



"Accountability"
Glendale's Watchdog



HEADLINES

USC Vs. Conquest Student Housing

The four stages of Vanguardians "First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win."
Mahatma Gandhi describing the stages of establishment resistance to a winning strategy of nonviolent activism

When WE are complacent THEY win!

"I don't make jokes. I just watch government and report the facts." Will Rogers

BREAKING NEWS

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner or Cocktails –Vanguardians is sponsoring a weekly meeting as an educational program to help our community learn more about the issues and how they affect our quality of life. Let us know which would be best for you.



HEADLINE STORY

USC v Conquest Housing. Suit settled. No effect on suit in Glendale. Community activist Herbert Molano will continue his appeal on the Downtown Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report. Next date for Court activity is March 22.

Conquest is required to take action to immediately dismiss nine lawsuits that Conquest initiated involving current or former Urban Partners projects. The RICO suit was also settled. Conquest had joined with Molano in his suit and that was not litigation that was dropped.

This just in...

Vanguardians was commissioned for a study on payraise for City Councilmembers in conjunction with Campaign Reform. First step is a time study. See JUMP for a copy of request sent to all Councilmembers.

All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good women & men to do nothing

If you have issues with the City and you fear retaliation or intimidation, bring them to Vanguardians and we'll share them with the appropriate department assuring your anonymity.

City Council

Mayor Najarian and CM Weaver voted against having a staff report on Condo conversions that would increase home ownership. Najarian indicates in the GNP that he is for home ownership. Actions speak louder than words. Council bowed to community turnout and holds over the Ballot application process. So far there has been no compelling argument one way or the other. There was a big turnout from the 9000 member Korean community. Barry Allen spoke on City Manager's violation of 1st Amendment Rights. **See JUMP Oral Communciations**

Weekly Council Scorecard

Council	1-29-08	Overall	Contact info
Drayman	B	B	jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us;
Najarian	C	B	anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us;
Quintero	B	B	fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us;
Weaver	C	C	dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us;
Yousefian	C	B	byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us;
			SHoward@ci.glendale.ca.us;
			Starbird@ci.glendale.ca.us;

Criteria: Responsiveness to the community, knowledge and understanding of the issues, placing the needs of the public first and attitude, attentiveness and accountability.

Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenagers' P.J.O'Rourke

Fire Department

Eric Andrade (RA26), Craig Larson (RA22), Pat Shelton (Engineer assigned to HR), Greg Phipps (Capt E25), Brad McMartin (Capt E28), Chris Mays, and Scott French (FF-E24), are 'off duty injured firefighters'. The City refuses to share how their injuries came about.

GFD	FY--2006/2007
Fire	Medical
1,649	12,522

Personnel assigned daily: Medical 10 Fire 50
 Apparatus assigned Medical 5 Fire 13



City does not want the public to know how many disability retirements there have been; how many firefighters were injured fighting fires vs. how many were injured in sports or exercise activities

The public awaits the GFD response to Chief Philpott. January has come and gone with no report or response from the GFD as was promised by the City Manager. We remain in jeopardy from unnecessarily long response times.

Letter: Vanguard-we (my neighbors & I) have been following your report on the Glendale Fire Department. Those of you that are willing to stand up against the establishment are to be patted on the back. Did you know that not only does the firefighter union give money to candidates; they endorse them and campaign for them. People love them and candidates for public office hope the love will rub off. I tell you what, I am going to tell all my many friends (I lived here for 60 years) not to vote for anyone endorsed by the firemen's union. CG

Retired Police Chief Bruce Philpott, a 40+ year Glendale homeowner, takes on the Glendale Fire Department to show the public how to save \$100,000,000 and improve public safety. To schedule a presentation for your group, call him at 818 240 8949 or email him at logicpoint@aol.com. Philpott is the guest speaker at the GHCC meeting on Monday.

A government that robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. - George Bernard Shaw

Leadership Circles are forming. Hone your leadership skills. If you are female and between the ages of 15 and 105, click below to email us to be notified of the next Circle: [Leadership Circles](#) or call us at 818.243.2322 *Fifty-Fifty Leadership*

www.5050leadership.org is a non-profit organization 501(c)3



Our Mission: To transform the culture within which we live to one that **naturally** includes women on an equal basis in the selection of leaders

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1 *Commentary* You may agree or disagree with the views below. Feel free to comment on them.

