



“Accountability”
Glendale’s Watchdog



Glendale is a better city than it was four years ago.

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 advocacy



‘Glendale is a better city than it was four years ago,’ were the words spoken by Ara Najarian at the first candidate’s forum sponsored by the Unified Young Armenians at the Central library on Sunday.

‘I worked very hard in the last four years to make Glendale a better city.’ Mr. Najarian must wear rose colored glasses as he has failed to see that downtown Glendale is a morass of empty retail and Class A office space and that roads are not repaired. Apparently Mr. Najarian spends his time with government employees who haven’t missed an annual Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increase since he was elected in 2005. Somehow or other Najarian missed the large number of foreclosures, disconnects by GWP, loss of sales tax revenue and the end of development. He hasn’t seen the homeless, the unemployed and the attorney’s that can’t pay their rent in Class A buildings. There must be a disconnect from reality.



For the first time out on such an ambitious project the Unified Young Armenians did an excellent job even providing a translator for the mixed audience.

The question on the absentee ballot application came up. CCM Najarian and Quintero spoke to absentee ballots not applications. If the City Council is confused can you imagine the voters. Fortunately CCM Yousefian straightened out that matter and he gave a timetable as to the attempts to legislate rent control, following a question on that topic. A question on lowering the American flag for the Armenian Genocide tripped up Friedman and Teahan who were unfamiliar wit that emotional topic from the past.

Conspicuous by his absence at the Forum was candidate Edward Lafian

Clarification: The vote below was taken to add a Budget Administrator

7. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES [August 19, 2008]

a. Ordin. #5623 Providing for Certain Officers, Subordinate Officers, Assistants, Deputies, Clerks, & Employees of the City of Glendale & for their Compensation (Adding Budget Administrator Classification) (GMA-Exempt) – Offered 8-12-08 (Yousefian) Moved: Yousefian Seconded: Weaver
Vote as follows: Ayes: Najarian, Quintero, Weaver, Yousefian, Drayman

On June 17 the only CCM that consistently voted NO (with one exception) was Yousefian. One of the salary provisions included both Market and Cost of Living increases. The only Urgency Ordinance CCM Quintero voted NO on was one that would provide the annual increase in benefits to top management including police and fire. [Te](#)
[on the agenda.](#)

This Chart shows the Employee Union contributions

	Firefighters	GMA	GPOA	GCEA	2008
Najarian	\$5000	\$4500	\$2500	\$3000	\$15,000
Quintero	\$5000	\$4500	\$2500	\$3000	\$15,000
Total	\$10,000	\$9000	\$5000	\$6000	\$30,000

Barry Allen is available to speak to your group to share the hidden agenda and tell you the truth about the Utility Users Tax. Vanguardians isn’t being provided with \$40,000 of your taxpayer money to promote its side of the issue. This is an opportunity for you to vote to keep your money in your wallet or purse!

MONDAY MORNING MOTIVATION MEETINGS

Are you an entrepreneur? Self-employed? Have a home-based business?

This Monday from 7:00 – 7:45 a.m. start the week off strong.

Bring your coffee and join others like you to turn the bad news into **gold** for your business.

Give yourself an edge; come to 100 North Brand Blvd, 6th Floor Conference Room.

Just \$5

90 Minutes of FREE Parking at the Exchange City Garage on Maryland

For more information: www.fieldworks.net/MondayMorningMotivation.htm

Or call 818.243.4864

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 fear retaliation, send them to Vanguardians and we'll share them with the appropriate department assuring your anonymity.

City Council report card

Council	2-10	Contact info
Drayman	C	jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us ;
Najarian	B	anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us ;
Quintero	C+	fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us ;
Weaver	D	dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us ;
Yousefian	A	byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us ;

Drayman - for an emotional rant calling to mind all of his gracious acts of kindness towards a Rent Control Advocate

Najarian - for keeping an open mind and challenging the planning dept and advisory group on their opposition of artificial turf usage

Quintero - for assisting in the initiation of a special set back ordinance that narrowly gained support

Weaver - for walking out of a special city meeting and continuously grandstanding the public

Yousefian - for taking the extra step and assisting a Glendale resident living in substandard conditions



Council Reporter **Laurel Miller has the day off as she is busy producing the NBA All Star weekend. The day job must come first!!**

Vanguard is published independently by *Vanguardians, Inc.* 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.

