

SHOUT-OUT TO:
MALALA YOUSAFZAI

UPDATE:

Malala ...
This time was
deservedly Awarded
The NOBLE PEACE PRIZE
Let the Wonderful
BLESSED children be
HEARD !!!
Let them Lead !!!!

O' MALALA !
Let the Poets
write
Let the Teachers
Teach

Let the UNIVERSE
Learn !

OBAMA...
does not study
War.

But the JUST
SWORD
must be a SHIELD
For our POETS
MIGHTY PEN

Let us Never Stop
"IMAGINE"
ON ! ! ! !

AMEN...

SHOUT OUT TO:

KAILASH SATVARTHI

CONGRATULATIONS

Your UNIVERSAL "GOOD WORKS":
"focusing on the grave exploit-
ation of children for financial
gain!"

With your WINNING this Pres-
tigious :... 95th Noble Peace
Prize", we fervently Pray
- Shall shine Brightest ILL-
UMINATING LIGHT ONTO what you
DO and what more is needed
and more abundant DOERS!!

GOD BLESS!!

3 of 4

reinforcements to go to Kobani "to reap the spoils," rather than telling them they are actually going to the front lines of fighting. The relative ambivalence of the Turkish government to join the fighting to help Kobani, meanwhile, draws criticism from Kurds across the country. Protests from the Kurdish region in southern Turkey to as far north as Istanbul seek to bring awareness to the siege along the border. Counterprotesters and police have reacted violently.

What's more, since the fighting began in Kobani, many Kurds on the Turkish side say they are repeatedly stopped by Turkish police and military and tear-gassed and forced to move back from crossing the border to Kobani to join Kurdish fighters.

Haider Polat, 60, was one such volunteer. Now he sits atop one of the hills watching the battle and pours tea into paper cups from his portable tea kettle. Polat's son, Ali Polat, 25, is a volunteer fighter with the Kurds in Kobani. He left three months ago for Syria, and Polat hasn't heard from him since. Behind Polat sits another hill, hosting a Turkish tank unit that quietly watches the crowd of enthralled Kurds. "They are here for us, not IS (the Islamic State)," Polat said. "They are here to scare us."

SEE **Malala Yousafzai, Kailash Satyarthi win Nobel Peace Prize**

Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi won the 95th Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for their work promoting education rights for children in a year that has been anything but peaceful.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee cited the two "for their struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education." Yousafzai, 17 and the youngest-ever Nobel winner, is from Pakistan and Satyarthi, 60, is from India — facts that bring added significance to the award given the tumultuous history between those two nations.

The committee "regards it as an important point for a Hindu and a Muslim, an Indian and a Pakistani, to join in a common struggle for education and against extremism," it said. In 2012, Yousafzai was shot in the head by Taliban gunmen, but recovered to advocate for education for girls around the world. In school at the time of Friday's announcement, she is expected to make a statement later Friday.

Satyarthi, the Nobel committee said, has spent a lifetime "focusing on the grave exploitation of children for financial gain." The committee said Satyarthi was "maintaining (Mahatma) Gandhi's tradition." From Ukraine to the Islamic State to Israel-Gaza and Ebola — 2014 has seen the world stumble from one apparent peace-defying crisis to another.

But that just means there's been no shortage of raw material for Norway's Nobel committee to work with, said Øivind Stenersen, a historian of the prize.

"There's always talk that with the world so full of troubles it's time to just drop the prize because everything is in chaos, but I must say in times like these the prize has a really important role," said Stenersen, who also runs Nobeliana, a publishing company devoted to the Nobel awards.

"It gives us hope it's possible to find solutions to really difficult problems," Stenersen said. Since 1901, the committee each year has recognized, in Alfred Nobel's words, "the person who shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses."

Over time, the committee has widened its eligibility requirements to include efforts to improve human rights, fight poverty and clean up the environment.

On 19 occasions, the prize has not been given due to failure to meet the committee's standard.

Officially, there is no list of candidates and nominations are withheld from the public for 50 years. However, because the nominators themselves — politicians, academics and other Nobel laureates, mostly — are permitted to talk, it's known there were 278 candidates for this year's \$1.2 million award. That was winnowed down to a handful of serious contenders by the committee comprised of three women and two men. The Nobel committee indicated this year's choice was especially difficult to make.

Ahead of Friday's announcement, the smart money was on Argentine Pope Francis, who would have been the first Roman Catholic pontiff to pick up the award. British bookmaker William Hill favored Francis with odds of 7-to-4, while Ireland's Paddy Power had him at 9-to-4 odds.

Known as the "rock star" pope, Francis was considered a strong favorite because of his forthright approach to speaking out on behalf of the poor and for his call for peace in conflict zones ranging from Iraq to Ukraine. In June, the Pope met with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Israel's Shimon Peres to pray for peace in the Middle East.

