



“Accountability”  
Glendale’s Watchdog

In Memoriam  
Dick Murray  
February 2009

**Vanguard**  
Weekly News Vol IV  
Week of March 1, 2009  
City of Glendale, CA Edition  
[www.vanguardians.org](http://www.vanguardians.org)  
818 745 6770

## Firefighters Walk Streets for Money from Quintero, Najarian and Friedman

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



Firefighters PAC found a third candidate to endorse and fund through their PAC. They wanted a guarantee of three votes to make sure the pot is sweetened even though they are saying at the bargaining table they are willing to make concessions. Keep in mind that a \$250,000 firefighter will cost at least \$40,000 in benefits and cost to the City or a total cost of \$290,000. CCM Najarian said effectively at the Dunsmore Forum that the Firefighter endorsements mean that they will walk precincts to support their favorite candidates, Quintero and Najarian who have yet to ask for accountability from the GFD and now we know why. They were prepared to spend \$41,000,000 on unnecessary building remodels even when there was nothing but borrowed money available. There was borrowed money for that but nothing for a public pool to benefit us all.

- City loses Ovasapyan vs. CoG (GPD and two police detectives) for a cost of over a million dollars. The filing documents can be found on the Vanguardians website. In 2005 the plaintiff was arrested for a home invasion robbery and the murder of a resident. He was taken to jail and then police notified various media that the murder was solved in hours. The GPD was accused of failing to investigate exculpatory evidence (DNA, alibi and cell phone records); The plaintiff was sent to County jail where he languished for 8 months suffering assaults. The LA District Attorney’s office found the DNA didn’t match and released Ovasapyan. In the interest of Justice, The City moved the case to Federal Court where all 12 of the jurors must agree on a verdict. They did agree...against the City. The case could have been settled for less than \$1/2M. City Attorney fought subpoenas for CM Starbird and CCM Weaver to testify in this case.
- 592 City Employees, members of the \$100K Club shared in **\$79,865,958.14** 69 employees were added to the \$100K Club this year (2008).
- Forum moderator Will Rogers says there will be no more flag questions in candidate forums he moderates.
- City Clerk does not post the GMA political contributions. Neither does the Secretary of State, necessitating a complaint filing.
- [From the LA Times](#): In a bid to potentially raise hundreds of millions of dollars for ailing city coffers, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa is exploring whether to allow a private party to lease the city's parking structures and possibly its meters. While Glendale prepares to spend millions on a parking service contract.
- **March 15 Parcher Plaza (City Hall) 2PM Protest against high utility rates Sponsored by Aram Kazazian candidate for City Council. Vanguardians will be there to explain why you should vote NO on the Utility Users Tax. Volunteers and presenters wanted.**
- **First set of pre-election campaign disclosures are available at City Clerk**
- [Judge rules state workers' pay can be cut to federal minimum wage when budget is late](#)
- [Search warrants served on Temple City Council members By Alfred Lee, Staff Writer](#)

Posted: 02/25/2009 08:17:16 PM PST San Gabriel Valley Tribune

TEMPLE CITY - Armed investigators searched City Hall and several council members' homes Wednesday morning as prosecutors widened their probe into allegations that city leaders demanded bribes from a developer in return for cooperation on his project. Guns drawn, Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office officials exercised search

warrants at City Hall and at the homes of Temple City Mayor Cathe Wilson, council members Judy Wong and David Capra, former City Council candidate Scott Carwile, as well as the home of the development's former project manager, Jay Liyanage, said David Demerjian, head of the DA's Public Integrity Division.

**If the GNP, the Chamber of Commerce or ANC want to collaborate on a program with the proper mechanism to challenge the candidates, we could work out an excellent educational program to prepare voters for the coming election.**

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

**Problems with event calendaring – Vanguardians hosts a community calendar. All you need to do to calendar your events is to go to [www.Vanguardians.org](http://www.Vanguardians.org) register and request event calendar training. That's it! Just enter the invitation code [bavg2009](#)**

**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.**

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

City Council report card

Council	2-24	Contact info
Drayman	C-	<a href="mailto:jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us">jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;
Najarian	A	<a href="mailto:anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us">anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;
Quintero	B+	<a href="mailto:fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us">fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;
Weaver	B+	<a href="mailto:dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us">dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;
Yousefian	A+	<a href="mailto:byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us">byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us</a> ;

- Drayman - Til this day, no one understands the "Red herrings and illegitimate children" comments ??? What ??????
- Najarian - for truly clearing the air and allowing the public to understand why Najarian's legal career never took off.
- Quintero - for showing his true colors while allowing the "vulture" within to become unleashed.
- Weaver - for going on long tirades and being extra vocal during the entire meeting. We love it when Weaver is alive.
- Yousefian - for being smart enough to miss this week's meeting in its entirety and decided to leave the circus acts for Barnum and Bailey.

[Glendale Family Jewels](#) speaks to the Election



**Council Reporter**

**Laurel Miller is off this week**

Council Candidate Ratings will be included in Vanguard next week. The rating committee is diligently working.

