

POOR

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Isn't it ridiculous, for example, to treat Medicaid payments as cash in determining income? Let's say a poor person has cash income of \$5,000 and has open heart surgery paid for by Medicaid. Does that mean he is no longer poor or that his income is really \$15,000 or \$20,000 or whatever the cost of his medical bill is?

And if a poor person lives in public housing is he less poor if you add on to his earnings the difference between the rent he pays and the true cost of his apartment to the government? If you are going to count public housing subsidies to the poor, how about counting as income mortgage interest subsidies to homeowners? Why impute as income a whole range of marginal subsidies that let the poor survive without also including as income the tax loopholes and indirect subsidies that make the rich richer?

That kind of upside down thinking may seem reasonable in the computer rooms of a government agency but it has absolutely nothing to do with real life or poverty. The unreality of it all is compounded when some people say that since federal subsidies increase the real income of the poor, they are no longer poor and no longer need the subsidies.

While extremists will seize on the finds to try to define the poor out of poverty, others ought to draw very different conclusions — that those benefit programs have worked well and have helped some poor people to approach minimal living standards.

And still another conclusion has to be that if you count those programs as cash, you'd still be left with 14 million poor people, which means those programs don't reach enough people with enough benefits.

Even more to the point, the poverty standard itself is hopelessly outdated and is not a useful measurement.

JAZZ SOCIETY FOUNDER MONK MONTGOMERY DIED AT HIS HOME

William Howard "Monk" Montgomery, who not only belonged to Las Vegas, but to music lovers everywhere, died at the age of 61 at his home Wednesday following a long illness.

The famed jazz musician, who brought the electric Fender bass into world wide prominence, was the founder of the Las Vegas Jazz Society.

Monk, who was born in Indianapolis, Indiana on October 10, 1921, got started in the music field by performing with his two brothers, famous jazz guitarist, Wes, who died in 1968 and Buddy, famed jazz pianist, who is still an active musician.

At the age of 26 he became the bass player with Lionel Hampton and his orchestra. He remained in that position for 10 years. He played with many other top groups in the United States and traveled to many other countries, spreading good music throughout the world.

Monk first came to at the end of that time, decided that he liked Las Vegas and made his home here.

He had as his goal to put new life into the field of jazz and to bring it to national prominence where it belonged. With this end in mind, he founded the Las Vegas Jazz Society in 1975. This organization, which has been responsible for a jazz renaissance in Las Vegas, has become well known nation-wide and served as a model for Jazz Societies throughout the country. The Society is affiliated with and partially supported in its endeavors by the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C.

Monk is survived by his wife, Amelia, of Las Vegas; his brother, Buddy; a sister, Lena Floyd, of Indianapolis; 3 sons, See MONK, Page 11

LAS VEGAS

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put in jeopardy several other pieces of property they own, because of debts.



McCormick also had given them forged appraisal of the property, which caused them to lose an investor who had wanted to buy into the business.

Perkins claims that, during their 18-month managership of the Warehouse Inn, they had repeatedly asked Assemblyman Chaney to help them secure

funds to make the mortgage payments on the Inn, but that he had told them money was hard to get and there was none available.

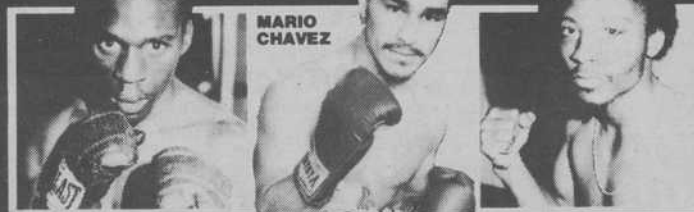
She says Chaney has now applied to the federal Economic Development Administration for a \$400,000 grant to buy the motel.

To further complicate matters, Bankruptcy Judge Lloyd George replaced the Perkins' as managers on April 27. He named in their place the owners and the attorney, Darrell Clark, for the Westside Charter Bus Co.

Chaney, in denying the accusations, said, "Even if I could get the money (to purchase the Warehouse Inn), I wouldn't pay \$400,000 for it." And as for their being removed as managers of the Inn, he said they hadn't made the monthly reports the court had required them to make on the financial conditions and operations of the Inn while it was under bankruptcy.

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Los Angeles

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