



Romney talks to Northern Nevada business leaders in Sparks

The biggest worry for Republican Julie Marchant, 48, is the economy because she feels as if people are getting penalized for working hard.

"I try to teach my kids a hard work ethic — to work hard, get an education so that you can do what you want to do with life," said Marchant, who stays home to raise eight children ages 25 to 8. "But with the taxes and the loopholes, I feel that it's uphill battle for anybody who is trying to live the American dream."

Marchant supports GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney because he understands Nevada, and she said she feels that he can get the economy going again because of his ethics and his business background.

Romney, the former governor of Massachusetts, made a campaign stop Monday morning at Western Nevada Supply in Sparks to hold a business roundtable with 14 Northern Nevada leaders including Lt. Gov. Brian Krolicki, Gary Carano of Silver Legacy, Michael Dermody of Dermody Properties and Joey Scolari of Scolari's Food and Drug Co.

Afterward, he spoke to more than 100 Western Nevada Supply employees, their families and friends about how he will change the economy's course. Romney also attended a grassroots rally in Elko and get-out-the-vote event in Henderson Friday ahead of today's state caucus.

"I'm committed to making this country the fastest growing, job creating economy in the world," Romney said.

Romney emphasized that the 25 years that he spent in business is needed to get the country back on track.

Romney has stood in the shoes of many business owners who have had to make hard decisions over the past four years, said Rick Reviglio, president of Western Nevada Supply and who took part in the business roundtable and hosted the event.

"He's a businessman who knows how to lead, not a politician," Reviglio said.

While he said he doesn't believe that there

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will be immediate improvements to the economy if Romney takes office, his business style and ability to make tough decisions will turn the country in the right direction. Then, businesses will have the confidence to hire.

"I learned that business can handle bad news, but what they can't handle is uncertainty," Romney said. "I learned that what this president has done over the last three years has made it harder and harder for businesses to be able to grow and invest in people and hire people."

Obama policies of raising corporate taxes, increasing regulations, tighter energy regulations and borrowing money from China has not kick started the economy, Romney said.

"We have to look at the programs that we spend money on that do not yield a return to our people, that are unnecessary and that are placing a greater burden on coming generations," Romney said. "I will look through the federal budget, line by line, and if I see programs that are not critical, I will ask "Is this program so essential that its worth borrowing money for China to pay for it?"

Programs such ObamaCare, AMTRAK and PBS are on Romney's chopping list.

Romney has zero credibility in regards to jobs because he was known as a corporate layoff specialist, said Zach Hudson, communications director for the Nevada State Democratic Party.

"The president is committed to creating jobs and an economy to last," he said. "President Obama is fighting for the middle class, while Mitt Romney prioritizes Wall Street."

Business owners worries

Romney committed to Northern Nevada business community that if elected his administration would be more business friendly and would work to create more jobs.

"The economy will come back," he said. "It always does. It has taken a lot longer than it should have to come back in part because of the policies of this administration. They have not been helpful, in fact they have been harmful."

During the roundtable, many of the panelist expresses concerns about how government policies have hampered the growth of Northern Nevada businesses, the distress that many of them and their employees

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have suffered during the recession and how banking institutions and national home builders contributed to a stalled recovery.

“Government needs to get out of the way and make the process — the process of being able to move forward quickly,” said Norm Dianda, president of Q&D Construction at the roundtable. “We can’t wait to get approval in a year, two years or three years. ... Government ties everybody’s hands, and we don’t get to move forward.”

He said that if several mining operation permits were approved he could get 250 people working in 30 days.

Romney agreed with Dianda, and said he will push to cut lengthy federal permit approval times.

Ultimately, Romney said his goal is to create jobs, which is the antidote for the falling home prices and recovery for the recession.

“I think he stands for a lot of things including getting the country back on the right track,” said Amanda Crocker, a 25-year-old who works at Relocation Management Resources and attended the event. “It is important, especially, when we work for businesses that have to be able to expand, and they are scared because they don’t know where the country is headed. It’s important to get the right person in office who can facilitate that.”

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