A president with a vision

Interview with Kingsborough President Farley Herzek
By John B. Manbeck
Special to the Brooklyn Daily Eagle

Private Citizen Farley Herzek pushed into the No. 42 bus filled with Kingsborough Community College students. "Hi. Do you go to Kingsborough? And where do you live? Manhattan? Why travel so far?"

He continued to ask these questions. The students lived in Queens, the Bronx, Rockaways and Canarsie.

They chose Kingsborough because they liked the campus, they learned from their professors, they knew it was a good college.

They did not know that Farley Herzek would be the next president of Kingsborough.

Typically, new presidents wait until they take office when the dean of students gathers the best and brightest to meet and greet the new chief executive. But that's not the way with President Herzek. He wants to know his students personally — their issues, their problems, their desires — even before they do.

Their major issues? Tuition, transportation, food and books.
A president with a vision

Interview with Kingsborough President Farley Herzek
By John B. Manbeck
Special to the Brooklyn Daily Eagle

Private Citizen Farley Herzek pushed into the No. 42 bus filled with Kingsborough Community College students. "Hi. Do you go to Kingsborough? And where do you live? Manhattan? Why travel so far?"

He continued to ask these questions. The students lived in Queens, the Bronx, Rockaways and Canarsie.

They chose Kingsborough because they liked the campus, they learned from their professors, they knew it was a good college.

They did not know that Farley Herzek would be the next president of Kingsborough.

Typically, new presidents wait until they take office when the dean of

students gathers the best and brightest to meet and greet the new chief executive. But that's not the way with President Herzek. He wants to know his students personally — their issues, their problems, their desires — even before they do.

Their major issues? Tuition, transportation, food and books.

With a backpack of experience on multiple educational levels, he returned to the Brooklyn of his youth after investing 35 years in the California education system, 17 of them in community colleges.

Community colleges are not one-size-fits-all across the nation. Having developed in different periods with different educational goals, each state defines and creates the colleges for individual educational missions.
Therefore, in New York, California, Texas and Illinois, students attend community colleges as an introduction to higher education, as a terminal degree or as an entrance to a technical education. The unique community college education in New York City differs from that in the balance of New York state in that it aims to develop a basic core education for the students.

Herzek is enthusiastic about the challenges that he sees at Kingsborough. Fundamentally, he recognizes it as a superior school with an excellent faculty and dedicated students. He has prospered from hands-on teaching experience from K-12 grades. Almost immediately, he identified the needs and barriers of the urban student and addressed them.

"We must chip away at obstacles to education," he observed. By removing the barriers and providing resources, the student retention rate will be increased. The retention rate is the basis for funding from the state. Rather than having students "tossed to death," he would prefer that they comprehend and benefit from the subject matter they are studying, he said.

The Kingsborough situation was not foreign to Herzek. California colleges had similarly diverse populations, largely Hispanic and Vietnamese as well as Cambodian and African American. While students there come from closely knit local communities, one obvious obstacle for New York students is a more spread out geographical region. They depend on Kingsborough from all over the city. They come from large families, sometimes at poverty level, many with single parents. They work hard, often at two jobs. They need public transportation, they need food and they need guidance. As president, Herzek plans to address these needs.

While talking to him, I sensed a determination to succeed and the willingness to take risks to do so. Low-keyed and soft spoken, he exhibits a clarity of message. He does not want to be a caretaker president. What is the greatest obstruction for students to graduate from a community college in two years? Mathematics.

While Kingsborough students achieve a respectable level of mathematics knowledge according to CUNY standards, they are not competitive on national and international levels. He tackled the problem immediately. To solve this initial dilemma, Herzek met with his staff, chairmen and faculty and initiated a mathematics initiative. In meetings he projects his ideas. He listens and encourages initiative, not reaction.

What emerged was a mathematics "boot camp" offered in the summer for incoming freshmen. He considers mathematics a "gatekeeper" to the future of education. The goal of the boot camp is to increase retention rates in the math classes and bring entering students to college level math. The only demand: a seat for every student enrolled. To date, the class retention rate in the summer math boot camp has jumped from 37 percent to 85 percent. Incentives? Free tuition for high school seniors, free breakfasts and lunches, free MTA cards and free textbooks. The cost: four days of work hard, with success as the payment. That's the best motivation, Herzek said.

Herzek talks about four double degree education projects. He hopes that the math classes will provide articulation with high schools, but realizes that initially he will be restricted to those in the nearby neighborhoods.

To welcome students to a foreign — sometimes literally so — campus, the college devised a One Stop application for phones called Assist Me. This app encourages students to seek assistance before making rash decisions, to find answers to orientation questions like: Where is Financial Aid? Who is my faculty advisor? How can I get tutoring? Where is the cafeteria and the gym? Where is the counseling office? Instead, all they need to do is look at their phones, which are probably in their hands already. This approach is more effective than an alternate bulletin board of room numbers and relates to the students personally, Herzek said.

Another weakness that Herzek hopes to strengthen is the study of science. The STEM program — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — addresses this issue with laboratory work in modules and teams. The recruitment and results to date have been positive and promising. He feels that for now, the humanities, particularly the English Department, have achieved success in the remedial reading and writing approaches. The college-wide KCC Reads program, for instance, is sponsoring a discussion of the inspiring novel "Americanah" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie this fall.

Herzek, 59, is not only enthusiastic about Kingsborough and its students, but about his return to Brooklyn. Growing up in Canarsie in the 1960s, he cherished the freedom of those years. After P.S. 115, he moved on to Brooklyn College and the City College of New York for his baccalaureate degrees, and then to California for his masters from California State University, Long Beach. He met his wife, Cheryl, in California, although she comes from Cleveland. As a B-12 and a community college counselor and an "avoid" photographer, her husband reports, they found much in common. At first she was skeptical about Brooklyn, but has now accepted the change and the challenge.

Herzek remains enthusiastic about Brooklyn's diversity, vibrant neighborhoods and ample opportunities. Good public transportation in New York City is an advantage over that in California, he said. He feels he has support from the local communities and civic leaders, such as Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, the City Council, state Assembly and state senatorial members.

The college, he recognizes, has seized its role as a community resource with its successful performing arts program and summer concerts. The vibrant art gallery has expanded as an active purveyor of culture with a prepared year's program of events. Add to this the talented and visionary faculty, Herzek said, which makes Kingsborough Community College a gem in CUNY's mission.

Among the students that Herzek met on his initial bus encounter was a disabled student who commuted from Manhattan to Manhattan Beach for her classes. A week after assuming his role as president, he waited at the same bus stop outside the college's main gate. When the woman emerged from the bus, he greeted her and introduced himself as the new president, adding that he particularly wanted to lead Kingsborough because he had met such a dedicated student as she.
Number of CUNY course hours led by full-time faculty rose, report shows

By Conor Skelding

12:44 p.m. | Sep. 17, 2015

Full-time faculty members at the City University of New York led slightly more instructional hours in fiscal year 2015 than in the previous fiscal year, according to data published in the mayor's management report Thursday.

At senior colleges, the percentage rose from 41.8 percent to 43.9. At community colleges, it rose from 50.8 percent to 53.4 percent.

Read the rest of the report's CUNY data here: http://on.nyc.gov/1jGnA6

You've received this POLITICO Pro content because your customized settings include: Education (all whiteboards).
From the Vault of the Roosevelt House Institute: F.D.R.’s Rarely Seen Family Photos

By BILL SCHULZ  SEPT. 17, 2015

Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt’s Hyde Park home may get more press, but their double townhouse on East 65th Street was the scene of quite a lot of family drama in its own right. In 1905, Franklin’s mother, Sara Delano Roosevelt, gave the joined houses to her only child, Franklin, and his distant cousin and new wife, Eleanor, for Christmas. The recently widowed Sara Roosevelt continued to live at the Neo-Georgian-style edifice at No. 47 while the couple moved into the adjacent No. 49. Mrs. Roosevelt senior also asked the buildings’ architect, Charles E. Platt, to add several doors for easy access into the future president and first lady’s marital confines.

