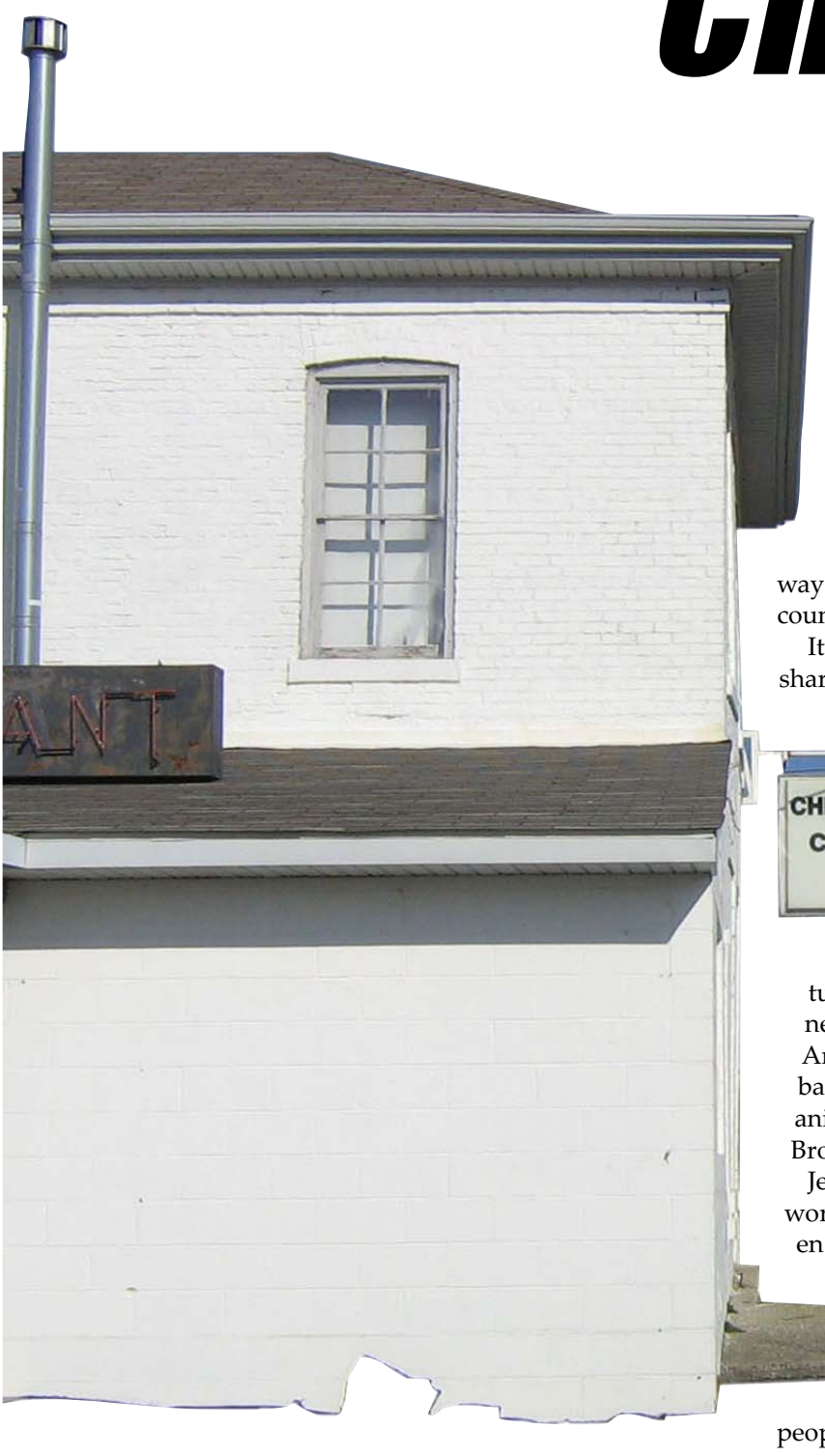
Chicken House serves many



By RICHARD CLARK
Staff Writer
clarkrj@ius.edu

The Chicken House Restaurant, located on Highway 111 in Floyd County, near the St. Joseph area, has undoubtedly caught the attention of hundreds of IUS students passing that way from northern Clark and Washington counties.

