



"Accountability"
The Government Watchdog

Vanguard

Los Angeles CA Vol VI
Week of February 6, 2011

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818 243 1502

THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE

Vanguardians Purpose: To Inform, Educate, & Motivate the people for their Non-Violent Involvement, Engagement & Advocacy in local government.

OPEN LETTER TO GLENDALE CITY COUNCILMAN JOHN DRAYMAN:

You are an elected member of the Glendale City Council and you are running for reelection on April 5, 2011. You recently have come under suspicion of allegations involving unethical and possibly criminal conduct. Until now, you have decided to have loyal followers speak on your behalf claiming the charges to be false.

You have an alternative, an obligation to be straight forward and provide the information needed to clear the air your supporters claim. If you have nothing to hide, you should be forthright to validate your supporters' assertions.

You have a duty to the Glendale voters to reveal the facts surrounding the charges. It is your ethical responsibility as an elected official who claims adherence to government transparency.

However, there is one caveat; if you are under criminal investigation it is entirely understandable for you to continue your present position of keeping completely quiet on the subject.

You can:

1. Produce all contractual agreements between you and your contractor showing the scope of the work and payment arrangement.
2. Produce the minutes of your HOA board meetings where the flood damage issue was discussed, including insurance issues. State whether you filed a claim with the HOA or a private insurance company that covers interior damage and property loss.
3. Produce building permits or give an explanation of why you were not required to obtain such permits under city codes.
4. State who referred you to the contractor who performed the work on your renovation. Tell us why you selected National Fire, a company that has not done an interior renovation before. Your statement in the paper claimed you chose them because the owner, uniquely, was willing to work out a schedule of payments.
5. Do you think that a council member should vote on transferring millions of taxpayer dollars to ADI, now a known fraudulent prime contractor, while taking thousands of dollars in campaign donations and getting what appears to be a sweetheart deal from one of its subcontractors who stated he was 'forced' by ADI to perform the work, but assured by ADI that he would be paid?

RE: 3481 Stancrest
January 13, 2011
Hi Mr. Allen

Regarding your complaint re: the above address filed last week, I have prepared this statement:

We took the information for the service request. There are a number of issues at play here. The city's research and investigation are ongoing at this time and the service request will remain open until such time as those issues and the assertions in the service request are resolved.

Sam Engel
Neighborhood Services

You could pull this information together in an hour or so and present it to the voters of Glendale. It is the responsible thing to do. Anything less will continue to erode your standing as an elected official going into the reelection campaign.

S// Glendale Registered Voters and Stakeholders

If you have given, donated or contributed any money, service or thing of value to a candidate for public office or a City Official on behalf of or for any other person or entity with the expectation of being reimbursed or paid back, now is the time to step forward. You could be charged with money laundering.

Contact Barry Allen at 818 243 1502 for information on what to do and who to talk with.

“I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.” – Thomas Jefferson.

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Breaking News -- This just in – Reporting from Oakmont Country Club – **Herbert Molano** on the first 2011 Glendale City Council Candidates Forum: Go ahead Herbert...

Pass the blame, hunker down, and lie, lie, lie.

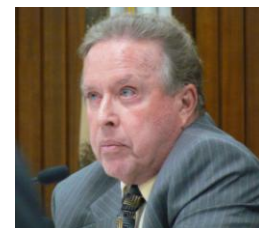
Don't expect a faux "Fair and Balanced" report on the Royal Canyon candidate forum at the Oakmont Country Club. This is not Fox News. There couldn't be any. The number of lies, outright lies, and stupendous lies were raining down so fast, I could hardly keep writing fast enough.

Weaver's contributions to the prevarication cascade:

On fiscal responsibility: "Our reserves are higher now."
On the water transfers: "My colleagues increased the transfers."
On budget oversight: "I've worked on budgets for thirty years."
On sky high salaries: "We did cut salaries."
On personnel numbers: "We have over 100 vacant positions."
On corruption: "What I don't have is the money in my pocket."

Drayman's contributions:

On salaries: "Salaries are being held down. It's what you want us to do."



On Libraries: "Helped preserve the Chevy Chase Library."
On commission reform: "Improved the appointment process."



For anyone with knowledge of the city, its finances, staff trends and appointments, all those statements are either outright falsehoods or spoken to deceive. Though Weaver may have told the truth about not having the money in his pocket, or his hand in their pocket, that was, literally true. He was not standing near anyone.