At one point Eleanor chose to arrange furniture right in front of one of the offending entrances so as to block the door, and toward the end of her life she wrote of this intrusive setup, “You were never quite sure when she would appear, day or night.”

In 1942, a year after Sara’s death at the age of 86, the president sold the property to Hunter College for the charitable sum of $50,000 (the four-year renovations, ending in 2010, cost $24 million). Now the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College occupies the structures, with the F.D.R. Library on the second floor used for exhibitions from the institute’s collection of family ephemera (of note:
Franklin’s desk; original posters of Norman Rockwell’s famed Four Freedoms illustrations based on the 32nd president’s famous speech of the same name; an original document of politicians urging Roosevelt to run again in 1936.

In the archives is a small, leather-bound photo album accompanied by a note written on White House stationery, dated March 17, 1942, that reads: "Dear Jimmy: I found an old album at Hyde Park belonging to Sis and as it had pictures of all of you when you were younger, I thought each one would like to have a copy. I had it Photostatted and am sending it under separate cover. Affectionately, FDR."

"Jimmy" was the commander in chief’s eldest son, James Roosevelt, and the "Sis" who had originally collected the images was his daughter, Anna.

Its 244 images (from around 1916 to 1920) include such diverse subjects as family vacations, action shots of the family German shepherd, and Roosevelt’s failed 1920 campaign when he ran for vice president under the Democratic presidential nominee, James M. Cox. There are lots of photos taken during summer vacations at Hyde Park with all five of the Roosevelt siblings running about in various degrees of ruddy-faced tomfoolery.

Anna’s handwritten captions (she was about 14 when the photos were taken) are particularly eye-opening.

Anna (who eventually worked as a human-rights activist under President Kennedy, and died of throat cancer in 1975) wrote on one 1920 picture featuring the future president and an unknown woman carrying a golf club: “Father and an ugly lady.”

The critique is particularly telling when one notes that, for years, Anna served as an unwilling middle woman within her parents’ strained marriage and reluctantly broke the news to her mother that Franklin was with his longtime mistress, Lucy Mercer Rutherfurd, when he died of a stroke in 1945.

“I’ll leave it up to historians to debate the complexities of father-daughter relationships, particularly as it relates to them,” Jennifer Raab, the president of Hunter College, said when asked about Anna’s caption.
“I’m sure Anna was kidding around,” said Deborah Gardner, head of history, tours and exhibits at the institute.

The house is where, in 1921, Franklin, newly stricken with polio, lay for months in the back bedroom on the third floor.

Upon learning of the stage-to-microphone commute he would have to make to endorse Al Smith at the 1924 Democratic convention, Franklin mapped out the 12-foot route and practiced the agonizing walk, enabled by leg braces and crutches. Less than a decade later, he made his first radio broadcast as president-elect from the nearby drawing room.

“He was very good at conserving his energy,” Ms. Gardner noted. “He would make a point of receiving people at the home — versus going to them.”

The Dalai Lama spoke at the house in 2010. Ms. Raab said he told her that one of his first memories after being recognized in 1942 as the 14th reincarnation of the Guatama Buddha was of getting a Rolex from President Roosevelt in the mail.

“The Dalai Lama told me he was more a fan of the box it came in, and played with it a lot, than the actual watch,” Ms. Raab said.

The Details

What It Is James Roosevelt’s copy of his sister Anna’s personal photo album.

Provenance Bought at a major Dallas auction of Roosevelt ephemera in 2008.

Circa The photographs were taken from about 1916 to 1920; this copy was given to James by his father in 1942.

Relegated Because Of “its fragility,” explained the house historian, Deborah Gardner. “Light would make the Photostats, early precursors to photocopies, fade.” She added: “It’s never been displayed.”

Where to Find It By appointment only at the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College, 47-49 East 65th Street.

A version of this article appears in print on September 20, 2015, on page WE2 of the New York edition with the headline: F.D.R.’s Rarely Seen Family Photos.
American Cities Must Be Prepared For Massive Tsunamis!

By Daniele Tremblay | Sep 17, 2015 09:46 PM EDT

(Photo: Youtube) A “San Andreas” scene where Dwayne Johnson with his wife on a boat has to overcome the massive tsunami.

Are the cities of Honolulu, Seattle, and Los Angeles ready for a massive tsunami?

According to NHK News, more than a million people have evacuated their homes in Chile in the wake of an 8.3 magnitude earthquake and tsunami alert on Sep. 16, Wednesday night. It resulted to less than a dozen of casualties.

Counterfeits are harder to spot than you think – and more destructive.

CAN YOU SPOT THE FAKE?

Like Us on Facebook | 4494

Now compare it to the 8.8 magnitude in 2010. It has caused more than 500 people dead because of the massive tsunami. It also resulted to criminal charges against many government officials because the local government failed to warn the people with tsunami alert. Emergency response procedures and new evacuation drills were later prompted.

To evacuate a million people or more and only have a few deaths would be “phenomenal,” said Costas Synolakis, University of Southern California’s Tsunami Research Center director. “It’s a positive message for us,” he said. “If the Chinese can evacuate a million people in 15 or 20 minutes, we should be able to do it as well.”

The New Yorker (Vald Shoebat), according to Before It’s News, said that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has calculations that show “these types of earthquakes happen at regular intervals” in the United States Pacific northwest for about every 240 years.

A physicist and professor at City College of New York, Michio Kaku, told Fox News on July 10 that “The Cascade fault is an earthquake waiting to happen... We know it’s going to happen with an energy 30 times... the maximum energy of the San Andreas fault.”

If one was able to see the movie “San Andreas” that stars actor Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson, it could happen a few times more than that.

The professor also added that animals can detect before a mega-quake actually hits in which its compression wave is sensed by them a minute or two-and then it happens.
Americans living in Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and California are at high risk of encountering these disasters. Therefore, by escaping a tsunami, shacks are used or buoys are used for getting the attention of sunbathers and swimmers. As much as possible, when the quake hits that can throw one down to the ground, and as soon as able to get up, it is advised to run to the nearest higher ground or to a safe place.

TAG: PREPARE FOR MASSIVE TSUNAMIS CASCADIA FAULT SAN ANDREAS FAULT
Q. I was born in Cameroon, out of wedlock, and I am an MBA student at the Catholic University there. My father became a naturalized U.S. citizen some time ago, and I am wondering this: Can he petition to bring me to the United States? He has taken care of me since my birth, and he formally recognized me as his. I am now 23.

C., Cameroon

A. Your father can successfully petition to bring you to the
United States. Though Cameroon law considers you "illegitimate," under U.S. citizenship law, you qualify to immigrate as the "son or daughter" of a U.S. citizen.

For a father to petition for a child born outside the U.S., the child must be considered legitimate or become legitimated under the birth country's law prior to the child's 18th birthday, or the father must have recognized the child formally or informally before the child's 21st birthday. Informal recognition includes financial or emotional support. You say your father formally recognized you. However, even if your father never formally recognized you, his financial support is enough to make him your "father" under U.S. immigration law.

Q. Immigration deported my mother more than 19 years ago for drug trafficking. Can my U.S. citizen brother petition for her so she can return here as a permanent resident? My mother served time in prison, and then immigration deported her to Jamaica.

_Name withheld, Bronx_

A. Not a chance, unless a criminal law attorney can get the conviction vacated. That might be possible if she pleaded guilty without knowing the immigration consequences of her plea. Your mother is "inadmissible," that is ineligible to get a visa. Generally, a person convicted of a drug-related offense is not eligible for a waiver. The only exception is for a person with a single conviction for simple possession of 30 grams or less of marijuana, who qualifies for an inadmissibility waiver by showing hardship to a U.S. citizen and permanent resident spouse, parent or child.

Allan Wernick is an attorney and director of the City University of New York's Citizenship Now! project. Send questions and comments to Allan Wernick, New York Daily News, 7th Fl., 4 New York Plaza, New York, N.Y., 10004 or email questions@allanwernick.com. Follow him on Twitter @awernick.
Portrait of the Frequently Jailed: Have Big Problems, Do Minor Crimes

Study shows substance abuse, mental illness, homelessness are common among those who cycle in and out of jail

By REBECCA DAVIS O'BRIEN
Updated Sept. 17, 2015 5:28 p.m. ET

They are known as “frequent fliers”: a small population battling substance abuse, severe mental illness and homelessness that cycles regularly and quickly through New York City jails for mostly nonviolent offenses.

