Rare Nautilus Spotted in South Pacific

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"Before this, two humans had seen Allonautilus scrobiculatus", Ward said. They have inhabited the planet for 500 million years and survived two of largest mass extinctions, yet little is known about them.
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"Before this, two humans had seen Allonautilus scrobiculatus", Ward said. They have inhabited the planet for 500 million years and survived two of largest mass extinctions, yet little is known about them.

Researchers were amazed with the appearance of the nautilus when they saw it. Its most special feature is the thick and slimy hair that covers its shell. The reason
for the nautiluses' near-extinction is shell-mining.

They got tissue, shell and mucous samples before releasing them. Worldwide protection could very well help ensure the *Allonautilus* doesn't fade into obscurity once again.

Indeed that was back in 1984, off of Ndrova Island in Papua New Guinea. "The first time we picked them up, we nearly dropped it. It's the most slippery thing," he said.

Ward says this recent sighting of Allonautilus indicates that there is still much to learn about these creatures. Next month, the US Fish and Wildlife Service will determine whether nautiluses becoming internationally protected creatures.

It wasn't hard to recognize it. It has jaws, gills and a shell which is unmistakable from every single other specie of nautilus.

Returning to the same reef to study nautilus populations this past August, Ward again caught sight of the rare nautilus.

The scientists remarked that both the rarity of the *Allonautilus scrobiculatus* and the fact that it is so ecologically and genetically different from its cousins prove how a simple factor as location can affect related species.

"It's only near this tiny island," he said.

Ward's main partners in this field season included Richard Hamilton and Manual Matawal from the Nature Conservancy and Greg Barond from the City University of New York.

So far, sightings of Allonautilus have occurred exclusively off the coast of Papua New Guinea.

"This could be the rarest animal in the world" Ward told reporters. "We need to know if Allonautilus is anywhere else".
NASA Awards 9 Universities Total Of $3.6 Million To Create Aerospace Academies Promoting STEM Education

Nine (9) universities will receive a total of $3.6 million from the NASA's Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) to create and operate a NASA MUREP Aerospace Academy.

"MUREP awards promote STEM literacy and enhance and sustain the capability of institutions to perform NASA-related research and education," NASA said in a press release.

The NASA MUREP Aerospace Academy aims to expand the nation's base for aerospace research and development, increase participation by faculty and students at minority serving institutions, and increase the number of undergraduate and graduate degrees in NASA-related fields awarded to students from minority serving institutions.

The universities which had been selected for Aerospace Academy grants were: California State University, Fresno; Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland; Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina; Hartnell College, Salinas, California; Morgan State University, Baltimore; Tennessee State University, Nashville; Texas State University, San Marcos; The University of Texas at El Paso; and York College, City University of New York.
Philly, other cities should adopt K-14 model

POSTED: Thursday, September 3, 2015, 1:08 AM

By Thomas E. Perez
and Arne Duncan

If you have school-age children like we do, you've probably heard the following question after a particularly challenging homework assignment or classroom project:

When am I going to use this in the real world?

Every parent understands that what kids learn in the classroom will help them in later life. But sometimes it's hard - even for us as the nation's secretaries of labor and education - to explain how abstract concepts relate to practical applications. Why? For one thing, we have a 21st-century economy, but much of our K-12 education system remains stuck in the 20th century. What kids learn at school isn't always aligned with the skills they'll need as adult professionals.

To prepare all students for the 21st-century workforce, we must do a better job of teaching job-ready skills and equipping the next generation to thrive in the global economy.

As the columnist Tom Friedman points out, 21st-century workers need the knowledge, flexibility, and ingenuity to thrive in jobs that haven't even been invented yet. That requires creativity and foresight of our nation's schools. Students should have a solid foundation in the basics, but they also
need technical know-how to match the technology they'll inevitably work with. And they need employability skills - like critical thinking, collaboration, and communication.

Some high schools are rising to the challenge. In addition to core classes, they're offering instruction in robotics, computer programming, even nanotechnology. These courses are developed in collaboration with local employers who understand that working with schools will benefit their communities and their bottom lines.

Some communities are taking this to the next level, creating formal partnerships among industry, community colleges, and the K-12 system.

In Brooklyn, Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) is a unique arrangement among IBM, the City University of New York, and the New York City Department of Education. This six-year high school allows students to graduate with a high school diploma, an associate's degree, and the industry experience they need to compete for high-demand jobs. They also have "first in line" preference for employment with IBM. It's precisely the kind of innovative approach needed to compete in the 21st-century economy.

This model has been replicated successfully across the country; today, about 40 schools nationwide are partnering with more than 70 private-sector employers in various industries. Last summer, we traveled together to Toledo Technical Academy in Ohio and were blown away by the state-of-the-art skills of its robotics team.

We want to help take this model to scale. Last year, the Obama administration invested $107 million in Youth CareerConnect grants to support similar efforts nationwide. The Toledo Public Schools won funds to scale up their efforts even further.

There's no reason Philadelphia shouldn't be the next city to adopt this model. With Mayor Nutter's leadership, Philadelphia has brought real-world apprenticeship opportunities to residents, matching workers with promising careers in many fields, especially information technology. A "K-14" school that gives more young people access to 21st-century skills is the next logical step, and we hope businesses will consider partnering with the city and schools to make it a reality.

In the decades ahead, middle-class jobs will require more than a high school diploma but not necessarily a four-year degree. That's why President Obama has called for free community college for all responsible students. With more than five million job vacancies in the United States right now, our training programs must align with employer needs, and the nation's community college system is the obvious place to turn. In the future, we must provide students with a strong academic foundation that links classroom activities with real-world issues and careers.
Wikipedia blocks accounts linked to paid edits

Agence France-Presse, San Francisco, United States | Sci-Tech | Thu, September 03, 2015, 8:56 AM

Wikipedia on Wednesday said that it has blocked more than 300 accounts being used by people being paid to create or tweak entries at the communally sourced online encyclopedia.

Weeks of investigation revealed 381 accounts being used at the English version of Wikipedia for "black hat" editing in which people took money to promote outside interests without disclosing they were on someone's payroll, according to a blog post.

Wikipedia editors who led the investigation found reason to believe that some tactics used were malicious and might even be considered extortion.

In some cases, people pretending to represent Wikipedia reached out to subjects of articles seeking payment, according to the widely-used online encyclopedia.

"Other times, these individuals would threaten to delete the article if the subjects of the article failed to make payment," Wikipedia told AFP.

