



“Accountability”
Glendale’s Watchdog

Weaver Threatens Suit against Barry Allen

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

Gladwin Gill owner of St. Ann Hospice on W. Glenoaks pleaded guilty for making illegal contributions in the amount of \$66,700 to the Bush-Cheney re-election in 2004. He reimbursed others for making contributions which exceeded \$2000 per person. He awaits sentencing of up to 5 years in Federal Prison and a \$250,000 fine city News Service. US Attorney begins plans to restructure LA political corruption section.

ELIE WIESEL

It may well be that our means are fairly limited and our possibilities restricted when it comes to applying pressure on our government. But is this a reason to do nothing? Despair is not an answer. Neither is resignation. Resignation only leads to indifference, which is not merely a sin but a punishment

HEADLINE STORY

CM Weaver threatened Barry Allen with a lawsuit during the City Council meeting. During Weaver’s public tirade he blamed Allen for following Weaver and having Weaver followed; for going to Weaver’s favorite haunts; for filing complaints with the FPPC, the IRS and the DA as well as defaming Weaver, a public official. Weaver also cited Allen for bringing to the public’s attention an error in Weavers financial disclosure form. Allen had done as Mr. Weaver requested by reviewing not only the other elected candidate’s 460 form but those of the officeholder accounts. Drayman had provided Allen with a pre-filing disclosure form. Allen pointed out an error and the form was corrected by the February filing date. Allen reminded the Council during a discussion on fees for events that the reason this issue was before the Council was that Weaver had obtained City Services for a for profit business without paying the fees for which other members of the public would pay. Weaver also accused Allen of calling him a liar and trying to get him out of office.

Weaver also acknowledged to Dr. Espiritu that he did nothing to stop the infamous ‘Sundown Laws’.



Hagar the Horrible

NEWS

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

Thanks to the Glendale Community College Encore group for inviting our Executive Director, Barry Allen to talk about Glendale Government and the future of Glendale. The ‘students’ asked excellent questions and most are aware of the problems and resolutions in today’s Glendale.

Vanguardians announced a Speakers Bureau providing speakers that are not restricted, restrained nor prohibited from speaking candidly on their topics -- there is no approval required from the City Officials.

1. Bruce Philpott on a new model for the Glendale Fire Department that would give the public better service for less cost
2. Dr. Richard Espiritu on ADA compliance. 90% of our population is affected by disability
3. Barry Allen – How accountability through advocacy helps bridge the gap between the public and government; the California Sunshine Laws – Open Meetings, Public Records and Public Officials' Financial and Conflict of Interest reporting requirements

These knowledgeable presenters are available for your organization, service club, homeowners or neighborhood associations. Call Vanguardians 818 243 1502 or email us at info@vanguardians.org

The report of a threat to a City employee received in the mail was not actually a threat. However, the Glendale Police Department is spending countless investigation hours on this, 'threat'. In the past, Glendale Police detectives were given a copy of a letter to a resident that contained identity theft information that the PD shined on because it involved a City official and the recipient of City financial resources.

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

City Council

Weekly Council Scorecard

| Council | 3-18-08 | Overall | Contact info |
|-----------|---------|---------|--|
| Drayman | C- | B | jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us ; |
| Najarian | D | B | anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us ; |
| Quintero | B | B | fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us ; |
| Weaver | D | C | dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us ; |
| Yousefian | B | B | byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us ; |
| | | | SHoward@ci.glendale.ca.us ; |
| | | | Starbird@ci.glendale.ca.us ; |

Scoring Criteria:

1. Responsiveness to the needs of the community,
2. Knowledge and understanding of the issues on the agenda, placing the needs of the public first;
3. Attitude, attentiveness and accountability during the public sessions on Tuesdays, through community input.

Mayor Najarian violated the Brown Act with his lengthy dissertation on School Board President Greg Krikorian's presentation to the Council during Oral Communications on the prior Tuesday. CA Howard made his attempt to stem the diatribe with a reminder about brief comments. Meanwhile the audience was treated to prepared testimony from CManager Starbird and Police Chief Adams. The public was deprived of an opportunity to react to this issue which will now be agendized at the request of CM Yousefian who brought the issue of the Brown Act to the public's knowledge. From the number of calls that came to Vanguardians on Wednesday, the consensus is that this response should have been placed on the agenda before the Mayor gave his lengthy commentary, that the Mayor should take his letter and present it to the school board during its Oral Communications and that the public should not get caught in the shootout between these two elected officials displaying their personal animosity.