The 800 people with the most jail stays from November 2008 through 2013 accounted for 18,713 incarcerations through December 2014 at a cost of $129 million, according to a study by city officials published Thursday in the American Journal of Public Health.

At least one person was jailed 66 times during the six-year period, the study's
United States. Though Cameroon law considers you "illegitimate," under U.S. citizenship law, you qualify to immigrate as the "son or daughter" of a U.S. citizen.

For a father to petition for a child born outside the U.S., the child must be considered legitimate or become legitimated under the birth country's law prior to the child's 18th birthday, or the father must have recognized the child formally or informally before the child's 21st birthday. Informal recognition includes financial or emotional support. You say your father formally recognized you. However, even if your father never formally recognized you, his financial support is enough to make him your "father" under U.S. immigration law.

Q. Immigration deported my mother more than 19 years ago for drug trafficking. Can my U.S. citizen brother petition for her so she can return here as a permanent resident? My mother served time in prison, and then immigration deported her to Jamaica.

Name withheld, Bronx

A. Not a chance, unless a criminal law attorney can get the conviction vacated. That might be possible if she pleaded guilty without knowing the immigration consequences of her plea. Your mother is "inadmissible," that is ineligible to get a visa. Generally, a person convicted of a drug-related offense is not eligible for a waiver. The only exception is for a person with a single conviction for simple possession of 30 grams or less of marijuana, who qualifies for an inadmissibility waiver by showing hardship to a U.S. citizen and permanent resident spouse, parent or child.

Allan Wernick is an attorney and director of the City University of New York's Citizenship Now! project. Send questions and comments to Allan Wernick, New York Daily News, 7th Fl., 4 New York Plaza, New York, N.Y., 10004 or email questions@allanwernick.com. Follow him on Twitter @awernick.
data show.

In 88.7% of these detentions, the top charges were misdemeanors. Petit larceny and possession of trace amounts of drugs accounted for more than half of the top charges. Less than 1.2% of the top charges were violent crimes such as murder, rape and felony assault.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time After Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Top five charges for frequently incarcerated</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petit larceny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh-degree criminal possession of controlled substances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal trespass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fare evasion (theft of services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third-degree assault (misdemeanor)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the city confronts record levels of homelessness and officials try to fix a troubled jail system amid a continuing debate over law-enforcement’s response to low-level offenses, the study illustrates the costly relationship between the criminal-justice system and a population adrift.

Elizabeth Glazer, director of the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, said the study “highlights a sad truth about the toxic combination of substance abuse, mental illness, homelessness and jail,” calling it a “needless and expensive cycle.”

Many officials and experts said repeated incarceration is inefficient and ineffective. Expensive medical treatment in custody can’t be expected to improve long-term health, and sporadic detention doesn’t contribute to public safety, the study concluded.

But others said that police have a responsibility to arrest people, even for minor offenses, and that short-term detention can serve a vital public-safety role.

Jon M. Shane, associate professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and a former police officer in Newark, said the criminal-justice system isn’t meant to correct behavioral health issues.

“Police in general want to be out of the mental-health business,” he said. “Police
'Frequent Fliers' Behind Bars

A study in the American Journal of Public Health used conviction health records to identify 800 people admitted in 2013 who had returned the most to the New York City jail system since November 2008. They were compared with a control group of 800 others admitted in 2011. Compared with the control group, frequent fliers were older, twice as likely to be diagnosed with severe mental illness and more than half were homeless. 97% reported significant substance abuse.

From November 2008 through December 2004, the number of convictions in the city jail system increased by 21%. At the same time, the number of convictions in the control group decreased by 15%. The study compared those who were convicted with those who were not.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARACTERISTICS</th>
<th>Frequently Incarcerated</th>
<th>Control Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age had a relationship with</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Illness</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Conditions</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol Withdrawal</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug or drinking</td>
<td>70.8%</td>
<td>59.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant drug or alcohol use</td>
<td>83.9%</td>
<td>86.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crack use</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin or cocaine use</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol withdrawal</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leaders would like nothing more than to have the mental-health community and advocates do that."

The study compared the 800 most frequently incarcerated and their arrest records over six years against a control group of the same size. It was written by staff doctors at the city's Health and Hospitals Corp., which runs health care at the city's jails.

Compared with the control group, the 800 frequently incarcerated were older, more in need of medical care in jail and more than twice as likely to be diagnosed with severe mental illness.

More than half were homeless, and 97% reported significant substance abuse. Crack and cocaine use was reported in 83.5% of the group, and 22% were treated for alcohol withdrawal in jail.

After arrest, such defendants are held at Rikers Island, the city's main jail complex, or local detention facilities and are typically released within days, sometimes only to return to jail in a matter of weeks, officials said.

"Obviously, if you look at these numbers, it calls for a change in policy," said Administrative Judge Matthew D'Emic, who presides over the Brooklyn Mental Health Court, which steers felony and misdemeanor defendants through treatment programs instead of jail.

The issue gets to a broader concern, Judge D'Emic said, about why people are being held in jail "if we could release them safely into the community."

To be sure, the so-called frequent fliers represent a small subset of the city's jail population, which averages about 11,000, and some of them have been charged with violent crimes.
Judge D’Emic recalled one defendant who had 48 misdemeanor arrests before being arrested on a felony and landing in his courtroom. He said he wondered whether the felony could have been averted had the defendant been engaged in a court program earlier.

Virginia Barber-Rioja, clinical director of Brooklyn’s mental-health court diversion programs for the nonprofit Education & Assistance Corp., said the city was looking beyond mental illness to address the factors that contribute to regular misdemeanor offenses and recidivism, including homelessness, a lack of community connections, a history of trauma and substance abuse.

Still, there aren’t enough social services or housing options to accommodate the demand, Ms. Barber-Rioja said.

Last fall, Mayor Bill de Blasio’s office released a task-force report on the mentally ill in the criminal-justice system, calling for a four-year, $130 million investment for measures including new training for police and correctional officers, more screening of defendants and expanded supportive housing.

By October, the city expects about 120 new units of supportive permanent housing, with access to mental-health and substance-abuse programs, to be available for people with behavioral issues. Ultimately, 267 such units are being funded, officials said.

“Permanent supportive housing has been shown to help stabilize this population, connecting them to needed health care and dramatically reducing shelter stays and time in jail,” said Ms. Glazer of the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice.

Write to Rebecca Davis O’Brien at Rebecca.OBrien@wsj.com
Portrait of the Frequently Jailed: Have Big Problems, Do Minor Crimes

Study shows substance abuse, mental illness, homelessness are common among those who cycle in and out of jail

By REBECCA DAVIS O'BRIEN
Updated Sept. 17, 2015 5:28 p.m. ET

They are known as “frequent fliers”: a small population battling substance abuse, severe mental illness and homelessness that cycles regularly and quickly through New York City jails for mostly nonviolent offenses.

The 800 people with the most jail stays from November 2008 through 2013 accounted for 18,713 incarcerations through December 2014 at a cost of $129 million, according to a study by city officials published Thursday in the American Journal of Public Health.

At least one person was jailed 66 times during the six-year period, the study’s
United States. Though Cameroon law considers you "illegitimate," under U.S. citizenship law, you qualify to immigrate as the "son or daughter" of a U.S. citizen.

For a father to petition for a child born outside the U.S., the child must be considered legitimate or become legitimated under the birth country's law prior to the child's 18th birthday, or the father must have recognized the child formally or informally before the child's 21st birthday. Informal recognition includes financial or emotional support. You say your father formally recognized you. However, even if your father never formally recognized you, his financial support is enough to make him your "father" under U.S. immigration law.

Q. Immigration deported my mother more than 19 years ago for drug trafficking. Can my U.S. citizen brother petition for her so she can return here as a permanent resident? My mother served time in prison, and then immigration deported her to Jamaica.

