



MORE LOCAL

Season opener

Three-time Grammy award-winning group Los Lobos kicks off the UC Riverside Presents performing arts series with a show Oct. 15. **C4b**

# NATION & WORLD

## Stoning sentence under review

**IRAN:** The woman faces the death penalty for adultery. She also is charged in the murder of her husband.

BY FARSHID MOTAHARI  
MCDLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

TEHRAN — Iran on Wednesday said that the stoning sentence against Sakineh Mohammadi-Ashtiani, convicted for adultery, would be reviewed.

"The sentence of Mrs. Ashtiani for adultery has been stopped and her case is being reviewed again," Foreign Ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast told the news network Press TV.

Mohammadi-Ashtiani, 43, faces

death by stoning for adultery. She has also been charged with being an accomplice in the murder of her husband.

"Her sentencing for complicity in the murder is still in process," the spokesman said.

The death sentence has provoked strong international criticism.

Fars news agency, meanwhile, reported Wednesday that Mohammadi-Ashtiani met with a member of the parliamentary legal commission and discussed her case with him. No date was given in the report.

The legislator, Vahid Kazemzadeh, told Fars that the woman denied that she was lashed after a



Sakineh Mohammadi-Ashtiani

British newspaper published a picture without the obligatory headscarf. It later turned out that it was not Mohammadi-Ashtiani in the photograph.

In an interview with a French magazine, Sajad, the son of Mohammadi-Ashtiani, had quoted inmates as saying that his mother was sentenced to 99 lashes for the unveiled picture.

Iranian woman without a scarf has been punished with lashes.

Mehmanparast also denied reports of the woman having been sentenced to lashes for the picture in the British paper.

Kazemzadeh also quoted the woman as saying that she never met her lawyer, Mohammad Mostafaei, and blaming him for leaving the country after receiving \$2,000.

Mostafaei has applied for asylum in Norway after an arrest warrant was reportedly issued against him. His family has joined him there.

A woman claiming to be Mohammadi-Ashtiani confessed last month on Iranian state television that she not only had a sexual liaison with her husband's cousin,

but also helped the cousin to kill her spouse after having doped him.

Iran avails itself of dubious televised confessions for political prisoners, a method which has met not only with harsh international criticism but also local opposition because it is not clear if the person speaking is actually who he or she claims to be.

The woman also condemned Mostafaei for having made her case public, saying now everyone knew about her and that she would forever have to live in shame.

According to Iran's judiciary, the 43-year-old was not only convicted of adultery, but also of brutally killing her husband in 2006.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An aircraft drops fire retardant ahead of flames near Sunshine Canyon, in Boulder County, Colo. Authorities are looking for eight people missing in a wildfire that has destroyed dozens of homes. About 3,500 people have been evacuated from about 1,000 homes.

## Eight missing in Colorado wildfire

**HOUSES BURNED:** Some residents have refused to leave the area, risking their lives to try to save their homes.

BY DAN ELLIOTT  
AND P. SOLOMON BANDA  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOULDER, COLO. — Firefighters encountered a tangle of rattlesnakes, downed power lines and combustible propane tanks Wednesday as authorities looked for eight people missing in a wildfire that has destroyed dozens of homes.

Some residents have refused to leave the area and stayed behind, risking their lives to try to save their homes. Authorities are following up with family members and checking homes in the area to find the missing.

About 3,500 people have been evacuated from about 1,000 homes since the 6,168-acre fire broke out in a parched area north of Boulder on Monday.

It's unclear whether the eight people unaccounted for were linked to some of the 53 homes that have been reported destroyed so



A helicopter takes off after loading up with water. Seven of the country's 19 heavy air tankers have been sent to Colorado to fight the blaze, which has burned 6,168 acres.

far. At the Colorado Mountain Ranch, 60-year-old Mike Walker has been making a stand against the fire with his wife and

25-year-old daughter in a desperate effort to save the children's summer camp and outdoor recreation center they operate.

