BRIFFING

9 Verbatim

10 | LightBox Lightning at the Freedom Tower

12 World

Three essential facts about the Thailand coup; Ukraine votes in the Chocolate King; the annual Australian kangaroo cull

14 | Nation The murderous rampage in Isla Vista

16 | Milestones Farewell to Maya Angelou

18 | Bitter Pill Steven Brill on the trouble with Obamacare's subsidies

ON THE COVER: Photograph by Peter Hapak for Time



In Homs, Syria, on May 13, a man picks his way through the rubble of Khaldiyeh, once a thriving neighborhood. Photograph by Yuri Kozyrev—Noor for TIME

FEATURES

20 Assad's Turf

As the regime makes advances against the rebels, many Syrians on both sides of the civil war long for peace by Aryn Baker; photographs by Yuri Kozurev

30 The Plot Against Europe

French politician Marine Le Pen is backing a right-wing European coalition to dismantle the E.U. by Vivienne Walt

34 Sky Watcher

Meet NASA's Don Yeomans, the man responsible for protecting Earth from asteroids by Jeffrey Kluger

38 A Nation in Transition

Transgender people are emerging from the margins to claim an equal place in American society by Katy Steinmetz

THE CULTURE

48 Movies

On the set of *The Fault* in *Our Stars* with the YA hit's author, John Green. Plus: a talk with *Fault* star Shailene Woodley

52 Tuned In

TV's new racial diversity is about profit as much as inclusion

54 Music

Three new releases celebrate pop's diva moment

56 Pop Chart

Quick Talk with 50 Cent; hipster Slurpees; the world's best job openings

58 The Awesome Column

Joel Stein bargains with patent trolls

60 10 Questions

German high jumper Margaret Lambert, spurned by the Nazis for the 1936 Olympics



TIME (ISSN 0040-781X) is published weekly, except for two issues combined for one week in January, May, July, August, September and December, by Time Inc. Principal Office: Time & Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, NY 10020-1393. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement No. 40110178. Return undeliverable Canada addresses to: Postal Stn A, Po. Box 4322, Toronto, Onc., MSW 369. GST #888831621RT0001 © 2014 Time Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. TIME and the Red Border Design are protected through trademark registration in the United States and in the foreign countries where TIME magazine circulates. U.S. subscriptions: \$49 for one year. **Subscribers:** If the Postal Sorvice alerts us that your magazine is undeliverable, we have no further obligation unless we receive a corrected address within two years. **Postmaster:** Send address changes to P.O. Box 62120, Tampa, FL 33662-2120. **CUSTOMER SERVICE AND SUBSCRIPTIONS**—For 24/7 service, please use on website: time.com/customerevice. You can also call Float and the Postal Service alerts used in the Control of the Control Service alerts used in the Control of the Control Service alerts used in the Control of the Control Service alerts used in the Control of the Control Service alerts used in the Control of the Control Service alerts used in the Control of the Control Service alerts used in the Control of the Control Service alerts used in t