USA TODAY

June 7, 2012 Thursday

Et cetera; Smart insights on the news of the day

Daniel E. Lieberman, The New York Times: "Humans evolved to crave sugar, store it and then use it. For millions of years, our cravings and digestive systems were exquisitely balanced because sugar was rare. The food industry has made a fortune because we retain Stone Age bodies that crave sugar but live in a Space Age world in which sugar is cheap and plentiful. Sip by sip and nibble by nibble, more of us gain weight because we can't control normal, deeply rooted urges."

Doug Bandow, Forbes: "This year's election is about the economy. The next president's chief challenge will be to cut federal spending and reduce government debt. Republicans are posturing as the party of fiscal responsibility, but they continue to protect their sacred cows. Unless the GOP is willing to slash corporate welfare and cut unnecessary military outlays, Republicans don't deserve to be taken seriously when they talk about fiscal responsibility. If the GOP isn't willing to cut wasteful federal outlays across the board, it won't solve America's budget crisis and won't deserve the vote of the American people."