Local lore and saucy stories are a few ingredients that often contribute to an enjoyable evening of camping with friends and family. Myths about wild beasts and historical legends have been a part of the cultural background of people living within the Bald Eagle Valley and PA Wilds for centuries. Before the current technological age of movies and “on demand” television, entertainment by the word of mouth was a focal point for families. The staff at Bald Eagle State Park and the Nature Inn extend an invitation to partake in a weekend package full of food, fun, and folklore.

Plan to arrive early on Friday afternoon as the weekend’s festivities will begin at 3:30pm. Beginning at 3:30pm guests will be treated to a local wine tasting from one of central PA’s best wineries, Seven Mountains Wine Cellars! After trying a few samples, and picking out a favorite, guests will learn the art of wildlife painting with instruction from Happy Valley Sip and Paint at 4:00pm. A locally sourced group dinner will follow within the comfort of the Nature Inn. Following dinner, participants will be treated to an evening of nocturnal nature stories and may even have the chance to communicate with a “ghost of the night”.

Wake up to a hot breakfast Saturday morning, followed by a Winter Birds Snowshoe Walk that will take you along the trails of Bald Eagle State Park, followed by a History of the PA Mountain Lion lecture and discussion. Lunch will feature a PA Wilds original, Straub Brewery, as Catherine Lenze provides a sampling of Straub beer and a short talk about the St. Marys’ brewery. Following lunch you will have the opportunity to try your hand at cross-country skiing or ice fishing (depending on winter conditions). Saturday evening will be a treat with a private tour of the nation’s first green distillery at Big Spring Spirits, located a short drive away in Bellefonte, PA.

Before checking out for the weekend, wake up early with the Park Naturalist to learn the history of Groundhog Day while enjoying a nice hot breakfast buffet.

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