The vacant positions belie the middle management increase of 38% from 1998 to 2008. (Source: Workforce Demographic Report.) The open positions are the wish list of positions the city would fill, if they had more money to burn.

On the statement, "worked on the budget for thirty years." If you watched Weaver in many years past, dozing during budget meetings, not asking any questions, then approving it as the city manager presented it, is his self-evaluation of experience. Just show up for class, doze off, and you'll get a passing grade.

As for the commission reform: We had only two applications last year for the Transportation and Parking, one of whom was Najarian's sister. A previous selection was Drayman's key supporter during his campaign. No real outreach to the community to find the best and brightest to commission openings.

On the salaries are being held down: Police Salary increases of 6% in 2008 and 5% in 2009. That's official. Salary increases in total, are now from 50% to 75% above those from 10 years ago. Overtime apparently does not count as the official salary.

As far as the challengers, **Mike Mohill** was surprisingly strong and delivered the most pointed comments about Weaver and Drayman. There wasn't much that we haven't heard from him at city council meetings, but his delivery was more controlled and at one point self-deprecating.

Rafi Manoukian came out refreshingly candid. New to his campaign is the idea that the city needs an alternative version of the truth than the one fed to the city council by the city staff. My guess is that he is ready to roll up his sleeves and take on the sanitized presentations at city council sessions.



Chahe Keuroghelian has a mindset to make the city more accountable, especially cost overruns and the need for better oversight of the police department. His other answers seemed too general with an Obama-like "Change" message and why he is "persistent" rather than "perennial."

On the fourth challenger, **Garen Mailyan**, that in itself is a challenge. The best I could say is that I have no idea why he is running except to fix the discord or bigotry in Glendale with religious overtones given the aid of God and good old-fashion Christian fervor. His knowledge of the city and the issues were transparently thin and quite embarrassing. Oh, it was painful to watch. Ouch!

Though Drayman was as smooth as ever, giving us a near rehash of his caring speech from earlier versions, "If you care about your city...If you care about your neighborhoods...." He almost made a believer out of me, again! I guess am a sucker for the sweet sound of those messages. Ouch again!

But the night had a slap-down, laugh-till-you fall moment. Weaver had been asked about the city policy on Oral Communications, and Weaver went on his nearly patented righteous indignation speech on why the city should cut oral communications down to three minutes. He was on a roll, telling us where to go. How speakers at other cities got just two minutes and how residents should be glad to have only three. As he took breath to start on another pontificating session, Will Rogers cut him off in mid-sentence. Weaver had gone over his allotted time. The crowd almost choked with laughter as the irony of his speech boomeranged right back.

The theme of the forums will apparently be: "What's good for the goose is not good for the gander." And that depicts the first Glendale city candidate forum. Stay tuned for more fowl comments and more prevarication exposed at the next Glendale city candidate forum – "Lie to me."



Vanguard has increased its Glendale stakeholder's distribution to 50,000 per month. Sponsors can reach this audience every week. Call Barry Allen at 818 243 1502 or email info@vanguardians.org,

Vanguardians is sponsoring a Candidates briefing for City Council candidates. The briefing by people familiar with the machinations of the local government will be speaking on the financial issues, public safety and the general fund. As of this date 4 of the 6 candidates have accepted the invitation. The two incumbents have not returned our requests.

[Builders align this week to oppose California Gov.'s plan to axe RDAs](#) *Builder's* John Caulfield offers an extensive perspective on a wave of residential construction fallout from the widening financial distress among municipal, county, and state governments, sagging under their debt obligations. Mostly, Caulfield focuses on California, where new Gov. Jerry Brown plans to eliminate 400 redevelopment agencies, with a cost of \$1.7 billion, to divert the money to counties, cities, and special government agencies for fire departments, water, and other services.

[Moody's begins treating pensions like bond debt](#) A leading credit-rating agency, Moody's, has begun treating unfunded pensions like bond debt, giving California a combined tax-supported debt of \$136.9 billion that is well beyond other states but also may be understated.

The decision to add pensions to bond debt announced by Moody's Investors Services last week reflects concern about public employee pension costs, which are growing as state budgets plunge deep into the red during a lengthy economic downturn.

"Pension underfunding has been driven by weaker-than-expected investment results, previous benefit enhancements and, in some states, failure to pay the annual required contribution to the pension fund," said Moody's analyst Ted Hampton.

[Mississippi Sheriff's Deputy Indicted for Civil Rights Offenses, Obstruction of Justice](#) Choctaw County, Mississippi Sheriff's Deputy Billy C. Scott, Jr. was charged in connection with allegedly ordering his police dog to attack a man without any legitimate law enforcement purpose, and with failing to keep the victim from harm and falsifying a report in order to cover up his misconduct.

