

25th Anniversary Eyes on LaFollette



UT Professor Rob Heller brought his advanced photojournalism class to LaFollette for the first time in April of 1993 with the goal of capturing the essence of the town in just one weekend. Twenty-five years later, the project's core is still found in the heritage of a town cradled by mountains with deep-rooted ties to Appalachian culture. Today, the stories are fresh, the people are welcoming, and the town continues to grow.

When we were told we would be the class assigned with producing the 25th anniversary issue of Eyes on LaFollette, we looked around at each other with nervous excitement, hoping our work would live up to the legacy of this project. With little room for doubt, it quickly became time to pack our bags, charge our camera batteries, and start our adventure on the brisk morning of April 6, 2018.

Time quickly revealed that this town was a special place all on its own — a place that only required a welcoming “hello” to warrant a conversation between two strangers.

We captured smiles, heard stories, and shared a space in time with anyone who would allow us a moment to see life through their eyes. We made lasting connections; we made friends. Through the occasional rain over the weekend, we pushed on to deliver something both you, the people of LaFollette, and we could be proud of seeing.

Thank you for letting us see your town through our lenses. What we experienced when we set our cameras down will stay with us for the rest of our lives.

EYES ON LAFOLLETTE

EYES!

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Eyes On LaFollette

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Eyes on LaFollette

cover photo (top) by Nicky Frazier

CUTTING *the* RIBBON

LaFollette community members convene for the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Habitat for Humanity Resale store. The shop sells new and or lightly used house items like appliances, furniture, and accessories at a greatly reduced price. All proceeds from the Resale store go to building homes for those in need.



right photo by **Samantha Robinson**



right photo by **Austin Perryman**



above photo by **Sam Forman**



above photo by **Austin Perryman**

SLICE *of* PARADISE



top Ciarra Wallace places toppings on a pizza at Charley's Pizza Parlor.
photo by Austin Perryman

left Dustin Stookesbury feeds pizza dough into a machine.
photo by Austin Perryman

above Ray Meyers cuts a freshly baked pizza.
photo by Austin Perryman

STRIKE *a* POSE



above Artist and teacher, Joe Bonomo, instructs drawing class attendees Saturday morning.
photo by Tara Halley

above right Rissa Reikardt models for Joe Bonomo's drawing class Saturday morning.
photo by Tara Halley

right Joe Bonomo teaches an art class at the old LaFollette Post Office as model Rissa Reikardt watches.
photo by Nicky Frazier

HAIR TODAY



right Brittany Hill, owner of Mama Tried Salon and Boutique in LaFollette, styles Trish Moore's hair.
photo by Mary Hallie Sterling

below Ray Beeler selects his tools before starting a haircut on Saturday morning.
photo by Laurel Cooper



right Pam Town and Foxy cannot contain their excitement at The Paw Spa.
photo by Emily Cullum

bottom left LeeAnn Helton, owner of The Paw Spa, trims Samson's mustache.
photo by Laurel Cooper

bottom right Patricia McLead grooms Cheyanne, post bath, at The Paw Spa.
photo by Laurel Cooper





left Jessie Lewis crafts the the perfect man bun on her son Joseph Lewis at her station.
photo by Emily Cullum

below Ora Marten sits during the process of getting a new 'do at Josie's.
photo by Deja Lytle



left Barber Billy Joe Bourff cleans up his barber shop for the day.
photo by Samantha Robinson

top Billy Joe Bourff sits David Wilson down for a touch up on the top.
photo by Samantha Robinson

above Billy Joe Bourff waves to traffic passing by his roadside barber shop.
photo by Samantha Robinson

YOUNG *at* HEART



right Mary Campbell uses an exercise ball to work out her hands at the Campbell County Senior Center.
photo by Nicky Frazier

below Rosie Reimer reaches out for a big stretch during exercise routines.
photo by Nicky Frazier



above Charlie McDaniel stretches his neck out after finishing the group exercise routine.
photo by Nicky Frazier

right Rosie Reimer leads a stretch during the Silver Sneakers exercise program at the Campbell County Senior Center.
photo by Nicky Frazier