"That being said, we would agree that the actions taken by (those) behind these accounts were extortionate and even in some cases, similar to blackmail."

Wikipedia is powered mostly by volunteers and bars paid advocacy that is not disclosed, such as in the case of museums or universities
Out-class! New biz hosts lessons in yards, living rooms, and rooftops

By Allega Hobbs
The Brooklyn Paper

Three teachers are telling tales out of school.

A new Bedford-Stuyvesant business is offering off-the-clock educators a chance to pursue their true passions — and earn some extra cash — by teaching one-on-one classes in living rooms, coffee shops, and backyards around the borough, and the local teachers really let loose when they escape their classrooms, say the founders.

"It gives them the sort of freedom to teach on other things and just have fun teaching," said David Kurfist, who founded the outfit — dubbed Think Olio — with fellow City University of New York student and Bedford-Stuyvesant resident Chris Zumtrebel earlier this year. "This lets them kind of go crazy with it, without restrictions."

Educators pitch Think Olio — an "olio" is a random collection of art and literature — with an idea for a class on the topic of their choosing, and if Kurfist and Zumtrebel like their concept, the pair help them find a venue and sell tickets online, which usually range from $15 to $25.

The model has produced some truly singular seminars — in May, a comparative religion teacher gave a talk on the fall of the Berlin Wall in a garden in Park Slope, and in July a philosophy professor led a discussion on "Star Trek" at an apartment in Bushwick.

Kurfist and Zumtrebel met while pursuing degrees in their college's Unique Studies program, which lets students craft their own major out of a hodgepodge of interests. The duo say they first dreamed up the scheme as a way to help out their favorite adjunct professors, whose day jobs were barely paying the bills.

"I tried to think about other ways they could use their talents and not have to pick up dog-walking jobs," said Kurfist. "They're teachers, and what they're meant to be doing is teaching."

But the instructors say Think Olio offers them more than just extra dough — it also gives them a chance to break free from the shackles of curriculums and classrooms.

"To be able to go in there with no curriculum, no have-to-cover topics, no mandatory anything — it's very free," said Angela Hernandez, a Spanish teacher at Kingsborough Community College who teaches Dominican cooking classes through Think Olio. Hernandez, a longtime Flatsbush resident, ran her latest lesson in a home kitchen, where the says students were able to get a hands-on experience with Dominican culture and cuisine.

"That's what I really ultimately want — they're learning, they're absorbing, and they'll practice it at home," said Hernandez, who is teaching her next cooking class at a Crown Heights art gallery on Sept. 10.

Part olio attendees also love the laid-back learning environment, and say it's a welcome change with other class-based is part of the appeal.

"I think the coolest thing about it is you get to meet other people that are interested in the same thing," said Gaia Paci, a Park Sloper who has attended a workshop on travel photography and a talk on the origins of life. "It's kind of like you meet a new network of people that you have something in common with."

Really eager students can also offer up their own homes or businesses as future class venues, in exchange for a free seat at the session and a cut of the profits.


Reach reporter Allega Hobbs at ahobbs@synglocal.com or by calling (718) 760-8312.
Former Longtime Coach Accuses Hunter College of Age Discrimination

By NEIL AMDUR SEPT. 3, 2015

Until last spring, Edwin Zarowin thought his job was secure. He was 31 years into coaching men’s and women’s cross-country and track and field at Hunter College, after having coached at Brooklyn Technical High School for 21 years. He was 88.

A new college cross-country season will begin next month, but Zarowin will no longer be Hunter’s coach. Unhappy over his situation, Zarowin has filed an age discrimination/retaliation complaint against Hunter, and some current and former athletes have waged an online war. He and his supporters claim that the college unfairly, and perhaps illegally, decided that Zarowin was simply too old.

Hunter officials initially refused to discuss Zarowin or his job status, after proposing that he accept a position as an “athletic archivist” at the college. Zarowin said that Athletic Director Terry Wansart had listed a slow work pace, poor technology skills and resistance to taking directions as factors behind his “unsatisfactory” annual performance review.

Zarowin rejected the job offer in a June 1 letter to Wansart, saying, “If it is your decision that this is the only option open to me, you will — in essence — have fired me.”

Wansart, in a statement released by college representatives last Thursday, said: “We truly hoped that he would have accepted the position as sports archivist, a role that people would honor and appreciate, and continue to contribute to the Hunter community in a valued way.”
Darnley Stewart, Zarowin's lawyer, who filed the initial grievance on age discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on July 10, claimed in the complaint that her client was being "relegated to being an office assistant."

"If you wanted to push him out, there's a right way to do it, a humane way to do it," said Stewart, who filed an amended charge including retaliation on Aug. 7.

Last year, Hunter held a 30-year celebration event for Zarowin that was attended by past and present athletes, including three national champions and 23 all-Americans. Zarowin was named a City University of New York Athletic Conference coach of the year 33 times (he was recognized in multiple sports), and he was inducted into the Hunter College Hall of Fame in 1996.

But last January, in what Zarowin said was "the first negative review of my career," Wansart checked "continued employment" for Zarowin on his employee evaluation form but also cited "recruitment, retention and graduation rate needs, utilization of technology, and improve supervision with coaches and knowledge of NCAA rules and regulations."

Julio Piazza, who retired two years ago after 27 years as the track and cross-country coach at Lafayette College, described the Hunter response as "bureaucratic speak."

"He was hired to coach," said Piazza, a middle-distance runner for Zarowin 50 years ago at Brooklyn Tech and later a standout at the University of Pennsylvania. "The most important thing: Is he giving to kids quality understanding and experience? And he has."

Zarowin's unconventional coaching style of training sprints and hurdles in school gyms and hallways instead of at the 168th Street Armory proved successful in years past. But with Hunter athletes often living off campus and saddled with work and classroom commitments, suiting up enough competitors to fulfill N.C.A.A. regulations became sensitive issues.

Stewart said she had talked to Laura Hertzog, Hunter's special counsel to the president. "What she told me is that there have been N.C.A.A. violations," Stewart
said in a phone interview, referring to the minimum number of athletes required for a team at a meet. "I said, 'Please send me a letter.' That doesn't exist."

Asked about conversations with Stewart, Hertzog replied in an Aug. 21 email, "It is my policy never to comment on pending matters in which an employee is represented by counsel."

Last week, Hunter announced a new coach, Daniel Selsky, who was an assistant at Sarah Lawrence College last year. Stewart said a mediation session under the auspices of the E.E.O.C. had been scheduled for Oct. 15, with Zarowin and Hunter officials scheduled to appear.

