

News Release

Promoting Responsible Alcohol Sales and Service

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81% of Yamhill County businesses passed OLCC Minor Sales Check

YAMHILL, Ore. – 43 of 53 businesses in Yamhill County passed an Oregon Liquor Control Commission minor sales check on March 21 by refusing to sell alcohol to a minor.

The 81 percent passing rate is above the statewide average of 78 percent. The commission performs the minor sales checks in an effort to reduce drinking by minors, which is a serious problem throughout the state. The OLCC tests about 1,300 licensed liquor businesses each year.

"We always hope for 100 percent, but 81 percent is terrific," said James Lynch, OLCC Salem Regional Manager. "Our job is to let businesses know that providing alcohol to a minor is serious. Refusing to sell to someone under 21 not only protects minors from intoxication, but it also safeguards the employees and owners from liabilities of alcohol-related incidences."

The following licensees passed the compliance check: Amity Market in Amity, Barb's Only Place in Amity, Hall's Chevron in Amity, Ruby's Mart & Tobacco in McMinnville, Grocery Outlet of McMinnville in McMinnville, El Primo Mexican Restaurant in Yamhill, Scotte's Imbibery in McMinnville, 3rd Street Pizza in McMinnville, Big Apple Market in McMinnville, Elks Lodge #1283 in McMinnville, Golden Valley Brewery & Pub in McMinnville, Hotel Oregon McMenamins in McMinnville, La Zacatecana in McMinnville, Plaid Pantry #46 in McMinnville, Roth's Friendly Foodliner in McMinnville, Sweet Milk's Grocery in McMinnville, Walnut City Lanes in McMinnville, People's Market in Lafayette, Roadhouse Pub in Lafayette, Bill's Market in Lafayette, Martha's Tacos & More in Lafayette, Kin's Bar & Grill in Lafayette, Main St. Market in Warrenton, Pied Piper Pub in Carlton, The Horse Radish in Carlton, The Tin Roof in Carlton, T&E General Store in Yamhill, Arco AM/PM #6602 in Dundee, B&S Market in Dundee, City Center Food Mart in Dundee, La Sierra Mexican Grill in Dundee, David OK Market in Dundee, J's Restaurant & Lounge in Newberg, 9th Street Grocery in Newberg, Newberg Food Mart in Newberg, Everybody's Market in Newberg, Abby's Legendary Pizza of Newberg in Newberg, Newberg Chevron in Newberg, Lago De Chapala Mexican Restaurant in Newberg, Roadrunner II in Newberg, First Street Pub in Newberg, Panaderia Y Taqueria Gonzalez in Newberg and Quick Stop Market & Deli in Newberg.

The following licensees failed the compliance check: Jacksons #537 in Newberg, Ixtapa Restaurant in Newberg, Newberg Texaco in Newberg, Roadrunners in McMinnville, Blue Moon in McMinnville, Carniceria Abastos in Lafayette, Roberts Shell in Lafayette, DaBoy's Carlton Market in Carlton, Zippy's Pizza in Yamhill, Trask Mountain Outpost in Yamhill.

During the checks, a minor volunteer attempts to purchase alcohol from a licensed business to see if staff are checking ID's correctly and refusing to sell alcohol to anyone under 21. Commission inspectors or other law officers supervise the minor volunteers. The volunteers carry their own legal ID and do not disguise their age or encourage the sale of alcohol. The businesses involved in the checks are selected at random by computer or have been targeted due to prior alcohol sales to minors.

Servers, bartenders and licensees whose employees sell alcohol to the minor or do not verify the minor's age, are subject to OLCC administrative penalties including fines or suspensions. Store clerks who sell can be cited with criminal charges and a minimum \$350 fine.

The OLCC offers a free training course on how to check ID's. Participants learn how to identify false identification and the laws regarding minors and alcohol. Additional training opportunities are available including classes for store clerks and service permit holders. Interested persons can call the local OLCC office to schedule a training session.