



"Accountability"  
Glendale's Watchdog

## HEADLINES

### What's good for Glendale?

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**

Possible Environmental Health Issues are causing Vanguardians to consult with the CDC in Atlanta, the State Health Department in Sacramento and LA County Department of Health Services in order to evaluate a pocket of acute life threatening issues. Illnesses have included kidney failure, congestive heart disease and breast cancer. The pets in the neighborhood have died during this period. We will be circulating a flyer in the area to determine if there are other illnesses that have occurred in the last 3 years. Other possibilities include the normal illnesses in an aging community. Please contact Barry Allen for more details by return email



#### HEADLINE STORY

What's Good for Glendale is what counts. All too often City Management decides that employees should only work 9 days out of ten, that they should have take home vehicles, that there should be weekly employee get togethers, that work hours should be designed for employees rather than for the public, that the City should start businesses that compete with private employers and lose money. With bankruptcies, foreclosures escalating and a recession looming City Management must share solutions with the Council and options for cutting expenses. The Council took the 'bull by the horns' and told Management that there would be impact fees and tax increment financing of parks and libraries. Management must not raid the general fund and the CIP now that new money has been 'found'.

#### **This just in...**

**Missouri Council Meeting Ends In Gunfire; Five Officials Shot.** "We should not allow this egregious act in Missouri to further deprive the public of their 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights. Our hearts and prayers go to those families and others in need of healing." Barry Allen, executive director of Vanguardians, a grass roots accountability group based in Glendale CA said, "We encourage people to become involved in local government and to use advocacy instead of violence to persuade local government on issues of importance. Words make for advocacy, signs are for activists and washing machine for agitators. In Glendale the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, City Attorney and Directors of Public Works and Planning sit behind a bullet proof dias and a police officer is present as a Sgt at Arms. There have been tense moments when a former Mayor ordered a speaker to be taken out of the Chambers by an armed police officer. A civil rights lawsuit followed that was ultimately dismissed by the Court. The protagonists still verbally spar at Tuesday Council meetings."

**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.

#### **Note to City Clerk**

**Problem – Getting people to register to vote. One solution – Place Voters Registration and information on the Beeline. Other solutions are to connect with cold weather shelters, tenant associations and organizations for the disabled.**

#### **City Council**

For CM Weaver who can't find 'compatible' in Webster's

Etymology: Middle English, from Medieval Latin *compatibilis*, literally, sympathetic, from Late Latin *compati*

Date: 15th century 1: **capable of existing together in harmony**

Barry Allen spoke on...Americana street naming; Questioning the need and wisdom to escalate more money for the Chevy Chase reservoir outreach program and project management (Bob Yousefian picked up on this and questioned City Staff). (Barry was going to question the expenditure of \$1,600,000 for 4 consultants and that item was pulled from the agenda.) Under Oral Communications questions were asked about the total cost of the Gladys Street suits which at this point are about \$10,000,000; the need for restoration of 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights that were taken by the City Manager and the need for staff reports that include pros and cons of each issue – not just what is best for the City employees but what is best for the Glendale public.

Thanks to Herbert Molano for pointing out Political Reform Act issues that required Dave Weaver to recuse himself from a Housing Authority secret meeting, Will this require a review of votes for the past year?

**Weekly Council Scorecard**

Council	2-5-08	Overall	Contact info	\$Mileage
Drayman	B	B	<a href="mailto:jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us">jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>	3,650
Najarian	A	B	<a href="mailto:anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us">anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>	12,268
Quintero	B	B	<a href="mailto:fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us">fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>	11,975
Weaver	D	C	<a href="mailto:dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us">dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>	12,957
Yousefian	A	B	<a href="mailto:byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us">byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>	11,075
			<a href="mailto:SHoward@ci.glendale.ca.us">SHoward@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>	10,835
			<a href="mailto:Starbird@ci.glendale.ca.us">Starbird@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>	10,835

Mileage is the amount paid for use of the official's vehicle, a vehicle allowance for the past two years

City Council will be asked by Management to approve salary increase up to almost 4% to 61 employees represented by the GMA. The staff report indicates there was a comparison with the usual 12 cities rather than private sector. As we all know municipal employees are at the top of the food chain. Time for the Council to ask how much will this cost in payroll and benefits, is it necessary when we should be cutting back, what are the 12 cities, what if we said, 'no'? The solution is for the Council to tell management that pay raises should be doled out based on merit rather than keeping up with the other cities.

