

SANTA FE  
NEW MEXICAN

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## ANALYSIS

Romney  
shakes up  
race with  
VP pickBy Dan Balz  
The Washington Post

Cautious Mitt Romney rolled the dice Saturday with the selection of Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan as his vice-presidential running mate. Ryan will energize a conservative base that has been slow to warm to Romney, but Democrats were elated by the choice as well. There was no one on Romney's short list of contenders they wanted to run against more than the chairman of the House Budget Committee.

The selection of Ryan, the architect of a sweeping and controversial budget blueprint, signals that Romney may now believe that relying on the economy's weakness alone will not be enough to defeat President Barack Obama, particularly with new polls showing the president leading after months in which he and Romney were in a statistical dead heat.

Ryan's addition to the ticket shows that Romney is prepared to run a more robust campaign with a sharper message built around tax and spending cuts, deficit reduction and entitlement reform. That is exactly what a growing chorus of Republicans, nervous about the direction of the Romney campaign, has been urging.

A Romney-Ryan ticket will help to clarify the choices for voters in November. Rarely have the two parties presented such a stark contrast in visions as now appears to be the

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## INSIDE

◆ Ryan seen as Romney's bridge across GOP spectrum. **PAGE A-5**Local shelter  
helps youth  
earn GED  
diplomasBy Andra Cernavskis  
The New Mexican

Gisella Ramirez understands what it's like to hustle on the streets, and that experience is helping her change lives.

Ramirez, who grew up in a tough neighborhood in East Los Angeles, is the workforce education coordinator at Youth Shelters — a safe haven where homeless teens, runaways and kids in crisis can seek refuge. She describes her job as being a teacher, mentor and counselor to the 15 students who attend her GED program.

About four years ago, Youth Shelters saw a need for the program to serve young people who sought its other services.

"The GED programs in town were overbooked with long waiting lists at that time," said Karen Rowell, the shelter's executive director.

The shelter's GED program was somewhat informal at first. The organization had some books and computers, and shelter staff and volunteers would tutor the kids. Then, six months ago, Youth Shelters hired Ramirez, an emergency substitute teacher, tutor and advocate for youth, who was then working in Oakland, Calif.

Since Ramirez started at the shelter, six of her students have received their GED diplo-

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The master bedroom of the Gries home, which is a stop along this year's Haciendas: Parade of Homes tour.



Jesse Gries, owner and builder of one of the homes in the Haciendas: Parade of Homes tour, talks with Kay Ofman of Santa Fe as she walks through his home Saturday. PHOTOS BY LUIS SÁNCHEZ SATURNO/THE NEW MEXICAN

By Andra Cernavskis  
The New Mexican

The number of residences in the annual Haciendas: A Parade of Homes tour is still down since the nation's housing market crashed in 2008, but the smaller showcase may be a blessing in disguise as tour-goers get a look inside area builders' more innovative designs.

In 2008, Parade of Homes featured 40 houses; just 16 homes are on the tour this year.

Part of the drop is related to a change in federal regulations since the crash, limiting local banks' ability to finance speculative home projects, which used to make up the majority of the tour.

"Because the homes are not speculative homes, they have a tendency to be a little bit more edgy,

a little beyond what we think of as Santa Fe style," said Kim Shanahan, executive officer of the Santa Fe Area Home Builders Association, the group that organizes Parade of Homes each year.

When builders are creating homes to sell, he explained, they have less incentive to design outside the box.

"When a builder is building a speculative home," Shanahan said, "he assumes that they are going to sell it to some high-dollar client who is moving here from somewhere else, who has maybe visited Santa Fe and has fallen in love with the round walls and the vigas in the ceilings and that Santa Fe look. That gives them the tendency to be a bit vanilla, you know — safe Santa Fe style."

When the market picks up again and spec homes can be financed more easily, he said, he

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## IF YOU GO

**What:** Haciendas: A Parade of Homes**When:** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday and Aug. 17-19**Tickets:** \$15, good for all homes on all days, at the first home visited on the tour or at the Lentic Performing Arts Center box office, 988-1234**Learn more:** For information about the various homes on the tour and access to maps, visit [www.haciendasmagazine.com](http://www.haciendasmagazine.com) or pick up a copy of *Haciendas* magazine, available free at many stores and kiosks around town.

## Pasapick

Pueblo Independence  
Day in Jemez Springs

Ninth annual commemoration of a rebellion against Spanish colonization, 7 a.m.-3 p.m.; activities begin with a pilgrimage run at 7 a.m.; guest speakers welcome the runners at 10 a.m.; traditional dances, music, arts and crafts, and food 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Jemez State Monument, N.M. 4, off NM 550, no charge, 575-829-3530.

**More events in Calendar, Page A-2 and Fridays in Pasatiempo**

## Obituaries

**Donald Pogue Arrowsmith**, 81, July 24**William Thomas Fairbourn (Tom)**, 64, Santa Fe, Aug. 7**David E. Garcia**, 62, Santa Fe, Aug. 5**David Jay Henderson**, 60, Aug. 4**Thomas Edward McDonald**, 84, July 20**Kenneth M. Rommel Jr.**, 87, July 28**Lewis E. Thompson**, 91, Arroyo Hondo, May 14**PAGE C-2**

## Today

Partly sunny with an afternoon storm. High 94, low 60.

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## Pots of color

Container gardens are an alternative for gardeners frustrated by a lack of space, time or proper soil conditions.

**REAL ESTATE, E-1**Doctors suggest treating  
guns as a social disease

Medical experts say gun violence is like a virus, a car, tobacco and alcohol, and the epidemic needs a public health approach. **PAGE A-3**