

LOCAL

# Newnan man seeks descendents of 19th Georgia Infantry



COURTESY OF ALLAN PAYTON  
Allan Payton sits in front of a bookshelf of Civil War books while he researches the 19th Georgia Infantry.

BY JEFFREY CULLEN-DEAN  
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A local man, Allan Payton, is seeking descendents of the 19th Georgia Infantry, a company of soldiers from the Civil War, to help provide information for a book he is writing.

“What I’d really like to find is people who have first hand accounts by letters by members of the 19th that I can incorporate into the book,” Payton said. “I think it adds a personal touch when you can see the struggles those guys were going through.”

Two of Payton’s great-great-grandfathers served in the Civil War, and one of them was in the 19th Georgia Infantry.

“I’ve always had an interest in history and family history, and I knew

John B. Samples, Allan Payton’s great-great-grandfather, served in the Civil War as a member of the 19th Georgia Infantry.

that he served in the Civil War, but that was about all I knew,” Payton said.

According to Payton, the 19th was comprised of companies from Coweta and the surrounding counties.

“They were formed in June of 1861. To me, it’s amazing. It’s just an incredible story about survival and them trying

to survive in the war,” he said. “I’ve kind of mapped out where they went through the war, and I have estimated it to be about 2,500 miles which would almost be New York to California.”

Payton said he started listening to a Civil War history podcast on his commute to work.

“I listened to that going

back and forth to work. I had no idea you could find that much information about the individual regiments. So that piqued my interest,” he said.

Payton said he decided to put the book together as something for his family and other descendents of the 19th to enjoy.

According to Payton, the 19th Georgia Infantry

was a part of the Army of Northern Virginia and participated in every battle except for Gettysburg, Spotsylvania and The Wilderness.

“There’s stories of those guys that didn’t even have shoes and they were walking across the mountains up in the Shenandoah Valley and they were leaving bloody footprints

in the snow because their feet were torn up,” he said. “It’s amazing to think about those guys from rural communities mostly in western Georgia and what they experienced.”

Payton is looking to hear from anyone who is descended from the 19th. He can be reached by email at rowdygent57@gmail.com .

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLAN PAYTON

## WASA may refinance bonds

BY SARAH FAY CAMPBELL  
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The Coweta County Water and Sewerage Authority is considering issuing new bonds that will be used to pay off existing bonds and save on interest.

At current interest rates, the plan would save the authority approximately \$1.25 million over the life of the bonds, said authority CFO Roger Dawson.

The new bonds would pay off the outstanding series 2010 bonds, which become “callable” – that is, able to be paid off – on June 1.

Dawson said that the authority had

been approached by its bond advisor with the opportunity.

The 2010 bonds have interest rates of 4.25 percent to 4.5 percent, Dawson said.

One option the advisers presented was to issue series 2019 bonds with a 3.6 percent interest rate. That option would require the authority to also put in some cash to supplement the 2019 issue to pay off the 2010 bonds, he said. The other option doesn’t require that.

Previously, the authority was able to do some advanced refunding of bonds, but that was taken off the table

in the past year, Dawson told the authority at last week’s meeting.

“We’re now limited to bonds that can be called as opposed to bonds that are not yet callable,” he said.

The authority also has a bond issuance that becomes callable on Dec. 1, 2022.

“At this point we’re exploring options,” Dawson said. “We hope to come back to the board with a little bit more information and more detailed numbers.”

Once that information is gathered, the board would decide whether or not to pursue the new bond issuance.

## Coweta in the Know

### Blood Drive

There are lots of ways to show love in Coweta County on Valentine’s Day. The American Red Cross and the Coweta Community Foundation are joining forces to hold the 2019 Dr. Gerald Troutman Big Give Blood Drive. The blood drive will be from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce, 23 Bullsboro Drive.

### American Red Cross

The American Red Cross will also hold a blood drive today at the

Centre for Performing Arts, 1523 Lower Fayetteville Road from 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

### Party for Pet Lovers

A Party for Pet Lovers will be today at 7 p.m. at the Historic Train Depot, 60 E. Broad St., Newnan. There will be food, drink, dancing, giveaways, a doggy kissing booth and an opportunity to meet pets looking for their forever homes. The event benefits the Newnan-Coweta Humane Society.


### Goodwill Industries

Goodwill Industries, 3121 Highway 34 E will hold a job fair. Anyone interested in participating should contact Carole Ann Fields at 678-854-6839 or cafields@gwisor.org

### Georgia Department of Transportation

The Georgia Department of Transportation has approved closing the East Court Square and Greenville Street for the next Taste of Newnan. The popular downtown event is scheduled for April 11 from 5-8:30 p.m.

# 2019 Love Notes



**To: My Awesome Handsome Heaven-Sent Hubbie**

We beat the odds, we’ve traveled this country abroad. Our love is one for the history books, my heart still flutters every time I look...into your eyes. There’s no surprise why our love will last through the test of time.

**Forever your lady, Mrs. Darj'**



**Clair Lynn & Quinn**

Every day is like a ride at the fair when you are around!

**Love, Muv & Pop**



**Rohan & Ishann**

You’ve caught our hearts in your web!


**Love, Muv & Pop**



**TJ**

I got your back! Love you, Brat!

**Your Best Friend**



**Sam**

You’re still the one for me!

**Love, Sara**



**Katie**

I thought I knew what love was before I met you, but after being with you, I now know what love truly is. Happy Valentine’s Day!

**Love, Dave**