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

**Fire Department**



**LUANN - In Glendale the toughest challenge is Bruce Philpott**

[CPRAR 01-20-08. Duties of GFD Captain and GPD Sergeant](#) Then compare their pay.

**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](mailto:logicpoint@aol.com). Philpott was the guest speaker at the recent GHCC meeting.**

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

CDBG Committee is on the right track with changing the audit rules (audits cost \$5,000-\$10,000) so as to leave operating capital for small non-profits. Non-profit operators generally are very passionate about their mission and often don't have considerable business experience something that could be overcome by setting up a non-profit incubator as proposed by Pauline Field several years ago. Meanwhile older, well established and funded organizations should be looking for financing from other sources than City and Federal funds. In the case of New Horizons they provide an excellent service and can afford to host gala events and fundraisers with celebrities such as Charo.



Women, hone your leadership skills in a Leadership Circle. [www.5050leadership.org/Programs.htm](http://www.5050leadership.org/Programs.htm)

5050Leadership is a non-profit organization 501(c)3

**Vanguard** is published independently by *Vanguardians*, Advocating for Accountability– Our vision is to live in a community where all people, regardless of geography, background or economic status, can enjoy accountability, integrity, effectiveness and responsiveness from our elected officials and each of the city's departments, through grass roots involvement, engagement and advocacy.

## CONTENTS:

- |                               |                                |                         |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) <a href="#">Commentary</a> | <a href="#">overnment</a>      | 7) <a href="#">Jump</a> |
| 2) <a href="#">Potpourri</a>  | 4) <a href="#">Vanguard</a>    |                         |
| 3) <a href="#">Open</a>       | 5) <a href="#">The Insider</a> |                         |
|                               | 6) <a href="#">Humor</a>       |                         |

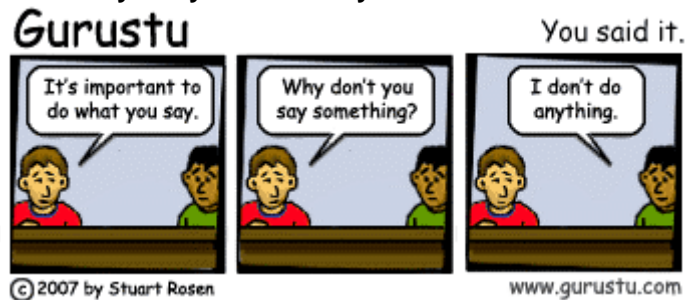
[G](#)

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

**More on Management Style of the City Manager.** The buck stops with the City Council. They can change the management style by changing management. The Council, unlike state and federal legislators, have no staff to analyze the materials put in front of it with a note... "this is the staff's recommendation". When the public receives a sample ballot showing the propositions to vote on, the sample includes pros and cons and the rebuttals to them along with an unbiased staff analysis. Yet our Council, the five of whom together get paid less than a Glendale firefighter, is expected to vote on issues that may have huge unintended consequences like the failure for staff to include a worst case scenario on the tree ordinance. Recently a City Commissioner stated during a commission meeting that had he relied on the staff report he would have voted the way staff wanted. However he went to the site and saw that the staff report was wrong.

The City Manager can take the bold step and look to the best interests of the public instead of granting meritless raises in salary and benefits while attempting to ward off the complaints of mediocre and bad management.

The solution is for the City Council to demand more information from the City Manager. For instance the pay raises on the agenda this week. How much will they really cost and why were those 12 other cities selected?



### **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](#)



WinderSites.com

e-commerce · web hosting · real estate · blog · news

SAVE

\$50

MENTION THIS AD!

## Potpourri

### **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.

RE: Starbird –You have more guts than the City Council. For many years I thought that the City Manager was responsible for the financial fix the City is in. Is it true that the Council makes the final decision but that decision is based on direction by Management? DG

I have never seen such fawning and pandering as was displayed on Tuesday at the special meeting for the naming of Caruso Way. It was like each of the Council members was saying to Mr. Caruso that they too wanted \$17,500 that he gave to Dave Weaver. I would like the City to give me \$100,000,000 worth of downtown property and indeed I would give each of them \$25,000. Where do I apply? JK PS: Why not name the street after the worker that was killed on the job.

I went to the Homeowners Coordinating Council on Monday. Philpott's presentation on the fire department was great. More people should realize how the GFD is putting us in harm's way. LW

Barry – I have a suggestion to bring our community together unlike the GNP that seems to polarize the community. Ask for their opinions and encourage them to share them. CC

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

I couldn't believe my ears when Mr. Zurn told the Council that the reason for the speed limit signs not working in the day time is they were connected to the street lights and there was no daytime power. How much did the brain trust on that one get paid? Also why didn't they use solar power? It would have been cheaper than tearing up sidewalks and pavement.

