

Family Fun: Wendy, Adventures in Neverland



Captain Hook (Louise Howard) grimaces as Peter Pan (Willow Reichard-Flynn) and Wendy (Anna Russell) soar out of his reach once again in 'Wendy, An Adventure in Neverland,' presented by Allentown Public Theatre. (KEN EK / CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

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From Allentown to Neverland and back again, get ready for new spin on Peter Pan.

Allentown Public Theatre will present "Wendy, An Adventure in Neverland," performed by three actors, and accompanied by dancers and drummers from the Puerto Rican Culture Preservation group, July 21-23, 28 and 29 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Allentown. The shows are free for children.

In this version created by the Allentown Public Theatre company, Wendy, Peter and Tinkerbell live in Allentown. Mrs. Darling is a single, working mom who loves Wendy more than anything and just wants to protect her. Mrs. Darling finds Wendy on the roof of their apartment building, wearing pretend wings she made herself and imagining what it would be like to fly. Mrs. Darling panics and sends Wendy to her to her room as punishment, accidentally breaking Wendy's wings.

Wendy runs away from home with Peter to have the adventure she always dreamed of — but in the process realizes she needs her mom and her home more than she thinks. Mrs. Darling realizes that she needs to learn how to trust her daughter more. Wendy ends up coming home and teaching her mom how to fly.

Before the show is over, you'll face off with Captain Hook, fly over Fairy Glenn, and sing pirate songs with Smee, the nonconformist pirate.

"Wendy, An Adventure in Neverland" is Allentown Public Theatre's fifth annual summer play. Shows are at 6 p.m. Fridays and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are pay what you will for adults. The church is at 417 N. Seventh St.

Info: 888-895-5645 or www.allentownpublictheatre.com.

MORE FUN THIS WEEK

1 STORY WALK: Meet Spider-Man 3-4 p.m. July 20 in a Story Walk presented by the Cops 'n' Kids Reading Room at Easton Area Community Center, 901 Washington St., and the state Department of Health. The free Story Walks include stories, crafts and free books. The summer theme is "Every Hero Has a Story" and upcoming walks feature a firefighter, July 27; Ninja Turtles, Aug. 3, and You, Aug. 10. Info: 610-250-6562, www.copsnkidseaston.org.

2 ZOO BEACH BLAST!: Join the friendly staff and animals of the Lehigh Valley Zoo this weekend at its Beach Blast. There will be beach-themed arts and crafts including a beach discovery bin and bracelets. Princess Ariel will make an appearance 11 a.m.-1 p.m. to sing and take photos with guests. Swing by the Zoo Face Painter and get your own tropical work of art. See some of your favorite animals at the Wonders of Wildlife encounter and participate in interactive experiences including feeding the lorikeets at Lorikeet Landing. Take a guided tour inside the kangaroo exhibit. Don't forget to say hi to the new male otter, Lunai, at Otter Island. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The zoo is at 5150 Game Preserve Road, Schnecksville. Admission: \$13; \$12, seniors; \$11, ages 2-11; free, under 2. Info: 610-799-4171, lvzoo.org.

3 STORYBOOK PARTY: Get superhero training from Captain America and Wonder Woman at a Storybook Party presented as part of ArtsQuest's Peas & Qs series at 11:30 a.m. Saturday on the TD Community Stage on the Air Products Town Square, ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem. Participants will receive a certificate for agreeing to follow the Superhero Code of Honor, which is based on being kind, good to the community and considerate. The event is free. Info: 610-297-7100, steelstacks.org.

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