

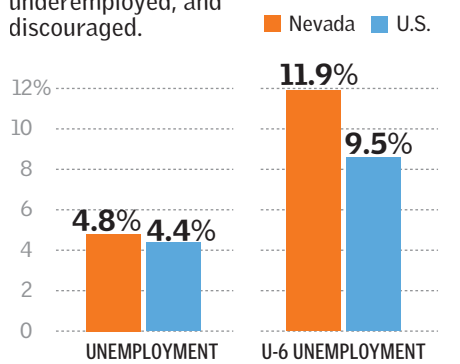
<b>DOW JONES</b> 21,006.94 ▲ 55.47	<b>S&amp;P 500</b> 2,399.29 ▲ 9.77	<b>NASDAQ</b> 6,100.76 ▲ 25.42	<b>CRUDE OIL</b> \$46.22 ▲ \$0.70	<b>10-YR. NOTE</b> 2.35% 0.00	<b>GOLD</b> \$1,224.80 ▼ \$1.70	<b>SILVER</b> \$16.215 ▼ \$0.029	<b>COPPER</b> \$2.5195 ▲ \$0.0175	<b>EURO</b> \$1.0990 ▲ \$0.009
--	--	--------------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	--	---	--------------------------------------

# Report: Less underemployment

U.S. jobs picture healthier, while Nevada has ways to go

## Unemployment rate

The U-6 rate is considered by many economists to be the most revealing factor of a country's unemployment situation since it covers the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed, underemployed, and discouraged.



Source: Investopedia Las Vegas Review-Journal

By Christopher S. Rugaber  
The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — A burst of hiring in April provided a reassuring sign for the U.S. economy, reducing unemployment and bringing a broader gauge of the job market's health to its lowest level since the recession began nearly a decade ago.

Employers added 211,000 jobs, more than double the weak showing in March, the Labor Department said Friday. The unemployment rate dipped to 4.4 percent, a 10-year low, from 4.5 percent in March.

Taken as a whole, the April jobs

report suggested that American businesses are confident enough in their outlook for customer demand to keep adding jobs briskly despite a slump in the January-March quarter when the economy barely grew.

Nevada and the Las Vegas Valley still have room for improvement when it comes to unemployment.

The state and the Las Vegas metro area both reported unemployment rates of 4.8 percent for March, according to state numbers. That state unemployment rate is seasonally adjusted.

Looking at the U-6 unemployment rate — which includes the percent-

age of unemployed, underemployed and discouraged workers — Nevada is above the national average reported for the second quarter of 2016 through the first quarter of 2017, according to federal numbers.

Las Vegas has seen impressive growth in construction employment thanks to more commercial and residential building, Applied Analysis principal Brian Gordon said.

"Builders are reportedly running into challenges meeting current demands, which needs to be moni-

See **JOBS** 13B



**ELI SEGALL**  
REAL ESTATE  
INSIDER

## Haunted building now prime real estate

**I**T'S been set on fire and ripped apart by vandals. Its owners have been ordered to fix it or tear it down. It's even (reportedly) had paranormal activity.

And now, thanks to the Raiders, it's looking like prime real estate.

The vacant two-story building at 5285 Dean Martin Drive is just north of the NFL team's planned stadium site, separated by the Hacienda Avenue-Mandalay Bay Road overpass. It's been home to a Mexican restaurant, a strip club, a concert venue and a nightclub, according to reports, but there's no commerce in sight these days.

It's too early to say whether the Raiders' arrival in Las Vegas will spark a burst of construction right nearby; the team just bought its land on Monday, and the neighborhood is almost entirely built out, mostly with industrial properties. Also, the kinds of amenities investors might want to open near a stadium — bars, restaurants, retail — are found in abundance just a mile or so away on the Strip.

But there are some empty parcels and other possible development sites nearby that builders are bound to look at — including, hopefully, the boarded-up, barbecued eyesore.

It's unclear how long the building has been empty. But the current owners acquired the property through foreclosure in 2010, and conditions are only worsening.

A two-alarm fire torched the building early Thursday morning, causing an estimated \$120,000 in damage. The Clark County Fire Department had responded to that address for fires four other times since August, deputy chief Jeff Buchanan said in a press release.

"That's kind of a lot of fires,"

See **SEGALL** 12B



Eli Segall Las Vegas Review-Journal  
The abandoned building at 5285 Dean Martin Drive shows extensive damage on Thursday after a two-alarm fire.



Elizabeth Brumley Las Vegas Review-Journal @EliPagePhoto  
Prekindergarten students Ezekiel, left, and Abigail, use the Square Panda phonics system Monday at Gene Ward Elementary School.

# Pilot programs helping kids fly

## 44 preschool students use free play sets to learn how to read

Story by Nicole Raz  
Photos by Elizabeth Brumley  
Las Vegas Review-Journal

**T**he cash-strapped Clark County School District is getting a boost from private pilot programs.

Right now about 44 Gene Ward Elementary preschool students are learning how to read using Square Panda, a phonics learning system, that the school did not pay for.

"It actually helps (students) recall letters or sounds, or even connect words with the letters," said Bianca Palacios, a teacher's aide at Gene Ward, as students. "I have seen progress."

Students interact with iPads, donated by Bank of Nevada, that have the Square Panda app installed. The tablets lie atop a Square Panda play set, which is a flat surface with eight indented spaces to fit letters.

See **PILOT** 12B



Student Aldo, 5, uses Square Panda at Gene Ward Elementary School. The app features 10 learning games that help children learn to read.



A student uses a Square Panda system Monday at Gene Ward Elementary School. Students use donated iPads that have the Square Panda app installed.

**VIDEO:** More on the Square Panda pilot program at Gene Ward Elementary School ► [reviewjournal.com/ccsdpilots](http://reviewjournal.com/ccsdpilots)