



“Accountability”
Glendale’s Watchdog

Conference Call
Wednesday at 11 AM & 7 PM
Call 1-270-696-1555
Access code 521782#
Hot Topic:
Community Budget
Complacency

Vanguard
Weekly News Vol IV
Week of May 10, 2009
City of Glendale, CA Edition
www.vanguardians.org
818 745 6770

AG Says, “No,” to Secrecy of Performance Bonuses

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



CCM Najarian made a record of CCM Weaver’s actions before the Council, prejudging a situation, not being willing to deliberate and leaving before the official adjournment of the weekly Council meetings, regarding his desire to be on the Airport Commission. Basically the public can tolerate Weaver in Glendale but should we subject Pasadena and Burbank to his shenanigans? Friedman and Drayman supported Weaver, Quintero and Manoukian.

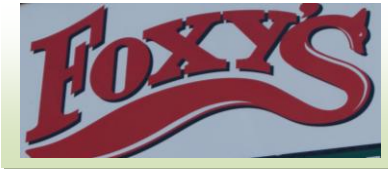
Weaver proved Najarian to be correct when he again left the building before adjournment even though he got the vote he wanted.

- Glendale Police Helicopter pilot files suit against the City for a demotion based on the allegation that he filed an FAA complaint against his boss. In the past several high law enforcement officers have lost their jobs over using aircraft for their personal use. GPD has not returned our inquiry.
- Ovasapyan suit costs the City \$1,587,000 not including city staff and outside resources. This was the topic on the weekly Vanguardians conference call.
- A blog you may want to check out: <http://tropicostation.blogspot.com/>
- Should we pay more for city council members? [Vote in the Vanguardians poll.](#)
- Budget study sessions started Tuesday at 9:30AM in the Council Chambers. They may resume May 12.
- A reminder: If you see underlined words in blue they are a link to more information on that article.
- Donate your running car or truck to Vanguardians for a great tax deduction

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

EVERY FRIDAY from 7-9AM -- Everyone is Welcome
Vanguardians Weekly City Business and Networking Breakfast





206 W Colorado
Glendale 91201

For more information contact Barry Allen
Info@vanguardians.org or 818 745 6770
Remember, bring business cards!
Nothing to join – No Dues -- No membership fees

- 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.

Your COO4Rent

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

“While You Were Out”



For the second week in a row, issues with fair election practices have been brought to the Dais. Last week it was both Council Member Dave Weaver and key members of the public who wanted answers regarding possible election tampering at the city elections in April. This week's meeting saw a smaller scale charge of malpractice in the appointing process for the Airport Authority of Glendale, Pasadena and Burbank.

The claim, by several members of the public, was that the last time there was an Airport Authority appointment (2007), issues with the process had been brought to the council's attention and the matter was resolved by deciding to open up the nomination process to the public, or at least vote on the idea of a reformed Authority nomination process. As of Tuesday's meeting, nothing had been addressed, and nominations had already been made. The public's indignation was also felt around the fact that even if no one from the public was qualified, the idea that two open positions decided by three council members where two current council members (Frank Quintero and Dave Weaver) vied for the spots seemed somehow, undemocratic.

Laura Friedman asked point blankly for Chief Assistant City Attorney Mike Garcia's legal take, to which he said there technically was nothing illegal about the process. CCM Drayman however took issue with it and pushed the idea of opening the nomination process up to non-council members, in a more public way, while Laura Friedman argued that she preferred council members elected to the Airport Authority and any City board for that matter, due to the political weight and influence they bring. Ara Najarian hinted that the public's interest in the position had been nothing more than window-dressing at most.

While Dave Weaver and Frank Quintero waited outside the chambers, the appointment process quickly became acerbic. Quintero was elected almost immediately while Dave Weaver's name in the hat brought severe protestation from peer Ara Najarian, who verbally thrashed Weaver's decorum as a publicly elected official. Najarian cited numerous examples of bad behavior, like walkouts during meetings without return, bullying the public, and both dogmatic and apathetic behavior towards issues brought before the council. In his closing argument Najarian stated that if elected, Weaver would simply embarrass the Jewel city.



Council member Drayman said that though he too had a rocky political relationship with Dave Weaver it would not be used to detract from the man's qualifications of which were many, (e.g., his engineering background), and perfectly suited him to board the Airport Authority. He went on to suggest that perhaps hypocrisy was afoot regarding Najarian's outburst.

Laura Friedman, in an effort to circumvent the second stalemate of the evening, did not change her vote for Weaver, but flip flopped her other vote from Carl Povilaitis to Rafi Manoukian, which made the outcome three to two, in favor of Manoukian over Weaver.

