

Locals showcase art works

Four Back Mountain photographers and a sculptor will participate in a photo exhibit entitled "shoot" through Saturday, March 22, at the Lizza Studios, 155 Bridge St., Tunkhannock.

A meet-the-artists reception will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. today, Jan. 27, with food, refreshments and music by The Tom Rogo Experience. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Fridays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays.

The photography exhibit, featuring photographers Mike Burnside of Harveys Lake, Ivana Pavelka of Tunkhannock and Nick Ouellette and Tom Musto of Shavertown offers a personal glimpse through the photographers' lenses. Eclectic black and white moods, exotic textures, characters, legs and landscapes combine to make a very exciting exhibition of color and light.

Sculptor David Green turns alabaster and marble into abstract forms with traces of realism and movement.

Ivana Pavelka was born in the Czech Republic and has been living in the United States since 1980. She is a bookbinder and a photographer. She is a rostered artist with PCA, an adjunct faculty member at Keystone College and one of the co-founders and co-managers of Camerawork Gallery in Scranton.

Pavelka's work has been exhibited numerous times in juried shows, as well as in solo shows. She works with traditional photographic materials, using chemical processes, exploring different subject matters.

Mike Burnside has been taking photographs for over 40 years, using formats from sub-35mm to 4 x 5. In the last five years, he has rediscovered the medium through digital photography.

"I decided when you could make an 11 x 14 print in digital that was very hard to tell from film, I'd make the switch," Burnside said.

His recent shows include the Marquis Gallery in Wilkes-Barre and Something Special in Kingston.

Although Burnside admits to a love affair with nature, his work does not necessarily involve panoramic vistas or wildlife that people tend to think of as "nature photography."

"My aim is to get people to look at nature in new ways - to see things that are before them that they never saw before," Burnside said. "I tend to move in very close and I don't mind at all going abstract with an image, even if it involves some manipulation. To me, if I can capture a dramatic sunset refracted in a drop of water, that says something about both the sunset and the drop of water. Hopefully, this will help people become a little more aware of the natural world and its grandeur and fragility."

Tom Musto has traveled to Europe, Asia and throughout most of North America while producing assignment photography for "Fortune 500" companies and nationally-recognized advertising agencies.

With over 20 years of experi-

ence, Musto has been able to combine and work within the three fields of visual art that he has been passionate about his entire life: Photography, Filmmaking and Graphic Design. These three elements create the key to Musto's approach when shooting film, video or still photography.

"While I have photographed a variety of subjects, such as product still life for advertising and editorial montages for industry and architecture, I'm really interested in doing works of people," Musto said. "To me, everything revolves around the individual. A successful work of a person or people is one that evokes some kind of emotion. Sometimes there is only a split second of a moment to recognize and capture an event that is happening or is about to happen. It is the experience of that moment that is being reflected by the subject that gives off a feeling that it is real."

In 1981, while on assignment in the Far East, Musto visited the village of Arun on the island of Sumatra, Indonesia. Spending two days in the village, he was able to capture and document a lifestyle very different from that in the states.

The Muslim people living in Arun are poor with three families living in a dwelling no larger than a three-car garage. The streets are dirt and, at night, parents protect their children from predatory animals that make their way into the village from nearby jungles. Yet, something in the way they lived reflected a proud and happy existence.

Nick Ouellette was raised in Shavertown, attended Wyoming Seminary and moved on to Prescott College, a small liberal arts school in Arizona, where he majored in Wilderness Leadership and photography.

Although he always had an interest in the outdoors, Ouellette's time at Prescott was the tipping point after which he dedicated his life to photography.

Guiding adults and youth in outdoor settings, using the wil-



This photograph of a milkweed, taken by Mike Burnside, of Harveys Lake, is just one of many photos on exhibit at the Lizza Studios in Tunkhannock.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

derness as a therapeutic intervention and capturing the distinct moments that keep him in the wildest of places, are only a few of the settings in which Ouellette has worked. His interests have led him to backpacking the deserts of Utah and Arizona, the pre-Andes by horseback in Patagonia, sea kayaking through the matrix of ice in Northern Alaska and navigating the Grand Canyon as a triathlete leader for his alma mater.