I went to a fast food restaurant and the meal I ordered was not the one delivered. I complained to the minimum wage worker who brought his manager over. The manager apologized and corrected everything to my satisfaction and told me his plan to prevent that from happening in the future. That is ACCOUNTABILITY. Here in 'Our Town', the people making mistakes are being much more than minimum wage. In fact 25% of the City workers are making in excess of \$100,000. The managers justify, rationalize and make excuses for their employees. From the top down. There are only two people that the City Council hires, the City Manager, Jim Starbird and the City Attorney, Scott Howard. This week I'll examine the record of the City Manager.

The City Manager has staff reports written and them approves them. Those reports are then given to Council to guide them in making decisions. More often than not, the reports show what management wants to show and does not give the pros and cons of an argument, process or issue. The problems in the City Government may not start with the City Council as they are only privy to staff reports. If they accept them without question, they and we become the possible losers. The City Manager does not have to run an election campaign. He can perpetuate his cause without fear of admonishment by the voters. Since [Jim Starbird](#) has been on the job for almost 10 years, (prior jobs were in West Covina and Monrovia) he has presided over a number of expensive debacles with a similar management style used in [W. Covina](#). Let's take a look at some of the foibles and follies, the real expensive ones that have occurred on his watch:

- New Police Building over budget resulting in law suits and expenses costing the taxpayers millions
- Police sexual harassment lawsuit costing the taxpayers millions
- Americana give away of \$77-\$100,000,000 worth of land when it could have been leased [ED we have no problem with the development of the lifestyle center only with the way Management presented its recommendations to the elected officials]
- More recently, the Tree Ordinance and the embarrassment brought to the City by the failure of the process and the failure of Management to quickly address the issue

- Staff providing inaccurate information to Council – Think Glenoaks Canyon setbacks and budget
- Let's spend \$41,000,000 for two unneeded rebuilt fire stations that provide no public benefit
- Increase in number of employees and a decrease in customer service
- Significant decrease in women managers
- More than 25% of City employees make over \$100K
- 1st amendment legislating by fiat by the City Manager in his use of the Employee Administrative Policy Manual to combat dissent and public awareness
- \$150,000 per annum personnel doing clerical work
- Authorizing the payment of \$250,000 to two employees to stay home and watch TV for a year
- Complaints by staff of micro-management
- \$200,000,000 bond issue to replace aging infrastructure
- Enterprise Businesses that aren't profitable – Paramedics fund, live scan fingerprinting, parking fund

When the City Manager can legislate through promulgation of Administrative Policy and refuses to use that same policy to curtail the excesses noted above, then the community knows that his interest is in perpetuating his interests, not ours.

The City Manager hires the staff. The Council does have a responsibility to make sure Management is doing its job. Management Services is the Department through which the City Manager, chief administrative officer, directs and coordinates the business affairs of the City. Management Services Staff works closely with the City Council, recommending policy alternatives and assuring the proper and efficient implementation of Council-approved policies, programs and directives.



Downtown development came about because the community developed the Downtown Specific Plan. The billions in development investment came from outside developers. They bought the land on which their projects sit. The very same projects that will fund future burgeoning city payroll.

Information obtained from public records. The City Manager declined the opportunity to review this commentary. Next week an analysis of these extraordinary expenses.

TAKE ACTION – GET INVOLVED – BE INFORMED

Moral cowardice that keeps us from speaking our minds is as dangerous to this country as irresponsible talk. The right way is not always the popular and easy way. Standing for right when it is unpopular is a true test of moral character. [Margaret Chase Smith](#)

Potpourri

2 Letters & Email

ED – Letters published do not necessarily express the opinion of Vanguardians, this publication, the organization or Barry Allen. Names are used only when requested. Letters will not be published that aren't signed and/or are hate oriented.

