

Federal tanning tax impacts Sapulpa businesses

By MEGAN McCANN
OPA INTERN FOR THE HERALD

A 10 percent indoor tanning tax went into effect last week as part of the Health Care Reform Bill. Now, Sapulpa tanning salons are wondering how the tax will affect business.

Dena Engle, owner of Dena & Company Salon, said her business will not be as negatively affected as others in town because her salon offers services other than tanning, and she doesn't have to pay city taxes because she is outside of the city limits.

Still, taxes for tanning at Engle's salon have jumped from 5.5 percent to 15.5 percent. For tanning salons in town, taxes have jumped to 19.5 percent. The tax does not apply to tanning lotions, eye-wear or to spray tanning.

Most tanning salons in Sapulpa are privately owned, and those located in the city are having to charge customers one-fifth of every dollar in taxes, Engle said.

The Skin Cancer Foundation released a statement saying they expect the law to discourage people from using tanning beds, which they said greatly increases a person's risk of developing skin cancer.

A new study shows that indoor ultraviolet tanners are 74 percent more likely to develop melanoma than those who have never tanned indoors, according to the Skin Cancer Foundation.

The federal government expects the tax to raise more than \$2.7 billion over 10 years to help pay for the \$940 billion health care overhaul, according to published reports.

The tanning tax replaced a proposed five percent tax on cosmetic procedures, which was expected to raise \$5.8 billion over 10 years.

Critics argue that the tax on cosmetic procedures would have generated more revenue while placing a smaller burden on the higher income patrons than the tax on tanning.

The American Academy of Dermatology Association (AADA) opposed the cosmetic procedure tax, but supports the taxation of tan-

ning beds because of research linking use to melanoma, according to the AADA.

"The AADA is hopeful that the actions at the federal and state levels will persuade individuals to stop indoor tanning altogether," said dermatologist William D. James, president of the AADA.

The AADA is currently working with dermatologists, patients and other organizations to ban indoor tanning altogether, or at least for minors, said James in a recent news release.

Engle said she is skeptical.

"Some of my most loyal customers are those who have skin ailments, such as psoriasis, that require ultra-violet light as treatment," said Engle.

Engle said she does not mind paying the county and state taxes, but has a problem with a 10 percent tax that does not directly benefit the community.

"I don't know why they're singling-out this industry," said Engle. Tanning salons are largely owned by females and are small business ventures.



Photo by MEGAN McCANN/Herald

Across the nation, tanning bed users like Baleigh Baskin will now pay 10 percent more for tanning bed services

Summer Fire Field Day to help landowners

By SEAN HUBBARD
HERALD STAFF WRITER

STILLWATER, Okla. — Fire is good and researchers at Oklahoma State University's Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources are going to prove it.

Members of the department of natural resource ecology and management at OSU are teaming up with experts from around the state for the Summer Fire Field Day. While the event took place in Stillwater for its inauguration, this year's field day is in Cheyenne, Okla. on Saturday, July 17.

"We are trying to move them around so we can show more people the importance of fire and conducting growing season burns," said John Weir, OSU Cooperative Extension rangeland ecology and management specialist.

The Summer Fire Field Day is designed to help landowners and land managers answer the questions they may have about fire or burning during the summer or growing season. Is burning in summer good for livestock or wildlife? Can you

even get green grass to burn?

"People can come to learn more about the effects of burning during the growing season on plants, livestock and wildlife," Weir said.

Weir is expecting approximately 100 people to show up for the 8:30 a.m. registration for coffee and doughnuts at the Methodist Church in Cheyenne on the corner of Highway 283 and Moad Street. The field day will begin at 9 a.m. when the group leaves to tour the site of a June 4, 2009 burn south of Reydon.

Another site will be visited from a late-summer 2009 burn

in Reydon, before returning to the church for lunch at noon. While there is no cost for the field day itself, the lunch provided by the Cheyenne Methodist Ladies Group is \$10.

The group will then leave again at 1:15 p.m. to observe a growing season burn conducted by Roger Mills Prescribed Burn Association east of Roll.

"Participants should go away with a perspective that fire during anytime of the year is beneficial to land and summer time burning is just another added tool to a land managers tool box," said Weir.

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***Mud with a little gold in it
is often more prized than
gold with a little mud on it.***

-Leding

Ray wins national roping championship

By ERIC BRUCE
HERALD SPORTS EDITOR

MOUNDS- After a week in Ardmore, at the Hardy Murphy Colesium, Mary Ray left with what she came for, a National Championship in Ranch Sorting.

Ranch Sorting is the newest and fastest growing equine sport in the nation, as witnessed by last week's turnout at the National Championships.

Over 3,773 teams from 20 states participated compared to the 1,500 team turnout last year.

So what is Ranch Sorting?

Take two 60-foot round pens and separate them with gate in the middle. Add 10 head of cattle, each numbered one through ten.

A team of two has the task of separating the cattle into different pens, in numerical order, without another cow getting into the fray.

"The judge will call a number, like number four, and my responsibility is to get cow number four out of the herd and into the next pen, by itself. Then my partner will have to go after number five, and then I go after six etc... The goal is to get as many of the ten separated in a minute. If one gets loose, you're finished," said Ray.



Photo submitted

Mary Ray shows the saddle she won at the Ranch Sorting National Championship.

Ray was on the state team that took home the National Championship. The team was comprised of six individuals from around the state and together they won first out of 3,773 other teams.

Other team members included Ronnie Steadman of Cherokee, Shelly Fitzgerald at Yukon, Vince Lee of Pryor, Van Gemmil from Ponca City and Darlene Anderson of Ponca City.

Ray also won second place in the individual competition on her class, which was the rookie class this year.

"I started sorting about a year ago and have loved every minute of it," said Ray. "It is fun for all ages; it is just a good family sport."

Ray and her husband Ed own the Double R ranch in Mounds. They say they practice all the time and offer lessons to those who are interested.

Their next event is Sept. 4, anyone can participate and the 2010 membership is free.

"The people are what make the sport. I have attended some cutting events and various other equine events and this is just a fun group of people who are there to be competitive and have a

Fund set up to help Seely

The American Heritage Bank family and friends of Carrie Seely announce the establishment of a donation fund to help her family with expenses during her cancer treatment.

Seely, age 21, was recently diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. She is a two-time Hodgkin's lymphoma survivor, and due to her previous diagnoses, she was unable to qualify for health insurance.

She and her family not only face the struggles of cancer and its treatments, but also face the associated medical bills.

"The less Carrie has to worry about the healthier she will be, and the greater chance of her getting well," family friend Channing Pulley said.

Donations will be accepted to the Carrie Seely Family Medical Fund at all American

Heritage Bank branches.