Friedman, Kazazian, Keuroghelian, Najarian, Philpott, Solis, Teahan and Yousefian will be rated. Four other candidates chose not to commit themselves in writing and will not be rated.

**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.

**CONTENTS:**

- 1) [Commentary](#)
- 2) [Potpourri](#)
- 3) [Public Records](#)
- 4) [Vanguardians](#)
- 5) [The Insider](#)
- 6) [Humor](#)
- 7) [Candidates](#)
- 8) [Public Safety](#)



1

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



From the Publisher....Message to Council during Oral Communications & Just one more chance, one more fix...you'll see

In response to hundreds of people asking whether Vanguardians is going to hold a candidates forum, the answer is, "no". There is a good reason for that. The present system allows a candidate to provide the wrong information to the audience.

Here are some examples: CCM Quintero stated that Glendale is in good financial shape with \$450,000,000. The moderator had no mechanism to call Quintero on that. Let me answer the statement by saying that if Glendale is on solid financial ground there would be no question as to paying a few million dollars for the swimming pool, right?

\$450,000,000 is the amount that is invested that draws about 1-2% interest. The majority of that money is restricted and can't be used for the whims of the City Council. Restricted funds are RESERVED FOR SPECIFIED PROJECTS.

Then Quintero went on to tell everyone that CalPERS is generating enough money that the City won't have to contribute. Frank must have a better understanding of the meltdown than does CalPERS. CalPERS invests the money we contribute, just like the Feds do with our Social Security contributions. The SS Administration is going to run out of funds at some point 30-40 years in the future BECAUSE

- 1) we are living longer,
- 2) we are now funding non-contributors and
- 3) the rate of investment return has fallen significantly.

CalPERS didn't plan on local government rewarding workers with 90% of the last years pay, and that the lifespan had increased to where two recently retired firemen will draw multi-million dollar pensions in their lifetime!

CalPERS also felt the effects of the economic meltdown. Mr. Quintero didn't tell you that when CalPERS wants the City to pay more money in and we don't have it...the Glendale property owners will find it on their property tax bills. It appears that the [CALPERS](#) fund is going to go down about 24 percent this year; with the additional heart ache of not meeting the 7.75 percent expected gains built into the assumptions of the system, a shocking loss of nearly a third of the value of funding.

We also heard, "Hey man, I bought all this open space...525 acres." The taxpayers bought it at highly inflated prices that Council negotiated through their surrogates. \$15,000,000 for Flint Canyon that had been purchased 4 years earlier for \$475,000. Hey man, I also got that land from ASLA for only \$5,000,000 plus we gave them a parcel on Louise plus we provided a building for their use.

There is more but when someone can blow smoke and self promote to an audience with a short memory and tell them all the things they want to hear, it is difficult to get the facts out especially when the moderator doesn't have the mechanism to get to the truth.



On another matter the City as of last Friday lost a lawsuit in Federal Court to the tune of \$1.6M for a Civil Rights violation in the matter of Ovasapyan. My understanding is that the matter was transferred to Federal Court at the insistence of the City Attorney as it would be a cinch to win as the Feds require a 12-0 vote by the jury. Apparently the jury felt the GPD conducted itself in such an egregious manner that it took only minutes to reach a verdict. The case could have been settled for less than \$500,000. We are awaiting the outcome of two other lawsuits involving the GPD.

The Gladys Street debacle cost over \$10M which is listed as a land purchase not a court order. The last time someone brought information to the public in this forum the spotlight was shined on him instead of resolving the problem. The City spent its resources on a deposition for after the fact details. With all these expenses, not even counting the \$347,000 tree fiasco, the City Council rewarded the City Attorney with a \$15,000 pay raise.

Now we know why CCM Quintero says the speakers spew the same crap over and over again because he doesn't want the transparency or the openness.

City Manager gets an additional \$9K to \$251K, City Atty got \$15K more to \$229K, Police Chief was awarded \$9K to \$232K -- Instead of pay raises, I would be looking for resignations.

**\$\$ CCM Quintero went ballistic and into denial after hearing my statement. He made numerous unfounded accusations rather than speaking to the issue. He came back lashing out at the messenger**

and never answered the statements that were posed. Then he had the audacity to accuse me of campaigning for Bruce Philpott and Bob Yousefian. To tell the truth if I were not intrinsically involved with Vanguardians, I would certainly consider campaigning for them based on their excellent past performance.

CCM Najarian whose dog wasn't in the fight, questioned me about closed session issues and how I would know these things. Mr. Najarian, never ask a question for which you don't know the answer or to test me. It is well known, of the four elected officials on the dais (Yousefian was absent), who talks about closed session matters. Then again the Ovasayan case is a public record and his attorneys would have made the offer. \$\$

### Just One More Chance

The State and the City are begging for our money. How many times have they cried, 'wolf' and we gave them the money. Then they came back a year later for another fix. Little difference from a junkie. Now we listen to candidates tell the voters that they want to raise taxes, add business taxes (BT) and pay the employees more. These are people that feel they have mastered the game. They haven't studied the budget nor the CAFR. They have been spoon fed their Pablum and when they state something like paying more they don't have any concept of the real cost. They know only what they have been fed.