What is the City Policy about keeping its' vehicles clean? When I was at LADWP there was a "garage" that washed city cars when they came in after/before use. This was a part of the policy that we were to keep City Property clean all the time. Today, about 1100, when having one of my cars washed at Glendale's "Antique Car Wash" (my cars qualify), a white sedan, with "Glendale Fire Dept." on the door and having Calif. license "1189311" came in for a wash. Also, some months ago, I observed a City Public Works sedan doing the same thing at the same place. Then I assumed that it may be a contract deal, or a personal decision/payment, assuming no City wash facilities. However, the Fire Dept. has traditionally made a big deal out of washing their vehicles very publicly; as a way of "doing something" instead of just sitting around when there are no calls to be made. If they have the facilities and time, why is it a uniformed fireman is sitting at a car wash waiting for a cleaner car? NF

RE: GNP allegation of copyright infringement: Your legal position was absolutely correct. If they try to harass you again like that, let me know and I will shove the law in their face. It is really shameful that this and many other incidents shows the willingness of the GNP to take legal positions w/o ever

bothering to find out if the position is valid. And the GNP regards anything the city tells them as Holy Writ. Unfortunately, given the LA Times financial woes, it is unlikely our local paper will get any better. SP

RE: Administrative Policy Manual and the 1st Amendment: The key language where it addresses the "governments" use of the council chambers has nothing to do with the people's business. If they want to correct this problem -- and assert the people's right for access to government -- they could restrict displays at the entrance to the building. But they shouldn't restrict the placement of material on the table in back of the council chambers. I have never seen it overly cluttered with written material. People are very gracious and accommodating and I have never heard of a member of the public make a complaint. The city manager could put a sign above the table at the back of the council chambers that asks each person to take responsibility to remove any paper left before the end of the meeting. That would satisfy the city's main concern of the hazardous buildup of material left on the table. Some city employee could simply put the material in a recycle bin the next morning, big deal. If this was porno and material that could induce violence, I would also object. But what is commonly found on the table is material that people are presenting to the city council that evening. The city manager's inability to find an easy solution to accommodate the public is astounding. The city doesn't want to find a simple solution. It wants to infringe upon our constitutional rights. It doesn't like some of the material left for other citizens to take and read. So it does the

predictable thing: exclude all public material from the table in the back of the council chambers. Such a simple solution, such a complicated and illegal way to govern. GC

CALLS: We get numerous calls – here are some of the questions:

Are you going to run for public office?	Not at this time
How do you get compensated?	Public contributions
How much time do you put in?	About 80 hours per week
Who are your advisors?	Community members and several City employees
Do you have to disclose the names of contributors?	No
Will you support or oppose a candidate for public office?	No, Can't, as a 501(c)3 we are prohibited from supporting or opposing Candidates
Do you send Vanguard to the Council?	Yes, Management, too
How do you get your information?	From sources and public records
What is 'Accountability'?	The quality or state of being <u>accountable</u>; especially: an obligation or willingness to accept responsibility or to <u>account</u> for one's actions
Why Glendale?	Many reasons – I live here, I am intimately familiar with local issues.

Vote by Mail applications: I don't understand what happens in the 72 hours that candidates hold the ballot applications before sending them to the City Clerk?

For whatever reasons, my last letter, supporting your public records request and blaming the problem on the city's failure to act properly, was not printed in the GNP.

LINKS [Click here for Vanguard Archives by Hal Weber-- Open Government Guide](#) www.vanguardians.org [Check Zip Code Demographics](#) [Global Incident Map updated every 5 minutes](#) for a free copy of waste of taxpayer money and painful reading, go to [Piglet Book 2007](#) . [Glendale Fines Resident \\$347,600 for Pruning Trees without a Permit!](#) -- [ZIPskinny - Get the Skinny on that ZIP Vanguard in the Daily News](#)

CALENDAR – Click to view the agenda [City Council](#) [Housing Authority](#) [Redevelopment Agency](#)

Monday, February 4, at 7 PM The Glendale Homeowners Coordinating Council at the First Congregational Church, 2001 Canada Blvd. The speaker is Bruce Philpott, retired Pasadena Police Chief and long-time Glendale resident. Topic:, "Fire Department Changes Needed to Better Serve Public." Guests are welcome, Free
4:00 pm Glendale Water & Power Commission –, City Council Chambers, City Hall,

Tuesday, February 5

7:30 am **Special Meeting** – Community Development Block Grant Committee –, Room 105, Municipal Services Building,
2:30 pm Glendale Housing Authority --, Glendale Redevelopment Agency City Council Chambers, City Hall,
6:00 pm Glendale City Council --, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

Wednesday, February 6

9:30 am, Zoning Administrator's Hearing -- Municipal Services Building, Room 105, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140
3:00 pm Parks, Recreation & Community Services –, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2000
5:00 pm, Planning Commission –Room 105, Municipal Services Building,633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140