More controversial would have been Edward Snowden, the former National Security Agency contractor at the center of leaks exposing the spying activities of the U.S. government.

"Edward Snowden would have been a difficult choice for the committee, and for Norway, to make," said Kristian Berg Harpviken, director of the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), a think tank.

In 2013, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, or OPCW, picked up the prize for its work destroying Syrian President Bashar Assad's (and others') chemical weapons. In 2012, the European Union won for its efforts in promoting democracy and human rights. President Obama won the award in 2009.

Technically, the prize is not supposed to be given to an organization, although it has been 25 times. The committee gets around this by naming the group in question's leader as the recipient.

The prize has now been awarded to 16 women and has been declined just a single time, by Le Duc Tho, a Vietnamese politician who was jointly given the prize with Henry Kissinger in 1973. Just over half of all peace laureates have been born in Europe.

The award is notoriously difficult to predict. The Norwegian state broadcaster NRK has been successful the last two years in calling the winner, but PRIO's Harpviken has drawn up a short-list for the past five years and has yet to successfully call the winner.

Harpviken's top pick for this year wasn't even a person or an organization, but a little-known article of the Japanese constitution that states that Tokyo will "forever renounce war as a sovereign right."

The final Nobel prize to be announced this year will take place Monday when the economics winner is unveiled. Prizes in medicine, chemistry, physics and literature were announced earlier this week.

North Korea's Kim Jong-un reportedly misses key celebration due to 'pulled tendon'

North Korea's mysterious leader Kim Jong-un has not been seen in public for 35 days and was not on a list of dignitaries at a celebration of the anniversary of the founding of the ruling Workers' Party on Friday, sparking speculation that the head of one of the world's most secretive countries is ailing or has been removed in a secret coup. An official state media dispatch listed senior government, military and party officials who paid their respects at an event marking the party's 69th anniversary, but not Kim. It said a flower basket with Kim's name on it was placed before statues of his father and grandfather, both of whom also ruled North Korea.

There has been rampant speculation that the leader is ill or is no longer in power. Unidentified sources tell South Korean reporters it may be gout, diabetes, or high blood pressure. A source Friday told Sky News that Kim suffered a pulled tendon during a military drill. There has been no confirmation.

State media earlier said that the might of the party "is growing stronger under the seasoned guidance of Marshal Kim Jong Un."

While his absence is not in itself all that important or unusual — such anniversaries are generally given more weight when they are landmark years, though he attended the celebrations in the last two years.

Kim, who was last seen in public attending a concert on Sept. 3., had been seen earlier walking with a limp.

During a surprise visit to South Korea last week to attend the closing ceremonies of the Asian Games in Incheon, three senior North Korean leaders assured their South Korean counterparts that Kim was healthy, but that

BY: LEON IRBY 4 of 4 DATED: OCT 29, 2014

for Ebola and the patient was discharged feeling well, according to CDC.

Hundreds of June marriages hang in limbo as state mulls landmark gay rights ruling
Stephanie Donhauser just wants someone to tell her if she's married.

Donhauser wed her partner, Laura Clees, in Madison on June 7, during a weeklong window that saw hundreds of same-sex unions after a judge threw out Wisconsin's gay marriage ban and before the ruling was stayed pending appeals.

But at the time, Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen insisted the ban remained "in full force and effect" and told county officials they had no authority to issue marriage license applications, although 42 counties did.

On Wednesday, two days after the U.S. Supreme Court refused to consider Van Hollen's last-chance appeal, state officials are sorting out what changes — in areas ranging from tax forms to adoption papers to public employee health benefits — must be made. Complicating things — and frustrating Donhauser and hundreds of other couples — is the question of the June marriages, which the Attorney General's office won't discuss because it is the topic of a lawsuit filed against Gov. Scott Walker, Van Hollen and other officials last month.

Donhauser said she called three state agencies Tuesday in an unsuccessful effort to find out if she can file paperwork needed to use health insurance advantages available to married individuals.

She estimates she will save about \$50 a week in income taxes on coverage she buys for Clees. She also wants to change her payroll withholding to reflect income tax benefits married status would give her.

"Every day that goes by I'm losing money," said Donhauser, a Madison firefighter for 23 years.

Van Hollen's employees at the state Department of Justice told her to hire a private lawyer for advice, because they can't give legal advice to members of the public. State law, with few exceptions, only allows them to counsel state officials.

But Donhauser said the state should be able to answer simple, common-sense questions. "Telling me if I'm married is legal advice?" Donhauser said. "I can't believe it's been so hard to get any information. What's the big secret? Either I'm married and it's all good or I'm not married and we have to get married again."

