



Youth group members from Elmira's Our Lady of Lourdes Parish combine to form a human circle at Cayuga Nature Center in Ithaca.



This group of teens used a 'hand bridge' as the fastest way for each member to touch a tennis ball.



Bob Byland, one of the group escorts, appears to be meditating as he watches activities.

Elmira teens experience 'Adventure'

IITHACA — Approximately 40 youth group members from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Elmira ventured to the Cayuga Nature Center to take part in "Project Adventure" on Oct. 6.

The center is located on Cayuga Lake. According to Deacon George Welch, who helped organize the trip, the program's goal was "to help youths work together in community."

"It's a team-building process," said Deacon Welch, who — along with Mary Keeler — serves as youth group coordinator at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 304 Demarest Parkway. "The course helps them (the youths) learn how to work with each other. During the program, they learn how they can trust and depend on each other."

The "Project Adventure" course offered six challenges for the youths, including how to get an inner tube over a 40-foot tree and how to climb through a tire hanging six feet in the air.



An unidentified girl receives help from her fellow youth group members as she attempts to slide across a pole placed between two trees. Team effort was emphasized throughout the day.

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