Napakiak bans possession of alcohol

NAPAKIAK — A majority of the residents of this Southwestern Alaska village recently voted 62 to 14 in favor of a ban on the possession of alcohol in the community, according to Mayor Fritz J. Willie.

"We have an optimistic feeling, once the law or ordinance goes into effect, that the problems will ease down," Willie said in a recent letter to the *Tundra Times*. "So I think the ordinance will benefit the residents of Napakiak."

Willie said city officials held the special election May 5, after these findings were determined:

 The abuse of alcohol seriously interferes with the rights and privileges of city residents. The public health, safety and welfare suffers when alcohol abuse is not controlled.

There is a strong correleation bet-

City of Napakiak

GENERAL DELIVERY NAPARIAK, ALABKA 99634

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ween alcohol consumption and poor health, fetal damage, suicide, domestic violence and crime.

 Strict regulation of alcohol is an effective tool for controlling the abuse of alcohol because the city is small, isolated and lacks extensively developed law enforcement or health care facilities.

Prohibitions are broken down in sections including, possession, sale and importation, licenses, carrying or transportation, public consumption, inducement, furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors, consumption or possession by minors and public intoxication.

Persons cited under the ordinance may be arrested by the peace officer. The violator will be held until the Judgement Board issues a citation to the person.

When issuing a citation, the Judgement Board shall write on the citation the amount of bail established for the violation by the Alaska Supreme Court. Bail amounts are: first and second offenses, \$100. Subsequent offenses are subject to mandatory court appearances.

Persons cited will be given the option of paying the bail in cash or conducting community service, or pay some in cash and the rest in community service. The value of community work in lieu of a fine is \$5 an hour.