The past year has been stressful for Zarowin for other reasons. His wife of 67 years, Mary, died in December after a prolonged illness that required caregiving and schedule adjustments.

"I saw a lot of stress," said Sidney Milden, who ran for Zarowin at Brooklyn Tech and has been an assistant at Hunter, on and off, since 1986. "But he was still able to give a lot to the program."

Not enough for some athletes, however. Walter Rodriguez, a senior who finished second in the 10,000-meter run at the city championships, wrote on ipetitions.com: "I have not grown as an athlete because his current coaching methods have not allowed me to be successful, and our small team only grows smaller and less prosperous."

But the overwhelming majority of athletes on ipetitions.com spoke fondly of "Coach Z," as he is known, on many levels.

"He taught me that I can be anything you put your mind to," wrote Natalia Bonilla of the Bronx, who was among the 126 who signed the petition.

"Under his direction, I became a better athlete," wrote Tarcizio Rocha of Brazil, class of 1997, who was a member of the Hunter soccer team and was invited by Zarowin to run cross-country. "And even though I didn't have much time for training due to work, he got the best of me."
Even without a head coaching job in his future, Zarowin said he might accept a position as a volunteer assistant for a local high school this fall. A group of his former high school and college athletes is planning a “Celebration of Z” event for next spring.

“Coach Z has earned the right to choose when he wants the race to end,” wrote Donna Mahoney, a former Hunter distance runner from Canada. “And he should always have the last word and step down when he crosses that finish line.”
New cantor has big plans for temple

By Isabel Angell
Posted 9/3/15

Inbal Sharett-Singer did not always want to be a cantor.

She came from Israel to New York City 10 years ago to study opera at Brooklyn College and pursue a career in music. But while she was a student, she started teaching at a synagogue and eventually worked with the cantor there and at another institution.

One day, she was asked to sing the services for a distant relative's funeral. The usual cantors were unavailable, so she performed the service on her own.

"I think it was the first time in my life I ever felt that the little knowledge I had about Judaism really was a comfort to so many people and really made a difference," Cantor Sharett-Singer said. "I used to do acting and performing. I was a national anthem singer for the Marines in New York. I did a lot of exciting things. But this was by far when I really felt needed and felt a beautiful fulfillment."

She left her career in secular music behind and enrolled in the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music, the cantorial school at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Her studies took her to the Riverdale Temple, where she helped lead services for the last three years as the synagogue's cantorial intern.

After Cantor Sharett-Singer finished her program and was ordained in May, she decided
to stay at the temple at 4545 Independence Ave.

"I was very, very lucky that I got to be an intern here because in the past three years, I have learned so much from the congregation and the rabbi," she said. "Now I feel so excited and I'm looking forward to the future of the congregation."

One reason Cantor Sharett-Singer decided to stay at the Riverdale Temple was to help shape the future of the place she loves so much, especially after the temple's beloved Rabbi Judith Lewis retired in June. Cantor Sharett-Singer said her replacement, Rabbi Thomas Gardner, is the perfect person to fill Rabbi Lewis' shoes.
Plaque honors Beaver County's Tuskegee pilots and support staff

By Marsha Keefer mkeefer@timesonline.com | Posted: Thursday, September 3, 2015 4:00 am

'BEAVER -- A bronze-on-granite plaque honoring local pilots and support staff of the Tuskegee Experience was placed Wednesday afternoon at the World War II Memorial in Beaver’s Irvine Park.

It honors five Beaver County individuals, all now deceased, who were affiliated with the heralded group known as the Tuskegee Airmen, the U.S. Army Air Force’s first African-American fighter pilot squadron, which flew in World War II.

The 14x24-inch plaque culminates events associated with the Beaver County Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation’s annual history weekend that was celebrated in May, said committee member Jerry Fisher of Brighton Township. The event, which featured exhibits honoring the Tuskegee Airmen at Air Heritage Museum at the Beaver County Airport in Chippewa Township, including a restored “Red Tail” P-51C Mustang aircraft.

“We wanted to do something so these people are not forgotten,” Fisher said. “We can’t lose this connection, this history.”

The names of four men and one woman are inscribed on the plaque, which was unveiled Wednesday morning at a Veterans Breakfast Club event at Seven Oaks Country Club in Ohioville, a quarterly breakfast open to the public, but especially to veterans, enabling them to share stories of their service.

The five honored on the plaque are Rosa Mae Willis Alford of New Brighton; Lt. William Neal Brown of Aliquippa; Lt. Willis Sanderlin of Ambridge; Sgt. Paul Short...
of Rochester; and Lt. Calvin Smith of Aliquippa.

Born in Clarksdale, Miss., Rosa Mae Willis Alford studied at Alabama’s Tuskegee Institute, graduating in 1947 with a degree in home economics. She worked her way through college repairing training airplanes flown by Tuskegee Airmen, Fisher said. After graduating, she taught school in Alabama and later in Maryland, where she met and married William J. Alford of New Brighton.

After moving to Beaver County, she taught home economics at New Brighton High School before returning to Michigan State University to obtain a master’s degree in guidance counseling. She was hired as a guidance counselor at Beaver Falls High School, where she remained until her retirement.

She died in 2011 at age 98.

Lt. William Neal Brown’s father moved North during World War I to work at Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. Brown graduated from Aliquippa High School and Columbia University, obtaining a doctorate in social work from City University of New York.

He was a special services officer involved in pilot training at Tuskegee Institute and later taught at Rutgers University in the School of Social Work.

Maj. Willis Sanderlin, a top-gun fighter pilot with the 99th and 332nd Fighter Group, won the Distinguished Flying Cross for service. After the war, he became a dentist and taught at Harvard Medical School.

Sgt. Paul Short, part of the 15th Army Air Force in Italy, was awarded a Silver Star for helping to rescue hundreds of downed pilots in Yugoslavia in 1944.

Lt. Calvin Smith joined the Army Air Corps at 18 and was a bombardier with the 477th Bombardment Group. Fisher said Smith was a pilot who was scheduled to go to the South Pacific, but Japan surrendered before his unit was deployed.

Smith, who worked at Mackintosh-Hemphill Division in Midland, died in 2013 at age 88, the last of the county’s Tuskegee Airmen.