ADI -- 04-11-08 [Mike Fortney content revised to include an explanation by City Manager Jim Starbird regarding the information REDACTED by the City Attorney's Office: Starbird had redacted comments that ADU reps would bypass staff and go to Starbird or Council.](#)

SAMUEL ADAMS: It does not require a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority keen to set brush fires in people's minds.

Vanguard is published independently by *Vanguardians, Inc.* Advocating for Accountability— Our vision is to live in a community where all people can enjoy accountability, integrity, effectiveness and responsiveness from our government.

1 COMMENTARY

You may agree or disagree with the views below. Feel free to comment on them. The commentaries do not necessarily reflect the position of Vanguardians

From the Publisher... SITTING IN THE CAT BIRD SEAT



Election season is upon us. Six people running for City Council, 2 incumbents and 4 challengers. The two incumbents owe the voters some answers that we are waiting to get. Meanwhile Weaver and Drayman can demand that the City Manager place the Budget study sessions on the agenda BEFORE the election so the public can see the shape of the financials.

In addition to the Budget, here are several other things that should go in front of the Council:

- The changes in the Beeline and MTA public transportation systems;
- The issue of eminent domain;
- Any new bond issues
- New Tax Districts

As I reviewed the 460 forms it appears that neither Weaver nor Drayman have large war chests. The only one that does is the FireFighters PAC with about \$50K. Of course, at the drop of a hat they can assess their members for more thousands. The GMA hasn't filed with the Clerk so their piggy bank isn't available. Sal Gangi did pay a \$285 lunch bill for Weaver but with ADI out of the running along with the perennial fund raiser Roobik Ovanessian, this race won't see hundreds of thousands raised.

The only game left to tap is Komar with their hotel and a few smaller developers. The Independent Committees will be coming into play as they aren't restricted by Glendale's campaign finance limits

Meanwhile the City has sent subpoenas to ADI about the corruption and has chosen to put the issue of City Council member John Drayman on the back burner as, according to Sam Engle the issue of "The city's research and investigation are ongoing at this time." Drayman seems to be in bed with Khachik Zargarian, who at the time of the

Great Flood worked for ADI and after he was let go, he took up residence at National Fire, the contractor for both Drayman and ADI. I spoke with one of the subs and asked him if he obtained a building permit. He said, "Mr. Drayman said he would take care of it." According to City building permit records he didn't 'take care of it'.

I guess the question is, "Will Jim Starbird and Ara Najarian put this issue on the agenda before the election or after?" because

- A) Starbird needs Drayman's vote to fight the State takeover of the Redevelopment Agency;
 - B) There will be another bond issue that the King of Borrowing needs to balance the books;
 - C) Due to complicity of certain City Officials on the ADI issue, Starbird needs Council protection; or
 - D) The Montrose 'Green' Hydroponics Farm with national outreach to Quincy Massachusetts will put Montrose on the visitors map; or
 - E) Starbird needs the support of Drayman for a new 12-15 story hotel to be built in Montrose.
- Choose one or all,

One issue of great expense to the stakeholders is the Fire Department.... I was speaking to a Pasadena Fire Company and they are appalled that Glendale Fire Fighters don't cut the fire station lawns, have maid service (housekeeping), and are assigned unmarked cars for the fire stations. They had also heard about the safety issues at the Chilton fire and that the firefighters union didn't file a grievance. They also thought that providing a BC driver was over the top and could not understand why Glendale was buying or leasing the biggest and most expensive apparatus.

"Politics is entertainment. It's a sport. It's for the well groomed and well heeled. The impeccably dressed. Party animals. Politicians are interchangeable." - Bob Dylan

The penalty good men and women pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men. PLATO

Most people want the benefits of an accountable government but are afraid to work for accountability or to support those that do often because they fear retaliation or are the beneficiaries of the largesse or corruption of government

THE "N" WORD



What is it about politicians that make them susceptible to indecent behavior, comfortable as they lie to the public, unaccountable to their families and voters, crass to the opposition, and adored by followers?

