

Taxes increase Monday, smokers hit hardest

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and say from now on they'll buy in Colorado.

On Monday, the state sales tax will jump from 4.9 percent to 5.3 percent, making the sales tax in Sherman County 6.55 percent. The motor fuel tax on gasoline, liquid propane and diesel fuel will increase 2 cents, and the cigarette tax will take a big leap from 24 cents to 70 cents a pack, with another 9-cent increase slated for Jan. 1.

The tax increases are part of a \$252-million tax package lawmakers passed earlier this year to help fill a \$700-million budget gap between the amount of money the state wanted to spend and

what it would actually bring in.

Harding, Chamber director, said business people here want to stay competitive with Colorado businesses because they're only 30 minutes away. It can be tough, because food isn't taxed in Colorado, he said, but he added that Colorado customers say they'll keep shopping at the Wal-Mart Supercenter in Goodland even with the sales tax increase.

Customers say they shop at Wal-Mart because it has a good selection, Harding said, and the prices will still be lower with the sales tax hike.

"The tax doesn't seem to mean much to our trade area," he said.

As for other businesses in Goodland, Harding said the tax increase shouldn't

have a big impact. He noted states surrounding Kansas are having the same economic problems and lawmakers there have discussed increasing the sales tax.

"So if we are higher," he said, "it won't be for long."

Harding added that taxpayers here got a short reprieve when the county dropped its quarter-cent sales tax to pay for Old U.S. 24 repairs on April 1.

Shelby Miller, county treasurer, said after the increase, the total sales tax in Sherman County will be 6.55 percent, which includes a 5.3 percent state sales tax, a 1 percent county sales tax and a .25 percent "special tax."

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said

money from the county tax are divided between the county, the City of Goodland and the City of Kanorado, based on population and another factor. The special tax is used to pay for health care services, she said, adding that the county commissioners decide what organizations receive that money.

Ryan Imhof, an assistant manager at Wal-Mart, said people buy necessities at Wal-Mart and a tax hike isn't going to stop them from doing that. He said the few more cents spent on groceries or other items will add up over a year, but most people won't notice it on a daily basis.

"Day to day," he said, "they get what they need."

Blume, Presto manager, said the tax hikes will cut sales at the gas station. She said travelers and people in Goodland have told her they'll buy cigarettes, gas and snacks in another state where the sales tax is lower.

Della Calhoon, the Kit Carson County clerk in Burlington, said the sales tax there is 4.9 percent, including a 2.9 percent state sales tax and a 2 percent city sales tax, and food is not taxed. The state lowered the sales tax from 3 percent to 2.9 percent last July, she said.

Blume said smokers are hit the hardest, and they're not happy about it.

"We hear comments like you would not believe," she said, noting that the

tax increase will make cigarettes almost \$5 a pack.

A smoker herself, Blume said she'd rather quit than pay the tax. But, she said, kicking the habit is easier said than done.

"I hope I can," she said. "It is hard. It's an addiction."

Blume said most smokers who try to quit probably won't be successful.

"They'll stop," she said, "and then they'll have some tension, nerves, stress. They'll start right back up."

A lot of people are going to be upset, Blume said, but most will live with it.

"You're going to hear a lot of griping next week," she said, "but there's nothing we can do about it."

Young woman loves harvest, falls in love with harvester

HARVEST, from Page 1

getting an education that will provide her an indoor profession.

Brettany and Ryan own a three-year-old Blue Hieler named "Dude." He was riding contentedly in the combine cab, watching the header cut and gather the wheat.

"Dude is our high maintenance dog, but a low maintenance kid," she joked. "Dude would rather be cutting than staying at home."

Considering that poor weather and crops can easily get a crew feeling down, she said, Dude's job is "helping to keep everybody in a good mood."

This year, the Studer crew started harvest in the Dodge City area, before moving into Sherman County. The crew is harvesting Nancy Rudy's land northwest of Ruleton.