Even though much of the public might approve of Najarian's attempt to discredit Dave Weaver by invoking Glendale's reputation, he did so essentially behind Weaver's back and it was Drayman who came out looking clean by seemingly leaving his politics at the door. Still, it must have brought a slight smile to Najarian's face when Weaver lived up to his reputation and did not come back for the rest of the meeting.

Council Reporter Laurel Miller is a Vanguard volunteer

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

From the Publisher.... The City Manager Keeps Secrets from the City Council



The City of Glendale has a policy of secrecy regarding the performance bonuses given to city employees. Even the Council is out of the loop according to one of them. It really isn't the money, a \$200,000 a year worker could only get a \$10,000 performance bonus and bonuses are limited to 20% of the employees in a given year, it is the secrecy involved or as the City Attorney stated, a "specific basis for non-disclosure is that the release of the information may likely spur unhealthy comparisons among employees and thus breed discontent and/or discord in the workplace."

That statement is disingenuous. If co-workers thought that the bonus recipient was worthy, they would applaud the fact that Management acknowledged their good performance. Maybe, instead, the awards were used as political payments or as hush money to silence whistle blowers. It is time for the newly constituted City Council to demand the City Manager come clean and avoid the conjecture of why this money was spent, who got it and why.

The City Attorney needs to provide the information requested because those records are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act.

Below is taken from City of Glendale Administrative Procedures Manual section 4.2 updated January 2002 MERIT BONUS PAY (MBP)

1. Definition

Merit Bonus Pay (MBP) is defined as a management tool to encourage and reward excellence among Executive, Management and Mid-Management employees.

2. Purpose

Among the City of Glendale's Executive and Management/Mid-management staff are certain employees who achieve an exceptionally high level of excellence in their performance for which formal recognition should be made. To both recognize these employees and reward them for their efforts, the Merit Bonus Pay Program has been established. This program is specifically designed to recognize outstanding performance without employee

Guidelines

a. Eligibility

The MBP Program is limited to only those individuals or teams of individuals who are classified as Executive, Management, and Mid-management employees.

b. One-Time Payment

To achieve the maximum flexibility and responsiveness to outstanding employee achievements, the awards under the MBP Program are one-time payments which may be awarded at any time during the fiscal year.

c. City-Wide Limit of Awards

The MBP Program is limited City-wide to no more than 20% of all eligible employees who may receive MBP during any fiscal year. This limit applies to the City as a whole and does not affect a specific division (this means a division may award MBP to more than 20% of its eligible employees).

d. Individual Awards

The amount of MBP awarded to an employee shall be a range of 1-5% of his/her base annual salary less appropriate taxes. Full use of this range is encouraged.



"Because of its desired impact as a management tool, it is essential that the awarding of MBP be kept confidential between the City Manager, the Division head, the MBP recipient(s) and any other appropriate individuals involved in the process."

- Vanguardians made a timely request for the CM29 documents to:

"Provide all the CM29 forms for calendar year 2005 through and including April 20, 2009. Provide documents and writings evidencing the support for bonuses."

The City Attorney responded: "The information you requested is exempt from production pursuant to Government Code, Section 6254(c), in that it relates to personnel records, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of the subject employees. It is further exempt from production pursuant to Government Code, Section 6255, in that the City's interest in keeping private the personal information regarding job performance outweighs any interest the public may have in disclosure of such information. One, but not the only, specific basis for non-disclosure is that the release of the information may likely spur unhealthy comparisons among employees and thus breed discontent and/or discord in the workplace."

• Researching the California Attorney General (AG) opinions, Vanguardians found this:

Question to AG: Are records of the amounts and reasons for performance awards granted to executive managers of a city subject to disclosure under the Public Record Act?

Conclusion of AG: Records of the amounts and reasons for performance awards granted to executive managers of a city are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act.

Citation: 68 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 73 Opinion No. 84-1204

In support of his conclusion the AG wrote this: "... Salaries and other terms of compensation constitute municipal budgetary matters of substantial public interest warranting open discussion and eventual electoral public ratification. Public visibility breeds public awareness which in turn fosters public activism politically and subtly encourages the government entity to permit public participation in the discussion process. It is difficult to imagine a more critical tie for public scrutiny of its governmental decision-making process than when the latter is determining how it shall spend public funds. With ever-increasing demands on public funds which have dwindled so drastically since the passage of Proposition 13, secrecy cannot be condoned in budgetary determinations, including the establishment of salaries.

We do not believe that public disclosure of the total cost of the bonus incentive program and the amount of the average bonus is sufficient here to meet the public need. Additional information is necessary to determine whether the program is being properly administered.

