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Alcohol enforcement squad doing server compliance checks

In the coming months, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, in a collaborative effort with Libby, Troy and Eureka police departments, will be conducting alcohol server compliance checks throughout Lincoln County.

Individuals who sell alcohol to underage buyers will be referred to the appropriate prosecuting attorney for criminal prosecution and the business will be referred to the Montana Department of Revenue, the licensing authority for administrative action.

"We thank community members, area businesses and community groups for supporting increased enforcement and prevention efforts and appreciate the more than 500 managers, servers and community event volunteers who have completed the server training," said Captain Bo Pitman of Lincoln County Sheriff's Office in a release.

"We urge servers to continue conducting thorough ID checks every time alcohol is sold and refuse sales to persons under the age of 21," said Pitman, who heads the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program.

"Together through education, enforcement, and community action, we are creating an environment in which area youth have an easier time making safe and healthy choices regarding underage drinking."

Pictured above, Joyful Noise, an all-girl band made up of Krystal Donahue-Montoya, Sabra Hancock and Anna Lee (from left) brought Christmas cheer to different places around Libby on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2013. The girls, all Libby Middle School eighth-grade band students, mixed high, middle and low notes of traditional carols at Shopko (seen above), Hometown Varity, Joy of Books, the Christmas Craft Bazaar at Asa Wood School, and Libby Sports Center. The girls hope to pop into a few more places before Christmas and then continue with other musical venues through the year. Courtesy photo and caption by Cyrus Lee.