I spoke to one company that moved out of Glendale to Burbank where they pay a business tax. I asked why they would not just stay here where there is no BT. The answer was simple: Glendale is not business friendly – it takes too long to get permits, to do a simple buildout and to make it through the bureaucracy. The office manager said it was so easy and simple to navigate the Burbank process, She is very happy with their new office space and dealing with the City of Burbank. We could level the playing field by exchanging City Managers for a few years.

Bottom line...tell the tax junkies NO MORE FIXES – QUIT COLD TURKEY! – We are willing to watch you sweat it out complete with the spasms, the vomit and the yelling and screaming. BARRY ALLEN

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: WHICH CAME FIRST... THE SILLY CHICKEN OR THE ROTTEN EGG?



Which came first, the silly chicken or the rotten egg? If you've ever wondered if this modified new puzzle of the ages could ever be solved, you've only to look at last Tuesday's city council meeting. The discovery could not have been timelier.

This was a Tuesday evening unlike any other. First we had the speech by Barack Obama on national television telling the nation that our future depends on revaluing our common bonds as a nation. It was a speech about moral values and common interests. Luckily, Mayor Drayman had pushed back the Oral Communication segment of the city's agenda to the tail end of the council session. We've got to see a speech about moral decency followed, on local cable channel, by a half-hour of the indecency of local government as practiced in Glendale by our local troika – Najarian, Quintero and Weaver.

First there was an eloquent and empathic speech by a lady who exposed the heavy hand of neighborhood services and the city management on two octogenarian's neighbors whose home had been modified 45 years earlier without a proper permit. Apparently a silly encroachment on city property that had remained unnoticed for decades required a dire warning from the city attorney on two long-time residents at the sunset of their lives.

Then we experienced an exposé by Barry Allen on yet another multi-million dollar judgment against the Glendale Police Department, a judgment that exposed the investigating ineptitude under the guiding hand of police chief Randy Adams.

Councilman Ara Najarian, the beneficiary of thousands of dollars of campaign money from the Glendale Police Officer's Association, then went on the attack hurling an abusive Ad Hominem attack on Mr. Silvarman's name (Barry Allen.) Anyone with the most rudimentary knowledge of critical thinking and base fallacies, knows that personal accusations as evidence that the observations by the accuser should not be taken seriously is the equivalent of hurling rotten eggs in a courtroom.

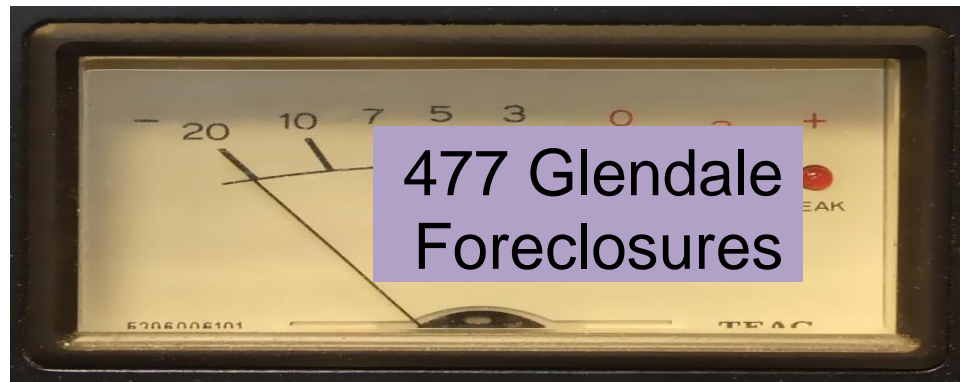
We then experienced a methodical exposé of the real Frank Quintero. Mike Mohill gave us a concise summary of the political misdeeds and legislative actions under the signature of this councilman. Quintero not only brought us gutter political practices, he helped bring to the residents and businesses of Glendale one of the highest residential and



commercial electrical rates in California. Quintero managed that feat while lavishing huge pay raises to the city management association (GMA) members. While Mr. Quintero sits comfortably with all the money the GMA handed to him just before the campaign ethics law took effect, he took aim to hurl a rotten egg in the direction of Mr. Mohill. How silly of him to expose such a blatant ethical practices by a councilman. Quintero's take is that Mohill's motivation must be that he is now supporting other candidates.

So two of the incumbents running for re-election are called to bear witness as city activists expose the councilmen's cheating ways. Did the activists do it because they support other candidates, as the councilmen claim? Or do they support other candidates because they've seen through the institutionalized moral failure these two politicians have brought to the council chambers?

