



Preview - ✨ LVGEA's Economic Edge: Your Source for the Region's Top Economic & Business News

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Economic Edge

Happy Holidays from all of us at LVGEA. We hope you get to spend quality time with loved ones over the next few weeks. We'll be taking a break from the newsletter until the first week of January to do the same.

Let's take one more look at the business news making headlines this week for one last time in 2024.

1. WaterStart and SRI Release Report on Water Conservation Strategies

WaterStart, with support from the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development and SRI, has released a [groundbreaking report](#) exploring how water management can drive economic growth. The report highlights strategies to address procedural gaps, align policies, and position Nevada as a global leader in sustainable water resource management. "Over the past couple of decades, companies and leaders in Nevada worked diligently to secure the state's water resources," said SRI Project Leader Jacob Gottlieb and WaterStart interim Executive Director Rebecca Shanahan [in a joint statement](#). "The Waterwise economic framework is critical to sustaining water security and growing Nevada's global reputation as a water resource management leader."

2. Two Las Vegas Natives Invest \$2 Million in Local Startups

Kristin Tomasik and Vicki Zhou, both born and raised in Las Vegas, are leading [FundNV](#)'s \$2 million venture capital fund to support local startups. Partnering with StartupNV and matched by Nevada's Small Business Credit Initiative, the fund offers \$100,000 investments to early-stage companies. With a focus on innovation and community growth, the duo is contributing to the [revitalization of the city's entrepreneurial ecosystem](#), backing ventures like SurgiStream and Flawless AI and attracting tech talent to Nevada. "Being born and raised here, and my family and friends here, I was glad that someone had a belief that Vegas could be more than just a service industries city," said Tomasik.

3. **GOED and Small Business Development Center launching Small Business Opportunity Program**

Nevada's GOED has launched the [Small Business Opportunity Program](#) under the State Small Business Credit Initiative, backed by \$4 million from the U.S. Treasury. This program offers technical assistance, focusing on healthcare, manufacturing, and tribal business development. Partnering with the Nevada Small Business Development Center, the initiative provides legal, financial, and advisory services, empowering small businesses statewide to secure funding, innovate, and fuel Nevada's economic future.

4. **Celebration of Life for Boulder City Trailblazer on January 3 with "Milopalooza"**

It might have been the Hoover Dam that put Boulder City on the map, but it was Milo Hurst who made it "the thriving community it is today." Milo Hurst, a pivotal figure in Boulder City, founded Milo's Cellar & Bistro in 1994, revitalizing the downtown area. Honored with "[Milo Hurst Day](#)" on September 17, 2024, he passed away on November 22. A celebration of his life, "[Milopalooza](#)," is scheduled for January 3, 2025, starting at 2pm at [Beer Zombies](#) in Boulder City. All are welcome. We raise our glass to the visionary efforts of Milo and send our condolences to his family and friends. Boulder City will always be better because Milo made it his home.

5. **Nevada State University Plans to Triple Attendance by 2047**

Nevada State University aims to triple its enrollment to 20,000 students by 2047 through the "[SMART Growth Initiative](#)," which will transform 450 acres into classrooms, housing, and sports complexes. Partnering with Henderson, the university plans to create a vibrant hub for education, workforce development, and community growth, showcasing a contemporary model for higher education. The initiative will support Nevada's economy while

enhancing student experiences with new facilities and surrounding “Complete Community” developments. “We’re being intentional about how we plan for the future of higher education, not the way it was, but what does the future of higher education look like in Southern Nevada, in the state in general?” Nevada State President DeRionne Pollard said.

6. **Jewish-focused Hotel Project Gets Initial OK from Clark County Board**

A 42-story non-gaming KDH Hotel, featuring a two-level synagogue, kosher restaurants, and modern amenities, is set to rise near Treasure Island. Designed to serve Jewish visitors and the broader community, the 486-room property will offer a unique hospitality experience with retail, convention space, and a rooftop worship center. With [approval recommended by the Paradise Town Advisory Board](#), the project highlights innovation and inclusivity, bringing a distinctive cultural and spiritual hub to the Las Vegas Strip.

Happy New Year! 🌟🎉

- the LVGEA team

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Business Resources

State and Local Funding Opportunities

Here are some highlighted state and local funding opportunities to be aware of.

- [Nonprofit Accelerator](#), City of North Las Vegas
- [Consolidated Plan Process](#), City of Henderson

Small Business Educational Opportunities

Here are some small business educational opportunities to note.

- [Boots to Business Reboot](#), U.S. Small Business Administration
- [The Financial Facts that Women Entrepreneurs Need to Know](#), U.S. Small Business Administration
- [Federal Trademark Searching: Overview](#), U.S. Small Business Administration
- [Basics of Starting a Business](#), U.S. Small Business Administration
- [How the US Small Business Administration Can Help You](#), U.S. Small Business Administration

Private Funding Opportunities

Here are some private funding opportunities:

- [The Amplifier Grant](#)
- [The Halstead Grant](#)

Federal Funding Opportunities

Here are some highlighted federal funding opportunities.

- [Early Psychosis Intervention Network \(EPINET\): Learning Health Care Research to Improve Mental Health Services and Outcomes](#), Department of Health and Human Services
- [HEAL Initiative: Understanding Individual Differences in Human Pain Conditions](#), Department of Health and Human Services
- [Advancing Genomic Medicine Research](#), Department of Health and Human Services
- [Artificial Intelligence in Pre-Clinical Drug Development for AD/ADRD](#), Department of Health and Human Services



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