>	