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



From the Publisher... We posted the reponses to the Vanguardians candidate questionnaires on our website. [The direct link can be found in #7.] Four candidates chose not to respond including CCM Quintero. I can understand Stepanian not responding as he is asking the Council to bail out his Luna Playhouse. Lafian is a newcomer and may not be prepared to answer questions that would give him an insight into the machinations of government. I was quite surprised that Gharpetian didn't keep his word

about responding. There are many reasons why respondents to a community watchdog group would ignore an opportunity to have their responses to questions posted on an impartial website. Here are some of the conclusions you can draw from that failure:

- Too busy
- Truthful answers are difficult
- I want to be consistent now and if I get (re-)elected to be able to continue ignoring my constituents.
- I don't want to display my ignorance
- Nothing in writing that will stick to me in the future

You can make up your own reasons. You can also ask the four why they chose not to respond. When someone might say that Vanguardians has no credibility you can remind them that Vanguardians was selected by the City Council to provide the Argument Against the UUT. CCM Quintero did not vote as he was not in attendance to vote.

Barry Allen's statement to City Council: "4 points I would like to make this evening, time permitting

#1 I would like to thank the Council and Management for listening to and accepting many of our suggestions for cutting expenses, such as take home cars, enterprise businesses and other suggestions.

Another suggestion was to look at and evaluate the use of Consultants. I asked for information as to the number of consultants and contract workers. No one has been able to provide that information. That is just one more issue to show that management is out of control.

There was no acknowledgement by the Council

#2 The terms of the parking structure land lease for the Americana require the City to charge for extra police services and the Americana to pay for them. We have attempted to obtain the invoice and payment information under the PRA and to date there are none for the services on 11-15 and over the Christmas holidays. That is revenue that our City needs.

There was no acknowledgement by the Council

#3 The advertisement for the UUT includes the words, "treated fairly" what does that mean? That I will pay the same fee as everyone else or that I will get the same service as everyone else or that we will all pay 6.5%. Then it goes on to read – "preserve funding for essential services like police, fire protection, parks and libraries" Does that mean the funds raised by this tax will go directly to funding public safety, parks and libraries? Or does that mean the funds raised will go to the General Fund to be used as Council chooses?

There was no acknowledgement by the Council. We need to ask the elected officials about their intent.

#4 I was taken aback when I saw a VONS delivery truck on campus. The driver was delivering some 200 orders of food – snacks, sodas, coffee, chili, chunky soups. \$1100 worth delivered to Management Services. Who was this food for? Why are tax dollars being used for this? How many of these \$1100 purchases does the City make each year? Glendale has a contract with an outside vendor for vending machines filled with drinks and snacks for employee use.

I know that \$1100 is a tic in the grand scheme of things in the wealthy City of Glendale but there are residents here who could use that \$1100 just to survive. In fact that \$1100 could buy 31,428 meals according to Feed The Children PO Box 36 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-0036. Is this fiscal accountability? Many of us are tired of your grubbing for our money while the numbers of foreclosures increase; as businesses close down and employee salaries and benefits increase and as the City retains more consultants. At some point this insanity must stop.

CM Starbird started his explanation which was hollow at best but he did acknowledge that my point was made. They buy snacks several times a year. CCM Weaver, no doubt feeling guilty about his girth, walked out but I called him on that. It was his second walk for the day.

Next week I will talk about the Tough Love that needs to be shown to our legislators whom we have allowed to seize the Treasury and turn it into salaries. You will see a comparison of year to year gross salary information.

Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. [**Albert Einstein**](#)

Today, grab that check book and send a check so Vanguardians can continue to represent you and your fellow Glendalians.

Barry Allen

Commentary: PILLSBURY DOUGHBOY BRINGS HIS FRIENDS TO THE CANDIDATES' FORUM.



The candidates have spoken and they put their thoughts on paper. Now we have a menu to choose from. Here is my evaluation of the candidates at the Unified Young Armenian forum and their answers to Vanguard's questions.