The commemorative plaque in Irvine Park bears the headline “Triumph Over Adversity,” which, Fisher said, “was the main theme of the entire Tuskegee movement. Kind of a creed.” Segregation was inherent then, Fisher said, and the Tuskegee Airmen rose above racism and discrimination to play an important role in the country’s war efforts.
Mary Queen of Heaven Catholic Academy

Wednesday, September 2, 2015, 4:51 PM

Sponsored Content Provided by Mary Queen of Heaven Catholic Academy

Mary Queen of Heaven Catholic Academy is Mill Basin’s top educational and Catholic institution, second to none. Our emphasis is on educating the whole child academically, spiritually and socially in preparation for their future role as citizens in a diverse society.

The faculty and staff are dedicated to maintaining a Christian atmosphere of respect, love and concern for all students. Their attention is focused on the Common Core Standards, and new strategies for learning have been implemented. As part of the curriculum, the younger grades are learning music, while the older grades are learning to speak Spanish. The school also offers early morning drop-off and after-school programs.

The school community attends First Friday Mass and a monthly prayer service. This year, all grades are involved in community service, which is a reminder to students of their faith.

Monthly assemblies are designed to encourage each child to achieve. The school also honors a student from each class as student of the month.

Mary Queen of Heaven Catholic Academy has a Junior Beta Club that is responsible for conducting schoolwide charitable projects, such as collecting food for the food pantry, helping less fortunate children and sending cards to the homebound.

Students are encouraged to share their talents with others. The school offers band along with many opportunities for students to enter art and essay contests. Students frequently win awards that showcase their talents. Many of our students have won first place in essay contests such as the “Keep Christ in Christmas Essay Contest” sponsored by the Diocese of Brooklyn.

Some of the eighth-grade students attend St. Edmund Prep each morning for a high school class in earth science and Math 9 in preparation for the June Regents Exam.

Former students have received more than $250,000 in scholarships to St. Edmund’s Preparatory School, Bishop Loughlin, Xaverian, Bishop Kearney and Regis. Our students have also attended high schools such as Stuyvesant, Brooklyn Tech, Brooklyn College Academy, and Edward R. Murrow.

For more information, visit www.mqhschool.net, or call (718) 703-2350.

TAGS: Catholic Schools
BROKERS WEEKLY

Pinto’s path to prime time success

BY HOLLY DUTTON • SEPTEMBER 2, 2015

For Fenwick Keats agent Debra Pinto, entering the fast-paced world of residential real estate, an industry that has no shortage of drama, was an easy transition – she came from the entertainment industry.

Pinto, who joined Fenwick Keats in April, has been in the industry for the better part of a decade. She specializes in helping buyers purchase co-ops and condos, and is especially knowledgeable
about the Upper West Side, a neighborhood she lived in for 15 years and owned two different co-ops in.

"I know how to prepare buyers for that process, because it is a process that is unlike any market in the entire nation," said Pinto.

On a recent brutally hot New York City weekend, Pinto and a buyer from Los Angeles pounded the pavement looking at properties, and the buyer quickly got a crash course in the realities of the NYC real estate market.

"He said ‘oh my gosh; I really understand it now,’" said Pinto. "It’s a very different experience buying here than anywhere else – there’s so many layers."

And Pinto knows very well how unique NYC is – she grew up in Astoria, Queens, and went on to attend Queens College, as well as the New York School of Interior Design, and the University of California at Berkeley, and decided she wanted to be a television writer, producer and director.

"I followed my passion and was able to get a job in the entertainment business," she said. Pinto worked at HBO in its early years in the 1980's, and later owned her own production company, Airmasters Entertainment, working on TV shows, advertising and promotions, and image campaigns.

She spent 16 years in the industry, working with many of the top TV networks before deciding to be a stay-at-home mom for a while and raise her son, who is now 20 and a junior at Vanderbilt University.

"It was wonderful," she said of her time in the entertainment industry. "It was a very exciting time to be launching a new network. I used to go on the set of a lot of theatrical features. I really enjoyed the business."

The transition to real estate came after Pinto had taken a break from entertainment, and was living in California and doing some design work.

"I wanted to make a change you can have legs in, and in a lot of industries today you age out," she said. "I thought, you know what, I was buying and selling my own homes, co-ops, and also knowing how to do renovations and working in design. I thought it would be a good marriage of my skill set."

While working on productions in the TV industry, Pinto became skilled at being detail-oriented, building relationships with clients, and just getting the job done – all skills that would prove to be important assets in real estate.

"I could go into a wreck of a place and envision it when it’s done and put together," she said. "I think I help my clients in seeing potential down the
Pinto got her start at Wolfarth & Associates, cutting her teeth in the business studying under president and founder Rick Wolfarth, who she already knew – he had previously helped her buy and sell an apartment before she entered the real estate business.

"It was a great Upper West Side boutique firm," said Pinto. "I learned from one of the best, I have a lot of respect and admiration for Rick. It was good schooling."

Despite starting out in the biz just after the economic turndown that tanked the market in 2008–2009, Pinto had her first deal just a few months after.

After a solid several years at Wolfarth, Pinto felt it was time to go to a larger firm, and made the jump to Fenwick Keats.

"I didn’t want to go to a super big one and get lost in the sauce, so I thought it was the perfect next step for me – I had met a lot of principals there, I know some of the brokers, and it just seemed like a good place to work and that there would be good camaraderie."

As a real estate agent and a native of NYC, Pinto has been fascinated at how much the city’s neighborhoods have changed over the years – from the Upper East Side to far-out areas of Brooklyn.

"I remember when I was a producer and we had editing facilities in West Chelsea, on 25th between 10th and 11th," recalled Pinto. "I would leave on a summer night and be walking down the street and cars would beep at me – people thought I was a prostitute."

Fast forward to current day, where homes in Chelsea command some of the highest prices in the city.

"Growing up, you would hear the word Bushwick, Bed-Stuy, and Crown Heights, and you’d fear for your life," said Pinto. "And now it’s groovy and happening."

One of Pinto’s specialties comes from her background in design – helping clients declutter and depersonalize when trying to sell a home.

"When you’re selling and staging a home, you’re basically neutralizing a place – you’re decluttering, taking away personal mementos that are going to detract a possible buyer from buying the place," she said. "If there's too much you coming through as the seller, people sometimes can't get beyond that."

Pinto looks to continue doing what she’s best at within her business, and expand her volume.
"I want to keep helping people achieve their goals of buying a piece of New York City real estate, in the least painful way possible," she said.

"I do like helping people and being a trusted advisor, and I like having my sellers be happy when they have gotten a sale price for their home, and are able to move on to the next step. I also like helping buyers get into their new home."

