

## **America 24/7 Book Project**

Having developed a strong relationship with Steve Raymer, my photography professor, I was privileged to be his top recommendation when the statewide director for the America 24/7 book project called looking for photographers. The America 24/7 project, consisting of the creation of 1 national photography book and 52 state and regional photography books, was a massive undertaking to capture American life for one week from May 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. As one of twenty contract photographers for the state of Indiana, it was my responsibility to pursue three assignments of my own choosing that I saw as capturing the essence of Americans in Indiana.

Aside from working with the project coordinators in Sausalito California and my state director in Indianapolis, all preparation, travel, and subject communications were left to my responsibility. This was a valuable experience as I was in accountable for making my own contacts while representing America 24/7. It was also my duty to see that the publishers of America 24/7 were portrayed as producing a professional project by selecting me as a contract photographer. This was a critical representation as most were unfamiliar with the project and needed reassurance that it was a supported production.

By leveraging the name of the project publishers and carrying a letter of authorization to photograph for the project, I was successful in promoting the project and gaining authorization to photograph my desired subjects. After completing “shoot week”, I finished my work by captioning and transmitting my images back to America 24/7 headquarters in Sausalito.

With all photography now completed, the 53 volumes are now in production for release beginning in October 2003. With my contribution complete, I feel I have gained yet another terrific teamwork experience to apply to my future career.