



NATHAN MILLER

DOINGS 'ROUND THE MOUNTAIN

January

Books

One Man's Great Idea

"All Nora Hawks and her husband wanted was to raise horses on their New Mexico ranch. But Butch Wheeler and his 11 outlaws murdered her husband, raped Nora, set their house on fire and left her for dead. She survived and returned, hiring retired bounty hunter Peter Clawson to teach her how to track and kill...When the day came that Nora was ready, the deadly 12-member gang was no match against

the fury of one woman's vengeance." That's the plot of Mansfield University PR director Dennis Miller's new novel, *One Woman's Vengeance*. Get one at From My Shelf Books in Wellsboro, Cappy's in Elmira, the e-book online, and a free chapter at www.onewomansvengeance.com. (Miller and pipe in the photo above).

Music

The Chris Jácome Flamenco Ensemble

The Wellsboro Community Concert Association serves up "the fantastic artistry of flamenco...a magical collaboration commanded by the guitar wizardry of

Chris Burton Jácome and enhanced by a vocalist, three flamenco dancers, a bassist and percussionist." See www.wellsborocca.org, www.chrisburtonjacome.com. (Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m., Wellsboro High School Auditorium).

Wineries

Seneca Lake Bargain Bash

The annual January Bargain Bash is Seneca Lake's "big, Trail-wide spring cleaning, garage sale!" At least thirty-two wineries clean out their wine, glasses, clothing, and other retail inventory at discounts up to 75 percent. It's Jan. 7-16, during each winery's regular business hours, no ticket required. See

www.senecalakewine.com for participating vineyards.

The Almanac

Kill Groundhog Day

Ever wonder why Puxatawney Phil ducks back into his burrow on Groundhog Day, Feb. 2? Consider: when the Pennsylvania deer season (archery and flintlock) ends Jan. 16, the brief moratorium on taking woodchucks (groundhogs) ends, and it's open season on the squirrely seers until the next deer season, no limits, except Sunday, the day of rest. It's also time to take another PA icon, the state bird, the ruffed grouse, Dec. 26-Jan 28. See the Almanac, p. 9.

DOINGS, cont.

THE THEATER

13, 14 Winnie the Pooh. While Hamilton-Gibson Productions takes a breather before jumping into a packed 2012 schedule, you can still enjoy live theater. The characters from the “100 Acre Wood” romp through this delightful musical put on for the public by HG’s winter drama camp with elementary school students. (Jan. 13, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 14, 2:30 p.m., Mansfield High School). HG’s middle school drama campers will perform *Once Upon a Mattress* Jan. 27 & 28, 7:30 p.m., and Jan. 29 at 2:30 p.m at The Deane Center, Warehouse Theater, Central Ave., Wellsboro. (www.hamiltongibson.org, 570-724-2079).

17, 18 In The Heights. The Tony-Award winning best musical *About Home, Family & Finding Where you Belong* in Manhattan’s Washington Heights throbs with dancing and the timeless conflict between tradition and change. Jan. 17 & 18, 7:30 p.m. (The Clemens Center, 207 Clemens Center Parkway, Elmira, NY, 607-734-8191).

24 Charlotte’s Web. Clemens Center Mary Tripp Marks School-Time Series presents the miraculous Charlotte and the lovable Wilbur in E.B. White’s classic tale of bravery, selfless love, and the true meaning of friendship. Jan. 24, 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. (The Clemens Center, 207 Clemens Center Parkway, Elmira, NY, 607-733-5639 ext. 248).

27 The Color Purple. This soul-stirring Broadway musical, with a Grammy-nominated score, is based on Alice Walker’s Pulitzer Prize novel and the Steven Spielberg film. The inspiring story of a woman named Celie, who finds her unique voice in the world. (Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m., Williamsport Community Art Center, 220 West Fourth Street Williamsport, PA, 570 326-2424)

Acting Up! Hamilton-Gibson’s informal reader’s theatre for seniors, hosted by literary and acting mavens Larry and Barbara Biddison. “No audience, no line memorization, no stage-fright...just good fun and friends” who gather to read stories, plays, and poems to each other. Come and read as you are! (September-May, from 2-3 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Hamilton-Gibson House, 29 Water St., Wellsboro, PA).

MUSIC

21 Winter Dinner Dance. Rick Doganiero and his X-Ray Band will perform Jan. 21 at the Tioga County Fairgrounds. It’s a dinner dance fund-raiser, catered by the Edu-Caterers, for the Hamilton Gibson Children and Youth choirs. HG is seeking unused toys, books, and household items for a Silent Auction/Raffle. (Whitneyville fairgrounds, Charleston Rd. For reservations, call 570-724-2079).

27 Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes Chamber Series. Principal Trombone Norm Wilcox features his group, The Brass Menagerie, in a Musicians’ Choice Concert at the Rockwell Museum of Western Art, Visions of the West Gallery. Players will talk about their instruments and the music’s connections to Western art. For tickets, call 607-936-2873 or visit www.osfl.org. (Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m., Rockwell Museum, 111 Cedar St., Corning, NY).

COMEDY

14 The Gizmo Guys. Allan Jacobs and Barrett Felker are The Gizmo Guys, a comedy juggling act that tours the world with dazzling repartee, evoking side-splitting laughter with “virtuosity with a touch of lunacy,” (*New York Times*). (Jan. 14, 11 a.m., The Clemens Center, 207 Clemens Center Parkway, Elmira, NY, 607-734-8191).