It's the "N" word

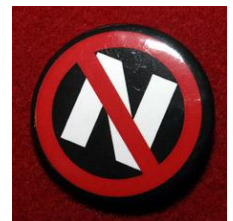
Politics is the only part-time or full-time career where there is no prior competency requirement. You can hear it as early as the delivery room. Adoring relatives look at the baby and coo: "Oh, look at him! He could grow up to be president!" No one says, "Let's create the conditions where his empathy will be nourished, where his intellect will be keen, and where his character can develop." No. The assumption is that the conditions leading to political success is a birthright. There seems to be a mindset that skips the middle. It is an automatic link from soiled diapers to the highest political office. Nothing is needed in between. Adoring parents will hand out the material goodies, the flattery, and the unearned expectations. The child grows up with self-created prerogative to the good life and a political birthright to get elected.

It's the "N" word

Politics provides the ideal path to charlatans. The essential element is the candidate's ability to lie, pretend that he's got the common good as his motivation while relishing the idea of capturing the title and acumens that winning a political seat will bestow. He will have his picture taken and prominently displayed. He will be automatically endowed with non-existent traits like wisdom, diligence, and knowledge. The elected politician can walk proudly and stand tall by the stairs of city hall. He's the man! He's untouchable. He's a pretentious and egotistical fraud with the mandate to power.

It's the "N" word

Talk to candidates and the common pronouns are "me" and "I" You don't find the "we" or "us" or a focus on the common good. "I ran for office and lost by four hundred votes." Or "They cost me the election." Or "If only those bastards hadn't put their names on the ballot, the election would've been mine." Or "They stuffed the ballots and ran a dirty campaign" on and on they go about why it's their turn, or why it's time for a change." But what they are really advocating is the candidacy of "me."



It's the "N" word

And so the adoring followers who latched their identify to the candidate look adoringly to him and say. "He is one of us." Few ask about accountability, or the proof of character, or demonstrated competent judgment, or his competencies to lead with wisdom, or his sturdy commitment against corruption. They want to identify with the winner and glow together with a halo of power. "He is one of us."

It's the "N" word

Land developers will come rushing in to help fund the campaign of the likeliest winner. "Sure, I can get you ten grand, and I can get you several more, or we'll channel it through the Realtor Associations." They smell the zone variances, and the multi-million dollar subsidy, or the lack of oversight to shoddy work, or the multi-million dollar overbilling to the city government.

It's the "N" word

The associations of city employees with the badge and the sworn allegiance to serve are chomping at the bit ready to fund the right candidate. Their idea of good government is the one that can pour on the highest salary, with highest pension, with the least work, and with the least oversight. The can sink a city into bankruptcy, but who cares? Extract it out of the taxpayer. They need their multi-million dollar pension. They have an allegiance to serve – themselves.

It's the "N" word

As the campaign season begins, liars, cheats, and the self-absorbed, will create a chorus line of the self-serving. It's city politics as usual. No commonality of purpose. No goals to improve our quality of life. No regard to financial prudence. No lofty goals to achieve. No democratic ideals to preserve. The "N" word rules.

Come and watch as the "N" word evolves before your eyes at a neighborhood meeting near you.

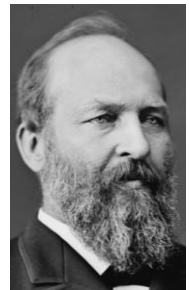
It's "The Narcissists" - the effective word of the season. **HERBERT MOLANO** Click here [Glendale Today](#)

JAMES, IS THAT YOU?

Silly me. Now why would I ask such a silly, silly question during silly, silly season? Now really, with all the candidates running for office whose names we can't pronounce, wouldn't it be easier if they included a "James" nickname between the first and last name? It would be easier on the tongue.

"James" makes you acceptable. It is a single syllable name. It is pronounced right from the middle of the mouth, and you don't need to move your tongue into contortions as it is with some foreign sounding names. "James" doesn't require some guttural expression scraping from the back of the throat. "James" is light, yet it has an air of respectability. That's why the British hire butlers named "James."

"James" is presidential as in "James Buchanan" or "James Garfield" or "James Monroe" or "James Madison" You have a greater chance of getting elected if your name is "James." It is statistically significant.



"James" can also be light and funny. There is the story of this wealthy widow who came unexpectedly to her mansion and called on her butler. "James," she said, "Please take off my shoes." Then she added, "James, take off my skirt." It was quickly followed by "James, take off my stockings." Then she warned the butler, "And don't let me catch you wearing my clothes again!"

