

RESOLVE TO SAVE
Simple tips to help get the year off on sound financial footing **MONEY ■ C1**

How they stand
A look at Mountain West Conference basketball teams as they enter league play **SPORTS ■ D1**



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- BERRY:** Has not said if he will seek re-election
- BRUNNER:** Says he's been urged to weigh running
- DENISH:** Still contemplating entering race
- DINELLI:** Intends to enter race today
- HEH:** Was asked to run by "a lot of people"
- SANCHEZ:** To make decision before the end of January
- SMOTHERMON:** Says he is still making up his mind

WHO'S RUNNING FOR MAYOR?

PLENTY OF NAMES ALREADY CROPPING UP

Plenty of Democrats and at least two Republicans say they are considering entering the Albuquerque mayoral race.

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By **DAN MCKAY**
Journal Staff Writer

None of them's made it official yet, but plenty of Democrats — and at least two Republicans — say they're considering a run for mayor in Albuquerque's technically nonpartisan city election. Incumbent Richard Berry beat two Democrats three years ago to become Albuquerque's first Republican mayor since 1985. He hasn't said yet whether he will seek re-election next October.

His approval ratings are high, according to a Journal poll this fall. But Berry's opponents are likely to hit him hard on the sluggish economy and the Department of Justice investigation into use of force by city police. If Berry runs, he can count on opposition from Pete Dinelli, a former city councilor who was chief public safety officer under Berry's predecessor, Martin Chavez. Dinelli said he's been organizing for months and intends to formally announce his campaign today. Three other prominent Democrats say they've been encouraged to run and will at least consider it — U.S. Department of

Agriculture executive Terry Brunner, former Lt. Gov. Diane Denish and City Councilor Ken Sanchez. Retired police Sgt. Paul Heh, a Republican, said he's been urged to run and will make a decision soon. Pastor Steve Smothermon, also a Republican, said Albuquerque needs a "true conservative" and that he, too, has been asked to run. There's still time for new candidates to emerge. Berry didn't announce his candidacy last time until February. Election day is Oct. 8.

See **NAMES** on PAGE A2



GREG SCHIEBER/JOURNAL
Frank and Chrys Kestler hope to build a \$2 million, 14,000-square-foot, no-fee resort for veterans and their families at their 1,100-acre ranch near Magdalena in memory of their son, Army 1st Lt. Joe J. Theinert, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2010.

Resort Will Pay Tribute To Late Son

No-Fee N.M. Ranch For Veterans, Families

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By **CHARLES D. BRUNT**
Journal Staff Writer

It's a very long way — geographically, historically and socioeconomically — from the tiny enclave of Shelter Island, N.Y., to the isolated, piñon-studded hills of Magdalena, N.M. But a makeshift bomb buried beside a dirt wall in Afghanistan's volatile Kandahar province could one day bring these diverse communities a little closer together in honor of the 24-year-old soldier killed by that bomb — 1st Lt. Joseph J. Theinert. Theinert's mother and stepfather, Chrystyna "Chrys" Kestler and Col. Frank A. Kestler, plan on turning their 1,100-acre ranch near Magdalena into a no-fee resort for veterans and their families recovering from the rigors and costs of war. "Joe's life was wrapped up with his men and their families," Chrys said. "... He laid down his life for his men." "Now that we've lost Joe, the family and I want to continue Joe's mission, which is to be ever concerned with our soldiers, Marines, airmen and Coast Guard and their families." "Joe" Theinert grew up on New York's Long Island and visited New Mexico only once, the Kestlers said during a December interview in Albuquerque's Old Town, where they were visiting friends, while en route to the Magdalena ranch.



THEINERT: Died in combat in Afghanistan

See **N.M. RESORT** on PAGE A6

Fiscal Fallout

Today's editorial and op-ed pages offer insight and opinions on Congress' most recent attempt to deal with the nation's fiscal woes. On page B3, the Op-Ed Page, Republican Alan Simpson and Democrat Erskine Bowles, who were co-chairmen of President Barack Obama's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, state their view of Congress' actions, and the nonpartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget offers its analysis.

INSIDE

WEATHER ♦ F6

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Slow Down: Famous N.M. Women Noted Here

I drive a lot, and I do it with a purpose: to get there quickly and directly. I've never understood wanderers, meanderers, let's-stop-for-lunchers and loogie-loos. Bucking in for a typical weekend trip goes like this: iPod plugged into the speakers, cruise control set to legal-speed-plus-five or 10, and no stopping until we get there — exceptions made for acute emergencies, such as running low on gas or being seized by the sudden need for a Peanut Buster Parfait from the Pojoaque Dairy Queen. Only recently has it occurred to me what I've



Leslie Linthicum

UpFront

missed. It's not bathroom breaks or roadside stands or charming little lunch spots. It's historical markers imparting information on important people, geologic formations, town sites, battlegrounds and other interesting pieces of our



ADOLPHE PIERRE-LOUIS/JOURNAL
A marker in memory of San Ildefonso Pueblo potter Maria Montoya Martinez is located along N.M. 502 at the entrance to the pueblo.

See **SLOW DOWN** on PAGE A6

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UPFRONT

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