"He's safe, he's up there," said

Walker's 19-year-old daughter Rose, who evacuated. "He just won't leave. We never doubted where he was, he just won't leave

SEE WILDFIRE/C3

## Igor shows hurricane potential within days

FROM NEWS SERVICES

Say hello to Tropical Storm Igor, which quickly rose up in the Eastern Atlantic on Wednesday morning and is forecast to be a hurricane within three days.

Don't be surprised to see it grow into a major hurricane. It has a lot of warm ocean in front of it to feed on. At 2 p.m., it was 80 miles south of the Cape Verde Islands, crawling west at 6 mph with sustained winds of 40 mph.

Under the long-range forecast, the system is expected to trek northwest across the Atlantic over the next five days — and still be in the Central Atlantic. At that point, it is projected to be a Category 2 hurricane with sustained winds of almost 100 mph.

Early models indicate that it might turn north before it reaches the Lesser Antilles on a path that might reduce the risk to the U.S. East Coast. However, the models can't be trusted at this stage.

The Cape Verde Islands already have issued a tropical storm watch, as it could produce up to 3 inches of rain and gusty winds in that region.

Igor, the ninth named storm of the 2010 Atlantic hurricane season, will travel over water that is breaking records for ocean warmth. Hurricanes draw energy from hotter water, and sea surface temperatures in the area were 2 to 3 degrees Fahrenheit above normal during the last week in August.

### INSIDE



### Agency honored

A U.S. flag flown over a base in Afghanistan was presented Wednesday to the Riverside County Transportation Commission for its support of a local Navy reservist. **C4a**

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**MY PHOTO**  
CINDY BROERMAN | RIVERSIDE

Caden Seulean, not to be left out, decides what he wants for breakfast as does his mother Nicole Seulean does the same. Cindy Broerman, of Riverside, sent in this photo taken last month of her grandson during a breakfast out with his family. If you have a favorite photo of a child please share it with us at [PE.com](http://PE.com).

**IN BRIEF**

**MORENO VALLEY**

**Library mascot to be at Youth Fest**

Moreno Valley Public Library's mascot, "Webster," will appear at the city's upcoming Youth Fest.

The event will be on Sept. 11 at Moreno Valley Community Park, at the corner of Frederick Street and Cottonwood Avenue.

Webster will appear at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. in the library booth and will be available for photos.

For further information, call 951-413-3880.

—Laurie Lucas  
[llucas@PE.com](mailto:llucas@PE.com)

**RIVERSIDE**

**Carwash, recycling fundraiser set**

J.W. North High School's Blue Star Regiment is holding its monthly recycle drive from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday in the school's back parking lot, off Linden Ave.

The drive accepts newspaper, clear plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Band members will also be washing cars from 8 to 11 a.m. in both the back and front of the

school at 1550 Third St.

A \$5 donation is requested, with the money being used to fund this year's competition season.

—Special to The Press-Enterprise

**Patriot Day event set for Friday**

The Riverside County office of education will commemorate Patriot Day with a ceremony at 8 a.m. Friday at 3939 13th St., Riverside.

County Superintendent of Schools Kenneth M. Young, Riverside County Sheriff Stan Sniff and Riverside Police Chief Sergio Diaz will speak at the observance remembering almost 3,000 people who died Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists attacked the United States. The ceremony also honors the military, police, firefighters and other emergency responders.

The Arlington High School chamber singers will perform, and the Elsinore high school cadets will conduct a flag-folding ceremony.

The event is open to the public. Similar observances are planned at other county education offices.

—Dayna Straehley  
[dstraehley@PE.com](mailto:dstraehley@PE.com)

# Reservist returns favor

**RIVERSIDE:** A flag that flew over a base in Afghanistan is presented to a county agency.

SPECIAL TO THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

A U.S. flag flown over a remote Marine Corps base in Afghanistan was presented Wednesday to the Riverside County Transportation Commission for its support of a local Navy reservist.