We essentially have four groups of candidates: The half-baked cookie monsters, the Pillsbury dough boys and girls, the low-fat Nutribars and the Slow-cookers. First let's clear the table.

Half-baked cookie monsters: Lafian and Stepanian. Who removed their nutritional label? We can't tell anything from the packaging. One missing in action, the other - Not much credible substance there.

The Pillsbury dough group. Squishy, malleable, add yeast, shape to suit. Najarian, Friedman, and Teahan - Lots of carbohydrates. Most values not fully cooked.

Nutribars: Keuroghelian, and Solis. One bite and you get all your supplements. Concise, cut to the chase, pack and go, though Keuroghelian was non-committal on rent control.

Slow cooker stew: Yousefian, Kazazian, Philpott. Mix and heat for eight hours. Plenty of substance, but lots and lots of cooking time.

My choices for now: The slow cookers. Though I suspect this crowd would double the time of the council meetings. The Nutribars have a slim chance of getting elected, but Solis was the only one wearing the pants at that forum. Want a woman who can teach these wimps a thing or two about fortitude and values? She would be your choice.

Evaluation: Slow cookers: Ask for the time and they'll tell you how to build a watch. Nutribars: People either love them or hate them. Mostly clear values and no muddled thinking there. Pillsbury dough team: Ready to adapt their message to the audience. The Pillsbury dough group may be shaped into something unrecognizable if elected.

Off the menu: Quintero and Gharpetian. Won't have their views nailed down to a written page. Ask a values question and you get an ambiguous answer. Open a slot on the Pillsbury dough boy team. Great smiles and lots of sweets for young and old alike.

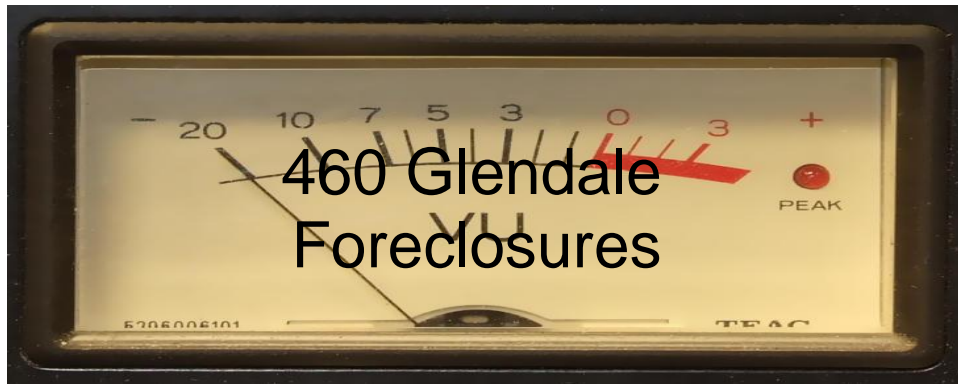
Candidates views on key topics: On rent control: Wishy-washy: Friedman, Gharpetian, Najarian, Keuroghelian, Stepanian, Teahan, Yousefian, Quintero. Against: Kazazian, Philpott, Solis. On lowering of the American Flag in recognition of the Armenian genocide: In Favor: Teahan, Friedman. Against: Solis. Other candidates were not asked that question.

For the next round, be on the lookout for the vague answer, the backpedaling: "I really didn't mean that" and the feel good, sound nice, but meaningless expressions: "Government grows from the ground up." You can put those faux opinions on our sumptuous bed of fluffy rice garnished with a sprout of deep-green parsley. Bon appétit.

Herbert Molano

[A note from the Publisher: CCM Najarian has not been happy with the Commentaries by Mr. Molano and has requested that Vanguard muzzle him. This publication believes in and supports the 1st Amendment and reminds CCM Najarian that, as he is a public figure, he falls under the shining spotlight of an inquisitive press. Unlike the GNP, Vanguard gets no revenue from the City of Glendale. Our editorial advisory committee provides their comments regarding each issue. Apparently they are comfortable with the weekly content as are thousands of readers. CCM Najarian is an attorney by trade and as an Officer of the Court hevtakes an [oath](#) to support our Constitutions. Yet when it came time to allow Vanguard and other media to be present in City Hall he did not take a stand in support of the 1st Amendment. CCM Quintero did.