Name withheld, Bronx

A. Not a chance, unless a criminal law attorney can get the conviction vacated. That might be possible if she pleaded guilty without knowing the immigration consequences of her plea. Your mother is "inadmissible," that is ineligible to get a visa. Generally, a person convicted of a drug-related offense is not eligible for a waiver. The only exception is for a person with a single conviction for simple possession of 30 grams or less of marijuana, who qualifies for an inadmissibility waiver by showing hardship to a U.S. citizen and permanent resident spouse, parent or child.

Allan Wernick is an attorney and director of the City University of New York's Citizenship Now! project. Send questions and comments to Allan Wernick, New York Daily News, 7th Fl., 4 New York Plaza, New York, N.Y., 10004 or email questions@allanwernick.com. Follow him on Twitter @awernick.
data show.

In 88.7% of these detentions, the top charges were misdemeanors. Petit larceny and possession of trace amounts of drugs accounted for more than half of the top charges. Less than 1.2% of the top charges were violent crimes such as murder, rape and felony assault.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top five charges for frequently incarcerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Petit larceny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh-degree criminal possession of controlled substances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal trespass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fare evasion (theft of services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third-degree assault (misdemeanor)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the city confronts record levels of homelessness and officials try to fix a troubled jail system amid a continuing debate over law-enforcement’s response to low-level offenses, the study illustrates the costly relationship between the criminal-justice system and a population adrift.

Elizabeth Glazer, director of the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, said the study “highlights a sad truth about the toxic combination of substance abuse, mental illness, homelessness and jail,” calling it a “needless and expensive cycle.”

Many officials and experts said repeated incarceration is inefficient and ineffective. Expensive medical treatment in custody can’t be expected to improve long-term health, and sporadic detention doesn’t contribute to public safety, the study concluded.

But others said that police have a responsibility to arrest people, even for minor offenses, and that short-term detention can serve a vital public-safety role.

Jon M. Shane, associate professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and a former police officer in Newark, said the criminal-justice system isn’t meant to correct behavioral health issues.

“Police in general want to be out of the mental-health business,” he said. “Police
leaders would like nothing more than to have the mental-health community and advocates do that."

The study compared the 800 most frequently incarcerated and their arrest records over six years against a control group of the same size. It was written by staff doctors at the city's

Health and Hospitals Corp., which runs health care at the city jails.

Compared with the control group, the 800 frequently incarcerated were older, more in need of medical care in jail and more than twice as likely to be diagnosed with severe mental illness.

More than half were homeless, and 97% reported significant substance abuse. Crack and cocaine use was reported in 83.5% of the group, and 22% were treated for alcohol withdrawal in jail.

After arrest, such defendants are held at Rikers Island, the city's main jail complex, or local detention facilities and are typically released within days, sometimes only to return to jail in a matter of weeks, officials said.

"Obviously, if you look at these numbers, it calls for a change in policy," said Administrative Judge Matthew D'Emic, who presides over the Brooklyn Mental Health Court, which steers felony and misdemeanor defendants through treatment programs instead of jail.

The issue gets to a broader concern, Judge D'Emic said, about why people are being held in jail "if we could release them safely into the community."

To be sure, the so-called frequent fliers represent a small subset of the city's jail population, which averages about 11,000, and some of them have been charged with violent crimes.
Judge D’Emic recalled one defendant who had 48 misdemeanor arrests before being arrested on a felony and landing in his courtroom. He said he wondered whether the felony could have been averted had the defendant been engaged in a court program earlier.

Virginia Barber-Rioja, clinical director of Brooklyn’s mental-health court diversion programs for the nonprofit Education & Assistance Corp., said the city was looking beyond mental illness to address the factors that contribute to regular misdemeanor offenses and recidivism, including homelessness, a lack of community connections, a history of trauma and substance abuse.

Still, there aren’t enough social services or housing options to accommodate the demand, Ms. Barber-Rioja said.

Last fall, Mayor Bill de Blasio’s office released a task-force report on the mentally ill in the criminal-justice system, calling for a four-year, $130 million investment for measures including new training for police and correctional officers, more screening of defendants and expanded supportive housing.

By October, the city expects about 120 new units of supportive permanent housing, with access to mental-health and substance-abuse programs, to be available for people with behavioral issues. Ultimately, 267 such units are being funded, officials said.

“Permanent supportive housing has been shown to help stabilize this population, connecting them to needed health care and dramatically reducing shelter stays and time in jail,” said Ms. Glazer of the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice.

Write to Rebecca Davis O’Brien at Rebecca.Obrien@wsj.com
Learning the Real Estate Lingo: WiNo, Rambo, PLG—Just some of the Latest and Trendiest Acronyms

The real estate industry, just as in any other organization, lives by its own culture and an important part of that culture is the lingo, specifically the nicknames and jargons, coined by the professionals themselves.

Recently, a report of Corrine Ramey in the WSJ describes that new neighborhood monikers, which are commonly concocted by the real estate companies, have popped up in Brooklyn, New York City and in other parts of US.

According to Ramey, for years, some of the trendiest neighborhoods in New York, have been given nicknames which caught on with the locals. The most popular are SoHo for South of Houston Street, Tribeca (the triangle below Canal Street). Recently, Dumbo for Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass was added.

However, the latest acronyms have been confusing both New Yorkers and tourists. The mishmash is brought about by real estate brokers and agents.

"These things are spreading like kudzu," said Andrea Saturno-Sanjana, a real-estate agent with Citi Habitats.

Among the latest names are PLG, which stands for Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Hellsea or Hell’s Kitchen for people who wish they lived in the Chelsea neighbourhood, Welsea for West Chelsea, WiNo or Williamsburg North, FiDi referring to the Financial District and Rambo which means Right Around the Manhattan Bridge Overpass.

According to Philip Kasinitz, a sociology professor at the City University of New York's Graduate Center, "The cute abbreviation names were a New York fad, but people got into it, simply because SoHo bloomed so large in people's consciousness."

The trend has spread outside the Big Apple and has become more prevalent in urban areas where areas are redrawn with smaller boundaries by real estate developers and agents, thus needing new names.

NoCa, the nickname given to North of Chicago Avenue in Chicago has been mocked by the Chicago Tribune for sounding like the name of a diet soda and for its being "way too New York." North of Massachusetts Avenue in Washington, D.C. has been called NoMa, while the south of Southern Boulevard in West Palm Beach, Florida has been tagged SoSo.
From selfies to spirituality

by Rachel Neiman, Israel21c

Posted on Sep. 17, 2015 at 10:47 am

Mel Alexenberg is an artist, educator, writer and blogger working at the interface between art, science, technology and culture whose artworks are in the collections of more than 40 museums worldwide. Now the conceptual artist is offering the digital generation a way to find life's meaning through “spiritual blogs.”

Alexenberg's most recent project is a book and accompanying online project titled “Photograph God: Creating a Spiritual Blog of Your Life.” The book explores the convergence between biblical narrative, kabbalah and digital technologies. It demonstrates how to create a blog by photographing the “divine light” of God “as revealed in everyday life while crafting a dialogue between the blogger's story and the biblical story.”

For example, Alexenberg, who was born in 1937, asked his students at Ariel University, located in the Israeli settlement of Ariel in the West Bank, to photograph everyday examples of the 10 divine kabbalistic attributes. Among the results:

Chesed (kindness/largess/loving all): “... an elderly man responding to feral cats hungry for love and food. He pets each one and portions out food for them.”

Tiferet (beauty/aesthetic balance/inner elegance): “the birth of a calf, an awesome event expressing deeply felt beauty of seeing new life coming into the world.”
Born in New York City, Alexenberg received degrees from Queens College, Yeshiva University and New York University. He has held a variety of positions over the years at places such as Columbia University, Pratt Institute and MIT, according to his website. In Israel, he has taught at Tel Aviv University, the University of Haifa, Bar-Ilan University, Ariel University, Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, and more.

