

Forum

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school construction projects. He implied that that would be a challenge since the city is already crying broke. "We started out with \$22 million. Now, everybody's saying, 'We don't have any more money.' If nothing else, I won't let them take back the money for education, while they're steadily building prisons to house our youth," he said.

After the politicians finished, Willis opened the floor to questions. Among other concerns, one teacher criticized the testing system for not taking into account predominantly Spanish-speaking students and schools. Schools with high populations of foreign-language speaking students

are rated as inadequate because the children are learning English and have to take these exams before they can really speak and read the language well, the teacher said.

Mildred Walker, a teacher at Charles I. West Middle School came to voice concerns about teachers who don't care about the children or community; the ones who just work to get their paychecks and leave the school as soon as their one year matriculation is up. According to Walker, West has high teacher turnover.

Although she admits there are problems, she said, "We have the best middle school in the district with the best teachers and some of the brightest students. I get

excited going to school everyday."

Frederick Blache, a sixth-grader at West said, "My school's okay. There are a lot of fights, but the teachers are alright." He came to the meeting with his parents, who were concerned about their son's uneven progress in different classes. Blache's father also fumed about the bad press West has received and the lack of committed teachers who pass through the institution.

Barber was optimistic about the Westside's future. "We're getting area service centers for parents, students and administrators. They'll bring the school district closer to the people," she said. The service centers will be located in Nucleus Plaza, a beacon of

growth and opportunity in the community.

Hanlon offered to teach an instructional class in math to parents.

He taught a similar program at the Westside Boys and Girls Club last year. The children would receive free tutoring from UNLV students while adults attend the class.

Willis and Barber encouraged those who want to get actively involved improving education to come to school board meetings. Open meetings will be held on Dec. 10th and 17th, and Jan. 4th, 14th and 28th.

All meetings are at 5:30 p.m. in the boardroom at the CCSD Education Center, 2832 E. Flamingo Rd. Call 799-1072 for more information.

Money

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To be product-centered alone, is futile and financially fatal to any business. Focus on your customers wants and the ultimate benefits will become crystal clear.

For instance: clearly define and carefully analyze your marketplace; make sure your marketplace is as broadly defined as possible; select the ultimate benefit(s)

your customers want; make certain you can reach your market on a continuous basis; and define your products or services so that they embody the ultimate benefit(s) and are directed to the largest market possible—then, satisfy your customers.

— Select the right legal structure, e.g., a family partnership, or corporation, and turn your business into a

creditor-proof financial fortress. Next, setup a private profit-sharing plan that you control, and defer your taxes by as much as \$30,000 a year. Use your profit-sharing money for retirement and to build a financial legacy for your family and grandchildren.

— Increase business knowledge. Seek business mentors and advisors with

whom you are comfortable. Ask them to sit on your board of directors. Their advice and experience can be priceless.

Other tips include organizing business forums and sponsoring speakers, or contact the Small Business Administration and your local Chamber of Commerce.

James Hart is chief economist at Credit Suisse Acceptance Trust.

Gregory

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"didn't exist in our communities," he said. "Hitler had the Brown Shirts, a group of thugs that went around terrorizing people. That's where the idea comes from."


As evidence that conspiracies are real, Gregory used ABC's posting of 1998 election results on their web site before the vote was in. Gregory said information and organization is key to prevent the forces-that-be from holding back the masses. In 1974, he started a quest for finding solutions to world hunger.

"World hunger will not be ended by producing more food," he said. "We have to put the blame where it belongs. If there were truly famine in Africa, do you think that all those animals—the elephants, the birds, the lions and such, would be alive? They'd die just like the people. Now, don't a damn crop grow in Europe in (the) winter, but you don't see Europeans dying, do you? Europeans are literally taking the food from the mouths of African people, leaving us to starve to death." Gregory said his next step will be pressing the CIA which he alleges is funneling illegal drugs into the United States.

"An asset told the agency (Washington Post) that one of the major contra rebel groups intended to sell drugs in the United States to pay its bills. The cable described for CIA headquarters a July 1981 drug delivery from Honduras to Miami, including the names of those involved, and called it 'an initial trial run' by members of the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Democratic Alliance," reads an article in the Nov. 3 issue of the *Washington Post*, which Gregory said backs his claim.


"Although the cables were circulated to the departments of State, Justice, Treasury and Defense and all U.S. intelligence agencies, the CIA neither followed up nor attempted to corroborate the allegations," the article reported.

Said Gregory: "Every drug addict, crack-addicted baby and victim of drug-related violence will be able to sue the government for allowing the substances into the country."



THANKS



From **CAT** and the Regional Transportation Commission



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CAT-RIDE 228-7433
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It's Citizens Area Transit's 6th Anniversary, and all of us at the Regional Transportation Commission want to take a moment to thank our customers, our employees and the citizens of Clark County for helping us make transit a part of your life during the past six years. The Las Vegas valley and surrounding areas have witnessed unparalleled growth, and because of you, **CAT** has as well. Here's a few of the things we've accomplished since our launch in 1992:

- Provided service to 31 million people per year on residential routes
- Grew from 14.9 million riders a year in 1993 to over 41 million in 1997 system wide
- Added over 1500 new jobs within our community
- Started service in Laughlin, Boulder City and Mesquite
- Initiated the Downtown Circulator, Downtown/Strip Express and Cross-Town Express
- Launched CAT Paratransit with 150 mini-buses fueled with compressed natural gas
- Introduced CAT-CAR Service in 1998
- Expanded service from 21 routes and 98 buses in 1992 to 40 routes, 250 buses in 1998
- Introduced the 30-day Rolling CAT Pass
- Installed bicycle racks on every bus
- Launched the Pollution Solution Campaign for clean air and traffic congestion awareness
- Worked to obtain passage of SB264 in the 1997 Nevada Legislature which makes it a felony to intimidate or assault a transit driver
- Extended service to 24 hours on 8 residential routes

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