Saturday’s Quiz: You call it a fallout shelter; the Quiz calls it home

Published: Saturday, July 16, 2011, 5:00 AM

By The Post-Standard Editorial Board

1. Developers of the Bridgewater Place parking garage in Syracuse’s Franklin Square got out of paying $1.2 million in property taxes over the past 19 years due to a local tax exemption for fallout shelters. If you’re 20 or younger, you’ve probably never even heard of a fallout shelter. What is it?

   a) A plot device in the classic TV series “The Twilight Zone.”
   b) The Cold War version of a panic room.
   c) A windowless underground room stocked with food and water where you could survive nuclear Armageddon — as if you’d want to. (See a.)
   d) All of the above.

2. State lawmakers are just beginning the process of redrawing political lines based on the new 2010 census. New York will lose two of its 29 congressional districts. How will lawmakers decide whose seats to eliminate?

   a) Dart board.
   b) State fair sausage-sandwich-eating contest.
   c) "Show me the money."
   d) The usual political horse-trading.

3. The Onondaga Historical Association this week unveiled its refurbished museum on Montgomery Street. What’s new about the old place?

   a) Windows at street level, replacing a blank facade.
   b) A gift shop where you can buy a piece of local history, plus books, maps, photos, postcards, puzzles and more.
   c) Rotating exhibits, to give visitors a reason to come back.
   d) All of the above.

4. The Plainville volunteer fire department is asking voters Tuesday to approve borrowing $150,000 over 10 years to...
pay for a new, $395,000 fire truck. Meanwhile, a study is going on to determine whether Plainville and the six other fire departments serving Lysander should consolidate. Why buy the truck now?

a) The old truck doesn't meet current standards for safety and is hard to operate.
b) Consolidation is going nowhere fast, so why not?
c) Even if some departments merge, a new truck will come in handy.
d) What's $395,000 in the grand scheme of things?

5. Syracuse is trying to make its streets friendlier to bicycle riders. What is the city doing?

a) Banning vehicle traffic on certain streets.
b) Creating designated bike lanes and, in some cases, separating them from vehicle traffic by a grassy median.
c) Posting notices on parking signs reminding drivers to look in their rearview mirrors before they open the car door.
d) Paving the streets with rubber to reduce injuries from car-bike collisions.

6. Central New York districts are reluctantly raising their school lunch prices to comply with new federal rules. What else is going to be different about school lunches in 2012-2013?

a) No more fast food.
b) Mandatory servings of fruits and vegetables.
c) White milk only.
d) Zero trans fats and lower sodium content.

Answers:

1. d
2. d
3. d
4. a and c
5. b
6. b and d
7. False. Malmberg finished the race, but we haven't the foggiest idea what the sombrero was all about.

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