Van Hollen spokeswoman Dana Brueck said any advice the department gives state agencies on taxes or any other matters is governed by attorney-client privilege, which only the client can waive.

"We have been in communication with various state agencies regarding the (Supreme Court) denial, yes, and how Wisconsin will comply," Brueck said. "While we may be advising agencies, I cannot

estimate when they may have agency-specific information to share with the public."

The legal director for the ACLU of Wisconsin, which in February filed the lawsuit that this week ended the state marriage ban, said he's sympathetic with state officials, to a point.

"On the one hand it's understandable that bureaucracies move slowly," Larry Dupuis said.

But the writing has been on the wall in the last year or so, he said.

"It wouldn't be outlandish to expect the state to have been preparing for this, given the almost unbroken success in federal and state courts," Dupuis said. "And some things should be pretty easy to figure out and implement. It's really unfair to keep people guessing any longer."

In September, the ACLU filed a second lawsuit, this one asking a federal judge to force Walker and Van Hollen to recognize the June 6-13 marriages. Clerks accepted at least 637 marriage license applications that week, according to a State Journal poll of county clerks offices.

Failing to do so blocks those couples from enjoying at least 72 rights and benefits state law confers on married people, the ACLU has said in court filings.

Dupuis said his office has contacted Van Hollen in an effort to settle the lawsuit. Walker has said the state will adhere to the Supreme Court decision, but offered little detail about how.

State Department of Revenue assistant deputy secretary Jennifer Western on Monday said "Wisconsin will uphold the law," but referred any other questions to Van Hollen.

On Wednesday she didn't respond to questions sent to her by phone and email. State Vital Records Office spokeswoman Jennifer Miller said she had nothing to share about any changes that may be needed regarding records related to things such as adoptions by same-sex spouses.

At the state Department of Employee Trust Funds, the semi-autonomous agency that administers public employee benefits, including pensions and health insurance, spokesman Mark Lamkins said officials were meeting Thursday to discuss possible changes in response to the Supreme Court's decision. Lamkins said he would provide updates as more was known.

U.S. Supreme Court blocks Wis. voter ID law

The United States Supreme Court has barred Wisconsin from enforcing a voter ID law. The decision was handed down Thursday night, banning the state from requiring voters to show photo identification before voting. According to the [SCOTUS blog](#), the court majority's order gave no reason for the decision. However, the news comes very close to the upcoming November election, which the blog states may have been a key factor.

According to the SCOTUS blog, three justices dissented from the decision: Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr., Justice Antonin Scalia and Justice Clarence Thomas.

This summer the Wisconsin Supreme Court voted to uphold the state's voter ID law.

Fight for Kobani is a spectator sport in Turkey

The battle for control of the Syrian border town of Kobani has become a spectator sport of sorts for some Kurds on the Turkish side of the border. Dozens of people spend the day sitting on the hills outside Suruc, scouring the skyline for signs of the fighting. On Thursday, as soon as a jet flew overhead, a murmur ran through the crowd. Those with binoculars followed the plane circling Kobani, hoping to see another airstrike by the U.S.-led coalition like the one they saw in the morning.

Then the plane left, only to come back soon to repeat the cycle, much to the annoyance of these Kurdish viewers in Turkey hoping to see more bombings against the Islamic State militants.

Idris Nassan, the deputy foreign minister for the Kurdish-run Kobani province in Syria, told USA TODAY that he went to the hills Thursday morning and saw the U.S. bombing around Kobani.

"They hit my home," he said, though he didn't know for sure his actual house was hit. "They struck my home, but I am happy." He hopes strikes like these could help bring the fighting to a favorable conclusion soon by defeating the Islamic State, also known as ISIL or ISIS.

The back and forth between the Islamic State and Kurdish fighters has gone on for several weeks now, worrying the international community as the militant group moves closer to the Turkish border.

Should the Islamic State take control of Kobani, it will have significantly consolidated around the Aleppo province, as the militants continue to make a push for Syria's second-largest city, Aleppo.

But the battle doesn't seem to be drawing to a close anytime soon. The U.S. Central Command said Thursday that Kurdish forces still control most of Kobani and are holding out in street battles against the Islamic State, as airstrikes continued.

"The west side of the town is stalling," said Anwar Muslim, president of the Kobani government who is currently inside the city. He claimed that while fighting was heavy on the east side on Thursday, and some activity had occurred in the west, the Islamic State controls only about 15% to 25% of Kobani.

"A lot of the smoke you see is from (the Islamic State) burning tires," Muslim explained, noting this was presumably to obfuscate the militant positions from the planes overhead.

Muslim also claimed that Islamic State leaders in the city of Raqqa have begun to recruit reinforcements for battle. It's unclear how Muslim knows this, but he said the Islamic State leadership has told