Thursday, February 7

5:00 pm Design Review Board #1 –, Room 105, Municipal Services Building, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140
7:00 pm Arts Programming Presentation (Arts Alliance and Glendale Arts and Culture Commission) , Board Room, Glendale Unified School District, 223 N. Jackson Street, Glendale. 548-2780

Articles [Special slammers are attractive alternative to crowded county lockups Glendale jail is one.](#)

3 Open Government CPRAR The City Attorney keeps very copious records on the use of Public Records Act

Requests; does it do the same for litigation? If so, for the period of January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2007 documents showing the following information:

1. Name of Litigants (short title) Case number and Court
2. Date of commencement (opening file) date of termination
3. Lawyer responsible for case management
4. Name of outside legal counsel if used
5. Payment to outside Counsel, including costs, fees, expenses, reimbursements
6. Costs for internal services
7. Settlement or Judgment amounts
8. Was the case appealed and if so, include those cost and expenses in the totals

City Management has an Administrative Policy Manual that governs such issues as dissemination of materials in City Council Chambers and City Hall Lobby. If you have questions, you must make a public records request and pay 10¢ a page. Our open government.

4 Vanguard

Please welcome Volunteer -- Legal Researcher Christina Waldron is a 26 year old stay at home mom, currently living in Des Moines, Iowa with her husband, Jeff. They have been married for 3-1/2 years and hail from Minnesota. They are parents of 4 month old Kylie. Christina enjoys reading for enjoyment and to her daughter, photography, and beating her husband in board games.

Each day the phone rings with a different issue or more frequently multiple issues. "Vanguardians, will you help me...there is no one that will return my calls." Here is an example...

- Voters Education for the disenfranchised was the question. **The Vanguard answer:** *It appears that renters and the homeless are among the largest group of those disenfranchised. Talk with City Clerk 'Ardy' Kassakhian and get voter registration forms and vote by mail applications. Head off to homeless shelters and locations where homeless congregate. Help them fill out the paperwork (Ardy will share how to get an address for receipt of mail) put on a 41¢ stamp and then they can be mailed. Talk with landlords on how you can attend tenant meetings and then do the same as you did with the homeless. Check with the Clerk to find out when vote by mail ballots will be sent and get back with the voters and share what candidates will work for their best interests, such as social services. Good luck on this voter education program.*



LAST Call for those wanting to be considered for the Vanguardians Board. Please contact 818 243 1502 or send an email to vanguard1@charter.net

Wanted: Armenian and Korean Translator-- Wants & Needs -- Vanguardians needs a light meter and a sound meter, MSVista compatible Adobe8, a digital camcorder, a color laser printer with duplexer, a portable document scanner and office space.

VANGUARDIANS

Please make checks payable to "**VANGUARDIANS**" Mail to: POB 11202 Glendale, CA 91226
 If contributing by Credit Card call 818 243 1502 or Fax to **818 243 2601**
Checks are best -- the bank doesn't discount them

Name on Card: _____ Address on Bill: _____ ZIP _____

Card Number: _____ VCode: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Signature: _____

Email Vanguard1@charter.net to subscribe to the Weekly News on issues that impact Glendale. **The media with a voice; the organization that gets results you want; we encourage and support your advocacy, involvement and engagement with government.**

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5 the Insider

City manager's method is to only hire people that will not challenge his positions. Zurn is the perfect example since he was promoted from inside as the Public Works Director without any engineering experience. There were questions about whether his old boss, Kerry Morford, set him up for the position by either giving him the questions or writing them based on what he was doing as deputy director. The same with Phil in redevelopment and Hassan in Planning. The last fire chief, Grey, got a gift for his retirement, He only stayed long enough to get the increased retirement from his salary. City Manager also controls the GMA board and keeps them in line by the "adjustments" that they get in their salaries, think Haney, Ahern, Scoggins, etc. I found out that the GMA board agreed not to provide representation for any of their members only provide a witness at a meeting. Starbird authorized the payment of \$250,000 to two employees to stay home and watch TV for a year while his Assistant City Manager and Director of Public Works admit they did nothing to end the matter. In fact Zurn testified that it was all free time for the employees. I also think that Scott Howard's raises were just because of your posting of the \$100,000 list and he wanted more than the Firemen. I noticed that Zurn also got a big raise after the list because he thought he deserved more than the firemen. I know that there will be more stuff on the MSB retro fit coming up soon.