MUSEUMS & LIBRARIES

Rockwell Museum of Western Art. From a 13th Century All American warrior to a modern Choctaw Wonder Woman, American Indians created the dazzling comic strips and comic books featured in a traveling Santa Fe exhibit, “Comic Art Indigène.” (Comic art of natives). The renowned museum of American Western and Native American art also includes a last glimpse at western wildlife art in “Wild West: Beauty of the Beast,” until January 2, 2012. Open 9-5 daily, free Sundays through April, age 19 and under free. (111 Cedar St., Corning, NY, 607-937-5386, www.rockwellmuseum.org).

Corning Museum of Glass. Although the world’s finest glass museum contains thirty-five centuries of glass artistry, American studio artists seldom worked with hot glass until Harvey Littleton, born in Corning in 1922, and Dominic Labino refined and introduced the concept in a Toledo, Ohio studio in 1962. Both artists are celebrated in twin CMOG exhibitions honoring “Founders of American Studio Glass,” until January 2013. The popular “Glass Wonderland” exhibits, including a glass snow family and Giant Ornament Trees, are on view until February 29, 2012. CMOG features live glass blowing demonstrations by master artists, make your own glass snowman, and many family events. Open 7 days, 9-5, ages 19 and under free. (1 Museum Way, Corning, NY, 800-732-6845, www.cmog.org).

Thomas T. Taber Museum. The Thomas T. Taber Museum will present the exhibit, “Dear Santa, Please Bring Me a Doll: An Exhibit of Dolls, Miniature Furniture and Doll Houses.” The exhibit will be on display through Jan. 27 and will feature intricately constructed dolls from the 19th century to the early 20th century, including porcelain and china dolls. (858 West Fourth St., Williamsport, PA, 570-326-3326, <http://www.tabermuseum.org>).

Tioga Point Museum. “George Catlin: From the Endless Mountains to the Wild West.” Discover the famed Indian painter’s connection to Bradford County, explore his travels and art journals and examine a collection of 14,000 Indian artifacts. The eclectic museum features an unusual range of historical, art and archeological artifacts from Athens, Sayre, and around the world. Open noon-8 Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10-1 Saturdays, admission free. (Spalding Memorial Building, 724 S. Main Street, Athens, PA, 2nd floor, 570 888-7225, www.tiogapointmuseum.com).

FOOD & WINE

27, 28 Wine On Ice. Wine tastings from over seventy Finger Lakes wineries, live music, and regional food and crafts warm up the First Arena’s covered ice rink for two days for the popular Wine On Ice event. (Jan. 27-Jan. 28, First Arena, 155

North Main St., Elmira, NY, 607.739.3636, www.wineonline.com).

28 Between the Lakes. From the west side of Cayuga Lake to the east side of Seneca Lake, zig-zag your way through a winter day of Finger Lakes wine tastings with free delectable bites. Jan. 28, 11-5. The 27 participating wineries range from A (Atwater Vineyards) to Z (Zugibe Vineyards). (For more information contact Knapp Winery, 2770 County Road 128 (Ernsberger Road), Romulus, NY, 800-869-9271, www.knappwine.com).

Live Music Series at Ventosa Vineyards. The Seneca Lake vineyard presents a free concert each Saturday in January, 3-6 p.m. with wine tastings and Café Toscana open. The Dirtybirds (Jan. 7th), Castle Street Band (the 14th), and Carstents and Pray (the 21st) feature popular covers of rock, folk, and pop. Johnny Russo and the East Hill Trio (the 28th) performs classic jazz. (Ventosa Vineyards, 3440 Route 96A, Geneva, NY, 315-719-0000, www.ventosavineyards.com).

OUTDOORS

6 Moonlit Snowshoe Hike. Explore the park trails by moonlight. Bring a headlamp or small flashlight, but plan on navigating with the light of the moon. This 1.5-mile snowshoe hike may not be suitable for beginners. Meet at the Hills Creek beach area parking. Trail conditions and updates at wellsbororecreation.org, and 570-724-4246. (Jan. 6, 6-7:30 p.m., Hills Creek State Park, 111 Spillway Rd., Wellsboro, PA, free).

7 Ski & Snowshoe Mini-clinic. Start with a short, free mini-clinic, then head out by cross-country ski or snowshoe to explore the park trails on a guided tour. Meet at the beach parking area at either 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. More information at wellsbororecreation.org, and 570-724-4246. (Jan. 7, Hills Creek State Park, 111 Spillway Rd., Wellsboro, PA).

21 Winter Fest. Free family fun includes XC ski, snowshoe, ice skate, ice fish, sled, kids’ crafts, installing wildlife nesting boxes, learning about nature in winter, identifying trees, wild turkey management, watching an ice-rescue demonstration or historic ice harvesting, and hot chocolate and hot dogs. Skis, snowshoes, and skates provided or bring your own. Don’t forget your sled. (Jan. 21, 10 a.m.-3p.m., Hills Creek State Park, 111 Spillway Rd., Wellsboro, 570-724-4246).

28 Winterfest and Vintage Snowmobile Show. West End Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club hosts the 10th Annual Winterfest and Vintage Snowmobile Show at Kaples Farm. “Snow or no snow, join in the fun!” (Jan. 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Kaples Farm, 242 West Main St., Roulette, PA, www.westendtrailblazers.com).

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Weather. The National Weather Service climate prediction outlook for January calls for enhanced chances of above normal temperatures for most of the Appalachians, the southern and middle Atlantic Coast states, and the Gulf Coast states. For you snowbirders, the warming trend excludes Florida.

Skywatch. Look for the Quadrantids Meteor Shower Jan. 3-4 after the first quarter moon sets shortly after midnight. Up to forty meteors per hour radiate from the constellation Bootes. Admission free.