FLORYNCE KENNEDY

You've got to rattle your cage door. You've got to let them know that you're in there, and that you want out. Make noise. Cause trouble. You may not win right away, but you'll sure have a lot more fun.

Fire Department

FIRE DEPARTMENT answers Philpott at a Special City Council meeting at 2:30 on the 25th. Tune in. If you miss the live program you can catch it in the online archives

Letter: I noticed a number of Glendale fire engines and ambulances are missing their station numbers. Is the fire department fearful that Mr. Philpott will catch them out of their district? I heard his presentation at the Rotary and I am now more watchful. DJ

Letter: Must have been some fire department doings at Glendale City College. I saw about 40 or 50 firemen in their blue uniforms and Glendale insignia running up the hill to a college building. They were all carrying two duffle bags each. Looked really strange. Who was watching the city when they were all at the college? GK

[Fire chief defends departmental costs](#) read the article and compare the value for the dollar.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

Without debate, without criticism, no administration and no country can succeed -- and no republic can survive

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.

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| | | 7) <i>Next Week</i> |

You may agree or disagree with the views below. Feel free to comment on them.
Commentary is available in Spanish

1 Commentary

IT IS ALL ABOUT CHANGE: We frequently deplore and reject change, for instance we demanded the police do something about speeding, the GPD responded with an innovative solution – helicopter support of ground traffic units to write tickets. One side said, “Yea!” and the other said, “Way too much noise.” The pedestrian injuries escalate and we blame the police, not the pedestrian or driver. Who should be in charge of education? Whose responsibility is it?

Glendale is a very safe City. It uses the Police resources judiciously yet there is a new demand for more police. The question that grows at the rate of development and response time 4-8 minutes for the same fashion we mistake we did New York



comes to mind is, “why do we need more police?” The population is not of Burbank or Pasadena, overall crime is down, the proposed new including the Americana will have their own security and crime prevention, on medical emergencies such as a heart attack is 1.5 minutes as opposed to Fire Department. We must look at response times for police response in the have with the Fire Department. Let us not make the same emotional with the Glendale Fire Department when we heaped money on them after Firefighters gave their lives on 9-11, as a justification for more police.

Retired Pasadena Police Chief Bruce Philpott in his presentations on a new model for the GFD has not gone far enough in his new model. We concur in cutting one person from an apparatus and to use volunteers and reserves for many other functions. With that in mind, here are our suggestions:

- No more 24-hour shifts! Which means no need for sleeping rooms and better distribution of personnel during heavy work periods as does the police department;
- Move the building and planning inspectors (EMC) to the Planning Department where they belong
- Staffing based on statistical information eg. need
- Renegotiating the Union Contract
- Having small patrol vehicles patrol the districts and integrating them into facilities inspectors and park ranger patrols. Patrolling vehicles can get to scenes faster and reduce response time.
- Taking Battalion Chiefs off overtime as they are supervisors.
- Get rid of the 11% shift differential when sworn employees work a regular 40 hour week and them pull a 24-hour shift.

That would be a start for change for the good of Glendale.

Another change would require Council to demand of Management a cutting of expenses and contract renegotiations.

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

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](#)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT International Fieldworks welcomes Glendale’s Margaret Shepherd back for “An Evening of Vision Building for Panoramic Success” Tuesday April 8th at the Westside Pavilion and Wednesday April 9th at Glendale YWCA. [Details](#)

2 Potpourri



WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS

Restriction of free thought and free speech is the most dangerous of all subversions. It is the one un-American act that could most easily defeat us.

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.

Dear Barry:

I have never heard a better presentation than the one you gave to our Encore group at Glendale Community College this morning. I know you are a possessor of much knowledge about Glendale politics but your most informative talk with documentation today went beyond that—if that was possible. As I told you, you know far more about the city than any of the five City Council members. You raised some very valid points about how NOT to run a city government like Glendale. Now, how do we change the picture? We rely on Barry Allen and his ever presence at City Hall on Tuesday nights when he addresses the City Council. Glendale citizens owe you a debt of gratitude for what you do.

