

Brain Food

C2 A

Pop Quiz

Currents' recent events

In week full of very various news events, a straight-ahead (OK, not quite straight-ahead) news quiz seems in order. Our thanks to the staff of the Free Library's Parkway Central for helping us ensure accuracy.

1. To what recent news events do the following quotations refer?

- a. "She ran with the heart of a locomotive, on champagne-glass ankles."
- b. "[I]'s the southern areas of the delta region that will have been hit hardest. They are remote and difficult to access at the best of times, so the picture will take time to build."
- c. "These guys aren't going to be rehabilitated. They need to be locked up — period."
- d. "... If we introduced a bill on slavery, it might pass. That doesn't make it right."

2. The No. 1 song on the Billboard Hot 100 for May 10 is titled "Bleeding Love." By whom is this song performed?

- a. Madonna featuring Justin Timberlake.
- b. Leona Lewis.
- c. Chris Brown.
- d. Mariah Carey.
- e. Usher featuring Young Jeezy.



Madonna

3. Air pollution is interfering with the ability of bees to find flowers, thus leading to a decline of bees, and of the crucial process of pollination. What is it about air pollution that interferes with the bee-flower thing?

- a. Pollution attaches to the bees' eyes and makes it hard for them to find the flowers.
- b. Pollution attaches to the bees' antennae and confuses their sense of direction.
- c. Pollution destroys scent-bearing molecules released by the flowers, so the bees cannot find them.
- d. Pollution increases the temperature of the air, making the bees sluggish and less likely to go looking for flowers.

4. Old-time movie buffs: Two of the following cinema stars of the early-to-mid-20th century are still living and are actually sisters. Can you name them?

- a. Alice Faye.
- b. Myrna Loy.
- c. Olivia de Havilland.
- d. Joan Fontaine.
- e. Sylvia Sydney.
- f. Tallulah Bankhead.



5. Connect the animated character with the actor who does his/hers/its voice.

- a. Chief of South Park (Comedy Central).
- b. Dory in the movie *Finding Nemo*.
- c. Marge Simpson of *The Simpsons* (Fox).
- d. Shrek of the *Shrek* movies.
- e. Stewie Griffin of *Family Guy* (Fox).
- f. Ellen DeGeneres.
- g. Isaac Hayes.
- h. Julie Kavner.
- i. Seth MacFarlane.
- j. Mike Myers.



Stewie Griffin

6. Ford F-Series trucks hold this distinction. What is this distinction?

7. Dallas County, Texas, has 17 of them, more than most states. The most recent is named James Woodard. Of what do we speak?

8. Almost 100 people at San Diego State University — what happened to them?

9. Advance warning, basic fundamentals, free gift, absolutely essential, total capacity, return back home — what's the link?

Answers: C3

Verbatim

... moving to smaller government ...



Bob Barr, longtime Republican U.S. representative from Georgia, is an all-but-announced presidential candidate as a Libertarian. Some are worried he may siphon off conservative votes from Sen.

John McCain. Barr, who rose to prominence during the videotape 1996, joined the Libertarian Party in 2006. Below are excerpts from an Inquirer Q&A with Barr about why he's running.

Inquirer: What do you hope to accomplish?

Barr: I want to move the agenda of smaller government and increased individual liberty forward ... raise the level of debate; bring the issues of smaller government back to the table, and cut government spending — that's at the root of all the issues facing the American people. I want to end the artificial control of the economy and end burdensome taxation — reduce the cost of the occupation of Iraq by ending the process of removing the security blanket from the Iraqi regime ... return respect for habeas corpus; reinstate the rule of law; stop the warrantless surveillance of American citizens, and remedy the abuses of the Patriot Act. ...

Inquirer: What caused you to suddenly switch parties two years ago? Did you have a Paul-on-the-road-to-Damascus conversion?

