



# THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

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INLAND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S NEWSPAPER

INLAND SOCIAL REGISTER

## A bursting balloon fest

Officials want the event to be bigger, even if it means leaving Lake Skinner.

BY AARON CLAVERIE  
STAFF WRITER

In much the same way the envelope inside a hot air balloon has a finite capacity, the grounds at Lake Skinner can accommodate only so many people.

This presents a challenge for the nonprofit organization that runs the Temecula Valley Bal-

loon & Wine Festival, which has called Lake Skinner County Park home since 1992.

In recent years, the festival, which runs from Friday through Sunday, has pulled in around 40,000 people over its three-day weekend. That's a regionally respectable number - but officials want to grow the event into something bigger and better.

"We always go back to our mission statement, which is promoting economic growth to the community," said Carol Popejoy, the festival's director. More people going to the festival means more visitors staying in hotels and more people becoming familiar with Temecula Valley Wine Country and Old Town Temecula.

"I want 60,000," said Melody Brunsting, the event's spokes-

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## VA FINDS LONG DELAYS IN CARE

BY MATTHEW DALY  
and DONNA CASSATA  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON • About 1,700 veterans in need of care were "at risk of being lost or forgotten" after being kept off the official waiting list at the troubled Phoenix veterans hospital, the Veterans Affairs watchdog said Wednesday in a scathing report that increases pressure on Secretary Eric Shinseki to resign.

The investigation, initially focused on the Phoenix hospital, found systemic problems in the VA's sprawling nationwide system, which provides medical care to about 6.5 million veterans each year. The interim report confirmed allegations of excessive waiting time for care in Phoenix, with an average 115-day wait for a first appointment.

"While our work is not complete, we have substantiated that significant delays in access to

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## INLAND VIGILS REMEMBER RAMPAGE VICTIMS



TERRY PIERSON, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

UCR students gather to show solidarity with the UC Santa Barbara shooting victims during a vigil Wednesday on campus.

## 'Don't hate,' father says

Mourners gather at UC Riverside, in Chino Hills for those slain.

BY JOHN ASBURY  
and BRIAN ROKOS  
STAFF WRITERS

The father of Katie Cooper, a Chino Hills woman slain in the Isla Vista massacre, urged mourners at a candlelight vigil never to let hate enter their hearts.

"We're not angry. As a family, we are sad," Dan Cooper said Wednesday at Calle San Marcos Park, a tiny neighborhood park in Chino Hills, amid a large police presence. "We



MILKA SOKO, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Family and friends gather Wednesday at Calle San Marcos Park in Chino Hills to remember shooting victim Katie Cooper.

feel pity for the person who felt no other recourse than to attack.

"If anything comes of this, I

ask you all, don't hate. Nothing good comes from it."

It wasn't the only Inland vigil to the victims of Elliot Rodg-

er, 22, who killed six people, and then himself, authorities said, on Friday near UC Santa Barbara. UC Riverside also held a vigil at the campus's bell tower.

### CHINO HILLS MEMORIAL

Cooper, 22, a 2010 graduate of Ayala High in Chino Hills, was an art history major at UC Santa Barbara. She was weeks away from graduating.

Cooper was escorting friends home - she didn't want them to walk alone, her father said - when she was shot.

The Chino Hills vigil included songs and prayers. Candles ringed the basketball court and hundreds of mourners

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1928-2014

## MAYA ANGELOU WROTE, SPOKE FOR MILLIONS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK • Maya Angelou was gratified but not surprised by her extraordinary fortune.

"I'm not modest," she told The Associated Press in 2013. "I have no modesty. Modesty is a learned behavior. But I do pray for humility, because humility comes from the inside out."

Angelou

Her story awed millions. The young single mother who worked at strip clubs to earn a living later danced and sang on stages around the world. A black woman born poor wrote and recited the most popular

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## FORMER POLICE OFFICER CONVICTED IN ASSAULTS

BY PETER SUROWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

A former San Bernardino police officer has been convicted of forcing two prostitutes to perform sex acts on him while he was on duty, U.S. Department of Justice officials said.

The jury Wednesday found

Jose Jesus Perez, 46, of Menifee, guilty of two felony counts of deprivation of rights under color of law and one misdemeanor civil rights offense for three sexual assaults on two victims, one of whom he kidnapped and injured, a U.S. Department of Justice

SEE CONVICTED • PAGE 7



### KINGS FAIL TO SEAL DEAL

The Kings lost to the Chicago Blackhawks, 5-4, in double overtime, and still need one more win to advance to the Stanley Cup Final. **SPORTS 1**

### INLAND SPELLERS OUT

Two local contestants do well on-stage but fall short in offstage tests and fail to make semifinals of national spelling bee. **NEWS 7**

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