NAME: Patty Gabilondo PARTY: Republican

**SEEKING: Georgia House of Represenatives,** 

District 108

## Why are you seeking your office?

Having lived in this community full-time for almost 24 years now, I am passionate about the residents who live and work here, and want to ensure that this area remains a prosperous, family-friendly environment for many years to come. I also firmly believe that we need more "Citizen Leaders" in public office who are active in their communities, people of high integrity, who have a track record of getting positive results, who can collaborate with diverse groups and work for common goals and someone who is able to bring a common sense approach to setting policies.

# What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I plan to find ways to identifying and reducing wasteful spending. I plan to work with city and county officials to continue to find ways to improve the economic development and infrastructure in the area. I would like to find ways to bring in more businesses and grow the economy and to fill or repurpose the vacant buildings along the Hwy 29 corridor. I plan to introduce establishing term limits for our state and local representatives. I plan to support legislation that empowers our local police to combat human trafficking and domestic violence in the state.

## What distinguishes your candidacy?

First and foremost, my candidacy is based on results-oriented, respected citizen leadership stepping forward with an in-depth knowledge of local concerns for this district. Several years of active community leadership gives me a unique insight into what constituents are really thinking about the changes taking place around town. I currently sit on the board of the Lilburn Business Association and other non-profit organizations where we discuss the true needs of the local schools, businesses and community. The fact that I am not a career politician, but a friend and neighbor, allows many residents to share their concerns more openly.

## What are the key issues in your race?

There are several recurring themes which continue to cause frustration among the residents in the district:

- a. Over-development of residential areas with inadequate infrastructure
- b. Too many used car lots and vacant buildings along Hwy 29 corridor

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- c. Increasing taxes from a Republican House and Senate who have promised to reduce taxes
- d. Increasing Healthcare costs with reduced benefits
- e. The need for more robust Code enforcement
- f. Too much bureaucracy, testing and lack of respect for teachers in our public schools
- g. Lack of adequate vocational training for students who are not collegebound
- h. Traffic frustrations

## Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

So many of our residential areas in the district were built decades ago, which today leaves us with failing septic tanks polluting our creeks and outdated two-lane roads handling thousands of vehicles which they were never designed to do. I intend to work with members of the House Transportation Committee, with the Georgia DOT, the Lilburn CID and other officials to spotlight this area's infrastructure needs, including traffic and public safety concerns and to find resources to upgrade our district hopefully resulting in fewer fatalities at dangerous intersections, cleaner water and improved traffic flow.

#### Give a 100 word summary of your background.

I am the daughter of a retired U.S. Army Officer and a German-American mother, and am so very fortunate to have lived and traveled all over the world growing up as a military dependent. I graduated from the University of Texas (UTSA) with a Bachelor of Business Administration and after a successful 30-year career in supply chain and logistics, became interested in community service where I served as President of the GFWC Lilburn Woman's Club and still serve on the boards of other local non-profits. My husband and I have been married for 35 years and have two grown sons.