Barr: What laid the groundwork for my epiphany was the result of six years of the Bush administration. They claimed to be Republicans and for a smaller government. Instead, with a complicit Republican Congress, they moved to dramatically expand the size, power and scope of the federal government. I concluded that the party I had been associated with for decades was no longer the party I had joined and no longer had an interest in smaller government. They no longer had an interest in increasing individual liberty and showed no signs of changing in my lifetime. ... The only party out there that advocates and practices moving to smaller government and increased civil liberties was the Libertarian Party. ...

Inquirer: You've made some radical turnabouts from many of your previous positions. ...

Barr: Since 9/11, there has been unprecedented growth in government power and the ascendancy of this notion that, because they are fighting terrorism, the government can do whatever it wants regardless of law. That has forced me to go back and take a look. ... We have to be much more zealous in protecting ourselves against government power. Once it may have made sense, been even acceptable to allow the government more leeway. ...

Inquirer: What is wrong with the two-party system?

Barr: The two-party system has become stale and a state-controlled monopoly. I think it has removed an important element of choice for the American voter and led to a dumbing-down of political discourse in America. ...

Inquirer: How do you feel about John McCain, the presumptive Republican candidate?

Barr: He's a candidate. But I don't think he espouses anything resembling the philosophy of smaller government that I support. Anyone whose signature piece of legislation is destructive of the First Amendment can hardly call themselves a conservative. His view of civil liberties is very much in the Bush administration mold. I have major disagreements with him. His position of a lengthy occupation of Iraq is well known. I would disagree with him there also.

Inquirer: A Zogby poll this week has you outpolling (declared third-party candidate) Ralph Nader. What do you think that signifies?

Barr: I think it indicates that there is legitimate support for a third-party candidate. ... I'm no more a spoiler for John McCain than John McCain could be a spoiler for me. The notion that Republicans see a third-party candidate as spoiling their chances simply illustrates the arrogance of the two-party system. ... If my platform polls well, it will be because the voters contrast it with McCain and whatever Democrat senator wins the nomination. ... It's something the other candidates should embrace rather than whine about.

philly.com

The complete Inquirer interview with Bob Barr appears at <http://go-philly.com/bobbarr>

Mind Menu

Where to feed your intellect

♦ Indicates wheelchair-accessible
‡ Indicates listening device
Events are free unless otherwise indicated.

Symposiums & seminars

Faith and the Environment. Alciyah Anthony, Rabbi Lawrence Troster, Urban Sustainability Forums, Acad Nat Sci, 1900 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy. Reception 6 p.m., program 6:30 p.m. Thu. RSVP to 215-298-1108; rwalt@ansp.org.

Titladiak: This Fish Evolved for Walking. Ted Daeschler, Acad Nat Sci. Phila Geological Soc; Bryn Mawr Coll, Benjamin Gateway Corri Rm, Morris Ave, Bryn Mawr; 215-272-3373, 7 p.m. Thu.

Lectures & speeches

Ethel Ann Vess. "Mothers of Invention." Women inventors. Franklin Institute, 220 N 20th St, 2 p.m. Sun. Registration required, 215-448-1254.

Douglas J. Felth. *Firm Understudy of defense.* World Affairs Council, Union League of Phila, 140 S Broad, Public \$65 with lunch, \$25 talk only, members \$55 and \$20; students with ID free. Reception 11:30 a.m.; lunch noon, talk 12:45 p.m. Fri. Reservations required at 215-561-4700 or www.wacphila.org.

Islam: Beyond Prejudices. Akbra Ahmed, Chair of Islamic studies, American U. Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, 625 Montgomery Ave, Bryn Mawr 610-525-2821, 7:30 p.m. Mon.

Authors & literature

2008 Philadelphia Book Festival. Two days of award-winning authors and poets: Barbara Walters, Jennifer Weiner, Gregory Maguire, Eric Jerome Dickcy, Elise Krieger, Amy Goodman, Roscoe Orman, others. Free Library of Philadelphia, Central Library (Montgomery Auditorium), 1801 Vine St; 215-567-4341. www.library.phila.gov, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat. and Sun. 5/17-5/18.