A 1964 case before the U. S. Supreme Court [New York Times vs Sullivan](#) returned this decision: This proposition has disquieting implications for criticism of governmental conduct. For good reason, "no court of last resort in this country has ever held, or even suggested, that prosecutions for libel on government have any place in the American system of jurisprudence." *City of Chicago v. Tribune Co.*, 307 Ill. 595, 601, 139 N. E. [376 U.S. 254, 292] 86, 88 (1923). The present proposition would sidestep this obstacle by transmuting criticism of government, however impersonal it may seem on its face, into personal criticism, and hence potential libel, of the officials of whom the government is composed. There is no legal alchemy by which a State may thus create the cause of action that would otherwise be denied for a publication which, as respondent himself said of the advertisement, "reflects not only on me but on the other Commissioners and the community." Raising as it does the possibility that a good-faith critic of government will be penalized for his criticism, the proposition relied on by the Alabama courts strikes at the very center of the constitutionally protected area of free expression. [30](#) We hold that such a proposition may not constitutionally be utilized to establish that an otherwise impersonal attack on governmental operations was a libel of an official responsible for those operations. Since it was relied on exclusively here, and there was no other evidence to connect the statements with respondent, the evidence was constitutionally insufficient to support a finding that the statements referred to respondent. The judgment of the Supreme Court of Alabama is reversed and the case is remanded to that court for further proceedings not inconsistent with this opinion.]



Don't Blame the Realtors



While 1.7 million people in California are currently unemployed and while another 46,000 homes in Los Angeles County currently sit in pending foreclosure status, many homeowners now ask themselves - How did we get here? It's becoming more and more often that you see all the fingers pointing in the direction of the Realtors and other professionals that work in the real estate industry. To all those that believe the Realtors are solely or in part responsible for the housing bubble gone wrong - try again.

While it is true that many fly by night Realtors jumped into the California real estate game with hopes of getting rich quick, it's simply inaccurate to rest the blame of a housing foreclosure bust on the backs of the Realtors. If there was any particular industry that is to be held responsible for the current economic crunch we now find ourselves in, that my friends can be chalked up to none other than the lending institutions.

The fact remains that it was the credit and lending institutions that provoked and allowed this train wreck to occur. Lenders were handing out loans to every Tom, Dick, and Harry that lived, breathed, and could sign loan documents. Forget about that little thing known as employment and income. If you had good credit and could breath, you got yourself a loan! Many fell right into the trap. Congratulations, you just qualified to purchase a house! You too can achieve the American Dream!

No one would tell you that your American Dream would shortly end up being your American Nightmare. "Don't worry about the loan interest rate and payment adjusting in a few years," many lenders told home buyers. Just refinance the loan once you get close to the expiration and by that time you would have tons of equity built up in your home. Unfortunately, that much awaited and highly anticipated friend called "equity" never showed up at the front door step and those God awful loans came due. Monthly mortgage payments of \$2,000 jumped, in many cases, to \$5,000 and \$6,000 per month. Families caught flat out with their pants down and the lenders laughed all the way to the bank.

Next time you wonder how it is that the housing bubble did finally burst. Just pick up the phone and call the banker that sold you your loan. That is, if he or she hasn't high tailed it to a foreign country or if their phone number still works. You might want to try reaching them in the Virgin Islands, if you don't mind disturbing them from their evening cocktail served beach side. **Christian Arbid**

The writer is a Glendale Resident, Real Estate Broker and Loss Mitigator. www.ThisMarketSucks.com 818.232.7899 Questions Relating to Foreclosures, Short Sales, Saving Your Home, Loan Modifications.....Email Christian at christianarbid@gmail.com and your question will be answered in the next edition of Vanguard.

The only way to make sure people you agree with can speak is to support the rights of people you don't agree with. [ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON](#)

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

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](#)

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Potpourri ED – Letters published do not necessarily express the opinion of Vanguardians, this publication, 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 will be published that are signed and are not hate oriented.



