

Lighthouse seeks help to stock holiday food baskets

For 21 years, thousands of Oakland County families and seniors-in-need have counted on Lighthouse for their Thanksgiving dinner.

Lighthouse expects to provide a full traditional meal once again to more than 2,000 families, many of them the working poor or seniors, on this Thanksgiving.

Last year, the program fed over 5,000 people.

Lighthouse Emergency Services, a subsidiary of Lighthouse of Oakland County, is seeking donations of non-perishable foods and funds to purchase turkeys for the Thanksgiving Basket Project 1997, Nov. 17 to 21. To donate food or turkey funds, call the Lighthouse Thanksgiving hotline, (248) 745-4425.

Individuals as well as schools,

community, religious, and business groups are sought to participate in food collection. Items needed to fill the basket include: sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, canned cranberries, canned vegetables, potatoes, onions, canned fruit, soup, pumpkin pie filling, evaporated milk, pie crust and dessert items.

Non-perishable food items and donations may be delivered to the All Saints Church gymnasium, next to Lighthouse at Williams and Pike Street in Pontiac. Please use the Exchange Street door. Drop off times are Nov. 16 (noon to 1:30 p.m. only) and Nov. 17 to 21 (9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.).

Lighthouse of Oakland County, Inc. is a non-profit human service agency which offers a continuum of services to low-income residents through its

subsidiaries which are Lighthouse Emergency Service Centers in Pontiac and Clarkston, Pontiac Area Transitional Housing (PATH), and Unity Park. Lighthouse Emergency Services respond to families and seniors who have an immediate need for food, medicine, transportation, utilities and shelter. Pontiac Area Transitional Housing provides a stable living environment for homeless women and their children; and Unity Park is a neighborhood revitalization and home ownership program for first-time, low-income home buyers.

Lighthouse is in its 25th year of providing a continuum of services that move people from poverty and crisis to independence and self-sufficiency.



PHOTO BY P. ALBERT SCHNEIDER

Indian customs: Jerry Kuykendall, "Laughing Bear" explains the meaning and significance of his handiwork. Lifestyle re-enactments in life-sized Tee Pee are just some of the educational and cultural events at the fifth annual Native American Pow Wow. The event will be held Nov. 15-16 at the Novi Expo Center.

Native American cultural fest to spotlight a Mini Pow Wow

Thousands of people will gather to experience a cultural celebration at the fifth annual Native American Festival and Mini Pow Wow. This year's event will encompass triple the floor space and has been expanded to two days: Saturday, Nov. 15 and Sunday, Nov. 16 at the Novi Expo Center.

Festival-goers will experience a day of culture and education as they witness a spectacular celebration of Native American drumming, dancing and signing. Dancers from several tribes from across the United States and Canada — including, Mohawk, Apache, Oneida, Cherokee, Ojibwe, Navajo and Chippewa, among others — will meet to share their culture and traditions. The different style of dances like the grass dance, women's fancy dance, and jingle dress dance depict the distinctions among tribes and similarities in their movements and dance while inside the sacred circle.

The pow wow grounds are always arranged in a series of circles, including the drum, drummer, singers, dancers and dance area. Native Americans do everything in a circle because

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they believe the power of the world always works in circles. The circle is a sacred symbol in American Indian culture and has been the heart of spiritual traditions and customs for 12,000 to 15,000 years, says Laughing Bear (Jerry Kuykendall), a Native American consultant.

Attendees will be encouraged to participate in the dancing during the intertribal or friendship dances. Colina Cada, an Ojibwe-Odawa-Potawatami, from Manitoulin Island, Canada, will present a rarely performed hoop dance, using 28 hoops simultaneously. Cada is one of the 16 noted hoop dancers in North America.

More than 100 trader tables, offering authentic American Indian arts and crafts will surround the dance area. Festival-goers will have the opportunity to feast on Native American fare,

including fry bread, corn soup, buffalo burgers and Indian tacos.

John Van Sickle, a Native American historian, will construct three life-size traditional Indian lodgings that were typical of those lived in by Michigan tribes up until the 20th century. Van Sickle, a Mississauga Ojibwe, has worked as a consultant for a number of television and film projects, including *The Last of the Mohicans* and *TNT's Tecumseh: The Last Warrior*. The display area will feature an authentic teepee and artisans who will demonstrate traditional craft making such as beading, carving and basket weaving.

Children younger than 12 will make free Native American crafts, including an ornamental sash and shield, a house post, a rattle and a parflech, an envelope used to carry personal items. Native American stories and folklore will be told throughout the day.

Free Native American bracelets will be given away to the first 5,000 children, ages 3-12. Specially designed commemorative patches, ideal for scouts, will be available for purchase.

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