

Elders meet in Nome

Recognizing the tremendous wealth of knowledge the Elders of the region have, the community of Nome is sponsoring its first region-wide Elder's Conference. The conference, under the direction of Jackie Wilson of Kawerak, Inc. and Rose Ann Timbers of the Nome Community Center, will be held May 10 thru 12.

The participants will be Elders from the villages in the Norton Sound, upper Seward Peninsula areas, St. Lawrence and Little Diomed Islands. Sixteen communities in all will participate in the conference. Four Elders who are at least 55 years of age will come from each village.

Information gathered at the conference will be utilized in

social studies courses of the region. Discussions by the Elders will center around such areas as history, medicine, religion and social norms before the intervention of Western civilization.

The Elders conference will be held in conjunction with the Bilingual conference being held during the same time period. Eskimo language courses are also of prime interest to the people of the Bering Straits region. Information gained on the languages of the region will be utilized in Inupiat courses to be taught later in the year.

Anyone interested in further information on the Elders conference should contact either Jackie Wilson at 443-5487 or Rose Ann Tibers at 443-5259.