Alexenberg’s own spiritual blog (which can be viewed at bibleblogyourlife.blogspot.com) was created together with his artist wife, Miriam, to celebrate their 52nd wedding anniversary. During each of the 52 weeks of their 52nd year, they posted six photographs that reflected their life together, along with bits of text that related the weekly Torah reading to their shared five-plus decades.

So, with Genesis 1:31 — “God saw all that he had made, and he behold, it was very good. It was evening and morning, the sixth day.” — comes a photo of a cactus, a white dog, a fish and more.

“The first day of our honeymoon, we bought a cactus plant. On the 42nd year of our honeymoon, our daughter bought us this cactus.”

Later it says, “Our dog Snowball sits under our kitchen table,” and “The mysteries of Creation are best revealed through dialogue with other species. Snowball teaches us daily about these mysteries.”

There’s also the explanation that there is no seventh picture, because Shabbat is a nonart day.

For Parshat Mishpatim, there are quotes from two sections of Exodus: “Six days shall you accomplish your activities and on the seventh day you shall desist” (Exodus 23:12) and “The seventh day is Sabbath ... you shall not do any creative work” (Exodus 20:10). These are accompanied by photos of televisions and other technology and pronouncements about how wonderful a gift Shabbat is for providing a break from our fast-paced world.

But then Alexenberg concludes: “On the eighth day, we can return with renewed energies to being partners of God in continuing creation.

“We can enjoy the technological wonders of our era knowing that we are free to tune out, turn off, and unplug on the next Shabbat.”

The Jewish Journal contributed to this report.
Cuomo and de Blasio Not Working in Best Interests of New Yorkers, Poll Says

By Jeff Mars (www.dnainfo.com/new-york/about-us/news-team/editorial-team/jeff-mars/)

September 18, 2015

MIDTOWN — The feud (http://www.dnainfo.com/new-york/20150918/manhattan/de-blasio-cuomo-decline-pasta-ew-dm-montana-tillis) between Gov. Andrew Cuomo (http://www.dnainfo.com/new-york/people/andrew-cuomo) and Mayor Bill de Blasio (http://www.dnainfo.com/new-york/people/bill-de-blasio) is real and the two are not working together for the best interests of the public, according to the results of a Quinnipiac University poll.

New York state voters, by a margin of nearly 50 percent to 40 percent, believe that the leading leaders are not "effectively working together for the public good." New York City voters by a margin of 45 percent to 40 percent feel the same.

"The squabble between Gov. Andrew Cuomo and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio isn't just media hype: It's real, voters say, and it's harmful to everyone in the state," Maurice Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll, said in a statement.

The long-running feud boiled over when de Blasio accused Cuomo of being a vindictive politician who sabotaged (http://www.dnainfo.com/new-york/20150918/manhattan/cuomo-sabotaged-fight-new-york-style-aigans-allergy-de-blasio-says) the city's legislative agenda during the last session.

Cuomo has repeatedly criticized de Blasio on issues such as regulating e-hail car services Uber and appeared to criticize the city's response to the deadliest outbreak of Legionnaire's disease.


Among the voters who believe there is a feud, 91 percent say that it is harmful to the state versus 80 percent who say it is not.

"They don't want to see them work together in public and they have made their distaste for one another very clear," Carroll said. He added: "It is unfortunate that people's everyday lives get affected by this feud."

De Blasio is also seen by voters as being a bigger bummer in the feud. Sixty-one percent of voters think Cuomo is winning compared to 59 percent who think de Blasio is winning.

Thirty-five percent of voters felt de Blasio didn't work hard enough to convince state legislators who were not in session at the time of the春夏攻势 to kill a 15 percent gas tax increase. Those who were in session only supported 20 percent of the governor's efforts.

"Every mayor of New York City has a power disadvantage vis-a-vis the governor. Every time mayors and governors have feuded, it's had devastating effects on the city," said Sherbill. "The city is a creature of the state that depends on the state for funding and there is little leverage in this relationship."

Cuomo, speaking ahead of an event in Harlem, called the perception of the feud "incredible," according to media reports, and said he would not let a relationship issue affect how he governs the state.

Asked about the poll, de Blasio spokesman Amy Spitalnick, highlighted the press conference Tuesday and said he felt some of de Blasio's accomplishments and that he had not read a single comment about Cuomo.

"If there are ways to work productively with this governor, we will do," Spitalnick said. "If New York City is getting this far ahead of the state, we will continue to call that out."
TELEVISION

What’s On TV Friday

By KATHRYN SHATTUCK  SEPT. 18, 2015

9 P.M. (Starz) FURY (2014) An American tank crew — its leader, Sgt. Don Collier (Brad Pitt), a.k.a. Wardaddy, and his motley crew (Michael Peña, Jon Bernthal, Shia LaBeouf and Logan Lerman) — fights its way across Germany in the spring of 1945 as the Nazis retreat toward Berlin in Hitler’s suicidal last stand. Children are conscripted and uncooperative parents murdered. And while the Allies may have momentum, the Germans still have plenty of tanks, many superior to the Americans’. David Ayer, whose drama is less an epic than a series of tense episodes, “has a way of filming violence that is both intense and matter-of-fact,” A. O. Scott wrote in The New York Times. “Like many other post-‘Saving Private Ryan’ combat movies, this one emphasizes the chaotic immediacy of battle, staking its claim to authenticity on the unflinching depiction of bloodshed: Heads are vaporized by mortar rounds. Limbs are severed by bursts of automatic-rifle fire. Human flesh is charred by flames and shredded by shrapnel. But within this gore-spattered, superficially nihilistic carapace is an old-fashioned platoon picture, a sensitive and superbly acted tale of male bonding under duress.” (Image: Mr. Lerman, left, and Mr. Pitt.)

10 A.M. (CUNY) BASEBALL: THE NEW YORK GAME Tony Guida hosts this special, which distills the city’s love of the game through interviews with Sharon Robinson, a daughter of Jackie Robinson; the former Dodgers pitcher Ralph Branca; the former New York Times sportswriter George Vecsey; the television sportscaster Sal Marchiano; the former Mets player Ed Kranepool; the Negro leagues third baseman James Robinson; and the historian John Thorn, who tells the story of New York’s first baseball superstar, Jim Creighton (1841-1862). The show also visits the Major League Baseball Advanced Media center.
Executive Moves

CFO Squad COO | Tapad promotions | Brooklyn Public Library chief librarian

Companies with executive moves this week include Level Group, DDG, Box, Alvarez & Marsal and HA&W.

Chris Kobiella

Published: September 16, 2015 - 12:01 am

CFO Squad: Jay Cardwell, 40, joined the provider of outsourced accounting and financial business services as chief operating officer. He was previously chief financial officer at S2BN Entertainment Corp.

Level Group: Michael Barbolla, 55, joined the full-service real estate brokerage as chief operating officer. He was previously chief operating officer at Rutenberg Realty.

DDG: Michael Ferry, 40, was promoted to managing director of the real estate investment and development firm. He was previously a senior vice president.

Box: Adam Ross, 45, joined the online file-sharing and personal cloud content manager for businesses as managing director of financial services. He was previously vice president of global corporate solutions at Nasdaq.

Alvarez & Marsal: Tom O'Brien, 57, joined the global professional services firm as senior director. He was previously senior vice president and general manager at RCG Global Services.

HA&W: John Ruckstuhl, 46, joined the accounting firm as managing director of mergers and acquisitions transaction services. He was previously a director at McGladrey.

The Odyssey: Lisa Shalett, 49, joined the social-content platform as chief marketing officer. She was previously a partner and head of brand marketing and digital strategy at Goldman Sachs.

NYC & Company: Abby Spatz, 41, joined New York's marketing and tourism organization as chief marketing officer. She was previously vice president and global head of integrated marketing and communications at Bliss.
Apester: Ran Peled, 35, joined the digital storytelling platform as chief marketing officer. He was previously chief executive of McCann Tech, which he founded.

American Airlines: Darryl Towns, 54, joined as regional director of government affairs. He was previously commissioner and CEO at New York State Homes and Community Renewal.

LandlordsNY: Aida Gashi, 34, joined the social platform for landlords and property managers as head of business development. She was previously director of management at REM Residential.