So, who would want to accept anything that comes out of the mouths of these two councilmen? I'll have two eggs; at least these came out of a more virtuous part of the chicken. **HERBERT MOLANO**



Weekly Foreclosure Meter

**Question:** I don't live in Glendale but my friend passed along some information about a "Cram Down" piece you wrote for Vanguard a few weeks ago. First off, thank you for providing a great service and bringing to light many areas of foreclosure the "common folks" simply just don't know about. I heard that the bankruptcy "Cram Down" was approved. Is that true? James, Burbank

**Reader:** - Close, but not so quickly! The U.S. House intended to vote on the measure yesterday 2/26 but unfortunately the House delayed the vote. Hang on tight and don't lose hope. It is a temporary postponement and the house will look at the measure next week (some time Tuesday 3/3 or Wednesday 3/4). If this measure passes it would allow judges to establish new loan amounts and new mortgage payments for the homeowner that included their home in the Bankruptcy proceeding.

**Question:** My son in law and daughter are losing their home to foreclosure and the home is currently offered for sale as a short sale. The Realtor suggested that maybe a member of my family buy the house in an effort to save it. Do you think I could buy the property under my name and at a lower price and then re sell the home back to my daughter at the new, cheaper price? [name omitted]

**Reader:** With the utmost respect, I kindly suggest to you – Get a new Realtor. A question like that sends shivers down my spine. I am assuming that the Realtor suggested that avenue since your daughter has a different last name due to marriage. Although your daughter is married and may carry a different last name, that approach is completely unethical putting it mildly. Although, I am not an attorney, that action could very well be interpreted as LENDER FRAUD. If the lender were to find out, it could very well turn into a nightmare for all parties involved. If you've read some of my past articles in Vanguard, you would know that I am not a big fan of the lenders but stupid they are not. In my opinion, I would stay clear of that situation. If you want to assist your daughter and son in law, assist them by seeking out a qualified attorney that would provide a loan modification for them. If they decide they do not intend to keep the home, short sale is the best approach. In my opinion, the buyers must be a neutral, independent third party, or investor not related to any member of the family otherwise you are knocking on the door of trouble and the lenders may just answer.

The writer is a Real Estate Broker and Loss Mitigator. [www.ThisMarketSucks.com](http://www.ThisMarketSucks.com) 818.232.7899 Questions Relating to Foreclosures, Short Sales, Saving Your Home, Loan Modifications.....Email Christian at [christianarbid@gmail.com](mailto:christianarbid@gmail.com) and your question will be answered in the next issue 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](#)

**2**

**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:** Thanks for allowing me to be part of your voice to the City. I agree with your report on the \$200 thousand club and know that I made a poor career choice when I chose not to be a fireman. It is clear that being a Captain in the Glendale Fire Department is the best job in the County. The only non-government job I see for young people in the near future that will outpace most others is to be an approved "mortgage broker" who will be paid well by the "stimulus plan" to talk you into a new mortgage if you are about to lose your home due to the downturn of the economy. In addition to nice fees at the close of those loans he will be paid \$500 per year for each year you stay in that house up to 3 years, or maybe it is just \$500 at the end of three years if you stay in the house. Either way the borrower gets \$1000 per year if you stay in the house up to 5 years. If the broker can close just 10 of the loans a month as compared to 10 per week at the height of the market he is in for some nice "bonuses". (I'm sorry that is not a politically correct word.)

You recall that I made a suggestion to you about your choice of grammar in the statement about the UUT. In the end your statement is clear and reads well with that exception and the lack of details about the actual elements of a telecom bill that are taxed today and expect to be taxed in the future. In your current letter you have gone beyond the intended statement to be printed in the official ballot information booklet and added statements that have significant meaning and are important for the voters to understand but you chose to write "If that **was** the case ..." in a couple of lines when it is clearly more appropriate to use the subjunctive mood by writing "If that **were** the case...". I believe that reads more clearly just as I suggested the use of a preposition at the end of a sentence is not necessary and your line early in the official statement could be changed to read "...on which you pay taxes." rather than "...you pay taxes on."

I am watching the debate about artificial turf in the City and compare it to the statement by Secretary Clinton published today in the Valley News that issues about China and Taiwan should be set aside while we discuss Global Warming. It was reported yesterday that the Global Warming folks will have to adjust their statistics after finding the instrument recording Arctic Sea Ice, from which their arguments stem, was not working. Thanks again and continued good work, Carl, the HubCap Kid Glendale resident since 1971 and still watching it improve.

**I have been** to a home in Pasadena that had the artificial turf in the back yard, it was unbelievably real looking. The owner said it just need periodic "combing". The Garden columnist for the Daily News had an article in the Saturday edition discussing the "grass". He said it is perforated which helps with rain drainage. It must be a better quality and installed properly.

When the Luna Playhouse opened about 3 years ago with a very limited seating capacity, I was sure he would have a very difficult time. Therefore, the city should not give him support at this time due to limited city funds. I am a live theater lover, but there are limitations.