In her spare time, Pinto is a board member of The Players Club, is an avid theater fan and self-described “TV addict,” and enjoys cooking, traveling and reading.
Potential For ‘Guantánamo North’ Could Keep Indefinite Detention Alive

'Detention without trial is an affront to human dignity wher-ever it takes place'.

By Sarah Lazare for Common Dreams

A detainee is escorted to interrogation by U.S. military guards at the temporary detention facility Camp X-Ray at the Guantánamo Bay U.S. Naval Base in Cuba. (AP Photo/Andrea Leighton, File)

As the administration of President Barack Obama publicly floats the possibility of opening a “Guantánamo North” on U.S. soil, rights campaigners warn that a mere transfer of the men and boys to another prison across national borders will not rectify the grave human rights violations committed against them.

“The Obama administration has its priorities in the wrong place,” Omar Shakir, a Center for Constitutional Rights fellow and attorney who represents detainees, told Common Dreams.

“Out of the 116 men and boys in Guantánamo, nearly 100 have either been approved for transfer or are waiting for a periodic review board to review their status for clearance,” Shakir continued. “They need to be released or charged and afforded full due process rights in a U.S. federal court.”

The administration, which has so far failed to deliver on Obama’s 2008 pledge to shutter the not-yet-shuttered detention center, is now weighing the possibility of moving some of those men to U.S. prisons, or—as Carol Rosenberg of the Miami Herald reported Thursday—potentially building an entirely new detention center. Such moves would require Congress to lift its ban on transferring the men to the United States.

In addition to exploring potential prisons in Kansas and South Carolina, the Pentagon is considering other locations across the country, reported Rosenberg, citing an unnamed source in the Department of Defense.
As a result, there are currently five cell blocks on a piece of land where there was no detention facility. So there is the option of what you could call a greenfield at a location where there is nothing now."

Other officials, however, have gone on the record to drum up support.

Last week, Secretary of Defense Ash Carter championed Guantánamo North to reporters as a pathway for shuttering the facility. And the Pentagon said earlier this month that it is planning to submit a proposal to Congress relating to the closure of the facility in Cuba, allegedly at some point following the end of the August recess.

The U.S. has long claimed that the location of the Guantánamo prison allows them to detain "War On Terror" prisoners without granting them due process or legal protections, including those against torture.

Rights campaigners say that a mere relocation of the prison to the U.S. will not in itself correct this larger injustice—and therefore fails to honor the spirit of Obama’s 2008 pledge to shut down the prison over human rights concerns.

"Guantánamo the first time around was an unadulterated disaster, and the idea of simply moving it from the Caribbean to U.S. soil would be laughable if it weren’t so despicable," said Katie Taylor, deputy director of the Guantánamo team at the legal charity Reprieve, in a press statement released Friday. "Detention without trial is an affront to justice wherever it takes place."

"There are countries ready and able to accept detainees who have been cleared and it is on this that the US administration must place their focus," Taylor continued. "Guantánamo should never have been opened, and if Obama doesn’t want it to haunt his legacy he must fulfill his initial promise and close it once and for all."

Ramzi Kassem, a professor at the City University of New York School of Law who has represented 14 people incarcerated at the facility, agrees. "Guantánamo was never a single prison facility," he wrote earlier this week. "From the beginning, it was always an idea, an ideology that purportedly liberated the US government from the fetters of domestic and international law. It also formed part of a larger, global network of shady and lawless prisons set up by the United States after the 9/11 attacks."

Obama’s plan is already meeting opposition from the right, with some lawmakers claiming that the transfer of the men and boys to a U.S. prison will somehow make those communities less safe.

In contrast, Shakir of the Center for Constitutional Rights argued for a third position, that honors the basic obligation to respect the human rights of the men held at the prison.

"Guantánamo is not simply the location of a prison," said Shakir. "It speaks to a larger set of unlawful practices over 14 years, including holding men and boys in arbitrary detention year after year, holding many in solitary confinement even though they have been cleared for release. That is really the bottom line. If you simply transfer to another facility but continue to hold them arbitrarily and indefinitely, it really isn’t getting us very far."
Excitement surrounds Xaverian’s expansion to co-education

Wednesday, September 2, 2015, 6:00 PM

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In March 2015, Xaverian High School President Robert B. Alesi (’76), together with Brother Lawrence Harvey, CFX, chairman of the board of trustees at Xaverian, proudly announced that the board of trustees voted unanimously to commence the latest phase of Xaverian’s long-range strategic plan, which includes expanding co-education from its highly successful middle school program, Genesis, to the high school grade levels, as well as the continued progression of multi-phased renovation and expansion initiatives.

“We are excited to implement the next phase of our long-range strategic plan to become an even stronger school,” Alesi says. “Over the last five years, we have strengthened our admissions requirements, enhanced our academic offerings and expanded our curricular and extracurricular programs. As part of our strategic plan, in addition to offering a co-educational high school program, we are moving ahead with major capital initiatives that will continue to improve our facilities and allow us to better prepare students for the future.”

Brother Harvey reflected on the latest step forward in the school’s esteemed history saying, “Never before has there been a time when the need for quality, Catholic education is so critical to the church’s ministry of evangelization. That is the very purpose of Xaverian High School’s existence. Xaverian has a nearly 60-year history of producing talented alumni who are leaders in their communities and who contribute to the world in so many ways. The expansion of Xaverian’s grades 9–12 to include both male and female students, as well as the continued enhancements to the school’s facilities and programs, will allow us to influence for the better an even greater number of young lives, as well as to create a larger community of faith, strengthening the mission of the school.”

With unique offerings, such as a one-to-one computing environment with the iPad; the renowned MAX (Music at Xaverian) program; the Michael T. Stiessen (’74) STEM program; an internship program featuring partnerships with more than 50 mentors in the areas of law, medicine, business, politics, law enforcement, arts and culture, military and journalism; as well as consistently impressive college placements at prestigious institutions — Princeton University, Cornell University, University of Pennsylvania, Brown University, University of Notre Dame/Graceway Honors at CUNY/U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Military Academy at West Point — there are no limits as to what young men and women will accomplish at Xaverian.

