



Panel Discussion

The MSC Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture will host a panel discussion highlighting the role of the Mexican-American in Texas history.

April 23, Rm 206 MSC from 7 - 9pm.

Operators of small wells who close won't lose leases

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Reagan administration, trying to preserve some oil reservoirs from abandonment in the face of low prices, told operators of small wells Thursday they could stop production without losing federal leases.

Secretary of Interior Donald P. Hodel told reporters, "Continued abandonment of such wells clearly will reduce our ultimate recovery potential" on federal lands, and that loss of productive capacity "no doubt will increase U.S. dependence on imported oil — which is contrary to the nation's interests."

Involved are so-called "stripper" wells, which produce less than 10 barrels per day. Failure to produce from such a well on a federal lease has meant the lease is supposed to be surrendered after 60 days.

Operators now will just have to give the Bureau of Land Management a certificate that they would abandon the well otherwise and the

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— Secretary of Interior Donald P. Hodel.

bureau will lift the 60-day requirement, "subject to our right to require production" and payment of \$1 per acre per year, Hodel said.

While the action clearly will help some well operators, Hodel repeated the Reagan administration's stance against general aid to the domestic petroleum industry. "We do not favor protectionist activities and we do not favor subsidies for an industry or a sector of an industry," he said.

A bipartisan group of senators led

by Sen. David L. Boren, D-Okla., is drafting a bill to aid small producers through a package of increased tax breaks.

Boren's press aide, Barbara Webb, said the bill would embody such principles as an undetermined increase in the stripper well depletion allowance of 15 percent, tax credits to make up the difference between the cost of production and the selling price and purchase of stripper oil for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

The 50,000 barrels a day bought for the reserve comes from Mexico. Hodel said he did not believe purchases should come from "any particular domestic suppliers" if the administration decides to buy domestic crude when the Mexican contract runs out in July.

Many operators have abandoned stripper wells, or have announced plans to do so, since crude oil prices went into free fall early this year.

Allergy-prone animal lovers still keep pets

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP) — Some humans continue to live with pets that make them sick, allergists say.

Doctors attending the 42nd annual Congress of the American College of Allergists here recently said many of their patients were pet owners who would rather get medical care for their animal allergies than part with their dogs and cats.

Dr. Bruno Freigang of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, said, "If a child has a drippy nose because a cat's in the house, I tell the parents they should get rid of the animal. But if the child has severe asthma and can't breathe, they have no choice."

"They get very attached to their animals," Freigang said, adding that he is often rebuffed when he tells patients to "kick the cat out of the house."

If the humans cannot or will not avoid contact, he advises them to improve air filtration systems in their offices and homes to vacuum and dust more often and to limit contact with allergen-causing pets.

He also injects many patients with liquefied, purified animal material and hair when they decide they would rather submit to periodic injections than part with their pets.

Cat allergies are the most common, and a large number of drug companies at the session were marketing injectable medications.

"There are 18 allergic antigens in cats," he said. "Why do people who are allergic to them keep cats in the house? Probably for the same reasons they keep their children."

Freigang said he hoped to see the day when a pet owner could have an animal tested for allergy-producing properties before deciding to take it home.

Adoptees' self-images improve

NEW YORK (AP) — Today's young people who were adopted are seeing themselves in a more positive way than has previously been the case, Dr. Richard Detweiler, professor of psychology at Drew University, said in a talk here.

He was the main speaker at a recent meeting of the New York auxiliary of the Edna Gladney Home, a private adoption agency based in Fort Worth.

Detweiler, who also is vice-president at planning and communication at the university in Madison, N.J., is the author of a study comparing the perceptions young people with adoptive parents have about themselves with the perceptions of those with biological parents.

The study, "Does Adopted Mean Different?" was based on a question-

naire completed by a group of adopted and non-adopted people between the ages of 13 and 21 in the northern New Jersey area.

Detweiler said the study had not been made in the context of adoption, but rather, in the context of self perception, asking the basic question, "What do you think about yourself?"

Those queried were asked what kind of parenting they were receiving; how much they felt in control of their lives; and what their view of the world was.

Detweiler said he found that adopted children said their parents were more nurturing, expressed a higher level of comforting, and provided more "helpful interference" in coping with problems than did non-adopted children.

In addition, the adopted children

had a more positive world view; they saw others in a more positive way and had a higher level of confidence than non-adopted children, he said.

He said, the pattern of responses "did not confirm previous research literature which indicated that adopted persons felt they were not in control of themselves, had low self esteem, felt isolated and had a poor self-image."

Detweiler said he believes the new findings were made because:

- A majority of the previous studies were conducted in a clinical setting, where adopted children were undergoing some form of counseling.

- In the past, people may have expected less desirable behavior from adopted children.

- Parents now are less secretive about adoption.

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