Its nondescript white exterior stands in sharp contrast to the rolling hills of the Floyds Knobs area.

Upon entering the building, nothing really sets it apart from other bar-restaurants.

There are two big screen TVs. One is tuned to sports and the other one to news. Signs of several brands of popular American beers adorn the wall near the bar. A large machine for winning stuffed animals sits in a corner. The aroma of Broasted chicken fills the air.

Jennifer Winans, a waitress who has worked two and a half years at The Chicken House, wastes no time taking your order.

"I live in the St. Joe area," Winans said. "I really love meeting the locals, the same people who come here."

The main courses on the menu are, of course, chicken. But there are also dishes like fried oysters, too. Most prices range around or less than $10.

The Chicken House has remained in the family of owner John Cockeril for 32 years.

"The Chicken House is the second oldest building in the St. Joe area," Cockeril said. "The new edition was added 11 years ago."

Cockeril explained that part of the building had been a general store at one time, plus a home for the family that ran it.

"In the early 1970s it was a bar called Kamer's," he said.

"We added a kitchen in 1980. We just serve beer and wine, no hard liquor. People can get goofy enough on beer, let alone liquor."

As the name implies, chicken is the main cuisine served, and each chicken dinner is cooked to order.

Two other customers that evening were brothers Jerry and Greg Townsend. Both grew up in close proximity to The Chicken House and have been regulars for about 25 years.

"As far as we're concerned, they've got the best fried chicken in the world," Jerry Townsend said.

"The Colonel can't come close and they also have the coldest beer anywhere."

About three times a year the rock band The Rumors play at The Chicken House.

"They play rock music from the '60s," Winans said.

"We even clear an area where people can dance."

Typography exhibit turns everyday items into art

By AMY STALLINGS
Staff Writer
akstalli@ius.edu

Matt Tullis is transforming the way people view typography from A to Z. Tullis, Western Kentucky University associate professor of art, combines graphic art and fine art by creating sculptures with everyday objects that some might consider junk.

"Alternative Typestyles: An Exhibition of Disparate Letterforms," his exhibit currently on display at the Ronald L. Barr Gallery, translates his simple photographs of random letters into tangible art.

"Initially, interest in this idea began early in my career at Western Kentucky University about eight years ago," Tullis said. "The idea came to me when I was working on a different project. I was affixing various objects together to form birdhouses which lead to the idea for the letters."

The exhibit includes all the letters of the alphabet, but not all of the photographs have been transformed into sculptures. Tullis has worked on his typography exhibit for approximately three years and said it will be at least another three years before all of the photographs become sculptures.

"I am constantly thinking of new A to Z concepts," Tullis said. "I take the sculptures apart and rework them. I don't think the exhibit will ever be completed."

Donna Stallard, Barr Gallery coordinator, was on hand to greet students and visitors. Stallard said Tullis had sent a letter and examples of his work to the gallery committee, and the committee thought his work would be a good exhibit for the gallery.

"His work straddles two-dimensional and three-dimensional work," Stallard said. "He's a really neat guy."

Stallard also said that she thought this would be a great exhibit for graphic design students at IU Southeast. Adam Breeden, graphic design senior, along with a few other students from a typography class, attended the opening reception. Breeden said he thought Tullis' work was creative.

"To see everyday things put together with things found in a barn opens your eyes. It is very inspiring," he said.