The Los Angeles Water & Power also transfers funds to the city treasury. That does not mean that I agree with it. D

**I attended the** Royal Canyon candidate's forum and was surprised to see you weren't attending. [ED I believe that candidate's forums that are open to the public should be free of charge whether or not food is served.] I was surprised to see that the GNP didn't have something to say about each candidate. It looks to me like they are already endorsing a particular candidate even before that publicly endorse, what a sham! KB

**I guess telling the truth** is either CRAP or we are all a bunch of VULTURES!! And we should be treated like the CONDOR as an endangered species. Mike Mohill

**Thank you for pointing out the Flint Canyon** deal. I looked into it and you are right. The amount was \$15M, \$6M in cash and the rest was a donation of air. Then to hear Quintero say that he would do that anytime he could get open space he would. After reading about Temple City in the LA Times, I wonder when Glendale will be next. No wonder he attacked you for pointing out the flaws in his statements at candidate forums. Looking at the stories on major contract awards I wonder if it is certain management employees getting the hand-outs from the contractors instead of City Council members. I really appreciate your bringing these matters to our attention. GJ.

**Jason Wells (Glendale News-Press, February 26)** presented a concise summary of the events at Wednesday's forum at the Dunsmore Park community room. Maybe too concise. I miss from those pages, the

discussion I observed on the high utility rates and city's exorbitant employee salaries that continue to be exposed and for which there are three clear camps. Those who don't want to review the city's salary trends, those who want more government accountability, and those who are tentative.

- Those who **won't question the city's bloated salaries**: Friedman, Quintero, Najarian, and Lafian.
- There are those who want to **change them**: Philpott, Kazazian, Stepanian and Yousefian.
- And those who are open to exploring accommodating solutions but don't find urgency in it: Gharpetian, Teahan.

If one of the biggest issues nationally, at the state level and locally is a mounting public deficit, should we not be exposing the candidates' position as they expressed them at these forums? Herbert Molano

Thanks for including me as a candidate rater. SJ

**Quintero accused** you of using the Council Chambers to campaign for the candidates you work for. Whenever he opens his mouth on the dais it is either to yawn or pat himself on the back. You brought out very valid points about the inflated process on open space, (do you think he is getting kickbacks) and the little knowledge he has on CALPERS along with the fact that he speaks in half-truths. It is terrible. I hope voters don't keep him around like they did Weaver. Barry, thanks for being here for us. KG

**City Attorney and other City Officials** should be encouraging people to volunteer to work with Vanguardians because you have investigative authority and the protection under the Volunteer Protection Act which is more than they offer the public when they tell us to be their eyes and ears and when we do and get sued they turn their backs on us. JP



#### **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.

XXX

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, 84.4% are opposed to the UUT; 9.4% are undecided and 6.3% are for the tax

**We have the ability to break this cycle of this insane abuse,  
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 specific expense. It is not earmarked. If it were it would require 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.**

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!



**We get calls:** Did you know the same attorney that beat the City on the Gladys Street flood is suing the City over the hotel surrounded by the Americana and has won several early skirmishes?

- I couldn't believe that Candidate Laura Friedman wants to pay City Employees even more. What planet is she from? She said this at the Royal Canyon Candidates forum. Maybe her manager Elaine Wilkerson was unhappy that she didn't get gender equity pay when she was head of the Planning Department.
- Looks like the GNP is pandering to the Mayor's surrogate Laura Friedman. Isn't her husband Drayman's selection to run his community gardens? What is happening with the Rockhaven property? [ED – Come to City Council and ask about RH. Call the GNP and talk to Michael Miller or Dannette Goulet about your concerns. They did a similar thing with Greg Krikorian in 2007.]
- I really had high hopes for Mayor Drayman but he fell into under the first term trap set by City Manager Starbird, Since the Rockhaven purchase he has ignored the financial issues facing the City to focus on signs for Old Town Montrose, street signs for historic districts, dedication of old power plants, old photographs and community gardens just to name a few less than significant issues. He supports more taxes and then endorses people that crammed to be full of information like Gov. Pallin. Looks with little substance. [Enjoy](#)
- You were right about the Chamber holding the State of the City performance by John Drayman at the Hilton and not at a City facility.
- You know that Sit 'N' Sleep commercial... "You're killing me Larry," that is what the people like Quintero, Najarian are doing when they transfer our wealth to the City employees. It's time to invoke term limits by voting for people that aren't looking to get more to spend more...but are willing to live within their financial constraints.



**Man on the Street:** I watched your presentation at the Council meeting about the Civil Rights violation by officers of the Glendale Police Department and the only thing that Najarian could do is quiz you about how you knew about it. How tragic that he didn't want to throttle the officers that abused their authority. Then to hear a female laugh about it. What is this world coming to? What if her child was raped by other prisoners while being held on a capital crime with special circumstances? Thank the laws that require the District Attorney to investigate. I


reviewed the materials you sent me. I agree that you are right to request resignations of the City Manager, Police Chief and City Attorney. Najarian we will just vote out of office.