The "Errington twins" land, as it's better known, was estimated in the first round to be yielding in the low-to-mid 20s. Earlier, Tinsley said, the crew harvested a 30-bushel per acre field and a 35-bushel per acre field.

Test weights in Sherman County have been ranging in the 59 to 60 pound test weights, she said. In July, the crew cuts barley and other beer grains for Coors elevators. This, along with picking corn, are her favorite jobs.

Tinsley said she is pleasantly sur-



Dude, Brettany Tinsley's and Ryan Studer's 3-year-old Blue Hieler dog, peered out the combine window monitoring the harvest and the wildlife that flees ahead of the machine.

prised that the Sherman County wheat isn't as bad as what farmers predicted. "Everyone should be thankful it's as good as it is," she said.

While operating the combine, she routinely makes adjustments to the machine. She said stopping occasion-

ally to check the amount of wheat kernels and heads left behind, and then making the necessary adjustments, brings everyone more money. Tinsley said she tries to do the best job possible.

"The guys think I take better care of the equipment," she said.



Brettany Tinsley and her dog Dude cut all crops throughout the Midwest, traveling with a Goodland custom harvesting crew.

Rock fans stunned by death of Entwistle of 'The Who'

By The Associated Press

NATIONAL

LAS VEGAS — Stunned fans of The Who's John Entwistle left flowers and consoled each other outside a casino concert hall where the bass player who helped make the band one of the biggest in rock history had been expected to perform today.

Entwistle was found dead Thursday in his Hard Rock Hotel room of an apparent heart attack. He was 57. The co-founder of The Who was on medication for a heart condition, according to Steve Luongo, the drummer in another Entwistle band for the last 15 years.

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Goodland JCPenney

Hours Correction:

Due to a newspaper error, The weekday hours of JCPenney were incorrectly listed in the Wednesday, June 26 Goodland Daily News "Red Tag Clearance" ad. The correct Monday-Friday hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. We apologize for any inconvenience to JCPenney and its customers.

around the world

An autopsy was scheduled for today, but Clark County Coroner Ron Flud said no foul play was suspected.

The group, founded in London in the early 1960s, was part of the British rock invasion along with the Rolling Stones and the Beatles. Their parade of hits included "I Can See For Miles," "I Can't Explain," "Substitute," "Pinball Wizard," "Won't Get Fooled Again" and "Who Are You."

The Who's first hit, "My Generation," became an anthem for baby boomers and included the line, "Hope

I die before I get old."

Entwistle was born Oct. 9, 1944, in London, and played piano and trumpet in his early years. The Who retired in 1982 but reunited and toured frequently.

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — Republicans pushed Medicare prescription drug legislation through a weary House early today, rejecting Democratic claims the bill was an election-year gimmick that would do little to help senior citizens.

The 221-208 vote fell largely along

party lines, and sent the measure to an uncertain fate in the Senate.

The legislation provides \$320 billion over the next decade to establish a system of Medicare prescription drug coverage through the private insurance industry.

Costs would be heavily subsidized for low-income Medicare beneficiaries. Under a typical plan, others would pay a monthly premium of roughly \$33 and an annual deductible of about \$250.

The government would pay 80 percent of the next \$1,000 of drug costs and 50 percent of the next \$1,000.

WASHINGTON — Declaring a new era in education, supporters of private-school vouchers say the Supreme Court's approval of the taxpayer subsidies is the green light state legislatures have been waiting for.

"The dialogue will now change," said attorney David Brennan, who helped design Cleveland's voucher program. "You'll have bills introduced, you'll have hearings, you'll have all sorts of legislative activity all around the country, now that this issue has been settled."

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ANTIQUES
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Note: We will have a complete house full of items as Waneta is in the nursing home. The hall will be full with something for everyone so come and enjoy another fun Bane Auction where everyone has "Satisfaction at the sound of the gavel" Lunch will be served by the VFW Auxiliary.

PARTIAL LIST ONLY. For more information contact Bane Auction/Homestead Realty. Maynard Bane 785-899-4385 or 899-2078 or Terry Richardson 785-899-2328 or 800-974-2426.

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