



Meet a
Newnan-Coweta Magazine **READER**

COURTNEY STILLWELL

There's no doubt that educators have a servant's heart, and nowadays teachers are expected to carry an ever greater workload. Newnan High School Media Specialist Courtney Stillwell, Ed.S., NBCT, a divorced mother of three, didn't hesitate when Newnan High School put out the request for a sponsor for a new swim team. She volunteered without hesitation, even though she was extremely busy taking her children Casey (15), Shelby (10) and Travis (8) to swim team at the Summit, softball and baseball.

"I transferred as an elementary teacher from Canongate to be a Media Specialist at Newnan after getting my Master's in Media Technology. I thought swim team would be a great way to get involved in the school," Courtney says. "Casey swam for Newnan this year, and our team has done very well

being brand new. It's very exciting because we have so many freshmen and sophomores, and lots of athletes realize they can use swimming to cross-train to get in shape for other events. I've seen so much excitement, I think we'll have an even bigger team next year."

To blow off a little steam built up on the job, this former Delta-passenger service "red coat" turned high school instructor loves to travel with friends and family and enjoys a girlfriend getaway each year. Stillwell mixes it up with people from different seasons of her life for these trips: college friends, Delta workmates and teacher buddies. The one thing they all have in common is their friendship with Courtney. Whether it's organizing a swim team, her children, or a girlfriend trip, her relaxed attitude and fun spirit get the job done and make it a whole lot of fun for everyone involved!

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Do you ever watch “trash TV”? If so, what’s your favorite show?

It’s not really mindless, more edge-of-your-seat TV: “24” and “CSI” are my shows.

If you could go back and talk to yourself as a junior in high school, what are three pieces of advice you would give yourself?

1. Try and get involved in school clubs, sports and activities.
2. Don’t worry about what other people are doing – do what you think is right.
3. Enjoy yourself, especially with your friends.

If you won an all-expense paid trip for your family anywhere in the world, where would you choose?

Because I worked at Delta in Passenger Service, I’ve been very lucky to have traveled all over the world and my kids still have travel privileges. In fact, I used to be able to call a friend up and say let’s fly to (some city) for lunch or dinner and come home and we could, so it’s hard to pick. But I think definitely Australia would be where I would take my family.

Have you ever held a grudge against someone?

I try not to but yes, I have.

What are the most played tunes on your iPod?

Eagles, Elton John, Journey, Billy Joel. My roommate from college and I are going to see Elton John and Billy Joel on March 13 – I’m so excited!

What’s your favorite thing about living in Newnan?

The lifestyle – I used to like Newnan when it was a bit smaller. That’s why I like Newnan High School. It’s older and it has tradition. I also love the Courthouse Square.

If you would like to contact Coach Stillwell about swim team information, send her an e-mail at courtney.stillwell@cowetaschools.org.

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