**We get and answer questions:** What is the cost of benefits for Glendale City employees? [ED – That would take a PRA request to get. However here is some recent data from **New York** on [BLOATED BENEFITS COST CITY 106G PER WORKER](#)

<b>Payroll pain</b>		
<b>The cost of paying city employees has soared:</b>		
	<b>FISCAL '00</b>	<b>FISCAL '08</b>
Full-time employees	273,776	280,649
Average pay	\$52,045	\$69,124
Average fringe benefits	\$13,356	\$37,619
Health insurance	\$4,030	\$8,030
Pension contributions	\$2,530	\$20,333
Total average cost	\$65,401	\$106,743

SOURCE: Citizens Budget Commission



**I see all the political signs in the right-of-way. What shall I do about that? [ED: Call Sam Engel at neighborhood services (818) 548-3700 and let his department know where the offending signs are. Here is the latest on sign removal:**

We only take the signs down if they are in the public rights-of-way. Here's what we have removed so far:

Edward Lafian – 24  
Ara Najarian – 12  
Aram Kazazian – 5

Ann Ransford – 1  
Laura Friedman – 8  
Vartan Gharpetian – 4

Since this is the first week, we will be returning these to the campaign headquarters with a courtesy warning. After the courtesy warning, we destroy the signs and, if directed, invoice the campaign for the costs. Also, we moved several back onto private property where we could—no inventory of whose signs we did this with. SE

**Suggested Articles:**

- [Court: State can stop union political deductions](#) By JESSE J. HOLLAND Associated Press Writer WASHINGTON (AP) - The Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld an Idaho law that bans cities, counties and school districts from allowing payroll deductions for a union's political activities, a blow to labor's political fundraising in that state.

- Five labor unions and the Idaho state AFL-CIO had successfully challenged part of the law in the lower federal courts, saying the state's decision in 2003 to force local governments to eliminate a payroll deduction for political activities violated the First Amendment. But "Idaho's law does not restrict political speech, but rather declines to promote that speech by allowing public employee check off for political activities," Chief Justice John Roberts said in the majority opinion. Before 2003, Idaho employers could authorize both a payroll deduction for union dues and one for union political activities through a political action committee. But the state legislature in 2003 passed the Voluntary Contributions Act, which prohibits payroll deductions for political activities.

- Gov't puts a price tag on leave benefits [Read full story »](#)  
The Bureau of Labor Statistics rolled out data showing that government employers incurred higher paid-leave costs, both in dollars and percentage of total compensation, compared to employers in the private sector.

- [The two-thirds vote threshold may be the last barrier](#) between Sacramento's insatiable appetite and taxpayers' hard-earned money. The Legislature hasn't done a very good job of protecting Californians from legislators. Making it even easier to take and spend your money would make a bad situation even worse.

- **CITY BANS BOARD FROM TEXTING DURING MEETINGS**  
(AP) Members of the Billerica [MA] board of selectmen voted 3-2 Monday night to ban its members from sending text messages and e-mails during its public meetings. [Read more...](#)

- [A New York Times story about the budget](#) deal that California legislators struck last week to close the state's monstrous deficit noted that, "California is an example of what you will see across the country" as state budgets come under pressure from the declining economy. Hardly. While many states are grappling with budget problems, none are nearly as large as California's relative to its size -- \$41 billion in a state of 37 million, or \$1,108 per resident. Even New York, the next most fiscally pressed state, clocks in with a mere \$13 billion for 19 million residents, or \$685 per capita.

- **Vanguard of Davis [Heystek Joins Vanguard's Call Against New Taxes without Reform](#)**



Click to view the agenda [City Council](#) [Housing Authority](#) [Redevelopment Agency](#)  
**Monday, March 2 Note:** The Glendale Water & Power Commission meeting has been cancelled

**Tuesday, March 3**

10:00 am Arbor Day Celebration – Casa Adobe de San Rafael, 1330 Dorothy Dr., *In case of rain, event will be held at the Civic Auditorium*

2:30 pm Housing Authority – Redevelopment Agency -- **Joint Meeting** RE:Luna Playhouse –Special Meeting Re GWP Report.  
6:00 pm Glendale City Council --, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

**Wednesday, March 4**

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

**Thursday, March 5**

Committee for a Clean & Beautiful Glendale – 8:15 am, Perkins Community Room, 141 N. Glendale Ave., Glendale. 548-3700  
Design Review Board #1 – 5:00 pm, Room 105, Municipal Services Building, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140  
Community Meeting - Proposed Annual Action Plan for FY 2009-10 Community Development, HOME & Emergency Shelter Grant Programs -- 7:00 pm, Pacific Park Community Center, 501 S. Pacific Ave.,

3



**Public Information**

**CALIFORNIA SHIELD LAW EVIDENCE CODE SECTION 1070**

1070. (a) A publisher, editor, reporter, or other person connected with or employed upon a newspaper, magazine, or other periodical publication, or by a press association or wire service, or any person who has been so connected or employed, **cannot be adjudged in contempt** by a judicial, legislative, administrative body, or any other body having the power to issue subpoenas, for refusing to disclose, in any proceeding as defined in Section 901, **the source of any information** procured while so connected or employed for publication in a newspaper, magazine or other periodical publication, or for refusing to disclose **any unpublished information** obtained or prepared in gathering, receiving or processing of information for communication to the public.

