

ENTRIES

on LaFOLLETTE



Bess Stout and grandson Logan Broyles decorate the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church for Palm Sunday. **photo by Sarah Plemmons**

Once every year UT photojournalism students drive through the mountains to document life in a small rural Appalachian town.

Since 1993, the citizens of LaFollette, Tennessee have welcomed UT professor Rob Heller and his advanced photojournalism class into their homes and businesses to photograph their daily lives. This year, the class embarked on the rainy morning of April 12 in hopes of capturing small-town life through our lenses.

But lenses can only do so much. Behind each photo is a story. Each of us got to know this small town and its residents, and we each came to love it in our own ways. Whether it was getting

lost on winding backroads, trekking the length of downtown several times a day or chatting with the locals in a corner of a restaurant, we all came away with some cherished memories and a true sense of what life in LaFollette is like.

With 30 hours and 14 photographers, we hope that these photos capture the lifeblood of LaFollette, that they capture the warmth of its people and the buzz of town on a crisp spring morning. Our photos are our way of saying thank you to LaFollette and its people for opening their doors and their hearts and for letting us see into their world.

SELLIN'



If the weather is warm and the sun is shining, Whit Goins is likely setting up and opening for business. His customers are a mix of locals and tourists on their way to the lake and his wares range from antiques, to fancy fishing lures, to garden tools, to his vast collection of pocket knives. Whit regularly whips out a magnifier loop to get the details of each knife. Goins said, "I like for people to know what they are buying. It's only right to check the markings and tell it straight to people." Goins' business is run out of a storage garage that is convenient to town and passing lake goers. This set-up allows him to be outside and talk to people. If he isn't making friends and deals off of Old Middlesboro Highway, Whit is serving as a long-time County Commissioner and making sure that LaFollette is well-represented.

story and photos by Jules Morris

FISHIN'



left Randy Corbitt of Cincinnati, Ohio, holds up a striper fish after his annual fishing trip on Norris Lake with his son, R.J.
photo by Kellie Ward

below Jada Marlow holds an egg crate full of crickets used for fishing bait at Judy's Grocery & Deli.
photo by Kellie Ward



left & above Casey Croley of Cove Creek Charters fillets a striper fish after a fishing trip on Norris Lake.
photos by Kellie Ward

@WORK

right Billy Joe Bourff cuts the hair of his client, Michael Heatherly, early Friday morning.
photo by Kenneth Richmond



below Mary Phan, from Vietnam, manicules her clients nails at the Natural Nails and Spa Studio.
photo by Kunhui Li



middle Wayne Morgan, owner of The Quilt Patch. Wayne and his wife, Joyce, opened the store over 12 years ago after retiring from previous professions. They "didn't retire well" and refused to be bored.
photo by Kellie Ward

above Regina Luallen shops for spring fabrics at The Quilt Patch.
photo by Kellie Ward

above Daniel Foster of the LaFollette Animal Control is out on a house call to check on a home of dogs.
photo by Luna Brewer



left Assistant fire chief Jimmy Pack works on constructing a fire tower for training firefighters.
photo by Kellie Ward



above Brenda Inmen opens a smoker grill while working at Smith Ace Hardware in downtown LaFollette.
photo by Kellie Ward



right Jeffrey Madison tightens barbed wire fencing twist by twist and stand by strand along the fence line of David Goins' farm.
photo by Jules Morris

FUN & GAMES

right Students of LaFollette Middle School begin a game of dodge ball.
photo by Justin Feist

below Chris Smith, a life long resident of LaFollette, works on the scoreboard at the local rec center.
photo by Mason Guridry



above Wildcats coach Tabby Ivey instructs the infield to be "baseball ready" for Nathan Jones' big swing. "This is only our second practice so we're trying to learn the names too," said Tabby's husband Craig.
photo by Seth Raborn

right Two family members endure the rain and chilly weather as they watch a soccer game at LaFollette Elementary School.
photo by Chelsea Babin



CREATIVE MINDS



left Nellie Johnson displays her newest spinner which she crafts from recycled bottles.
photo by Quinn Phillips

below Ava and her "Pop Pop" Nick Ross, enjoy their time coloring on a rainy morning at the LaFollette Public Library.
photo by Haley Guidry



above Angela Marlow paints in oil as she prepares for an upcoming gallery show in Pigeon Forge that will feature her work.
photo by Jules Morris

left Music permeates the walls of the Marlow home. It is commonplace to find Greg and his son Luke playing string instruments and singing around their dining room table.
photo by Jules Morris