Dave Weaver – FPPC is asking questions and so is the DA. Rumors around City Hall indicate that layoffs may be coming with the new budget. They have to do something to pay Scott and the rest of the executives their big raises. Like my Dad use to say, City managers are the ones who layoff the janitors so that they can justify a raise for themselves.

The Insider is a compilation of facts and opinions from City Employees carried in Vanguard as a service to the community.

6 Humor



New Beeline Advertising

7 Jump

Commentary: [US Court of Appeals for the 9th District --- HONEY V DISTELRATH 98-55219 11/09/99](#) The court that granted Honey's writ of mandate found that when the appellees (Starbird et al) violated Honey's due-process rights, they were acting in accordance with the policies, practices, and customs of the Police Department and the City. Honey alleged that the appellees intentionally engaged in a pattern of violation of the constitutional and civil rights of employees, including due process violations. Honey demonstrated the deliberateness of the appellees' actions by showing that they refused his request to review the materials relied on in his termination. [6] Taken together, these allegations and findings demonstrated that the appellees may have acted in a deliberate, considered, planned manner that fell outside Parratt. The district court therefore erred when it entered judgment for the appellees on the pleadings.

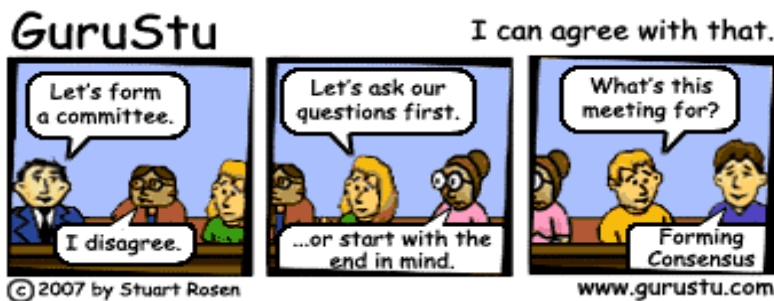
Pay Raise—Questions sent to Council members

To City Council il – Reply requested by February 5, 2008 As you may have heard, there are members of the public that are advocating for a significant pay raise for the Council, some have recommended \$90,000 and that the increase be coupled with campaign finance reform. We have been asked to determine the amount of time that Council members spend on City business. Thus the purpose of this letter. Vanguardians will compile the information you provide and create a public report. Below you will find questions. Please answer them based on an average. If you have additional comments please provide them.

On a weekly basis, the average time spent

- In public meetings (Council, GRA, HA)
- Preparing for public meetings
- Working with or attending local board and commission meetings
- Meeting and/or communicating with constituents (voters and/or others with business and/or other interests in the City)
- Travel time on City business
- Attending other meetings (SCAG, League, Airport etc)
- Attending civic events
- Meeting and/or communicating with management staff

- Meeting and/or communicating with other city employees
- Reading and reviewing materials (staff reports, agenda documents)
- Dealing with governmental compliance issues
- Researching issues
- Meeting and/or communicating with the 'press'
- Meeting and/or communicating with other elected officials
- Watching and/or Reviewing City meetings
- Other.....



Management by Objections

Oral Communications: The Council refused to violate our 1st Amendment Rights by their refusal to banish from the City Hall lobby materials that the City Manager found offensive using the term, 'clutter'. The City Manager told the Council that he would take care of the situation. Rather than issue a directive to the cleaning crew to police the premises, he took it upon himself to issue a policy by fiat – to stifle dissent. He approved a policy to eliminate 1st Amendment materials not only in the lobby but in these hallowed chambers, the house of the people. This policy is in the Administrative Policy Manual (APM) that is designed for City employees, not we poor malcontents or denizens of the forest. This manual is not publicly available online, only through a public records request at 10¢ per page. Vanguardians will be posting the manual on our website. Meantime, this City Council should demand that the unelected legislator rescind his fiat and restore our 1st Amendment rights. It is not necessary for the City Attorney to justify or rationalize his actions, only to remind the Council that they and they alone legislate in our City and that they must retake the reins of authority and as a group provide sorely needed direction to the City Manager. The time has come for this Council to recognize that it gives direction to the City Manager.