Rahul Tanveer, who was the valedictorian of the class of 2015 and is attending Cornell University, reflected on his experience at Xaverian saying, “At Xaverian, we found no limits, no barriers, no obstacles. Xaverian taught us that the greatest restriction we can place on ourselves is what we expect of ourselves. As we grew and matured, we saw these expectations begin to parallel our desires for achievement. The timid and apprehensive boys we once were became outgoing and determined men. Whether it be men that play it out on the field, convey their own messages through music, or work to coach and mentor the under- and upperclassmen of today, we all have grown to embody what it means to be a part of Xaverian. And what that means
Your Clean Bill of Health

THURSDAY, 03 SEPTEMBER 2015 02:20 BY YOSSI FABER

Not long ago I received an email from an acquaintance—let’s call her Jill—who was flustered about a bill she got from a doctor.

It seems Jill had been to her primary care physician for an annual checkup, and the doctor was concerned that her heart wasn’t beating quite regularly, so he referred Jill to a cardiologist he trusted. Jill went to the cardiologist, who examined her and administered an electrocardiogram (EKG), and concluded that everything was fine. At the cardiologist’s office, Jill paid her copay, and thought that was that. But three weeks later she received a bill for $495 from the cardiologist.

Jill called the office, and was told that although the cardiologist participated with her insurance company (Oxford), he didn’t participate with her particular plan (Liberty), and when she completed the new patient paperwork at the office she agreed to be responsible for any charges not covered by her insurance plan. Since her plan did not have out-of-network benefits, the carrier didn’t pay anything, and she was on the hook for the rest of the bill.

Needless to say, Jill was rather upset. After all, she had called the office and asked if the doctor participated with Oxford, and was told that he did. She felt that she was being held responsible for charges that the office bore some responsibility for, and she didn’t want to pay the bill.

Although I sympathized with Jill, she ordinarily would have been responsible for the charges. After all, she wasn’t specific in her questioning (namely, she didn’t ask if the doctor participated in her particular plan), and she didn’t check her benefits online to see if the doctor was in her network. Had she refused to pay the bill, the office could have—rightly—sent her to collections.

But Jill’s case was special, and she didn’t owe a penny, because she saw the cardiologist in Manhattan in June.

A few months ago, New York passed a law protecting patients in Jill’s situation. Called the Surprise Bill Law, it protects patients who get referred from an in-network provider to an out-of-network provider without being advised that their insurance benefits may not be the same. Had the primary care provider advised Jill that she was being referred to a non-participating specialist, she would owe all the money. But since she was not so advised, her financial liability was capped at the same amount that it would have been had she seen an in-network doctor. And since, in-network, her responsibility was only her copayment amount, that amount was all she owed her out-of-network cardiologist. Having paid her copayment at the time of service, Jill was off the hook for any further charges.

The cardiologist’s office could have protected itself, advising Jill that the doctor was not in her network, and thereby would be allowed to hold her responsible for the full amount. And no doubt the cardiologist’s staff would be more careful in the future (and probably would quickly advise the primary care provider’s office to do the same). But in this case, the patient’s rights won the day.

At the moment, there is no such law in New Jersey, so patients with in-network-only benefits should be careful when obtaining services from out-of-network providers. And the New York law has its flaws (such as penalizing the specialist in Jill’s case because of a notification that the other doctor was responsible for making). But this law is a big step forward in patient rights, and bills copying its protections are being considered by other states in the region.

Yossi Faber earned his MBA in Healthcare magna cum laude from the joint Mount Sinai School of Medicine-Zicklin School of Business program at CUNY Baruch. He is a member of two healthcare industry-focused networks of expert professionals, and is an invited lecturer at major medical centers and state medical societies. He founded and manages Clean Bill of Health (www.cleanbillofhealth.com), which provides both medical billing services to physicians as well as advocacy services for patients to review and help reduce the burden of their medical bills. Yossi lives in NJ with his wife and children.
The Schizophrenia of Syriza and Tsipras’ Call for New Elections in Greece

Posted By admin On September 2, 2015 @ 10:30 am In Feature Stories | No Comments

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GUEST: Costas Panayotakis, a professor of sociology at CUNY and author of “Remaking Scarcity: From Capitalist Inefficiency to Economic Democracy.”

Greeks will once more head to the polls within three weeks, after embattled Prime Minster Alexis Tsipras resigned. Mr. Tsipras had called for the earliest possible elections, which will take place on September 20th and could enable him to consolidate his popularity and return to power. The Syriza party, to which Mr. Tsipras belongs, is facing a likely split by election time.

In the mean time, Vassiliki Thanou was sworn in as Prime Minister of a caretaker government for the next several weeks. Judge Thanou, who is Greece’s 5th Prime Minister in four years also holds the distinction of being the country’s first female PM.

Already the first installment of a European bailout fund was trickling through Greece’s economy. But even as the future remained uncertain, Greece has been struggling with the ramifications of a major migrant crisis on its doorstep. Thousands of Arab and African refugees have entered the struggling European nation, fleeing war and poverty, even as Greeks are themselves struggling. Twelve Syrian migrants reportedly drowned while trying to make it to Greece yesterday.
Hamill: New York Mets — at last — give fans reasons to cheer in September

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS / Wednesday, September 2, 2015, 7:04 PM

After years of lousy baseball, the Mets have Citi Field buzzing in September.

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Finally, a September filled with cheers.

And not just because Police Commissioner Bill Bratton says we're enjoying the safest New York City summer in 25 years and without racially lopsided stops-and-frisks.

And not just because Mayor de Blasio, who inherited a homeless population of 60,000, one-third of them children, is actually building housing for these lost souls instead of giving new tax breaks for more high-rise condos.

No, the loudest cheer you're hearing in New York City in September is originating in the green pasture in Flushing, Queens, called Citi Field, where on Sept. 2 the New York Mets were 6.5 games ahead of the Washington Nationals in the National League East.

Waaaaaat?

Even when we lose, Mets fans manage to smile these days.

METS GM SANDY ALDERSON WATCHING FINAL PIECES STARTING TO COME TOGETHER

I sat in right field when the Mets won the pennant...
reminiscent of the 1962 Mets. But Mets fans around me were laughing rather than booing. Especially when the scoreboard showed that the St. Louis Cardinals were overtaking the Nationals, meaning that the Mets would not surrender ground in the standings as the season ticked toward a possible Mets division clinch.

After starter Jonathan Niese got hammered for five runs, Bobby Parnell came out and pitched away any chance he'd be called upon in the post-season. By the seventh inning, losing 12-4, most fans stayed to sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," chant "Let's go Mets," eat hot dogs and drink big beers and do the wave around the stadium.