We get mail: Believe you had a typo error where you gave Weaver a "B" grade and FQ a "D". Something is wrong there. Hope we can see you at the CDBG meeting on Feb 9th. Your

presence in my opinion will lend some credibility to CDBG. Hope your agenda will allow you to sandwich it in? Again, re-check that "D" grade for FQ. It should have been meant for Weaver, not Quintero. CG

In the last two weeks, we have heard from three sources, two of which I deem highly credible, that Ara plans to spend a ton of money to stuff as many ballot boxes with pre-filled in ballots from his constituency, to secure re-election, the sole purpose being to launch his campaign to supplant Mike Antonovich as L.A. County Supervisor in 2012. Can you imagine the bloviating from this buffoon we will be subjected to if he is re-elected?

When I see our beloved councilman swaggering about in his ancient letterman's jacket from Occidental, I really wonder about the "O" on the jacket; is it a letter symbol, as in "the scarlet letter", standing for Oaf, or is it a numerical symbol, representing his intelligence quotient. We will really need to keep an eye on him. CJ

In my view any Glendale CCM accepting money from city unions causes a conflict of interest, period. This should never be allowed. The CCM are all disgusting politicians -- just like Congress, only on a smaller scale. Law should be changed regarding city union contributions -- absolutely should not be allowed. You, Barry, should receive funds for the opposing view (re. utility tax) just like the city. I truly appreciate all of your efforts in city business. **Marlene Walker**

Thank you for continuing to send me *Vanguard Weekly News* each week. On Page 2 of this week's edition you make reference to the Mayor's State of the City Address to be given at a Chamber event being held at the Hilton. You state that an event of this type should be held at "our very own Civic Auditorium rather than an outside venue." We do not consider the Hilton Glendale an outside venue. They are a member of the Glendale Chamber of Commerce located in Glendale and provide considerable revenue for the city. To date, we have not signed a contract with any venue for this event, so you are incorrect, at this point, in stating the event is to be held at the Hilton. It is true that the event has been held at the Hilton for many years -- and it may be held there this year. We are negotiating with several venues and will announce the location this coming week.

This is a Chamber-sponsored event. One of the purposes of the event is to showcase the many positive aspects of our city and have our mayor address our members and other business people and residents about the state of the city. Each year we make a formal request of the Mayor to speak at this event. We appreciate the fact that our request has been honored for many years and that the city participates in the event; however, the most important purpose of the event is to present awards to individuals and businesses that have made extraordinary contributions to our city and to the Glendale Chamber.

In selecting a venue, we consider the number of people we will accommodate and what is most cost effective and provides the best service and convenience for our guests and those who support us. I'm certain you are aware that Parks & Recreation is not in the business of providing catering and decor, the cost for which is extremely high for 400 plus people when purchased separately from the venue. The Chamber has contracted with Parks & Recreation for use of the Civic Auditorium in the past when it was the appropriate venue for certain Chamber events, and we plan to do so in the future when appropriate.

Again, thank you for sending *Vanguard Weekly News*, and we hope you will attend the 2009 State of the City/Awards Luncheon on April 2nd (venue tba). I'm sure you will hear one of the best ever State of the City addresses and have an opportunity to honor some great Glendale leaders and volunteers.

Best regards, Judee Kendall

RESPONSE: Actually the Mayor and I spoke of that issue two weeks ago. As it is a state of the city message we spoke about the need to showcase city owned venues and the need to drive revenue to pay for all the expenses of the City. This is not meant as a reflection on the Chamber. Have you ever considered the Civic Auditorium as a venue?

The American Flag must not be lowered for any other cause other than the sacrifice of men and women for an American cause. Such a proposal resurfaced at Sunday's Young Armenian Forum at the Central Library.

Over one million men and women in uniform have died to protect it. Thousands of police and firemen have died in the line of duty. We must honor their bravery and their service by lowering the American Flag only for their sacrifice and no other alien cause, irrespective of the atrocity. We must honor the sacrifice that the children, siblings and parents have made at the loss of someone dear to them who lost a life so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have.

For those who think so highly of the American Flag that you seek from its symbolism recognition of the inhumanity perpetrated in lands far away by suggesting the lowering of the American Flag to half-staff, your deference, though well-meaning, is seriously misplaced.

