

Suburban friends aid the Indians

Suburban friends of northern Michigan Indians have three trips scheduled soon to take food and toys to impoverished areas.

"This Saturday, we're going to the Traverse Bay Indian Center with 500 toys, and then to Harbor Springs with food and toys," said Hank Chrusciel, chairman of the Indian affairs committee of the Western Wayne County Conservation Association.

In the early 1970s, the committee met goals of 3,000 cans of food. Things have been down since then.

Yet some work gets done. A week ago, a truck from the St. Catherine mission near the upper peninsula village of L'Anse picked up 688 toys and seven boxes of clothing from Chrusciel's collection. Rev. Elmer Stoffel is the priest in charge there.

At Harbor Springs is the Holy Childhood Indian Mission School, where St. Helen watches over a flock of 45 youngsters.

AMONG THE committee's helpers have been: Perry Drug Stores, which donated the toys; Faith Community United Presbyterian Church of Novi, which provided \$50; Mrs. Rex Moorehead of Livonia, \$25; and Cub Pack 279 of Grandview Elementary School, Clareville, which is taking up a canned food collection.

Chrusciel operates out of his home at 19345 Brentwood, Livonia. Although canned food and new toys donations are still coming in, he admits the level of help isn't what it was three or more years ago.

THE WESTERN Wayne Indian Affairs Committee has scheduled two trips northward next month for which it is collecting new toys, new clothing and canned food.

On Dec. 2, it will visit the Woodland Indians of the tri-county area around Muskegon. A kids Christmas party is scheduled for that Saturday, and a senior citizens party for Sunday.

"We could use gifts for the elderly—lap covers, lamps, cribbage boards, playing cards and electrical kitchen utensils," said Chrusciel.

Deadline for gifts for that trip is Nov. 30.

On Dec. 16, the committee will visit the Holy Childhood school again for a Christmas party. Food and toys are the main items needed. Deadline for gifts for that trip is Dec. 14.



Sixth season opens

Oakway Symphony opens under the baton of Francesco Di Blasi featuring pianist Ilse von Alphenheim at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, in Our Lady of Mercy High School on Middlebelt and Eleven Mile. It is the sixth season for the orchestra which combines the best musical talents of those in Oakland and Wayne Counties. General admission is \$5, at the door, or \$2 for seniors and students. Ms. von Alphenheim is the only pianist in the world who has performed all the Haydn concerti.

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