YUM



top right Mariah Wilson folds and stacks cardboard pizza boxes at Charley's Pizza Parlor.

top left Matthew Chadwell pulls a hot pizza from the oven at Charley's Pizza Parlor.

above Brent Richardson scatters toppings on a pizza at Charley's Pizza Parlor.

right Lacey Richardson juggles stacks of plates and cups while serving at Charley's Pizza Parlor.

photos by Kellie Ward

YUM





left George Chao, the head cook of the Takumi Japanese restaurant, prepares a rice noodle soup.
photo by Caitlyn Jordan

YUM



above Common Ground Coffee Shop is a popular study spot for students such as Roman Welden who studies for his classes in the peaceful shop.
photo by Chelsea Babin

left Lori Chao prepares a fried pork cutlet for her Tonkatsu dish at the Takumi Japanese restaurant.
photo by Caitlyn Jordan

YUM



above Mark Rednour picks up breaded fish for the fryer at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church Fish Fry.
photo by Kellie Ward

left Lynda Miller helps with the setup of the dessert area for the annual fish fry.
photo by Mason Guidry

SCALES & TAILS

right Dr. Bill Sanders consults with Diane Stewart about her dalmation-mix pup, Casey.
photo by Kunhui Li

below Tina the cat gets prepped for minor operation at LaFollette Veterinary Services.
photo by Kunhui Li



above Campbell County Animal Shelter staff member, Tyler Kerns, embraces Huggie the cat at the Campbell County Animal Shelter.
photo by Seth Raborn

right Ideal Florist's floral designer and animal enthusiast, Sam Parrott, recently added chameleons to his personal menagerie.
photo by Sarah Plemmons



YOUNG *at* HEART



left Glenda Carter sets up for the LaFollette senior prom at the Senior Center on Friday morning.
photo by Seth Raborn

below Charlotte Carrera turns the bingo cage Friday morning at the Senior Center.
photo by Seth Rabron



middle James Christopher plays bingo at the Senior Center.
photo by Kellie Ward

above Rose Reimer leads the Silver Sneakers fitness class at the Senior Center
photo by Kellie Ward

left Faye McGhee practices crochet in the Senior Center's crafting class.
photo by Katelyn Gonzalez

JUST FOLKS



right Clyde Brantley, head of security for the community at McCloud Mt. Restaurant and Lodge, stands watch at the gate. **photo by Sarah Plemmons**



above Florene Brown enjoys the day relaxing on her friend's front porch on the Old Jacksboro Highway. **photo by Caitlyn Jordan**

BEST *of* FRIENDS



top three The Saturday morning breakfast club meets at the 1920's Reynolds homeplace to swap stories, reminisce about the "good ol' days," solve the world's problems, and drink a little coffee. Pictured from left to right: Jack Reynolds, LC Madron, David Reynolds, Mikey Sharp, Kent Younce, Charlie Davis, and Hack Ayers.

photos by Jules Morris

bottom Keylyn (13) and Elisa (12), scroll through messages as they wait for the Break the Cycle church service to start.

photo by Caitlyn Jordan

in GOOD HANDS

right Nellie Johnson crafts a bird feeder from recycled materials.
photo by Quinn Phillips

below Lacy Griffin, owner of Lacys Cakes, adds a little sparkle to her raspberry filled cupcake with a spritz of edible glitter.
photo by Caitlyn Jordan



above Mary Phan, a nail artist and manager of the Natural Nails and Spa studio preps her client's nails before adding a coat of paint.
photo by Caitlyn Jordan

right Karen Cumorich sets up prize numbers for the Postmark LaFollette Home and Garden show.
photo by Sarah Plemmons





This project was photographed, edited and designed by the advanced photojournalism class at the University of Tennessee: (front row from left to right) Luna Brewer, Katelyn Gonzalez, Chelsea Babin, Sarah Plemmons, Kellie Ward, Kunhui Li, (back row from left to right) Jules Morris, Seth Raborn, Caitlyn Jordan, Quinn Phillips, Mason Guidry, Haley Guidry, Kenneth Richmond, Justin Feist, former longtime LaFollette Press Publisher Larry Smith and Professor Rob Heller.

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