I am dismayed by Laura Friedman and Michael Teahan's support for such a proposal at last night's United Young Armenian Forum. Who besides Bruce Philpott, and Lenore Solis will stand up for the honor of America's symbol?



As a former U.S. Marine who served in Viet-Nam, I hold in the highest honor our pledge to preserve the dignity of our flag. The symbol that everyone in uniform signed up to defend defines the country we love and the spirit that must endure.

We lower the flag for no-one but our own. Herbert Molano

CCM Najarian was talking Armenian fluently, he has improved a lot, just a few months ago he was speaking broken Armenian, he must have a good mentor. I guess he'll do anything to gain the Armenian vote. DM



Utility Users Tax: Official Argument against Measure U

The City of Glendale wants you to vote for a measure they say will cut your telecommunications tax rate. In fact it will INCREASE YOUR TAXES because the City will increase the number of devices and services you pay taxes on. If a non-taxed service is bundled with a taxed service you will be taxed on BOTH!

Don't be fooled the money goes into the General Fund to pay salaries. The tax is NOT earmarked for essential services. That is scare talk.

- The existing 7% tax is only on a portion of your telephone service, while the 6.5% tax will tax many additional uses like watching TV on your cell phone and those not even invented.
- This is a general tax. As it is not earmarked it will be used for City salaries and benefits.
- City documents show that this measure WILL increase your overall telecommunication taxes.
- An affirmative vote will make it more difficult to challenge the law when it is wrong.

A 'NO' vote will save you money.

Taxpayers and families are facing loss of jobs, foreclosures, higher food prices, declining home values and higher utility rates.

Vote 'NO' if you want to cut your tax bill.

Remember the \$100K club, 523 city employees being paid between \$100,000 and \$250,000 in 2007, not counting benefits. In 2008 they received \$8,000,000 in raises from your pocket.

A 'NO' vote is a vote for accountability.

A 'NO' vote means money in your pocket.

A 'NO' vote sends a message to council to live within their means like we do.

A 'NO' vote may mean a refund of the onerous tax.

Vanguardians, Inc.

s//
Barry Allen, Exec. Director

s//
Christian Arbid, Director

s//
Pauline Field, Director, VP

You can cast your 'vote' on the UUT-Telecom in the Vanguardians poll located on the [Vanguardians Home page](#). The tally is available for everyone to see.

So far, 83.3% are opposed to the UUT; 8.3% are undecided and 8.3% are for the tax

**We have the ability to break this cycle of abuse,
of insanity by saying and voting, 'NO!'**

Well folks, the City hasn't been quite honest with us. They said this ballot proposition was revenue neutral. If that was the case, there would be no need for an election. It Is NOT Revenue Neutral.

They have said the revenue will go for public safety, parks and libraries. If that was the case this would be a special election where the tax revenue is directed to a specfic expense. It is not earmarked. If it were it would requires a 4/5 vote not a simple majority. Had the City been honest about this proposition and truthful the voters would be less likely to vote NO.

We really need an accountable city government and elected officials. It is time for a change.



We get calls: Thanks for calling Weaver on walking out during your oral communications. He must not want the taxpayers to know that we feed him during his all day sessions at City Hall. No wonder the Vons order contained Airwick. Weaver also walked out of the Special Session devoted to the Najarian Regional Aquatic Center.

The Realtors want more public safety, the homeowner associations want more buildable land taken for open space which takes away sorely needed revenue to pay salaries, benefits and consultants and contractors to do the work. Here is my suggestion: Realtors should gift to the City's General Fund 1% of the gross commission they receive from selling real estate and home owners associations can make donations to the City to help make up for the money that wasn't received for property taxes on land that wasn't built on. Those actions would show that they are willing to put their money into the actions they want the City to take.

I saw Herbert Molano on the Larry Zarian Forum. He appeared to be very articulate in his responses to Zarian. It appeared to me that the woman who called in and spoke of Molano as being an angry person when speaking to the Council was mistaken. I think she was confusing Molano with Mohill, the very angry speaker.



Man on the Street: If the Realtors want the UUT let them donate their money...not mine! I am tired of subsidizing every special interest group that has the ear of the Council and Management.



We get and answer questions: Who got the biggest pay check in 2008? Who were in the top 10? How many in the club this year? These answers and more...next week.