Barry, please run for City Council. At least you have some integrity!

What a shame that the Mayor and City Manager could not find a Black person to accept the Mayor's Proclamation for Black History Month. Truly a slap in the face to that community, to us all. It reminds me of the Sundown Laws that restricted Blacks in Glendale. There are Black police personnel, Deputy Fire Chief Scoggins and Assistant City Clerk Rita Buchanan, to name just two. The public needs an answer.

**Thank all of you...it is wonderful to meet people at City Hall, at the post office, at the super market, in restaurants and on the street that say, "Thank you for serving the community." It is heartwarming to hear those encouraging words from all ethnicities, genders and cultures. All of us want Glendale to be the Poster City, an icon for other communities. Our downtown renaissance is the catalyst thanks to serious financial investment by top developers. Let us applaud them for their efforts to make Glendale the All-American City, the salad bowl of cultures. Barry**

**LINKS** [Click here for Vanguard Archives by Hal Weber-- Open Government Guide](#) [www.vanguardians.org](http://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 11**

6:30 pm Commission on the Status of Women –, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844  
*Report on women in the fire department*

**Tuesday, February 12**

2:30 pm Glendale Housing Authority, Glendale Redevelopment Agency **Joint Meetings:** City Council Chambers, City Hall,  
6:00 pm Glendale City Council, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

**Wednesday, February 13**

Zoning Administrator's Hearing -- 9:30 am, Municipal Services Building, Room 105, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140  
Civil Service Commission – 5:00 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2110  
Community Open House – Housing Element – 5:00 pm, Room 106, MSB, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140  
Arts Education and Community Outreach Presentation – 7:00 pm, GPD Community Room, 131 N. Isabel St., Glendale. 548-2780

**Thursday, February 14**

Design Review Board #2 -- 5:00 pm, Municipal Services Building, Room 105,633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140

**Monday, February 18**

Federal Holiday – City Offices Closed for President's Day

**Articles** [Uber-gadfly Shirley Grindle](#) has been saying for years that it's time to hand her job over to someone else. And what a job it is, enforcing the Orange County clean-government rules that Grindle is responsible for getting passed over the last 30 years. She scrutinizes campaign statements to see if candidates are taking donations above the limits.

She keeps tabs on index cards, 50,000 of them boxed in a spare room at her house. She notifies the candidates when there's a violation; they grow nervous at the sound of her gravelly voice, and more than nine times out of 10, voluntarily fix the problem.

**Contra Costa Times:** Contra Costa County has a double dose of bad news for its residents and employees. The public can expect at least \$32 million of reduced services this summer, and, at the same time, current and retired government workers will have to pay substantially higher health care premiums, County Administrator John Cullen said in a memo to employees Tuesday. The budget cuts come in part from decades of poor planning for how to pay a ballooning bill for retired workers' medical costs -- which now stands at \$2.6 billion during the next 30 years. To help pay those future

health costs, residents can expect a minimum of \$21 million of budget cuts this summer, said Supervisor Mary Piepho of Discovery Bay.

Those cuts will go even deeper because of declining home values, foreclosures and the state's weak economy. The county will cut an additional \$11 million because property and sales tax revenue is coming in below projections. And that doesn't even factor in the unknown amount of reductions that will trickle down from the state budget mess.

[USA Today:](#) State and local governments have more than \$1 trillion in unfunded liabilities for pensions and retirement medical benefits for public employees. A few governments are discussing how to cut costs:

[Howard Jarvis:](#) A number of lawmakers, who fear they will not be able to fund their favorite programs with state money, are introducing legislation to make it easier for locals to impose new taxes to accomplish the same goals.