360i: Christopher Kief, 37, joined the digital marketing agency as head of technology. He was previously chief technology officer at Saatchi & Saatchi NY.

Shutterstock Inc.: Gregory Bayer, 43, joined the stock photography, footage and music provider as general manager of offset. He was previously global head of product at Analect.

Tapad: Jim Clark, 42, was promoted to global senior vice president of sales for the marketing technology firm. He was previously senior vice president of sales.

Chris Feo, 29, was promoted to vice president of data sales, North America. He was previously senior director of strategic sales.

Steve Kurtz, 34, was promoted to vice president of media sales, North America. He was previously vice president of sales, East region.

Vroom: Emily Frankel, 33, joined the online car store as vice president of marketing. She was previously vice president of digital marketing and innovation at Kayak.

Nemo Tile: Katie Michael-Battaglia, 45, joined the tile distributor as design director. She was previously an associate at Studios Architecture.

HAP Investments: Amr Mohamed, 34, joined the real estate company as project manager. He was previously a project manager at Cava Construction.

RockFarmer Properties: Jean Bonhomme, 38, joined the real estate investment and management firm as controller. He was previously controller at Webb & Brooker.

Tyler McIntyre, 29, joined as director of construction. He was previously core and shell superintendent at Lend Lease Corp.

Kristen Kenney, 26, joined as acquisitions analyst. She was previously an acquisitions intern at Stone Street Properties.

Professional Women in Construction: Chelsea LeMar, 30, joined the nonprofit as executive director. She was previously a special assistant at the U.S. Department of Transportation.

ideas42: Andy Plews, 57, joined the behavioral-science nonprofit as director of communications. He was previously senior vice president of corporate communications, government and community affairs at BMO Financial Group.

Union Settlement Association: Oilda Martinez, 64, joined the community-based-services nonprofit as
director of adult education. She was previously director of adult and continuing education at City College of New York.

Brooklyn Public Library: Lisa Rosenblum, 57, joined as chief librarian. She was previously director of library and community services for Sunnyvale, Calif.

Troutman Sanders:
Jeffrey H. Weitzman, 68, joined the law firm’s real estate practice as a partner. He was previously a partner at K&L Gates.

Duane Morris:
David N. Feldman, 55, joined the law firm as a partner in the corporate practice group. He was previously a partner at Richardson Patel.

Grant Thornton:
Layne Albert, 50, joined the audit, tax and advisory firm as a partner in its tax practice. He was previously managing director at Alvarez & Marsal.

Friedman:
Michael Sacco, 39, joined the accounting and consulting firm as a partner. He was previously managing director at CBIZ MHM.

Norton Rose Fulbright:
Paul Keller, 43, joined the global legal practice as a partner. He was previously a partner at Allen & Overy.
In New York, Law School's Jeannie Suk Debates Title IX

By ANDREW M. DUEHREN, CRIMSON STAFF WRITER 8 hours ago

Harvard Law School professor Jeannie C. Suk argued at a forum in New York this week that the criminal court system, not campus resources, should investigate and adjudicate cases of alleged sexual harassment, sexual assault, and rape.

At the forum—hosted by Intelligence Squared Debates and titled "Courts, Not Campuses, Should Decide Sexual Assault Cases"—Suk and Yale Law School professor Jeb Rubenfeld argued in favor of the motion. Michelle Anderson, the dean of City University New York School of Law, and Stephen Schulhofer, a professor at New York University School of Law, argued in favor of university involvement in the contentious issue.
"What campuses are doing under pressure from the Department of Education is hurting the cause of gender equality," Suk argued during an opening statement. "Campus tribunals use procedures that lack basic fairness and often reach inaccurate outcomes."

Suk's argument was largely in line with the now-prevailing opinion on the issue among Harvard Law School professors. Last October, a group of 28 Law professors wrote an open letter in The Boston Globe, blasting Harvard's approach to handling sexual harassment for what they claimed were its insufficient protections of the accused.

Suk was one of the professors who signed that letter. Prompted by heavy lobbying from the discontented Law professors, the school is now rolling out a new set of Title IX procedures that differ from Harvard's central process for investigating and adjudicating sexual assault cases. The Law School's process provides attorneys to students involved in cases and creates a separate, adjudicatory panel to determine guilt, potentially after a hearing.

Suk's involvement in the developments at the Law School were a subject of discussion at the debate.

"Harvard has its division on the issue. And you are among 28 Harvard Law professors who issued a statement opposing the university's new policy and procedures on sexual violence," ABC News correspondent and debate moderator John Donovan said during introductions.
The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights found the Law School’s old sexual harassment framework in violation of Title IX last year.

Under the rules of the debate in New York, Suk and Rubenfeld lost. Anderson and Schulhofer argued that the criminal justice system was not the proper place for handling cases of on-campus sexual assault.

"The fact is that bias against victims of sexual assault has a well-documented, 200-year history in the criminal justice system," said Anderson, the dean of CUNY School of Law. "But even when the system harbors no bias whatsoever, campuses must be able to decide sexual assault cases."

Suk is not the only Harvard Law professor who has started arguing for Title IX policy reform outside Harvard. Janet E. Halley, another Harvard Law School professor who played a leading role in calling for the school's new process, has traveled to several other colleges and universities throughout the country to discuss Title IX issues.

—Staff writer Andrew M. Duehren can be reached at andy.duehren@thecrimson.com. Follow him on Twitter @aduehren.
The Education of an Educator

By Itzolden (member) on September 17, 2015

Summer is complete again, for all intents and purposes, and school is back in session. Parents turn to class schedules and assignments, semester projects and extracurricular activities and since school is such an important part of our lives, it's not surprising that it serves as the setting for many books. However, no story captured the American teacher's perspective of that universe quite like *Up the Down Staircase*. This "education of an educator" is more than fifty years old but in terms of what a teacher faces, it's right on the mark.

Most employees have one impossible party to please (retail clerks must please the customers; professional people must please their clients; government pleases itself.) but first-year teacher, Sylvia Barrett, is at the mercy of everyone: there's the MIA Principal who pontificates via memo but wields the power to end her career; the petty tyrant in administration who dispense policies by the metric ton, supplies with an eye-dropper and no mercy whatsoever; the janitor who responds to every request for maintenance with the reply "nobody's down here" and the students, all-knowing, all needy and mostly adverse to the concept of education. Sylvia's opportunities to teach must be sandwiched between episodes of classroom unravelling and responding to directives like this:

TO: ALL TEACHERS

Polio Consent slips are due in Health Office before 3 P.M. today.

SCHOOL NURSE

Ridiculous memo aside (who would consent to Polio?) the School Nurse is one of the frustrated good in this book, a health-care professional who may not render the aid the students need and she's qualified to give because the School Board insists "a school nurse may not touch an injured student or administer treatment in any form". Instead, the nurse is limited to completing health care forms and offering cups of tea to students who need so much more from her. Her cup of tea are a ludicrous offering until you realize it's the only help she's allowed to give. If this sounds too outrageous to be fiction, there's a reason why.

The novel's author, Bel Kaufman knew all about this impossible world. As the immigrant daughter of Russian Jews (her grandfather was the brilliant Sholom Aleichem) she learned to speak English at twelve when she was put into a class of American first-graders. She crammed 16 grades of education into the next 11 years.
Board in New York City that awarded teaching licenses questioned her ability to interpret poetry (Ms. Kaufman won this battle when she submitted a letter from the poet, verifying her interpretation was correct) and her accent during the Oral Examination portion of the of the tests. The Board refused to issue her a teaching license, although they still hired her to teach.

At that time, unlicensed teachers could be used for temporary assignments and Bel worked in the system as a "permanent substitute" meaning she did the same classroom work as a tenured instructor (and more non-teaching duties) for lower wages in "less-advantaged" public schools. Kaufman taught at the "challenging" inner-city schools, and, once licensed, in the city schools where educators pray they'll find work. They say she became the model for the English Instructor in the movie "Fame"). The public schools with their ridiculous directives and mini-feudaloms (Imagine a librarian who denies everyone access to the books) good and bad teachers and unforgettable students became grist for her novel composed of "found" material: bureaucratic directives, trashed essay drafts and notes from a teacher's suggestion box. It's a brilliant format for storytelling.