Lt. Jennifer Franco, a Navy public affairs officer who deployed to Afghanistan in March, arranged for the flag to be flown over her base at Kandahar Airfield to recognize the transportation commission's support of her activation and estimated year away from her regular job at the San Bernardino Associated Governments, a partner agency with RCTC.

Franco worked with the Inland Empire's Navy base to make the formal presentation to commissioners at their monthly meeting.

"I'm very grateful for the support SANBAG and RCTC have given me during my deployment to Afghanistan," Franco said in a news release. "I'm glad we were able to fly the flag here in Kandahar and have it formally presented to the commission by our premiere Navy command back home in the Inland Empire."

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division Commanding Officer Capt.



**GREG VOJTKO/U.S. NAVY**

Navy Capt. Jay Kadowaki presents a flag flown at the request of Lt. Jennifer Franco in Afghanistan to Riverside County Transportation Commission Chairman Bob Buster.

Jay Kadowaki made the presentation. A Marine Corps certificate authenticating the flag being flown on May 5 at Kandahar Airfield during Operation Enduring Freedom accompanied the flag.

"The American flag represents so much to so many — not just within our borders, but across the world," said Kadowaki. "To see her flying in foreign lands is not only symbolic of freedom, but also brings with it great responsibility. No one

knows that more than our men and women in uniform serving in harm's way."

Activated on Jan. 4, Franco, a Cal Poly Pomona graduate, left her job as director of Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs for SANBAG and arrived in Afghanistan March 1, marking her first deployment in nearly eight years in the Navy.

At her base near the city of Lashkar Gah in the southern region of Helmand Province, she advises local Afghan reporters on how to

provide timely and credible news to media outlets, escorts American journalists coming into Kabul and Kandahar, and assists international media embedded with battalions, brigades and district stability teams.

Her tour of duty is expected to end in December, after which she is expected to return to her position at SANBAG, continuing her work with RCTC on mass transit projects for the Inland Empire.

## P-E photographers' work recognized

**REGIONAL AWARDS:** The photos that accompanied Inland news stories last year earn high honors.

**BY JENNIFER DEAN**  
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

The National Press Photographers Association recently released the Region 10 top 10 photographer results for 2009 and three photographers from The Press-Enterprise were on the list, including the No. 1 slot.

In first place, with a total of 1,052 points was Mark Zaleski. Former Press-Enterprise photographer Ed Cristostomo came in seventh place with 392 points and photographer Terry Pierson came in eighth, with 350 points.

Region 10 includes all of California, Nevada, Arizona and Hawaii, as well as international locations such as Australia, New Zealand and Thailand.

Pierson's photo, "Big Brothers Watching," took first place in the General News category for the month. The photo told the story of Redlands Police Department cameras monitor-

ing the city.

Pierson also won second place in the Illustration category for his photo "New Leader," which featured a Cal Baptist player working to reach the NAIA playoffs.

Zaleski's "Motocross Opee" won first place in the Feature/Single Picture category. The photo was of a Perris motocross dirt biker and his dog Opee.

He also took first place for the photo "The Truth About Sarah" in the Feature/Multiple Picture category, which told the story of Sarah Reyes, whose cold case was finally cracked in 2009.

Zaleski also was awarded second place in the Sports category for the photo, "Leaping For Victory," which caught the Sacred Heart Cathedral High School team becoming the 2009 CIF Girls Division III state volleyball champs.

Zaleski received third place for "The Coupe" in the Illustration category for his photo of Eric Newman, co-owner of TED's Rod Shop in Riverside.

Reach Jennifer Dean at 951-368-9336, [jdean@PE.com](mailto:jdean@PE.com) or <http://blogs.inlandsocal.com/moms>.



**TERRY PIERSON/PE**

This photo shows Redlands police communications supervisor Bryan Lawson with monitors that keep an eye on the city.



**MARK ZALESKI/PE**

Cool dog Opee chills out as owner Mike Schelin, of Perris, practices motocross skills in this award-winning photo.



It wouldn't be Sunday without a

## PARADE

THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE



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