From grizzly bears to armed men guarding illegal drug-growing operations, Ouellette never knows what he will encounter but, with camera in hand, he is comfortable and creative. His passion for travel and photography has kept him exploring and he is able to share this by capturing powerful moments.



This photo, taken by Ivana Pavelka of Tunkhannock at the Luzerne County Fair, is one of many that will be on exhibit at the Lizza Studios beginning today, Jan. 27.

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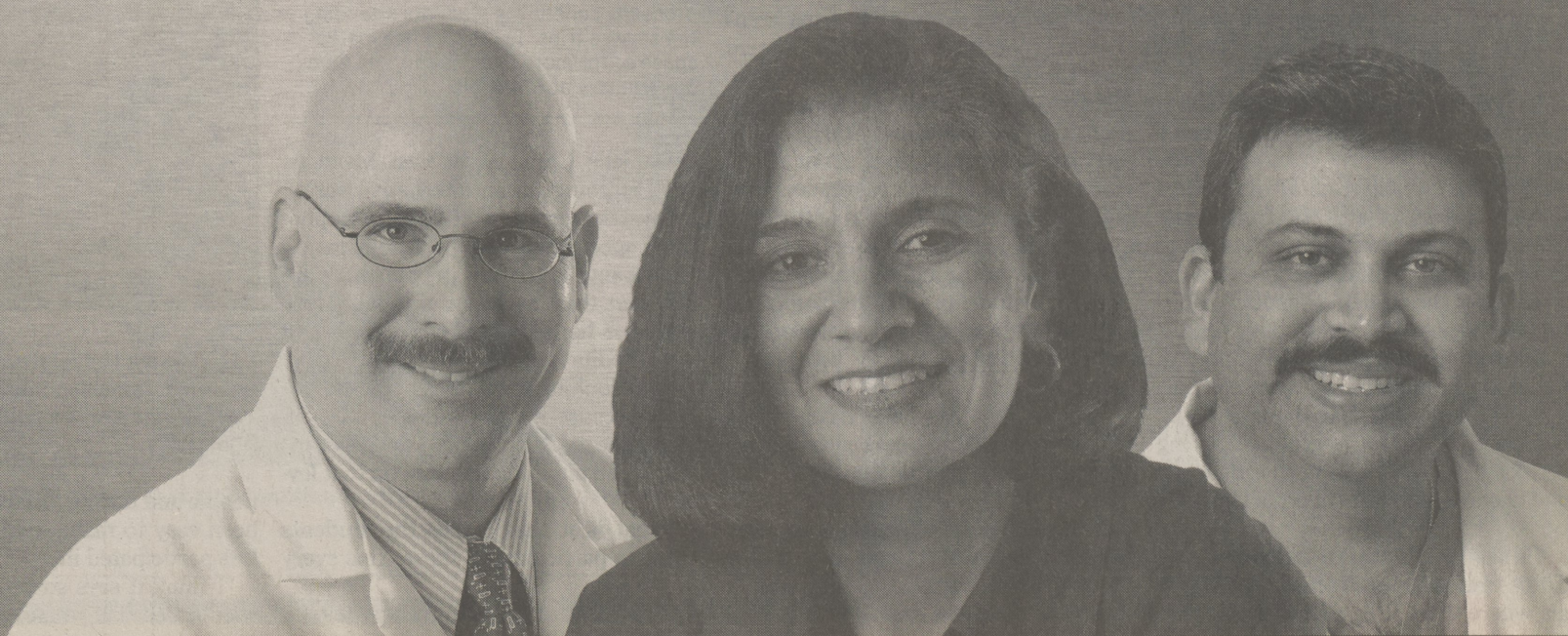
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