After Up The Down Staircase spent more than a year on the best-seller's list and was adapted into a movie and a play, Bel became a "teacher of teachers" by speaking at education conferences, but she never completely left the field of education. At the age of 100, she was still teaching, by then at her alma mater, Hunter College.

The science of education has evolved since Bel's time but the life of a teacher has not. Any new instructor will find inspiring colleagues and educators unworthy of the title hiding in the faculty lounge as well as underachieving, troubled students and apple-polishers in every classroom. If the front office contains a visionary, diligent headmaster, there's bound to be a back-biting administrative type who prefers appearances to content and belittles the faculty with insane announcements and insane policies. Our new teacher will bring his or her own problems, talents and skills to the mix and the school year will roll on, but, with luck, most of the students will learn. Despite all the policies, shortages and uninspired teaching, the students will learn and grow and when they leave, others will take their place. A few may even decide to come back as teachers themselves. The process is heartbreaking and sweet and as inevitable as the month of September.
Move Over, Millennials, Here Comes Generation Z

By ALEX WILLIAMS  SEPT. 18, 2015

Hear the word "millennial" and plenty of images spring to mind.

There's Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, in his hoodie, earning his first billion by the age of 23.

There's Miley Cyrus, preening for the cameras in a flesh-baring act that recalls a Snapchat sexting session.

There's Lena Dunham, TV's queen of overshare, spiraling into navel-gazing soliloquies that seem scripted from the therapist's couch.

They're brash, they're narcissistic, they're entitled. Or so the cliché goes.

But what about "Generation Z," the generation born after millennials that is emerging as the next big thing for market researchers, cultural observers and trend forecasters?

With the oldest members of this cohort barely out of high school, these tweens and teens of today are primed to become the dominant youth influencers of tomorrow. Flush with billions in spending power, they promise untold riches to marketers who can find the master key to their psyche.
No wonder the race to define, and market to, this demographic juggernaut is on. They are “the next big retail disrupter,” according to Women’s Wear Daily. They have “the weight of saving the world and fixing our past mistakes on their small shoulders,” according to an article on Fast Company’s Co.Exist site by Jeremy Finch an innovation consultant. Lucie Greene, the worldwide director of the Innovation Group at J. Walter Thompson, calls them “millennials on steroids.”

Read More: How to Spot a Member of Generation Z

While it is easy to mock the efforts of marketers to shoehorn tens of millions of adolescents into a generational archetype, à la the baby boomers, it is also clear that a 14-year-old in 2015 really does inhabit a substantially different world than one of 2005.

Millennials, after all, were raised during the boom times and relative peace of the 1990s, only to see their sunny world dashed by the Sept. 11 attacks and two economic crashes, in 2000 and 2008. Theirs is a story of innocence lost.

Generation Z, by contrast, has had its eyes open from the beginning, coming along in the aftermath of those cataclysms in the era of the war on terror and the Great Recession, Ms. Greene said.

“If Hannah Horvath from ‘Girls’ is the typical millennial — self-involved, dependent, flailing financially in the real world as her expectations of a dream job and life collide with reality — then Alex Dunphy from ‘Modern Family’ represents the Gen Z antidote,” Ms. Greene said. “Alex is a true Gen Z: conscientious, hard-working, somewhat anxious and mindful of the future.”

Generational study being more art than science, there is considerable dispute about the definition of Generation Z. Demographers place its beginning anywhere from the early ’90s to the mid-2000s. Marketers and trend forecasters, however, who tend to slice generations into bite-size units, often characterize this group as a roughly 15-year bloc starting around 1996, making them 5 to 19 years old now. (By that definition, millennials were born between about 1980 and 1995, and are roughly 20 to 35 now.)

Even accepting those rather narrow boundaries, Generation Z still commands
attention through its sheer size. At approximately 60 million, native-born American members of Generation Z outnumber their endlessly dissected millennial older siblings by nearly one million, according to census data compiled by Susan Weber-Stoger, a demographer at Queens College.

The fact that some are still in their post-toddler years, however, makes it difficult for marketers trying to distill their generational essence. Among the 5-year-olds, cultural tastes do not reach much further than “Shaun the Sheep” and “Bubble Guppies.”

As for the older end of the Generation Z spectrum, some demographers still lump them in with the millennials, but increasingly, many marketers see them as a breed apart.

So, who are they? To answer that question, you have to take a deeper look at the world in which they are coming of age.

“When I think of Generation Z, technology is the first thing that comes to mind,” said Emily Citarella, a 16-year-old high school student in Atlanta. “I know people who have made their closest relationships from Tumblr, Instagram and Facebook.”

Sure, millennials were digital; their teenage years were defined by iPods and MySpace. But Generation Z is the first generation to be raised in the era of smartphones. Many do not remember a time before social media.

“We are the first true digital natives,” said Hannah Payne, an 18-year-old U.C.L.A. student and lifestyle blogger. “I can almost simultaneously create a document, edit it, post a photo on Instagram and talk on the phone, all from the user-friendly interface of my iPhone.”

“Generation Z takes in information instantaneously,” she said, “and loses interest just as fast.”

That point is not lost on marketers. In an era of emoji and six-second Vine videos, “we tell our advertising partners that if they don’t communicate in five words and a big picture, they will not reach this generation,” said Dan Schawbel, the managing partner of Millennial Branding, a New York consultancy.
So far, they sound pretty much like millennials. But those who study youth trends are starting to discern big differences in how the two generations view their online personas, starting with privacy.

While the millennial generation infamously pioneered the Facebook beer-bong selfie, many in Generation Z have embraced later, anonymous social media platforms like Secret or Whisper, as well as Snapchat, where any incriminating images disappear almost instantly, said Dan Gould, a trend consultant for Sparks & Honey, an advertising agency in New York.

“As far as privacy, they are aware of their personal brand, and have seen older Gen Y-ers screw up by posting too openly,” Mr. Gould said.

That point was driven home in a 2013 Mashable article titled “I’m 13 and None of My Friends Use Facebook,” in which Ruby Karp, a New York teenager, wrote: “Let’s say I get invited to a party and there’s underage drinking. I’m not drinking, but someone pulls out a camera. Even if I’m not carrying a red Solo cup, I could be photographed behind a girl doing shots.”

But the difference between generations goes much deeper than choosing Snapchat over Facebook.

Between 2000 and 2010, the country’s Hispanic population grew at four times the rate of the total population, according to the Census Bureau. The number of Americans self-identifying as mixed white-and-black biracial rose 134 percent. The number of Americans of mixed white and Asian descent grew by 87 percent.

Those profound demographic shifts are reflected at the cultural level, too. Attitudes on social issues have shifted, in some cases seismically, in the decade since millennials were teenagers.

Same-sex marriage, for example, has gone from a controversial political issue to a constitutional right recognized by the Supreme Court. For today’s 14-year-olds, the nation’s first African-American president is less a historic breakthrough than a fact of life.

“America becomes more multicultural on a daily basis,” said Anthony Richard
Jr., a 17-year-old in Gretna, La. “It’s exponential compared to previous generations.”

This vision of a generation with wired brains, making their way in an ethnic-stew society of the future, makes them sound like the replicants from “Blade Runner.”

But the parents of Generation Z teenagers play an equally powerful role in shaping their collective outlook. Millennials, who are often painted, however unfairly, as narcissistic brats who expect the boss to fetch them coffee, were largely raised by baby boomers, who, according to many, are the most iconoclastic, self-absorbed and grandiose generation in history. Think: Steve Jobs. (To be more charitable, maybe it’s no surprise that a New York Times article from last year called millennials “Generation Nice,” and lauded their communal spirit, given that their parents were save-the-world boomers.)

By contrast, Generation Z tends to be the product of Generation X, a relatively small, jaded generation that came of age in the post-Watergate, post-Vietnam funk of the 1970s, when horizons seemed limited. Those former latchkey kids, who grew up on Nirvana records and slasher movies, have tried to give their children the safe, secure childhood that they never had, said Neil Howe, an economist and the co-author of more than a dozen books about American generations.