HANDS ON

left Bill Finn reads his Bible on a quiet Saturday morning at the New Horizon's Homeless Shelter.
photo by Samantha Robinson

below William Sarno puts love and care in his sculpture of Howard "Louie Bluie" Armstrong.
photo by Deja Lytle



above A worker smokes during lunch break.
photo by Deja Lytle



top right Norma Asher organizes library cards.
photo by Deja Lytle



right A woman crochets a scarf at the LaFollette Senior Center.
photo by Matt McCormick

AT WORK



right Local artist, William Sarno, adjusts his sculpture of LaFollette celebrity, Howard "Louie Bluie" Armstrong.
photo by Deja Lytle



above Owner Brad Byrge welds at Brad's Kar Care.
photo by Deja Lytle

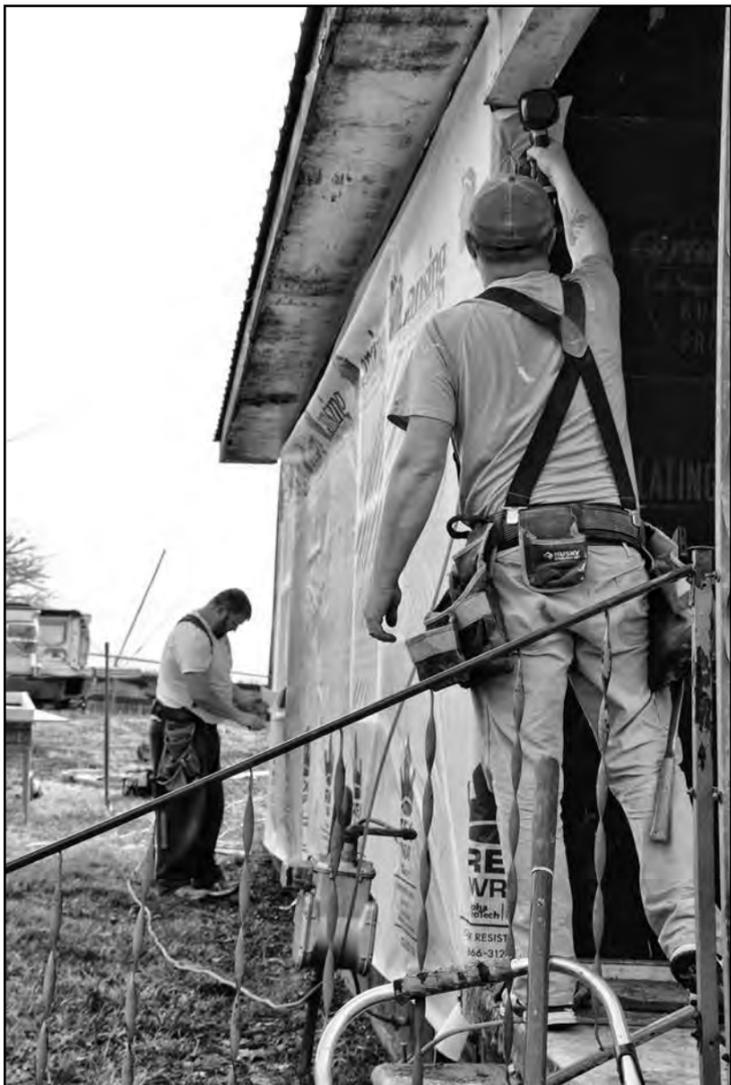
right I DO Weddings shop owner Jessica Stout Broyles shares a sweet moment with her son Logan, while setting up a mannequin.
photo by Tara Halley





left Fire Chief Keith Franley shows one of the tools used by first responders.
photo by Laurel Cooper

below Dwayne Moser takes a break from insulating to grab a ladder.
photo by Payton Boyd



top Randy McGloner repaints the side of Lindsay's Warehouse as part of renovations.
photo by Tara Halley

left Justin Kirby (close) and Dwane Moser of Moser & Sons Construction work on insulating a local home.
photo by Mary Hallie Sterling

above Robert Miller inspects a car's undercarriage at Brad's Kar Care.
photo by Deja Lytle

