

Doug Meier, a chemistry graduate student, adds liquid nitrogen to an ultra-high vacuum chamber. The low-temperature liquid helps improve the vacu-

Committee renews review of tax system Representatives continue research into property-law reform

AUSTIN (AP) — It was a case of committee earlier this year and asked ting plan and settled on a much sible of us and prudent of us to redeja vu for participants in Monday's meeting of the House Committee on Revenue and Public Education

um, which is used to test metal catalysts.

The same committee that earlier this year crawled through the state's entire tax system is renewing its review of how Texans pay for state government.

But leaders of the revamped effort say they are conducting a different study that will conclude in a different result.

Some of you think we've been here before. You're wrong," said House Speaker Pete Laney, D-Hale Center. Laney appointed the 11-member

its members to continue their tax research after the 1997 legislative session ended in June.

"We want to know what is right and what is wrong about our economy," Laney said. "We want to know if there are ways to make it better.'

After a long review of the tax structure during this year's legislative session — a review prompted by Republican Gov. George W. Bush — the committee recommended sweeping tax changes to lower property taxes by about \$5 billion by making business-

The House and Senate, however, could not agree on a final tax-cutsmaller, \$1 billion property tax cut, paid for with existing state funds and no new taxes.

The effort now, members of the committee said, is not to cut property taxes but to find out more about each tax the state levies.

Heading the committee again is Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson. He asked committee members to draft detailed reports about each state tax, making clear who pays each one, who's exempt, and the pros and cons of each levy.

We don't want our tax system to be obstructive to growth," Sadler said. "It is worthwhile and respon-

College Station 764-PAPA (7272) view our tax system.'

Sadler said the last tax review was focused on cutting property taxes and had to be completed within the 140-day legislative session. He said the committee now has more time — a final report isn't due to the full Legislature until January 1999 — and more knowledge about the subject.

"I do not want this to be a rehash," he said. "This is not a committee that is going to decide in advance where we are going and hold hearings to get there. Our role is to memorialize what we know and develop a road map for

268-PAPA (7272)

Research shows between mental str blood-vessel block

DALLAS (AP) — The way people handle stress may be a factor in whether they develop injured blood vessels or blocked arteries, conditions that lead to heart attacks and strokes

Researchers reported the possible link between mental stress and changes to the cardiovascular system in a study published Tuesday in Circulation, the journal of the American Heart Association.

The study focused not so much on stress as it did on an individual's reaction to stress. The results suggested that people who handle stress well may be less likely to develop certain cardiovascular problems.

Researchers gave 2,682 Finnish men between 42 and 60 years old cognitive and motor-skill tests to perform, then charted changes in

The tests, given between March 1984 and December 1989, involved having the men press a a computer screen or memorize a

Researchers then measured changes in blood pressure and heart rate produced by the tasks.

'We don't know how much stress the men were under. We know they showed different responses," said Dr. Thomas Kamarck, an associate professor of psychology at the University of Pittsburgh and the study's

"Some showed large blood pressure changes and some showed small blood pressure changes to the same standardized tests," he said.

In follow-up studies between 1991 and 1993, researchers checked the men for physical conditions that can cause cardiovascular problems, such as atherosclerosis (blocked arteries).

The top 20 percent of the sub jects who reacted most strongly to the stress tests were found to have thicker carotid artery walls than the 20 percent of subjects who had the smallest reaction.

Carotid arteries are the two principle neck arteries that deliver artery walls are be crease the risk for heart

A mean artery w percent of subjects compared to .85 mmin

20 percent. While the differe ness between the two mm - may seem smal a major increase in risk for the people

"We don't know much stress them were under. We they showed diffe responses."

DR. THOMAS KAN

Previous studies that an increase of.1 al thickness can inc heart attack by 11 per searchers said.

But a cardiovaso warned that it was too @ ermine if the study for link between stress re heart problems.

Dr. RedfordWill Center at Duke Univer

actions and atherose consistent with becar prove it," Williams sail group in a few yearst

Kamarck agreed reaction can be used the development of ca lar problems.





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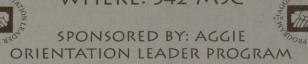
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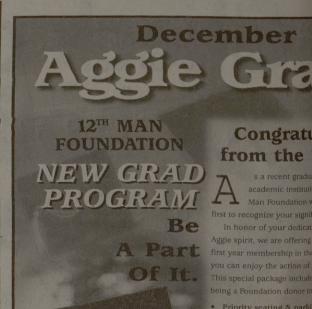
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