“You see the mommy blogs by Generation X-ers, and safety is a huge concern: the stainless-steel sippy cups that are BPA-free, the side-impact baby carriages, the home preparation of baby food,” said Mr. Howe, who runs Saeculum Research, a Virginia-based social trends consultancy. (As a historian who takes the long view, however, Mr. Howe defines the cohort quite differently; he has called it the “Homeland Generation” because they grew up in post-9/11 America, and argues that it did not begin until around 2004.)

Part of that obsession with safety is likely due to the hard times that both Generation Z and their parents experienced during their formative years.

“I definitely think growing up in a time of hardship, global conflict and economic troubles has affected my future,” said Seimi Park, a 17-year-old high school senior in Virginia Beach, Va., who always dreamed of a career in fashion, but has recently shifted her sights to law, because it seems safer.
"This applies to all my friends," she said. "I think I can speak for my generation when I say that our optimism has long ago been replaced with pragmatism."

That sober sensibility goes beyond career, it seems. A Sparks & Honey trend report called "Meet Generation Z: Forget Everything You Learned About Millennials" asserted that the cohort places heavy emphasis on being "mature and in control." According to a survey of risky behavior by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the percentage of high school students who had had at least one drink of alcohol in their lives declined to about 66 percent in 2013, from about 82 percent in 1991. The number who reported never or rarely wearing a seatbelt in a car driven by someone else declined to about 8 percent, compared with about 26 percent in 1991.

Put it all together — the privacy, the caution, the focus on sensible careers — and Generation Z starts to look less like the brash millennials and more like their grandparents (or, in some cases great-grandparents), Mr. Howe said.

Those children of the late 1920s through the early ’40s, members of the so-called Silent Generation, were shaped by war and the Depression and grew up to be the diligent, go-along-to-get-along careerists of the ’50s and ’60s — picture Peggy from "Mad Men."

"The parallels with the Silent Generation are obvious," Mr. Howe said. "There has been a recession, jobs are hard to get, you can’t take risks. You’ve got to be careful what you put on Facebook. You don’t want to taint your record."

Those children of the New Deal, epitomized by the low-key Warren Buffett, "didn’t want to change the system, they wanted to work within the system," Mr. Howe said. "They were the men in the gray flannel suits. They got married early, had kids early. Their first question in job interviews was about pension plans."

That analogy only goes so far for a generation predisposed to making Vine videos of themselves doing cartwheels over their cats. (Let’s not forget that the Silents, too, had no shortage of mavericks who made noise on the world stage — Martin Luther King Jr., Elvis Presley and Andy Warhol, to name but a few.) As for the gray flannel suits, parents may not want to send their teenagers off to the tailor just yet. The Sparks & Honey report argued that “entrepreneurship is in their DNA.”
“Kids are witnessing start-up companies make it big instantly via social media,” said Andrew Schoonover, a 15-year-old in Olathe, Kan. “We do not want to work at a local fast-food joint for a summer job. We want to make our own business because we see the lucky few who make it big.”

Which leads to a final point worth mentioning about the Silent Generation. As Mr. Howe pointed out, they were not just the most career-focused generation in history. They were also, he said, the richest.

Continue enjoying fashion and lifestyle coverage on the new Styles Facebook page. Sign up to receive our NYT Living newsletter, a roundup of lifestyle news from the Style section and across the Times delivered to your inbox twice a week.
Books on Life as a Muslim in America and Urban Transportation

By SAM ROBERTS SEPT. 17, 2015

If Moustafa Bayoumi’s “This Muslim American Life: Dispatches From the War on Terror” (New York University Press) can be sporadically preachy and sometimes hyperbolic, his essays also provide an engaging and refreshingly insightful window on the world from the perspective of an English professor of Egyptian origin at Brooklyn College.

“To be a Muslim American today often means to exist in that slightly absurd space between exotic and dangerous and between victim and villain simply because of people’s assumptions about you,” Professor Bayoumi writes.

He begins by recalling the 19th-century roots of Arab-Americans in Little Syria near the future site of the World Trade Center towers (this reader would have welcomed more context comparing the experience of today’s Muslim Americans with those of German immigrants during World War I or Eastern Europeans during the Red Scares).

By his estimation, Professor Bayoumi says, more terrorist attacks have been committed in the United States by right-wing extremists than by Muslims since the attacks on the World Trade Center and that at the time of his writing, at least, the National September 11 Memorial, an intended antidote to intolerance, offered
pamphlets to visitors in nine languages but not in Arabic.

He also recalls half-jokingly answering a casting call in 2009 for extras of Middle Eastern extraction for a "Sex and the City" movie. The garish set in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, doubled for a nightclub in Abu Dhabi. The gig began in the morning and ended at 1 a.m.

"It could have been worse," he recalls. "I could've been a Middle Eastern extra on '24'."

Sam Schwartz launched his professional transportation career as a cabby, working his way through Brooklyn College. Later, his older brother Brian presciently weighed Sam's professional propensities and gave him one word of advice: Traffic. The result: Gridlock Sam.

Samuel I. Schwartz's "Street Smart: The Rise of Cities and the Fall of Cars" (Public Affairs) couples personal memoir, transportation primer and urban planning prescriptive by a former New York City traffic commissioner (he now runs Sam Schwartz Engineering) who was an early advocate for mass transit, walking, bicycling and other alternatives to the automobile.

His family remained in Brooklyn (mostly without a car) while friends fled to the suburbs or, like his beloved Dodgers, to the freeways of California.

"Street Smart" (written with William Rosen) doesn't read as if you were stuck on the Cross-Bronx Expressway ("the most congested corridor in the entire country," he writes). Rather, it's mostly accessible, discerning and even revealing.

Gridlock (a term he popularized, which originated with an engineer in the Transportation Department named Roy Cottam) is a nightmare, but Manhattan's grid, dating from 1811, maximized accessibility.

He declares the bold strategy to make the Barclays Center mass-transit friendly a success: Rarely have all its 541 parking spaces been filled for an event. He not only embraces the "Broadway Boulevard" in Times Square, but also reveals that in the early 1970s the Lindsay administration manufactured — but never installed — signs that would have banned cars altogether between Third and Seventh Avenues and 37th
and 57th Streets from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"The private automobile is a less and less dominant component of a modern transportation network," Mr. Schwartz concludes, but "a car-free future is a myth: seductive but unreachable."

A version of this article appears in print on September 20, 2015, on page B3 of the New York edition with the headline: Between Villain and Victim.
Frat president sent texts to cover up hazing death, prosecutors say

By Lorena Mongelli and Bruce Golding
September 17, 2015 | 3:30pm

Photo: Gregory P. Margo

Damning evidence tying the younger brother of Queens Rep. Grace Meng to a City University fraternity hazing death was made public Thursday as he pleaded not guilty to charges of covering up the fatal initiation ritual.

An affidavit of probable cause against Andy Meng, former national president of the Pi Delta Psi fraternity, alleges that he received six phone calls and sent a series of text messages after Baruch College freshman Chun "Michael" Deng was knocked unconscious outside a rented house in the Poconos in December 2013.

Charles Lai, a frat member who called himself Meng's "little brother," admitted that he spoke to Meng, who told him to hide anything bearing Greek letters or otherwise related to the group, according to the affidavit.

"Messages that were deleted but recovered from Meng were Meng asking, 'were you
guys spearing' and [saying] 'these are my concerns now' and 'I pray to god he's going to be alive' and 'they can not know,'” the document adds.

Meng, 30, and four other members of Pi Delta Psi were released on $50,000 bail each following a preliminary hearing in Pocono Pines, Pennsylvania.

The five defendants are all charged with covering up the killing of Deng, 19, who suffered fatal brain injuries when he was repeatedly tackled while wearing a blindfold and weighted backpack during a rite of passage called the "glass ceiling."

A total of 37 frat brothers face prosecution over Deng's death, according to a grand jury report that recommends third-degree murder charges against five of them and the fraternity.

Authorities have said they plan to charge the suspects in waves, starting with those facing the least serious allegations.