(b) Nor can a radio or television news reporter or other person connected with or employed by a radio or television station, or any person who has been so connected or employed, be so adjudged in contempt for refusing to disclose the source of any information procured while so connected or employed for news or news commentary purposes on radio or television, or for refusing to disclose any unpublished information obtained or prepared in gathering, receiving or processing of information for communication to the public.

(c) As used in this section, "unpublished information" includes information not disseminated to the public by the person from whom disclosure is sought, whether or not related information has been disseminated and includes, but is not limited to, all notes, outtakes, photographs, tapes or other data of whatever sort not itself disseminated to the public through a medium of communication, whether or not published information based upon or related to such material has been disseminated.

Learn about the Volunteer Protection Act, SLAPP Suits, Anti-SLAPP and SLAPP Back suits [by clicking here.](#)

**City says there are no documents evidencing the business plan, marketing plan, marketing study that would demonstrate the viability and feasibility of the Enterprise Business of Passport photos, fingerprinting and Livescan business.**

**And there are no writings and documents showing where the staff assigned to that Enterprise business were reassigned.**

**What the City did was start a business without clear direction or study to show it would be viable. Just one more reason to clean house.**

Under the garage lease agreement with the City of Glendale, the Americana is supposed to pay for extra police protection and traffic services as provided on November 15<sup>th</sup> and during the holiday selling season in December. We made a request for the invoices on January 11, 2009. On February 27 the City requested another 14 days to find the documents. The GPD assures us that they provided the information to Finance. Meanwhile the City is asking us to spend more UUTaxes so they can use that money instead of the invoiced money. Where is the accountability?

## 4 *Vanguardians*

Artist wanted to draw Council Circus featuring Jim Starbird as Ringmaster, Bob Yousefian being the human cannon ball, Ara Najarian as the bareback rider standing atop the Police Chief and Fire Chief, Frank Quintero as the trapeze artist flying out of the clutches of the audience, John Drayman as the juggler and Dave Weaver as the scary clown. Ardy Kassakhian as the ticket-seller.

Get breaking Glendale News by signing up for an RSS feed at [www.vanguardians.org](http://www.vanguardians.org)

To register just enter the invitation code **bavg2009**

Barry tests the newest hi-tech long-range microphone at City Hall



**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](http://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.

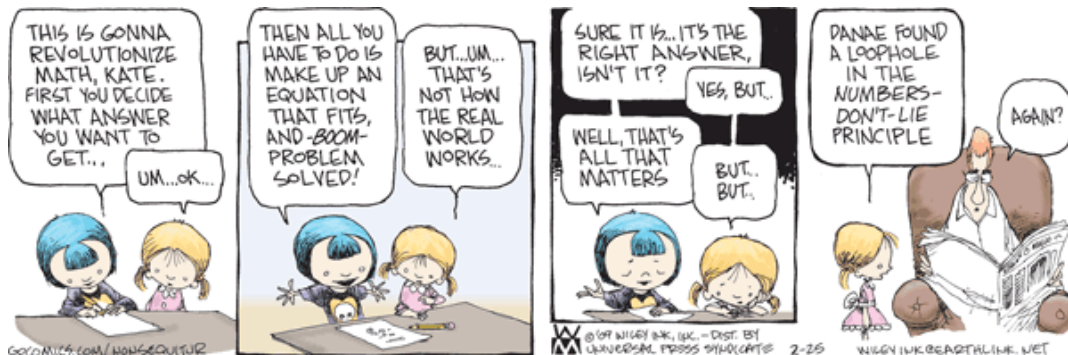


When the issue of legal staff judgment came up among council candidates, it is surprising that none mentioned the \$347,000 tree trimming fine. A prime example of what happens when you get, not one but two, Glendale Department heads together with the City Attorney's office, where no one has any common sense. It seems the City Attorneys doesn't know that what they can defend and what they should defend are to different thing. However, their absolute immunity for their actions does nothing to change their behavior. After all, it's not their money.

You should have heard CCM Quintero go on about the Ovasapyan case, that it was no big deal, that he would overcome the trauma as he was young. Quintero really has no compassion for those wounded by the City.

## 6

### Humor



Here is a way to find new revenues for Glendale – Just change the formula...

## 7

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

[Read responses to Vanguardians questionnaire](#)

Eight out of twelve city council candidates lose their fortitude when in front of an audience favoring rent control. The video is in [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) . Just type "Glendale Rent Control" in the search box.

