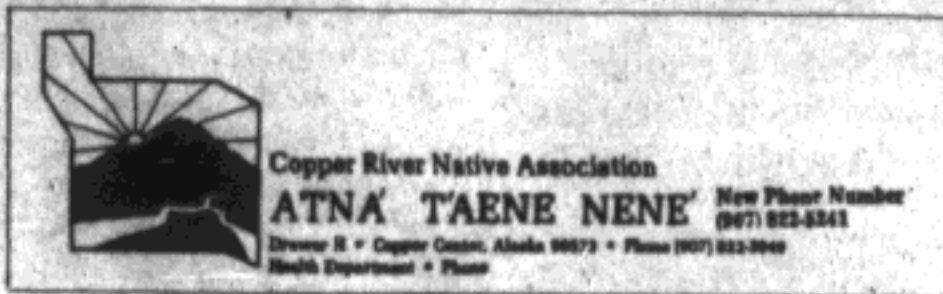


Copper River children take swimming lessons

The main summer program for the Copper River Native Association (CRNA) Health Department has been the Summer Water Safety/Swimming Program. It was offered in Chistochina, Tazlina, Kenny Lake, Mentasta and Gulkana for the children in the area ages 2 to 17.

Portable swimming pools were used to teach swimming lessons to the children. The program featured a daily safety exercise in coping with water accidents, such as falling out of a boat, or falling with waders on. Instructors for the



program were Erik Hansen and Marcia Butorac.

The program also featured crafts and recreational activities to keep those occupied who were not in the pools. These were conducted by Barbara Bayless and Mary Fine.

Awards were given at the completion of the program at

each site. Students earned certificates for their accomplishments and a picnic was also held.

Alaska Native Training Institute

Training has been started by the Alaska Native Training Institute within the Ahtna

Region. This training will entail one week a month over a year's period, with a total of eight sessions.

Those who complete the course will be certified as an Alcoholism Counselor I.

The entire Alcohol Treatment Center staff and several employees in the CRNA Human Services Department are attending these trainings.

Emergency Medical Service Ambulances

Steps are being taken to upgrade the present ambulance services in the region. At the

present time fully equipped ambulances are only at Faith Hospital in Glennallen. Hopefully, there will be one stationed in the Chistochina area and one at Kenny Lake in the near future, thereby improving response time.

Three Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) classes are being planned for October. Since all ambulance drivers and EMTs in the region are volunteers, it is necessary for constant trainings and refresher courses to have help available in times of emergency.