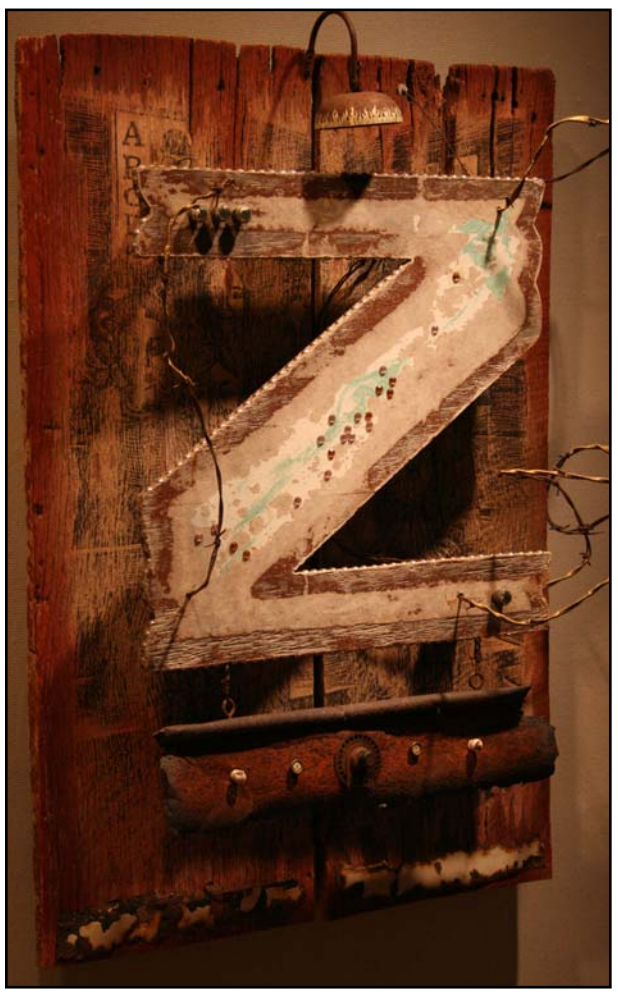


Photo by Jerod Clapp

Tullis said he really enjoys meeting the students and people that come to see his work and sharing his process of turning intangible photographs into tangible art.

"I am constantly happy with the way people relate to the show," he said.

Tullis also said he enjoys when people tell him they have similar types of objects around their homes that he has used in his sculptures.

He said he loves to hear people say they are going to try something like that with the objects they have, and that older visitors seem to relate to the exhibit because the photographs and objects in the sculptures trigger a memory for them.

"I just wanted to share something that students and people could relate to," Tullis said.

Formally trained in graphic design, Tullis received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1989 at Oregon State University. He then attended the Tyler School of Art of Temple University where he received his Master of Fine Arts in 1991. Before coming to Western Kentucky University in 2000, Tullis worked as a graphic designer and art director.

"I discovered I had an aptitude for teaching while I was in graduate school," Tullis said. "I worked a little over 12 years in the corporate world when I realized I enjoyed going to classes more than going to the studio."

Tullis then decided to apply for a Junior Faculty Scholarship Grant from Western Kentucky University. After receiving the grant he packed up his family, including the dog, and set out across the country.

"I began taking pictures of storefronts and signs along the way. Really I took pictures of any typography that interested me," he said.

Originally the exhibit was all photography, but Tullis began thinking about how he could translate typography into fine art after taking a silk screening class at college. Professor of Art Laurin Notheisen encouraged him to incorporate silk screen into his photography exhibit.

"I credit a lot of the creativity I have to other faculty at WKU," Tullis said.

HELP WANTED

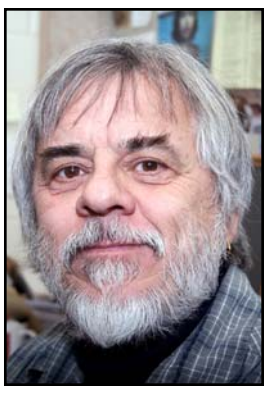
Are you looking for fun and interesting work that offers valuable experience?
The IU Southeast Computer Services Department is hiring computer lab consultants and Help Desk for part-time positions.

Computer lab consultants provide direct support to customers relating to software, hardware, and computer peripheral equipment. Candidates should have a proactive customer service attitude, strong organizational and interpersonal skills, a professional attitude and demeanor, excellent written and verbal skills, at least one year of related customer service experience, and computing skills across the Windows platform, including operating systems and applications. Help Desk consultants provide technical assistance to students, faculty, and staff by phone, email, and walk-in service. Duties include answering a wide range of IT-related questions on such topics as email and networking and supporting commonly used systems such as Oncourse and OneStart.

Applicants should have proven technical skills and the ability to work independently. A commitment to excellent customer service is a must.

If you are interested, please come to the new Information Technology office located in University Center South, room 212, to fill out an application or fax your resume to: 812-941-2647.

What's My Professor Reading?



Sam Sloss
professor
sociology

"Standardized Minds"
By Peter Sacks

'I heard someone tried the monkeys-on-typewriters bit trying for the plays of Shakespeare, but all they got was the collected works of Francis Bacon.'

– Bill Hirst