## Auburn Begins Phase II Of Flood Relief Program

BY MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn - Phase I of Auburn's effort to assist their neighbors in the flood disaster area in the Southern Tier through "Operation Clean-Up" drew to a close Sunday, July 23 with approximately 1400 having volunteer ed time and elbow grease in house-to-house cléanup opera-

Initiated by Fathers Lewis Brown of St. Alphonsus and John Mulligan of St. Mary's, it was concern from the total spectrum of the community that kept the volunteers coming daily beginning with the first bus load, July 1. This, in spite of a tragic accident on the sixth day, which involved a busload of volunteers in a two car collision. The community arose to the occasion by sending three buses the folloing day.

Sister Ellen Ward, coordinator of volunteers, marveled at the willingness to sustain the daily effort, with reservations to join work crews curbed several days because of bus space availability. Perhaps it was this area's reaction to the potential flood disaster averted locally, but-Sister Ellen observed once volunteers saw the realities of the devastation, it turned into a person-to-person effort.

"Many were overwhelmed with the massive clean up needing to be done, and it became a personal commitment, commented Sister Ellen. "It has tremendous lesson in

Christian community,"

A strength of the local program was the availability of adult leadership, and the division of volunteers into work teams on the bus enroute to assigned areas. Organizational tactics included nightly staff meetings to review daily happenings, formulate publicity, and coordinate volunteer and transportation details to utilize volunteer time best.

Volunteers in "Operation Clean-up' ranged from teenagers to some over 65. Many who could not go in person donated cleaning supplies. Bus captains and crew leaders were recruited from veteran volunteers and later, local industry.

While there is still need for help to individual residents, it is becoming increasingly dif-ficult to utilize crews effectively as families are scattered. Community need in the Southern Tier is shifting from door to door cleanup efforts to need for specific undertakings. In line with this shifting need, Phase "Operation Re-Build" has been initiated locally with a letter directed to all churches and service organizations. It suggests an "Adopt a Family" plan in which a local group would assist,

on a face to face basis, a particular family to rebuild their home. Names would be made available through Rochester Office of Human Development.

The goal for completion of individual rebuilding efforts has been suggested as September 30. A tentative date of Aug. 2 has been set for the initial organization meeting of "Operation Re-Build" with details to be forthcoming.

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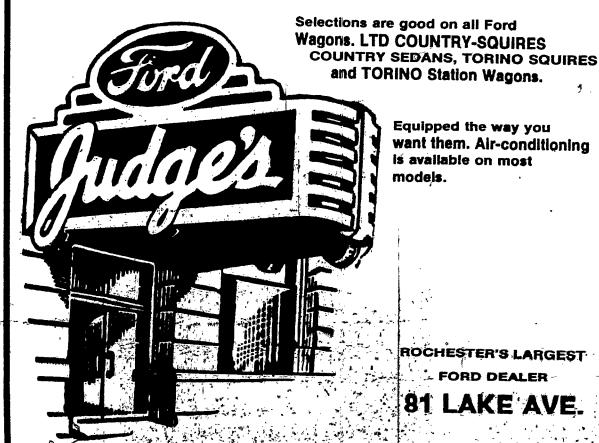
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Station Blessing

This is one of the recently installed Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Red Creek, to be dedicated and blessed today, July 26, at 6:30 p.m. The Stations were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Albano in memory of their parents.