RECREATION & PARKS

right Steven, Marigol, and their dog Olympus from Sevierville, camp at Cove Lake State Park Campground.
photo by Caleb Jones

below Ava Parton attempts to take her dog, Snowball, on a walk.
photo by Alex Holcomb



top Two kayakers make their way down Cove Lake on an early Friday morning.
photo by Emily Cullum

above Cade Sexton converses with David Reynolds at the morning meeting spot known as Hardee's.
photo by Caleb Jones

right Cody Lawson "shreds like Tony Hawk" near the Public Library.
photo by Emily Cullum





FOR SALE

left Gordon Hyatt and Tim Robbins sell their homegrown flowers to the people of LaFollette.
photo by Emily Cullum

below Lee Pack is all smiles when talking to flea market customers.
photo by Emily Cullum



far left James Dawn sits with his dog, Chloe, at the downtown flea market.
photo by Alex Holcomb

above Vanessa Gross sells some hens with her father downtown.
photo by Emily Cullum

left Wayne "Curly" Partin sells fishing accessories at the flea market.
photo by Deja Lytle

ABOUT FACES

right Joe Petree Stands outside neighborhood bar, The Dry Dock Grille.
photo by Payton Boyd



far right One year after opening, Kimberly Byrge enjoys running Blackberry Charm.
photo by Deja Lytle



below Linda Bruce converses with her peers at the Senior Center pancake breakfast.
photo by Deja Lytle



above Marie Wentland chats with friends at the Senior Center pancake breakfast.
photo by Deja Lytle

left Alaynah Corney, manager at Common Grounds, prepares coffee for the day.
photo by Samantha Robinson

above right Glenn Parker tells anecdotes from his time as a musician in Detroit, Michigan.
photo by Perry Baines

FOOD *for* THOUGHT



left Debbie Hook, one sister of Two Sisters Market and Deli, writes down a to-go order to pass to sister, Betty Ayers.
photo by Mary Hallie Sterling

top right Phillip Farmer moves meat into the freezer at the Hollingsworth Meat Market.
photo by Alex Holcomb



center Jerry Smith prepares his famous macaroni at his restaurant, Smoking Butts BBQ.
photo by Caleb Jones

above Lacy Griffin decorates Elmo cupcakes at Lacy's Cake Shop on Friday morning.
photo by Laurel Cooper



above Server Tanya Marcum sits during her lunch break at the Royal Lunch restaurant.
photo by Samantha Robinson



left Allen Ayers preps for the lunch rush at Two Sisters Market and Deli.
photo by Payton Boyd



This project was photographed, edited and designed by the advanced photojournalism class at the University of Tennessee: (from left to right) Professor Rob Heller, Austin Perryman, Caleb Jones, Alex Holcomb, Mary Hallie Sterling, Perry Baines, Sam Forman, Payton Boyd, Deja Lytle, Tara Halley, Samantha Robinson, Nicky Frazier, Laurel Cooper, Matt McCormick and Emily Cullum.

Thanks to Dwane Wilder, Editor, and the entire staff of the LaFollette Press, Jerry Parton and Charley's Pizza, Peter Koczera, and Manuel and Dana Mesa for hosting us at their beautiful home. And thanks to all the citizens of LaFollette for opening up your community to our eyes and our cameras for the last 25 years.

1993-2018



Eyes on LaFollette



Mix 14 curious college students with cameras into a quiet rural community and you could have a recipe for trouble. But if you stir it all with southern hospitality, the results can be magic.

That southern hospitality was overflowing last week when a group of UT photojournalism students rolled into LaFollette. Whether we were taking up too much room during breakfast at Goins, being driven around by the LaFollette police and Fire departments, or just hanging out with the folks in this community, we always felt at home.

We hope the resulting photos are as magical for you as the weekend in LaFollette was for us.

top: Victoria Korick, 2, peers from her family's hotdog stand at the flea market. photo by Shawna Pale
 right: Missie Leach, resident of the LaFollette Medical Center nursing home, cuddles "Buddy." photo by Shawna Pale
 left: LaFollette cab driver Roy Woodrow, Woody, takes another call. photo by Jason Gregory