Suggested Articles: [I am running for Council because they made me take down my Halloween decorations.](#) How different is that than someone running for Council because they want subsidy for their theater or someone running for college board because they want a curriculum change? It behooves every voter to understand why people run for Council and what they hope to achieve.



Click to view the agenda [City Council](#) [Housing Authority](#) [Redevelopment Agency](#)
Monday, February 16 All City Offices and Library Branches Closed – President's Day Federal Holiday

Tuesday, February 17

2:30 pm Housing Authority -- Redevelopment Agency -- **Joint Meeting:** City Council/ Housing Authority/ Redevelopment Agency RE: Proposed Affordable Multi-Family Rental Housing Project, 3685 San Fernando Road City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

6:00 pm Glendale City Council --, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

Wednesday, February 18

Planning Commission – 5:00 pm, Room 105, Municipal Services Building, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140

Thursday, February 19

Arts & Culture Commission – 2:00 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2000

Design Review Board #1 -- 5:00 pm, Municipal Services Building, Room 105, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140



Public Information

President Obama Promotes Open Government

President Obama in his first 24 hours in Office issued a series of Executive Orders. One of the Orders dealt with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) activity of federal government agencies. Quoting Justice Louis Brandeis, President Obama declared "sunlight is the best disinfectant." President Obama further stated "in our democracy, the Freedom of Information Act, which encourages accountability through transparency, is the most prominent

expression of a profound national commitment to ensuring an open Government. At the heart of that commitment is the idea that accountability is in the interest of the Government and the citizenry alike."

President Obama declared the Freedom of Information should be administered with a clear presumption of openness. In response to Freedom of Information requests, executive branch agencies should act promptly and in a spirit of cooperation, recognizing that such agencies are servants of the public. Recognizing that transparency promotes accountability and information maintained by the Federal Government is a national asset, President Obama also declared that all agencies should bring in a culture of open Government. The Executive Order further directed the agencies to take affirmative steps to make information public especially using modern technology and not wait for specific requests.

The President's Executive orders also included active collaboration that engages citizens in the work of their Government, innovation and public feedback as the bedrock of the new administration. Using knowledge in a dispersed society, the orders also called for increased opportunities for citizens to participate in policymaking and to provide the Government with the benefits of the citizen's collective expertise and information.

Possibly CCM Weaver will invoke and quote the President once again as he did at the special swimming pool meeting prior to his taking a hike.


4 *Vanguardians*

Wanted: Working notebook computer loaded with XP operating system

Get breaking Glendale News by signing up for an RSS feed at www.vanguardians.org

***VANGUARDIANS needs your financial support
in these recessionary times.***

Please make checks payable to "**VANGUARDIANS**"
Mail to: POB 11202 Glendale, CA 91226
Contributions are tax deductible – You will receive a receipt for income tax purposes
You may also donate online at www.vanguardians.org

5  **the Insider** is a digest of information from 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.



6 Humor



7 The Election Process: [Read Candidate Campaign Contribution Statements](#)

[Read responses to Vanguardians questionnaire](#)

[Glendale Municipal Election April 7, 2009: Candidate Contact Information](#)

[2009 Glendale City Council Election Forum Schedule](#) Thanks to Hal Weber

Letter: Sure looks like there are a number of spoilers in the coming election. Lafian, Stepanian, Gharpetian, Teahan, Kazazian, Friedman and Solis. I can't figure for the life of me why they are running. Keuroghelian has been very articulate in the past about the waste of tax dollars in public safety and Philpott has been speaking on budget issues and solutions to the present financial problems. And then there are the incumbents. I personally would like to see Najarian as a one-termer and Quintero with a goodbye card. I like Yousefian because he is the underdog and even though Council and Staff keep kicking him he rises to the occasion and speaks for us all just like you, Barry Allen. **Gene Scott**

8 Public Safety



Can you explain why the State pays firefighters \$50,000 a year and the Feds pay them \$30,000 a year and Glendale pays them an average of \$150,000 per year [not including benefits]? [ED – Good question. Suggest you ask CCM Najarian, Quintero or Weaver.]

Is it true that a pension received for a disability means that the pensioner doesn't have to pay income tax?

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