

## Wilson Now County Commissioner

Manny Cortez was named chairman of the Clark County Commission on Monday and Woodrow Wilson, Jack Petitti, Bob Broadbent and Dick Ronzone sworn in as members following their election victories in November.

Cortez replaces commission chairman Sam Bowler, who was defeated by Wilson in the general election. Cortez will serve a two-year term.

Wilson was the only commission candidate to defeat an incumbent. Broadbent, Petitti and Ronzone were all re-elected to their posts.

The commission also

elected chairmen and vice chairmen of various county boards.

The board elected the following commissioner-s:

— Thalia Dondero, chairman, and Petitti, vice chairman, of the Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital board.

— Petitti, chairman, and Wilson, vice chairman, of the McCarran International Airport committee.

— Wilson, chairman, and Dondero, vice chairman, of the Sanitation District board.

— Ronzone, chairman, and Petitti, vice chairman, of the Las Vegas

Valley Water District board.

— Broadbent and Petitti County Commission representatives on the Las Vegas Visitors and Convention Authority.

In related business the commission approved a resolution calling on the State Legislature to grant a 40 percent increase in salaries of elected county officials.

However, at Dondero's request, the commission deleted reference in the resolution calling for an increase in county commissioner salaries.



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## Block Grant News

By H.P. Fitzgerald

In our last article we discussed how Block Grant Funds (HUD) have been used to improve the physical appearance, and enhance the safety features of West Las Vegas. Paved streets, curbs and gutters, sidewalks and street lights have been installed, and more are forthcoming, if the City of Las Vegas continues to receive these funds.

We did not mention that three neighborhood parks have been equipped and several traffic lights have been provided in West Las Vegas with the use of Block Grant Funds during the past six years.

In addition to improving streets and installing street lights, Block Grant Funds are also used to assist individual low-income citizens in West Las Vegas in holding on to and preserving existing housing stock.

To assist in the area, the Department of Funds Coordination funds a few agencies in the community that are designed to help the home owners

in maintaining and improving their property, free of charge.

The Developmental Programs Division, located in Suite six in the Old Westside School, provides free housing counseling, and some free materials to fix up homes to qualifying home owners in West Las Vegas.

During the past six years, this group has demolished scores of abandoned structures in the area, and hauled away tons of trash and rubbish from vacant lots. Additionally, they have rehabilitated and painted hundreds of homes of the poor in West Las Vegas at no cost to the owners.

The Developmental Program Division is rehabilitating a house on the South West corner on West Madison Avenue and North "H" Street, as a model to show residents what can be done to improve existing housing stock to make the community more attractive and viable.

The Westside Community Development

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