I sat with five teenagers from Bayside, Queens, who stood and roared for Yoenis Cespedes' two-run homer. They cheered when Michael Conforto drove in a run. When David Wright came to the plate and continued to get hits.

They talked about the playoffs. And the World Series. "You can't win every game," said Patrick. "C'mon, we just beat the Phillies 10 in a row."

Instead of leaving the ballpark when the Mets were down by eight runs, Patrick bought a sausage hero and dug in like a loyal fan till the final out.

METS FANS CAN SCORE PLAYOFF TICKETS THROUGH ONLINE LOTTERY

Baseball in September finally has meaning for the New York Mets.

For the past two weeks, Mets fever has spread across the city.

At the 18th Ave. feast in Bensonhurst last week, Downtown Ronnie Califano, who has a videotape proving he was one of the first fans into the Shea Stadium field after the World Series win in 1969, was saying, "I'm a kid again."

"Because this here (Matt) Harvey, he's the new Tom Seaver. (Jacob) deGrom, he's Jerry Koosman, Cespedes is Tommie Agee, (Juan) Uribe is Cleon Jones, (Noah) Syndergaard is Gary Gentry, (Lucas) Duda is the new Ed Kransopol, (Travis) d'Arnaud, he's Jerry Grote, Steve Matz can be the next Nolan Ryan,
(Daniel) Murphy is Kenny Boswell, Conforto is Ron Swoboda. Me, I'm 17 again. I'm ready to get pinch hit charging onto the Citi Field mound next month when the Mets win the World Series.*

On Bell Blvd. in Bayside, the popular new rooftop bar at Bourbon Street Cafe has been packed nightly with fans watching Mets games under the stars on the seven outdoor screens. "I can't believe people are glued to Mets games this time of year," said Pete the bartender.

"I've been waiting since 1986 for a Mets team like this," said Anthony Chioci who owns the nearby Bayside Batting and Pitching cages. "I'm loving it."

STEVEN MATZ BACK WITH METS, WILL LIKELY START ON SUNDAY: SOURCES

Daniel Murphy and the Mets are inching closer to winning the division.

Around the corner at Sullivan's tavern, the crowded outdoor patio has been bubbling with Mets fever for weeks, even on weeknights, as fans can taste a championship in each bubble of every frothy beer.

"They have all the tools now except in the bullpen," said John Smith, assistant baseball coach at Queens College during a recent game against Colorado that the Mets were losing. "A month ago, I would have stayed home and turned the Mets off in frustration. Now, I always believe they can come back."

That night, the Mets came from behind to win.

This year is the next year we've been waiting for many years. The kids I sit with in Citi on Tuesday night wouldn't leave until the final out of the 14-8 loss.

"No big deal," said one of them. "We'll win tomorrow. And in October."
20 Months of Bratton and De Blasio's NYPD

The man referred to as "the finest police leader in America" by New York City mayor Bill de Blasio kicked off the month of September by highlighting the 50 year old ideas of Daniel Patrick Moynihan to help explain crime as a product of the Black family structure. NYPD commissioner Bill Bratton, who served as commissioner 20 years ago, called Moynihan's ideas on race and society, known as the Moynihan Report (or it's official name: The Negro Family, The Case For National Action), "prescient" today even as the ideas have been controversial for quite some time.

Moynihan's musings were the ideological bedrock for an era of regressive and outright racist politics that promoted what were essentially conservative positions on race. Finding fault with the Black family and culture became a rallying point for Republicans, Democrats and even so-called black leaders who championed personal responsibility while minimizing or ignoring structural racism and white supremacy. It's no surprise that Bratton is smitten with Moynihan's writings 50 years after the fact, but the self-described progressive Mayor couldn't agree, publicly breaking with Bratton for the first time. But as some New Yorkers start to wonder if the appointment of Bratton wasn't a remarkably stupid idea, the sum of the de Blasio and Bratton era paints a picture that ought to put to rest the idea that New York has substantively reformed the NYPD.

Here are some highlights that came to mind from the first 20 months of the NYPD under Bratton and de Blasio:

2014

January 19th - Police officers knock down and bloody an 84 year old Asian man named Kang Wong after he jaywalked in the Upper West Side. Wong is given a ticket and Bratton defends the actions of cops, denying excessive force was used.

January 20th - Police officers in Queens assault and arrest Queens College student Alejandro Rodriguez after a verbal dispute on the street. Cops sitting a patrol car told Rodriguez to "enjoy your taco, you punk" and then say "Oh, he speaks English" when he responds.

February 24th - NYPD and MTA abandon plans to conduct pre-dawn sweeps of the homeless after outcry from activists and plans to protest and cop watch authorities.

March 4th - Bratton and criminologist George Kelling, co-author of the Broken Windows theory, ride the subway at night to see if the homeless have returned to the transit system they tried so hard to kick them out of 20 years ago.

March 7th - The first two months of Bratton and de Blasio's regime see arrests of panhandlers and vendors in the subways triple, including an immigrant woman arrested for selling churros.

March 28th - Three women are arrested in the Union Square train station for selling churros without a licence.

April 6th - An immigrant food vendor says she has been arrested several times for selling churros in the subway. She says cops often keep the pastries and eat them in the precinct that she's held in.

April 10th - Bratton appears alongside US military generals in the Upper East Side and tells a room of police officials and wealthy New Yorkers about predictive policing and how they need to "win trust" even as they're going to be listening to their phone calls and tracking their movements via GPS.
May 23rd - Cops conduct a pre-dawn raid on a homeless shelter in Manhattan, arresting 22 people.

May 30th - A man is forcibly arrested on a nearly empty F subway car for apparently sleeping on the train. The incident, caught on video, shows the man arguing and struggling with the cops as he explains he's coming home from work.

June 4th - The NYPD launches the city’s biggest gang raid ever in West Harlem. Cops arrest dozens of young men from the Grant and Manhattanville houses and work to bring indictments against over 100 with the help from Manhattan DA Cy Vance. The arrests and indictments are buoyed by NYPD surveillance of social media accounts as they build complex conspiracy charges on many who had little if any role in actual crimes. The arrests and indictments of over 100 young men stem from two murders.

June 8th - Cops in Sunset Park violently subdue revelers during unofficial annual Sunset Park Puerto Rican day festival. 17 year old Enrique Del Rosario is beaten and charged with assaulting a police officer after cops arrest him for filming them. Charges against Del Rosario are dropped after other video contradicts police statements.