You can wear "James" with dignity, or you can use it with impunity. Take for instance the use of "James" during Ara Najarian's campaign for city council. He wasn't just Ara. He was "James" for the voters up in north Glendale or to the voter list where last names did not end in "yan" or "ian." This council candidate became Ara "James" Najarian. Never mind that no one ever called him "James." But it was politically convenient, like moving his children from a private school to the public school during the campaign and long enough to appeal to the general public to tell us that he is just like regular folk. With "James" sandwiched neatly between first and last names, he became acceptable, like a bit of ham between two slices of white bread. To me, it was more like a pinch of chewin' tobacco tucked between cheek and gum.

But I digress.

“James” is politically correct, especially for the candidates for office who want to win an election or curry favor with the Glendale public. I’d recommend “James” neatly tucked right in the middle of your birth-name. There will be Chahe “James” Keuroghelian, or Rafi “James” Manoukian. To be fair, maybe all candidates should include this nick-name in all their political advertising. Think how much fun we could have if we were to add it to everyone running for office, male or female.

Now given that we have two non-Armenian incumbents who’ve come to the attention of the District Attorney or Federal authorities for unethical and possibly criminal behavior, maybe the insertion would be applicable to them as well. We’ll have David “James” Weaver, fined \$9,000 dollars by the FPPC. Then we’ll have John “James” Drayman, caught getting a free complete condo make-over from the sub-contractors of a low-income housing developer who bilked the government of at least six million dollars.

If federal authorities act quickly, maybe we’ll have one less “James” on the ballot. I can now imagine John “James” Drayman sometime in the near future sharing a prison cell with his dominant other, but eagerly waiting to comply with the order of the day, “James, take off my pants.”

HERBERT MOLANO Click here [Glendale Today](#)

THE PATRICIAN FIVE PLUS AGENT 2-2-0

Frank answered my call in the most pleasant way the first time I called him. I remember it well. It was like calling an old friend, but, in effect, our paths had crossed some decades earlier. David, on the other hand, seemed a bit defensive, but he seemed amicable enough despite the red flush on his face that belied a conflicted demeanor. He wanted to connect by expressing to me that my interests and his were aligned, but he seemed to contain, just barely, a seething anger. It was almost ten years ago that I met them when the rental housing issues in Glendale were front page stories. Little did I know then how much I would get to know each of them, and the rest of the ruling crew, as the years went by. It was in 2001, a year that would be infamous for other reasons.

Bob was easy to spot and easier to remember. His was the most talkative presence and his premature balding head seemed to reflect the chamber’s lights more readily. He came across as genuine, likable, and informed. Gus, on the other hand, seemed to recede into the mayor’s chair. His diminutive frame belied a keen confidence and ready intellect. He expressed himself in a very measured and respectful way, with a demeanor that foretold the image of the judge he would eventually become. Rafi’s presence rounded out the fifth man. He was calm, respectful and attentive. When you spoke before the city council, you could look at Rafi’s eyes and sense in his light clear blue eyes an attentive reception to your words. He looked like Glendale’s version of Senator Charles Schumer – dignified and friendly.

“This is probably the best-run city government in California” I heard myself saying before the microphone on the lectern. I could almost see the “Thank you’s” in the faces of the city manager and his close assistants. Little did I know then what had transpired just a few months earlier? But, for now, the topic in the news was “Rent Control” We could smell the fight. Some dispirited landlords had come before the city council to express their displeasure and their indignation. One of them had a simplistic answer to the problem, “It’s like buying shoes at the store. If you don’t like one pair, just go to another and buy what you want.” But we all knew that the analogy was grossly misplaced. Moving out of an apartment, packing your belongings, getting a moving van, uprooting the kids from their school, paying the new deposit on a new place, is a stressful transition at best.

Bob responded quickly and tuned in to my comments. He approved what he called “my humanity.” In my mind, why was common decency such a meritorious and benevolent gesture? I thought, “Here was a mature and responsive city council.” Everyone seemed to be pulling together to understand the problem, carefully weigh the best alternatives, then choose the best course of action.

To my left, roughly at the 9:00 O’clock position sat a dignified and patrician-looking man. He was the city manager. The most composed, measured and articulate man behind the wooden semi-circle. The city had acquired him two years earlier. Here was a city manager with a reputation second-to-none. He was agent 2-2-0. Not Sean Connerly’s 007, but with much of his dignified appearance.

I did not know then, as I know now, this many years later, that most of what I saw taking place behind the dais and in front of the camera was pure theater. This was some years before I would hear the composed figure of the city manager yell at me behind closed doors, “You are a whore!” The man I thought I knew before the public had a demeaning streak that exposed another personality alien to me.