**This Chart shows the Employee Association 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

Candidate rating criteria

- Col 1 – Real Vision or platitudes
- Col 2 – Service to community
- Col 3 – Outreach and accessibility to the entire community during the past two years
- Col 4 – Demonstrated knowledge of issues taken from forums, responses, serving on or speaking at legislative sessions
- Col 5 – Advocacy for open government. Elected officials are rated more strictly as they have had an opportunity to open government to the scrutiny of the public.
- Col 6 – Social services are part of the social infrastructure: transportation, public safety, services to seniors, children, the disabled and affordable housing.
- Col 7 – Reduce expenses for fiscal accountability
- Col 8 – Critical thinking goes to understanding long-term consequences to actions; quantification and qualification of results and the impact on the community
- Col 9 – Doing instead of talking; converting words into action
- Col 10 – Ability to articulate and communicate with the public

## 8 Public Safety

Request for: All writings evidencing that the use of 3 person fire engines has had a negative impact on CoG since the Council directed, approved the use of 3 person engine companies in 2008...

The City has been able to provide no documents or writings on this request which would indicate there is no negative impact on the protection of lives or property from using 3 persons instead of 4.

City is preparing for more averse decisions being handed down by the Courts and their Juries on police abuse cases. The last one cost the taxpayers \$3,000,000.

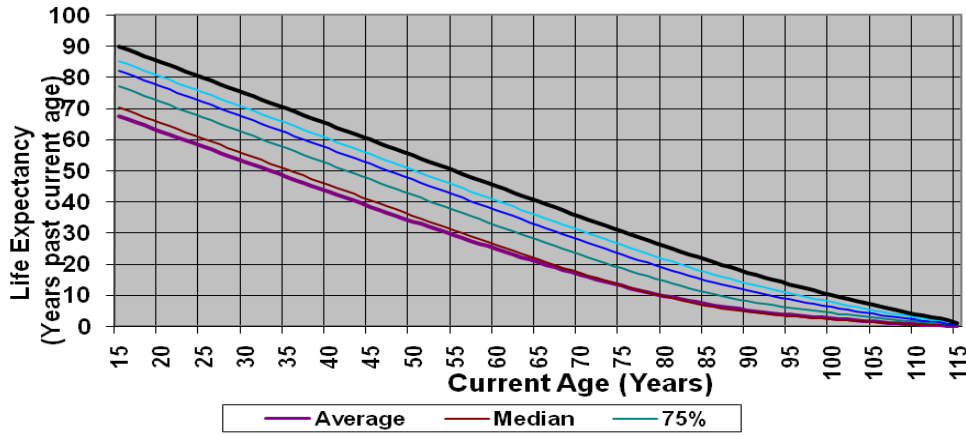
People are outraged about the fiscal abuse in Glendale. [Read about it on open government](#)

City of Glendale Elite Employees \$200K Club. City employees whose gross pay is in excess of \$200,000 for CY 2008.

Job Title	Amount	Job Title	Amount
1. City Manager	\$251,196.00	11. Fire Bat Chief	214,713.66
2. Firefighter	237,237.52	12. Fire Capt.	211,854.52
3. City Resource Specialist	236,747.30	13. Asst. City Manager	209,148.00
4. Police Chief	231,926.50	14. Fire Chief	205,342.82
5. City Attorney	229,348.50	15. Fire Capt.	204,576.65
6. Fire Bat Chief	229,021.61	16. Asst. Police Chief	203,192.00
7. Fire Bat Chief	221,166.85	17. Fire Capt.	202,711.28
8. Firefighter	220,671.66	18. Dep. Fire Chief	201,164.24
9. Firefighter	216,874.42	19. Fire Bat Chief	200,927.73
10. Fire Capt.	216,348.98		

90% of highest annual salary after 30 years – public safety - on \$100,000 is \$90,000 pension. Salary includes extra pays added to the base. Retire at 55 the

### Single Life Expectancy Percentiles Based on the IRS Revenue Ruling 2002-62 Mortality Table



<a href="#">Employment Growth</a>	(3,499,000)	F
<a href="#">Unemployment Rate</a>	7.6%	D-
<a href="#">Real GDP Growth</a>	(6.2%)	F
<a href="#">Consumer Confidence</a>	25.0	F
<a href="#">Purchase Mortgage Applications</a>	250.5	F
<a href="#">Mortgage Rates</a>	5.07%	A+
<a href="#">Median Price Existing Home</a>	\$170,300	F
<a href="#">Existing Home Sales</a>	4,490,000	D
<a href="#">Existing Home Inventory</a>	3,600,000	F
<a href="#">Existing Home Affordability</a>	66.0%	A+
<a href="#">Median Price New Home</a>	\$201,100	F
<a href="#">New Home Sales</a>	309,000	F
<a href="#">New Home Inventory</a>	341,000	F
<a href="#">New Home Affordability Ratio</a>	59.4%	A+

[info@vanguardians.org](mailto:info@vanguardians.org) 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 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 a 501C3 charitable non-profit corporation Contributions are tax deductible. Vanguardians does not use commercial fundraisers. To ensure you receive Vanguard, please add our email addresses [info@vanguardians.org](mailto:info@vanguardians.org), and [ba@fieldworks.net](mailto:ba@fieldworks.net) - to your address book or Internet Service Provider safe list. **Annual subscription for email \$50, by US Mail \$75, Newsstand \$2 per issue** Copyrighted materials used with permission. ©2009