### 3 Open Government

**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 about what is in the manual, you must make a public records request and pay 10¢ a page for those pages you would like to have. Another example of our open government!**

**City spent more than \$6,250,000 for outside law firms since 2000.**

**City Attorney doesn't acknowledge request as to whether City will provide a City Attorney to accompany Councilmember Weaver with FPPC and DA meetings or the policy on providing Council members with public record requests responses. The GNP didn't question the cost of that. Solution to the problem: Provide requested documents in electronic form and post to the City Web site.**

**Public records indicate that 100 City employees get free cars, insurance, maintenance and fuel and another 100 get mileage allowances. Is this largesse, that cost about \$2,000,000, an employee perk or for the good of the public? [CPRAR 01-09-08, City of Glendale Vehicle Allowance](#). See 'City Council' for their mileage reimbursements. Included are police motorcycles. "Our nation's greatest traffic highway safety challenge is motorcycle fatalities," [says Transportation Secretary Mary Peters](#), noting that biking deaths are rising while other vehicle fatalities are declining.**

#### [CPRAR 01-27-08, Provide Documents Regarding All Litigation from 01-01-00 thru 12-31-07](#)



City Manager violates our 1st Amendment Rights claiming that his edict will clean up the clutter in the lobby by not allowing unauthorized materials in City Council Chambers. Yet this picture shows a messy table (formerly called a sitting area) with a clutter of authorized city materials. Would a note to the janitor have accomplished the issue of clutter?

### 4 Vanguard

Please welcome Volunteer -- Christopher Bopp who is a junior Spanish major at Siena College in Loudonville, NY. He is from Wantagh, NY. Chris is one of our translators

**We love our volunteers from all over the world. There are volunteers working on our new website under the direction of Chris Winder in Arizona. There are content loaders, researchers and data entry people that will let you play with the numbers on candidate and officeholder reports. Of course there are translators converting**

information into Spanish. We are looking for Armenian and Korean translators. We have a volunteer attorney and several paralegals to do legal research. Soon we will have volunteers watching and reporting on all the Board and Commission meetings. All this and more through the use of technology.

**Wanted: Armenian and Korean Translators— Wanted: Vanguardians** needs a light meter and a sound meter, MSVista compatible Adobe 8, a digital camcorder, a color laser printer with duplexer, a portable document scanner and office space.

**New content on website: Who gets free cars and who gets car allowances? The requirements for Fire Captains and Police Sergeants are posted. The former are paid more and the latter have more requirements for the job.**

**VANGUARDIANS**

Please make checks payable to “**VANGUARDIANS**” Mail to: POB 11202 Glendale, CA 91226  
If contributing by Credit Card call 818 243 1502  
**Checks are best -- the bank doesn't discount them**  
Contributions are tax deductible – Rev. Proc. 92-85, 1992-42 I.R.B. 32 –  
You will receive a receipt for income tax purposes

Email [Vanguard1@charter.net](mailto: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.**

© 2008 Vanguard is intended for personal use by recipient and forwarding without change to recipient's personal email list. Vanguardians is in legal formation as a 501C3 charitable non-profit corporation under Rev. Proc. 92-85, 1992-42 I.R.B. 32. Contributions are tax deductible. To ensure you continue to receive Vanguard, please add our email addresses [Uvanguard1@charter.net](mailto:Uvanguard1@charter.net), [Uvanguard1@charterinternet.com](mailto:Uvanguard1@charterinternet.com) and [Uba@fieldworks.net](mailto:Uba@fieldworks.net) - to your address book or Internet Service Provider safe list. [UAnnual subscription for email \\$50, by US Mail \\$75, Newsstand \\$2 per issue.](#) Copyrighted materials used with permission.

## 5 the Insider

It isn't a secret but people are talking about a certain City Councilmember being called in for some meetings with various enforcement agencies. According to the stories, Barry Allen is the reason for this renewed interest in the Council member who fears that neither the City Manager nor the City Attorney will be able to help this time as they have no control over the arena. High ranking City employees are buzzing over Mr. Allen's remarks about the effect of alcoholism on the memory of the elderly when Weaver forgot what he was going to say at a Council meeting.

## 6 Humor



Brewster Rockit -- Ain't that the Truth

## 7 Jump

**Oral Communications: Alcohol and the Elderly:** [The Potential for Undue Influence While Under the Influence](#) by Vivian Clayton, Ph.D. Dr. Vivian Clayton, PhD is a geriatric neuropsychologist in private practice in Orinda, California. *Susceptibility to Undue Influence. (Excerpt)*

... individuals with a drinking problem are very vulnerable to undue influence. The more severe the alcoholism, the more immediate is their physical craving for alcohol, and whoever supplies it may invite dependence by the elder. Family members and close family friends, unfortunately, are often in a good position to influence older, alcoholic family members, who will later have no memory of having signed a document while inebriated. In most cases involving undue influence there is a relative/friend who is isolating the elder. In cases of alcoholism, it is often the elder themselves who choose isolation so as to further continue the drinking. If retrograde amnesia is dense enough, a trust can be changed even without the elder being inebriated, and they will not remember having signed the documents.