

# Activities Bring Young and Old Together

About 35 Senior Citizens in the Copper River Region attended the first luncheon for elderly, held at the Copper Center Community Hall, March 19, 1975. The luncheon was co-sponsored by C.R.N.A.'s Community Action Program (RurAL CAP) and the Copper Valley Aging Program.

The elderly citizens enjoyed an abundance of food, including moose stew, baked salmon, salad, Indian pudding, chocolate cake, and ice cream. The moose was donated by Fish and Game, and the ice cream was donated by the Copper River Cash Store. Volunteers cooked and prepared the food.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students from the Copper Center School's Bilingual Class sang songs in the AHTNA Dialect and attempted a few steps of Indian dancing.

Following the childrens presentation, Harry Johns Sr., Tenas Jack, and Andy Brown, all of Copper Center, jumped up and gave a spontaneous lesson on how the dances should be properly done.

Not to be outdone, three women at the luncheon also danced for the children. The women were Walya Hobson and Virginia Pete of Tazlina, and Ruth Johns of Copper Center. Dancing is an intrinsic part of the Traditional Native Culture.

One objective of the Aging Program is to provide activities for the elderly, that bring them back into the mainstream of society. The luncheon was an attempt to bring the elderly together, and the

interchange between the old people and the young people provided an opportunity for the old people to pass some of their heritage on to their younger counterparts.

Eileen Ewan of Gulkana is the Director of the Aging Program, and Thea Smelcer of Tazlina is in charge of the Rural CAP Program. Both of them termed the luncheon as a huge success and plan to hold similar activities in the future.



ENTERTAINMENT EXCHANGE