Barnes & Noble. 1805 Walnut St; 215-965-0716. Pian Jessoff, "The Diplomat's Wife," 7 p.m. Tue. - Don Russell, "Joe Sixpack's Philly Beer Guide," 7 p.m. Wed.

Ted Saravanos. "Counselor: A Life at the Edge of History." Free Library of Philadelphia, Central Library (Montgomery Auditorium), 1901 Vine St; 215-567-4341. www.library.phila.gov, 7 p.m. Fri.

Influences

What shapes the minds that make the news

Michael J. Lyons

is president and CEO of Global Events Partners Philadelphia (GEP Philly)

In 25 words or less, tell us who, if we're world travelers, we should visit Philadelphia: Philadelphia offers renowned museums and attractions, world-class restaurants and hotels, and more American history than any U.S. city.

Does Philadelphia do as well as it might in welcoming visitors? I believe visitors are usually impressed with our friendliness and willingness to help them around town (with the exception of Cowboys or Giants fans at an Eagles game).

Quotation to live by: Years ago when I was trying to motivate my kids to pursue whatever they wanted, I coined a phrase that still guides me today: "Dream it, believe it, achieve it."

Books on my nightstand right now: *Wilkenosis*, by Don Tapscott; and *The Spark: Igniting the Creative Fire That Lives Within Us All*, by Lyn Heward and John U. Bacon.

Favorite author, fiction: Nicholas Sparks.

Favorite author, nonfiction: Alvin Toffler. Many of his predictions about technology and changes in our society have come true.

Favorite poem: "The Road Not Taken," by Robert Frost.

Favorite beach reading: Catching up on my backlog of magazines.

Book or author other people praise but I never liked: Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

A book that influenced how I live my life: *The Baltimore Courier-Examiner* No. 1. As the very first book I can remember, it had a profound impact on me, particularly since I (like all students in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia) had to memorize it.

TV show I'm not ashamed to admit I watch: *60 Minutes* (CBS).



APRIL SAUL, Inquirer Staff Photographer

TV show I hate to admit I like: *30 Rock* (NBC).

Favorite comic strip: *Dilbert*, by Scott Adams.

Movies I love so much I've watched them more than twice: *Braveheart*, *Billy Elliot*, *Apollo 13*, *E.T.*, *Rain Man*.

Web sites I visit regularly: MSN.com, CNBC, IMDb, Rivals.com, film.org.

If you turned my car radio on right now, it would be tuned to: *KYVA-AM* (1050) or *XM* satellite radio.

Magazines I read regularly: *Philadelphia Magazine*, *Blue and Gold Illustrated*, *Notre Dame Magazine*, and various trade journals.

Favorite type of music: Broadway, Sinatra, Bobby Darin, rock, jazz.

Last concert/performance attended: *Avenue Q* at the Forset Theatre in February.

Recordings I play when my soul needs a lift: The soundtrack to the musical *Pippin*; the Chicago tune "Make Me Smile."

Person in my field I most admire: Jack Ferguson, executive vice president of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau. A passionate fan

of our city and region, Jack also is an ethical and principled businessman who always does the right thing.

Living person I'd most like to join for dinner and conversation: Pat Croce. Pat epitomizes the self-made man.

Heroes from history: Jesus Christ, William Wallace, Mother Teresa, Gandhi.

Greatest honor: Being married to my wife, Lorie, for the last 34 years and experiencing the joys of fatherhood with children Michael Jr., Erin Oosthuizen, and Aimee, and being a grandfather to little Ella and Caitlin Oosthuizen. Professionally — being recognized as "Supplier of the Year" by my peers at MPI (Meeting Professionals International) and having the privilege of going to work every day with my fabulous GEP Philly teammates.

If I had the power to order all of the Philadelphia region to read one book, it would be: *Fish! A Remarkable Way to Boost Morale and Improve Results*, by Stephen C. Lundin, Harry Paul, and John Christensen.

And here's why: This simple but elegant book espouses four basic principles often missing in most workplaces.