It would be some years later that I would discover the most damaging financial blow perpetrated on the citizens and taxpayers of Glendale. Jim Starbird, on the second week of April 2001, with two new councilmen freshly elected and as green to the city's affairs as you could expect any resident, had convinced all the councilmen to pass the most damaging pension change in the city's history.

It was a massive transfer of taxpayer money of mind-blowing proportions. It was about to begin surreptitiously. Fire and police employees had just been handed pension increases that would give each of them more than one million dollars in additional pension benefits. I know now that all the councilmen were clueless to what they had approved on the thinnest rationale – their trust on a city manager that assured them that they had nothing to worry about. "It would cost the city nothing."

With that simple ordinance of 2001, hundreds of millions of dollars would flow from the city's taxpayers and utility rate payers into the CALPERS funds for the future benefits of a few hundred city employees. No single act in the city's history would be so devastating financially as that surreptitious move, perpetrated by a savvy city manager upon an unsuspecting cadre of unaware elected officials on a cool April day. Today, of course, the huge obligation and the impending deficits are all front-page news.

Today, we recognize that the dignity we perceived was nothing more than sheer facade supported by a relentless Public Relations campaign. That pension benefit change was a billion dollar boondoggle to us, and a strategic move to secure a top management job for a decade. It was made possible on the strength of a gift to uniformed men – policemen and firemen. They, in-turn, would allow their image and endorsements to adorn their politicians campaign brochures.

In a spacious room at the Oakmont Country Club Saturday, someone will ask the candidates for office, "What is your opinion on the hillside ordinance?" or "What can we do to stop the mansionization in our historic districts?" Such questions are sweet sounds to the ears of the city employee union leadership. "That'll keep the population distracted," they might think, as they transfer our hard earned dollars into their care-free and sumptuous retirement life.

HERBERT MOLANO Click here [Glendale Today](#)

TAKE ACTION – GET INVOLVED – BE INFORMED – SHARE VANGUARD – VOLUNTEER

2Shout Box

ED – Letters published do not necessarily express the opinion of Vanguardians, Vanguard News Service, the organization or Barry Allen. Names are used only when requested. Initials are used as there are people, believe it or not, who are concerned with retaliation or have issues before a legislative body. Letters may be published that are signed and are not hate oriented.



Keep up the Good Fight: I used to go to council meetings to battle our zoning for the Glendale Garden Homes, a battle we lost. We used to see each other each week, and I always appreciated your comments and how vigilant you were about our city council. While I don't live at GGH anymore, I still live in Glendale and still follow local politics. Thanks for sending me Vanguard. It was a good read, especially as we approach the next election. Best wishes, and keep fighting the good fight.

Craig V

Character and ethics: Lt. Bruce Fox speaks to students about character and ethics while the GPD covers up his collision with a woman on a disability scooter. Oh, that's right, she was afraid of the police, a remnant of memories from the 'old country', and she didn't want to make a complaint. A Cop

Mafia: Reading about Weaver in the last issue, why would he go to people he believed to be Mafia? Why would they go to him rather than an Armenian council member? Could it be that some of the hatred toward Armenians is misdirected? It looks like the open letter to Drayman should have Weaver added to it. There are a lot of questions he hasn't answered. KG

460s: In answer to a number of communications about the 460 forms, here is the location.
http://www.glendalevotes.org/campaign_disclosures.aspx

Scoop: Once again Vanguard and Barry Allen scooped the L.A. Times and the GNP. This story (Cops to Vegas) was in Vanguard way before other media ran with it. Good job Vanguard, keep it up. MD
<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/02/glendale-cops-investigated-for-using-squad-car-for-las-vegas-trip-road-rage-incident.html>

Casa de Vanguard: I'm going to take a wild guess that Roobik Ovanesian won't be throwing any fundraisers this year at his home or should I say "Casa Del Carmen" soon to be "Casa De U.S. Bank" as the bank is set to foreclose on Monday morning, February 7th. It's amazing that he wasted hours of the councils' time in framing the name of his cottage meanwhile he's missed over \$80,000 in back payments to U.S. Bank. Maybe the City of Glendale can purchase the property and donate it to Vanguard and establish it as Vanguards new headquarters? Please pass a note to Jim Starbird and let him know that he can show up at the Norwalk Courthouse at 10am Monday morning to seal the deal. I can see it now "Casa De Vanguard." CV



