Zahraw and Latika have lived their whole lives in Newnan. Both were honor students at Northgate High School. Zahraw now goes to Georgia Tech; Latika to Georgia State.

Brittany, a native of Texas, moved to Newnan when she met her husband. She works at the University of West Georgia, and is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority — the oldest sorority for African-American college women in the country.

A server in the Latino Market in Newnan, Jineet worked to save up enough to buy herself a special dress from Mexico for her 21st birthday.

When a neo-Nazi group staged a rally in Newnan, Reverend Jimmy, a Baptist Minister, publicly repented his great grandfather’s role as a slave owner.

Cliff and Monique, the President and Vice President of the African-American Alliance in Newnan, are photographed at the Farmer Street Cemetery.

L.C. was born and raised in Newnan and worked his way into adulthood on farms in the area — “picking cotton, pulling corn, raising sorghum cane,” he says.

William is the son of a mill owner in Grantville, Georgia, and has spent his life traveling the world. He lives in a meticulously restored Neoclassical house in Newnan.

Ariel attends Cotillion in Newnan, a traditional social etiquette and dance training program that begins in fifth grade. She was one of only two African-American students among 60 participants.

MacDonald attends Cotillion, a southern tradition of etiquette and dance training, as did his father three decades ago.

Born in Germany and raised as an “army brat” all over the South, Tina now works at a plastics manufacturer in Newnan.

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A former mill worker, Wiley lived in a mill village house in Airmco, before he passed away in 2018.

“Seeing Newnan” Location Map

Seeing Newnan, created by Pulitzer Prize nominated photo journalist Mary Beth Meehan, is a photography exhibit exploring community, identity and culture in Newnan, Georgia and surrounding Coweta County. In Spring of 2019, seventeen portraits were installed as large scale banners on the buildings of downtown Newnan. They will remain in place for one year.

www.marybethmeehan.com/portfolio/newnan
Trent graduated from Newnan High School as a member of ROTC before joining the U.S. Army. He served one year in South Korea before being stationed in El Paso, Texas.

Reverend Rufus is a local pastor and member of the Newnan community. He lives on the land his family has owned for generations; the road is named after his father.

Jane’s family settled in Coweta County when an ancestor, who was a Revolutionary War soldier, received a land grant in the early 1800s. A school teacher, Jane raised her family in Newnan.

Helen worked as a caretaker for children and the elderly. She was born and raised in Newnan. She graduated from the “colored high school” in 1954.

Carlos has lived in Newnan with his uncle and family since he came from Mexico two years ago. He has worked in restaurants and done road work and landscaping all over Coweta County.

Kayla earns a living as a photographer, making portraits of children, couples and brides-to-be in Newnan and across the border in Alabama.