

**Lansing Youth Services
Town Board Report
March 2023**

Stacie Mastin, former LYS chair participated in an interview for a Tompkins Weekly article that will highlight the activities of the Lansing Youth Commission and make an appeal for new members. Rick Alvord, Coordinator of County Youth Services also contributed.

Outdoor Adventure: Outdoor Adventure has been busy utilizing the natural area behind the high school. Here, participants have done a lot of sledding, skiing with RYS's cross country skis, cooking over the fire, coal burning spoons, and tracking. The group made hot chocolate, spider dogs, lots of variations of the S'mores, and always practiced their charcoal face painting skills while coal burning spoons. The group got to track a raccoon along the seasonal stream, and eventually along a deer path before the trail was lost. 12 youth served.

Foodies and Fun: Foodies in this program have completed the baby food challenge and moved on to their construction project, building a bridge out of spaghetti. Of course, spaghetti has been served as an "on the job" meal, while construction takes place. The bridges span one-foot gaps and are made of bundles of 15 pieces of spaghetti, many of which resemble thatched roofs. Testing day will be on the last day of program and everyone is excited to see what they will hold (and eat more spaghetti)! 16 youth served.

Mini Olympics: Students participated in the indoor events of curling, ice hockey (2 variations), ski jumping and snowboarding, all of which are adapted to be small and inside. One program day was unseasonably warm, so the group voted to play the game Mafia outdoors and soak in the sunshine! The last day will consist of finals for all previously completed events, with closing ceremonies and prizes. 13 youth served.

Dungeons and Dragons: Dungeons and Dragons is going strong with the Dungeon Master doing an amazing job with the group and direction. Character creations were a first for some players, and the LYS youth employee did a great job helping them through the process. This group is particularly invested and wanting to continue through the next round of programs. This group also had a special full day program during their Winter Break. Here, the game Honey Heist was introduced, played, and enjoyed by everyone, including the adults in the room! 15 youth served.

Youth Employment: Youth Employees have been busy at the library, with LYS as assistants, at the high school, and the Rec Department's ice-skating program. New students are being recruited at the high school and a new LYEP Flyer was created to reach new individuals. One new employee will begin next week as an assistant with LYS. 18 youth served.

Upcoming Programs: Outdoor Adventure, "Wing-it" Wednesdays, Dungeons and Dragons, and Iron Chef- Italy (Spaghetti Supper).