Prop 218 illegal water transfers: since 2008 the City Attorney has been trying to figure out how to avoid transferring surplus water fees to back to the GWP. Retired Law Professor Harry Zavos has been presenting his arguments about the illegal transfers for a year and Council members Drayman, Friedman and the Mayor have said Zavos doesn't know what he is talking about. According to the City Attorney, Zavos did know what he was talking about. The following questions will be posed to the Council Tuesday evening:

- A. Eliminate the transfer from the surplus water fund to the general fund in its entirety.
- B. Eliminate the transfer from the surplus water fund to the general fund except where same can be lawfully justified as a payment [or the benefits or burdens the "water enterprise" places on the general fund (so called "cost basis") consistent with the provisions of Proposition 218.
- C. Continue to make the transfer on an annual basis as mandated by the Charter

without regard to the "cost basis" as required under Proposition 218, and defend litigation when and if filed.

This shows us why we need people like Harry Zavos and others to monitor what is going on in the city. MD [ED- Willman Financial Services, the City's consultant, concluded their report thusly: "Although the annual General Fund transfer by GWP-Water complies with the City's Charter, the transfer as it exists today cannot be fully justified as a recovery of cost of service. This conclusion is based on the findings that, with few exceptions, all currently identifiable, justifiable and quantifiable direct and indirect costs are currently being recovered from GWP-Water by the General Fund through an existing program or plan.]

3



Public Information



"Just the facts"

Tierra West is the Consulting firm used by City Management for ADI issues. City paid close to \$250,000 for their services.

"All truths are easy to understand once they have been discovered; the point is to discover them."- Galileo Galilei.

Agendas for the City of Glendale CA



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

Meetings at City Hall (CH) are in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor at 613 E Broadway.

Meetings at the Municipal Services Bldg. (MSB) are in room 105 at 633 E Broadway.

Meetings at the Perkins Bldg (PB) are in the Conference Room at 141 N Glendale Ave.

Phone numbers are in area code 818 unless noted otherwise

Monday, February 7

Water & Power Commission – 4:00 pm, CH 548-2107

City Council -- 6:00 pm, CH 548-4844

Tuesday, February 8

Housing Authority -- Redevelopment Agency 2:30 pm, CH

Joint Meeting – CH RE:

- Negotiating Agreement for property at 111 E. Wilson
- Update on Zoning and Parking Recommendations for S. Brand Blvd.
- The Implementation of the Downtown Mobility Study – Parking Standards

Wednesday, February 9

Planning Hearing Officer – 9:30 am MSB 548-2140

Thursday, February 10

Special Meeting – Parks and Recreation Commission – 2:00 pm, CH 548-2000

Design Review Board #1 – 5:00 pm, MSB 548-2140

4 *Vanguardians*

Vanguard archives are available by clicking – [Home Page of Open Government \(???\) in Glendale California](#)

People from all over LA County are asking for Vanguard and for Vanguardians training. We are expanding our coverage of LA County activities to accommodate the needs of the community.

Vanguard is following these lawsuits and others: the 5 GPD officers; Rodriguez; Gillespie; Hayn; Hunter; Mendoza. The cases cited are from the Randy Adams regime and continue under Chief DePompa.

VANGUARDIANS needs your Continuing Financial Support

Please make checks payable to “VANGUARDIANS” Mail to: POB 11202 Glendale, CA 91226

Your contributions are tax deductible. You will receive a receipt for income tax purposes

- The [Ralph M Brown Act](#) mandates legislative bodies to provide each person an opportunity to speak and requires that agendas are posted and meetings are open.
- The [California Public Records Act](#) (PRA) is the tool to get information about the operations of government.
- The [Political Reform Act of 1974](#) allows public access to the financial reports of public officials.
- www.maplight.org to follow the money trail from special interests to the policy maker

To become more involved in your community, to learn how to use these important tools, call 818 243 1502

5 the Insider

is written by city employees that care about the way the City is run. As they are concerned about retaliation, their identities are secret. Vanguard provides them the opportunity to have this forum. The comments are their own.



Look for Mr. Haghani to take his reorganization plans for his new Department to the Civil Service Commission next week. Unlike in the 90's when the City involved the community to improve service and trust in the City's processes, the current reorganization is just a back room deal to reward selected staff with new titles and salaries at a time when the rest of staff are taking pay cuts.

Keep in mind that they are still trying to figure out how to pay for the remodel of the old police building. Look for management to cut salaried or staff to pay for it next year.

Let's hope for new blood on the City Council from this election. Change there is the only way to achieve change from the current executives.