July 9th - Cops arrest five teenagers ranging from ages 16 to 19 for breakdancing in the subway. The teens were arrested for disorderly conduct even though they danced on the J train platform, which is not against the rules.

July 17th - Eric Garner is choked to death by NYPD detective Daniel Pantaleo, an 8 year veteran working from Staten Island’s 120th precinct. Garner is choked to death much like Anthony Baez was choked by the NYPD’s Frank Livoti, a PBA delegate, in 1994. WNYC reports Pantaleo had made a career off of low-level, Broken Windows style arrests.

July 26th - Cops in East New York put a pregnant woman in a chokehold when they try arresting her after she questioned orders to move her BBQ from the front yard of her building to the back. Cops arrest her husband after he tries to intervene.

August 5th - After newspapers analyze disproportionate amount of Broken Windows policing in communities of color, Mayor de Blasio defends Bratton’s cherished policing theory and says it is driving down crime.

August 13th - Subway performers protest against the NYPD’s Broken Windows crackdowns on performers, noting a 500% increase in arrests since Bratton and de Blasio have taken over.

August 29th - Two police officers in Bed-Stuy are caught on camera assaulting a man after a chase over alleged marijuana. One cop takes a swing at Kahreem Tribble and the other cop punches him with the tip of his gun, which is drawn on Tribble even as he has his hands raised.

September 9th - Days after Bratton testifies to the city council that the NYPD doesn’t bother law-abiding performers who don’t break the rules, like the dancers outside of city hall, video shows cops ticketing the dancers outside of city hall.

September 12th - A city council aide is fired by council speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito after she publicly disputed Bratton’s use-of-force testimony to the city council. Atyom Matsosov pointed out that the NYPD’s self-reported data on use-of-force on Stop and Frisk, or 250 forms, exceeded Bratton’s statistics that claimed force was used in only 3% of arrests and called the NYPD a “model of restraint”.

September 14th - Cops from Sunset Park’s 72nd precinct arrest and brutalize members of immigrant street vendor family after they won’t clear their stands from a street fair fast enough. Jonathan Daza, a young Mexican father, is thrown to the ground and kicked in the back while several officers lay on top of him. Daza had come to the defense of his sister, telling her she didn’t have to answer an officer’s questions.

September 20th - Cops, once again from Sunset Park’s 72nd precinct, slam a pregnant immigrant woman, Sandra Amezquita, belly-first on the ground after trying to arrest her teenage son. Amezquita has complications in her pregnancy and sues the city.

October 8th - Video emerges of an NYPD cop knocking out a teenager in Brooklyn over a cigarette. 17 year old Marcel Hamer is approached by plainclothes cops who think Hamer’s cigarette has marijuana. A cop stands over Hamer and punches him in the face, leaving him unconscious.

October 18th - Cops arrest a subway performer for playing guitar in a Brooklyn train station. The performer points out that playing music is legal on train platforms. The cops read the MTA rulebook and arrest the performer anyway.

November 20th - Akai Gurley is shot and killed by NYPD officer Peter Liang. Liang shot Gurley while patrolling a Brooklyn public housing staircase, just like police officer Brian George shot and killed Nicholas Heyward Jr., 13, back in 1994 during the 1st Bratton era.

2015
February 10th - Michael Julian, NYPD deputy commissioner of training and old Bratton pal from the 1990's, suggests spraying protesters with baby oil and cops using breath mints as part of reform proposals. Julian was working as the head of security in a mall in Australia when Bratton hired him back to the NYPD. Julian was also notorious for playing an aggressive role in the 1989 police crackdowns in the Lower East Side during the Tompkins Square riots.

March 13th - Computers traced back to NYPD headquarters are linked to edits made on the Wikipedia pages of police brutality cases like Sean Bell, Amadou Diallo and Eric Garner. In edits made to the Garner page, the word "chokehold" was altered a few times and Garner's size description was added in, as if to justify the use of force.

April 10th - A veteran NYPD plainclothes detective, Ian Cyrus, is caught on video stealing $2,650 in cash from a Bed-Stuy bodega. Cyrus and other cops were there for a supposed cigarette raid.

April 22nd - De Blasio reiterates his support for Broken Windows as he avoids backing a mild decriminalization proposal from the city council on low-level offense. He says his vision is the same as that of Bratton.

May 27th - Michael Julian, now NYPD deputy commissioner of personnel, blows over $60,000 taxpayer dollars on a Zumba dance studio for cops that is never used.

June 1st - Reports come in that Bratton is using the New York Police Foundation, a non-profit that works closely with the NYPD to fund police programs (it funded the pilot body cam program, for instance), to push money and contracts to friends and collaborators.

June 10th - Bratton says the NYPD can't hire enough black cops because too many blacks have criminal records.

June 19th - A gay Staten Island man is beaten by cops in his front yard. Cops who said they were responding to a "noise complaint" assault 30 year old Louis Falcone, call him a "fag" and "faggot" and threaten to kill his dog. The assault is caught on camera.

July 3rd - A plainclothes cop in Harlem is shown on video challenging a man to a fistfight, throwing punches at the man as he attempts to leave.

July 7th - A Brooklyn cop is caught on camera sucker-punching a man in Bed-Stuy who allegedly had not paid for a slice of pizza. Thomas Jennings put his hands up as cops approached, only to have a cop immediately punch him in the mouth.

July 11th - A woman coming back from an AfroPunk concert is assaulted by an off-duty cop who called her a "fucking dyke" before other officers arrived to arrest her.

July 21st - Bratton announces that predictive policing is here, "get over it". The largely unknown policing program that Bratton ushered in to Los Angeles when he headed up the LAPD relies on computer algorithms to predict crime for police officers who are now all carrying around smartphones primarily funded by the Manhattan district attorney's office.

July 28th - Police officers arrest and punch an emotionally disturbed man inside a Target department store. Alando Brisset is held down by several police officers while shoppers shout at the cops.

August 11th - A police union representing the NYPD's sergeants begins publicly shaming the homeless with a Flickr account posting pictures of homeless people with captions like "disgusting". The union sends memos encouraging its members to take pictures of the city's poorest and most vulnerable.

September 1st - Bratton refers to decades old Moinihan report when discussing the problems of black America. Former senator Daniel Patrick Moinihan, a Democrat, famously pathologized the black family culture as being at the cause of the plight of black Americans. Moinihan's ideas have been controversial, to say the least.

MORE: Bill Bratton Broken Windows Bill De Blasio NYPD Eric Garner Akai Gurley Police Brutality Predictive Policing