I heard many complimentary remarks from Encore members regarding your presentation and all of the revelations that went with it. All I can say is that Glendale deserves better in its governmental operation. And you are the principal figure in that regard. Again Barry, my sincere thanks to you for accepting our invitation and telling it like it is. It was a good wakeup call for our members. DM

I'm confused by the relatively high mark the council members get on their report cards and yet the city seems to have major problems with out-of-control budgets, discrimination, etc. What gives? Maybe from time to time you could include the criteria for determining the "grades". NS [ED-- The scoring is from the weekly meeting and the way the CMs work with their colleagues. The other is an aggregate. About 20 people send in their grades each week and then there is an averaging. I have certain biases but do my best to keep them out of the mix. (Last week I heard...'how could you give Weaver an 'A'?) I will periodically put in the criteria. Thanks for that suggestion. As to long term issues such as you mention, we need to encourage the Council to adopt commissions and boards to share their vision...oops, I forgot, there is no vision. Budget issues require a vigilant population speaking to specific areas in which that can be very conversant and challenge the intellect of the Council and other officials,]

The newsletters are interesting and very informative. I was wondering if Vanguard does reports for my area here in Columbus, Ohio or for Franklin County. Where can I access the same kind of information for my area? ST
[Our long range plan is for Vanguardians to become an umbrella organization for hundreds of chapters following the model we are developing here in Glendale. My son lives in Toledo and he has indicated that Ohio actually has repressive laws against public information and open meetings. For instance he wanted to speak on an issue at Toledo City Council meeting and unless permission was granted he could not do so. Check the Ohio Yellow Book. Start attending Columbus Council meetings to get a feel for who is interested and then we should talk about forming a Vanguardians chapter. [Ohio Yellow Book.](#)]

I couldn't resist sending you this picture of proposed City Hall restrooms after the Commentary on no women at City Hall. EL



I read your commentary about women losing out on City Management positions and want you to know that it is more pervasive than you portray. Pauline Field lost her position on the Women's Commission that wouldn't have existed were it not for her efforts and she was repaid by her term not being extended as she had run for City Council. Adel Luzuriaga not being allowed to build her modest home on 7 acres. Was it because one brother came out against several City Council incumbents in 2005 election or because her other brother was one of the successful plaintiffs in a lawsuit that cost the City \$11,000,000? Is this payback because when Edith Fuentes won her lawsuit against the City she demanded a letter of apology from City Manager Starbird instead of cash? There are more women in addition, because they have issues with the City, I choose not to name them for fear of retaliation. Seems to be that payback is a bastard. Sign me...a very knowledgeable woman who knows what happens in our City. KW

CALLS: We get numerous calls – here are some ...

I was one of those told by CM Weaver that my check had been lost and to write another one. I did and lo and behold both checks were processed. When I mentioned it, I was told that when everything was reconciled I would get a refund. Several

years later and I am still waiting. I will give the cancelled checks to you. [ED – Upon receipt the cancelled checks will be turned over to the appropriate investigative office. This was typical of several calls with the same MO. Additionally, others told Vanguard about being pursued for money to go to Miss Asia and to Dreaming of Roses. The FPPC has provided Vanguardians with their investigative report.]

Barry – I watched the whole diatribe of Mr. Weaver berating you. If he should sue you, my law firm will take your defense pro bono. [ED – There was more but we don't want to share the defense. This type of support was made by several local, well known attorneys.]

Articles

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, [public employees in California are the highest paid in](#) the nation. While state workers do well, among government employees the city of Los Angeles is considered the "land of milk and honey" due to the high pay and lavish menu of benefits.

From [LA Business Journal](#): As home prices continue to fall throughout L.A., County Assessor Rick Auerbach has announced that his office has slashed the assessments of more than 40,000 residential properties and is reviewing another 230,000 properties. Auerbach said on Thursday that the assessment reductions so far have saved property owners an average of \$660 on their property taxes, which translates into a drop of around \$27 million that will not flow into local government coffers.

[Mayor Dave Weaver won't explain why he wants to disband the city's Commission on the Status of Women](#)

By [Ellen Snortland](#) 06/15/2006

http://www.linkedin.com/ppl/webprofile?action=ctu&id=12360338&authToken=nZZS&authType=name&trk=ppro_getintr

Media Shield Law Remains in Doubt by HOPE YEN Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) – as federal judges order more reporters to disclose their confidential sources, news organizations are pinning their hopes on congressional passage of a media shield bill the Bush administration opposes as a threat to national security. The legislation being considered in the Senate offers only modest shelter for reporters wanting to protect the identity of confidential sources. In many cases, it would leave the fate of journalists - and their sources - to the discretion of judges who increasingly have been willing to jail or fine them. [Click here for complete AP story.](#) [Vanguard has been asked to divulge sources to law enforcement investigators preying on 'protect the children at all costs'.]