The GPD has six sworn personnel on administrative leave. That means they get to stay home and collect a 40 hour paycheck. The GNP said the Chief won't share but we are officers that aren't happy with what is going on. Three officers were 'joyriding' in a black and white while on duty and went to Stateline. Another officer was caught on a DUI by the CHP. Another one was involved in a road rage incident in Burbank where he beat up another motorist. Then there was the issue about the officer sleeping with a 'crime victim'. This wasn't the first time for that. Then as you know from your PRAR there was the cover-up on Lt. Fox and the collision with the mobility scooter. We are also concerned about a City Attorney assigned to the PD that is living with one of our Sgts. In our opinion that does not show good judgment.

[ED – Shortly after the [Times](#) wrote about the GPD, Chief DePompa circulated a memo to all personnel not to talk with the press. If they do they could be subject to disciplinary action. A request to the PIO for a copy of the memo went unanswered.]

Your employee Association doesn't support you, DON'T support them. Instead, send your union dues to Vanguardians as allowed by the [Meyers-Milias-Brown Act](#) for LOCAL PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS

6 THE DENIZENS ON THE DAIS



An indictment contains allegations that a defendant has committed a crime. Every defendant is presumed to be innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

In response to the Weaver gibberish...Vanguard presents quotes from the reports from the Glendale Police Department, the Los Angeles County District Attorney and the Fair Political Practices Commission.

Notes from FPPC PRA Dave Weaver 05/0272 merged with 04/624 9-12-05

Notes taken from various investigation files:

In January 2005 Masaderyan gave Weaver an envelope with \$2000 in cash. Weaver asked for names. Masaderyan gave him 4 names indicating each gave \$500.

The names given to Weaver were:

- Bronze House, Inc Development, 501 W Glenoaks #6 91202
- Pioneer Construction, Inc. 639 W Broadway, 91204
- Grigor Kasabyan, 727 Porter St, 91205 Partner in Hypnotic Lounge
- GAG Jewelry, 1446 Capistrano Ave., 91208

[ED – Listed above are the supporters Weaver claimed each paid him \$500.]



- Living at the address on Capistrano was Janet Assaturian who is shown as the Secretary Treasurer on the ABC license for the holding company of the Royal Palace.
- Bronze House was not incorporated until May 19, 2006
- Hypnotic Lounge is ABC licensed under Hypnotica Inc with a resident agent of Tommy Bayatyan of Victorville who is the President according to ABC
- Pioneer had its Corporate Franchise suspended
- There is no listing for GAG Jewelry except the address belongs to Janet Assaturian. See above.
- Musaderyan is shown as the president of the holding company for the Royal Palace. Weaver was unsure of his connection. Weaver voted on a \$40,000 façade improvement funded by the City, for Royal Palace, in May 2006 http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us/government/council_packets/Reports_050206/RA_6b_050206.pdf
- There is no showing that the LADA or the FPPC checked with the 4 names listed on Weavers' 460 form who allegedly each gave \$500.

Chronology:

- Late 2004 City employee Rodriguez introduced Weaver to Musaderyan and Babakhanians
- January 2005 Musaderyan gave Weaver \$2K in cash
- February 16 Weaver met with Steve De Prima LADA, GPD Sgt. Steve Davey & Lt. Gary Montecuolo at Glendale City Hall
- February 19 Weaver filed 460 form showing the \$2K contribution as of Jan 3 broken down to 4 \$500 entries
- March 21 Weaver interviewed by FPPC
- April 25 Weaver meets with ADA Dave Dermerjian who suggests that Weaver come clean with the FPPC
- April 27 FPPC receives Weaver mea culpa letter
- May 5 FPPC receives letter from LADA saying Weaver contacted Glendale PD when he realized that a contributor had connections to organized crime and Weaver was not comfortable working with LADA on possible bribery charges

"You can't win an argument with a Moron, an Idiot, or a Political Bigot" Kraft

When it began?

Weaver*	Quintero	Najarian	Drayman*	Friedman
1997	2001	2005	2007	2009

* Drayman and Weaver terms expire April 2011



7 For Current and Future Politicians

COUNCIL CANDIDATES CITY OF GLENDALE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION APRIL 5, 2011

Drayman, John
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Glendale, CA 91206
(818) 240-2225
councilmanweaver@yahoo.com



Questions we ask of all candidates:

- What is your agenda?
- If you are elected what do you want to achieve?
- Why did you choose to run for public office?
- What are the three major issues facing City Hall?
- What does the picture above represent to you?



Email info@vanguardians.org to subscribe to the Weekly News on issues that impact you.

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