The Staples store at the Fashion Center across from the City Hall complex on Wilson, even though a chain operation, treats its customers the same way as does an old 'mom and pop' store. Manager Shannon Ellis and assistant Sarkis along with Jose and all the other folks treat their customers like royalty. And whatta deal I got on the sale HP 1600 laser color printer and a case of paper! [The price was so low I can't say it but it did include a \$50 trade in on an old printer.]

LINKS [Click here for Vanguard Archives by Hal Weber-- Open Government Guide](#) www.vanguardians.org [Check Zip Code Demographics](#) [Global Incident Map updated every 5 minutes](#) for a free copy of waste of taxpayer money, read [Piglet Book 2007](#) . -- [ZIPskinny - Get the Skinny on that ZIP](#) [Vanguard in the Daily News](#) [The Glendale California 100K Club](#) See who makes how much in Glendale [Videos by Glendale Citizens](#)

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

Monday, March 24

12N & 5:00 PM Community Open House – Housing Elements Update – Room 106, Municipal Services Building,

Tuesday, March 25

2:30 PM Glendale Housing Authority, Glendale Redevelopment City Council Chambers, City Hall

2:30 PM Special Meeting – Glendale City Council RE: Fire Operations

6:00 pm Glendale City Council

Wednesday, March 26

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

Thursday, March 27

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

Saturday, March 29

Commemoration of the Birthday of Cesar Chavez – 12 Noon, Pacific Community Center, 501 S. Pacific Avenue, Glendale. 548-2780

3 Open Government

The City of Glendale did not willingly give up the names, job titles and pay to the \$100K Club. The City of Glendale signed onto a Friend of the Court (Amicus) brief to PREVENT the public from knowing about the number of employees that are on that list. Vanguardians

followed the case to the California Supreme Court when the Plaintiffs (Good Guys) won last August and then we were able to get that information by filing a formal public records act request. Now the public is aware of where the money is going.

4 Vanguardians

**We really need your help to do our best for Glendale
Rides needed for seniors to attend City Council Meetings**

Email

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

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

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5 the Insider

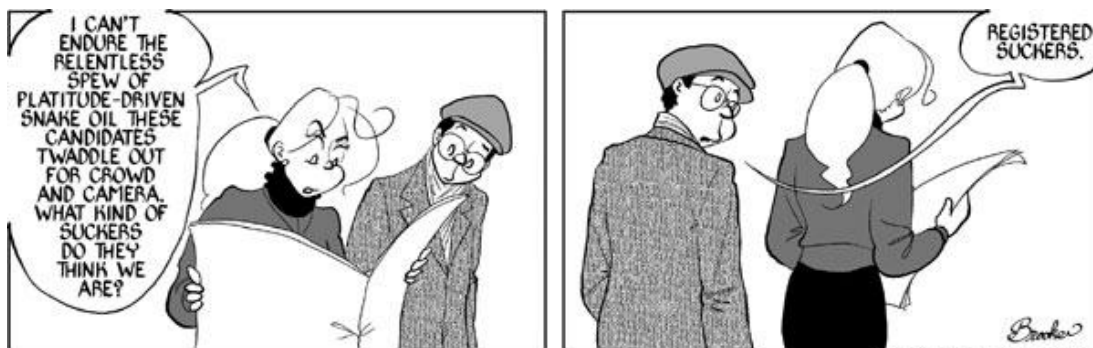
The insider is a digest of information from several city employees that care about the way the City is run. They are concerned about retaliation. Vanguard provides them the opportunity to have this forum. Their identities are kept confidential. The comments are their own.

The insider took some time off.

HARRY S TRUMAN

Once a government is committed to the principle of silencing the voice of opposition, it has only one way to go, and that is down the path of increasingly repressive measures, until it becomes a source of terror to all its citizens and creates a country where everyone lives in fear.

6 Humor



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9 Chickweed Lane

7 NEXT WEEK ...

It's all about \$\$\$\$. Management plays on the lack of financial acumen of City Council The City Council authorized almost \$20,000,000 in a lawsuit judgment and land acquisitions.