Moreover, the "public embarrassment" incurred by those receiving lesser bonus amounts must be weighed against the benefits of public recognition given to those performing exceptionally well. Public disclosure may indeed provide an incentive for those receiving lesser amounts to be more productive.

In sum, any interest in not disclosing the amount of and reasons for a performance award pales in comparison with the substantial public need for disclosure. Hence, we conclude that the requisite showing could not be made under section 6255 for the withholding of the records at issue.

Since we have concluded that the disclosure of the subject records would not constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy under section 6254, subdivision (c), the test in considering the constitutional right of privacy has also been met in favor of disclosure." **Barry Allen**

A brief note about the day job...We have located a number of business opportunities that can help the economy by job creation and green technology. A number of people have suggested a venture capital fund and a business incubator and have asked that we create one. It shall be done. Contact ba@fieldworks.net for further information.

Next week the diminishing watchdogs coupled with complacency of the masses.

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money" - [Alexis de Tocqueville](#)

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

Commentary: - WHEN A PENSION SYSTEM STINKS OF ABUSE



Relax now. You are fifty-five and did thirty years under the umbrella of the Glendale's retirement system. The morning dew clings to your golf bag and the course looks serene. Your \$10,000 check will arrive from CALPERS this month. No need to despair about the economy. Your mortgage is paid off. Kids finished college and the only concern you have is whether the cruise ship you'll take this month will be exposed to the swine flu.

For the next thirty years, whether the economy thrives or tanks, you'll get at least that

amount every single month. Life is good and fair. Or is it?

How did it ever come to pass that lawmakers went out to approve pensions that allow a retiree to get 90% of their last working salary? It's easy for any lawmaker to give away something that isn't theirs – the taxpayers' money. But it is doubly easy to approve benefits that will kick in some time in the distant future. By the time those payments are due, the lawmaker could well be long gone and six-feet under. So who cares?

Well, it's now payback time in California, Glendale and every city where short-sighted lawmakers gave away the store. While government retiree's live off a pension more suitable for a baron or baroness, our whole financial house is breaking apart creaking into bankruptcy tomorrow. In my opinion, no retirement pay should be higher than the average per capita income of a working adult in that jurisdiction.

There was a covenant that existed for many years. You worked for government knowing that your pay would be about 10% less than compatible wages in private industry, but your job was almost fire-proof, and your pension would be secured. A pension that paid 45% of your last salary was not considered chump change. You knew the rules, you accepted a string of bad bosses, but you clawed your way to a worry-free retirement.

Not anymore. Now pay is based on some castle-in-the-sky arrangement that your public employee union arranged with politicians. Now your salary is compared with the salary of some other artificial arrangement in some other city, and when their salaries go up, you can claim unfair treatment that can only be mitigated by an equivalent raise. And what if revenues from taxpayers aren't there to meet those obligations? Well, squeeze them again and again. Go ahead. Fix that last year's salary with special assignments, bump it up with some accumulated sick pay that can serve as salary computation enhancements and retire in glorious ignorance of an economy that is collapsing around you.

It's time for another taxpayer revolt. Not only are those pay arrangements revolting to common decency, those pay and benefit concoctions should make taxpayers mad enough to remind elected officials of Shay's rebellion of 1786. The conditions that led to the uprising of nine thousand men ready to battle the state are strikingly similar.

While farmers in Massachusetts were defaulting on their loans en masse due to ultra-high interest rates, fees to file legal complaints were deemed unbearable and unfair. In the mean time the state legislators were paying themselves sky-high compensations. Sound familiar? The state had built up high debt and the high interest the state was paying was impacting an ever more frustrated farmers and taxpayers.

Now back to Glendale in 2009. Ever heard a single word of concern uttered by our councilmen to the struggle rate-payers have in meeting their electric utility bill? Found any word of empathy to the plight of tens of thousands of residents who are struggling to meet their basic necessities? None, zero, zilch!

So unfair a system, so crass the disregard, and so ignominious city employee demands in the middle of the worst recession in eighty years that there is little recourse but to make massive and unparalleled changes to the system that holds the taxpayer hostage to the financial whims of the public employee unions.

A fish rots from the head down. It's time to raise a stink and rid ourselves of the architects of this debacle and the corrupt politicians who helped create it. **Herbert Molano**



695 last week 702 this week Glendale Foreclosures



Earlier in the week the Glendale News Press published an article entitled "City Targets Untidy Homes" written by Laura Drdek. Although the article was well written and made very valid points, the factual data / numbers presented were, in my opinion, incorrect.

"Between March 6 and April 3, 51 properties in Glendale went into foreclosure, according to a city report" the GNP article stated. Vanguard contacted the GNP regarding the written statement and foreclosure numbers. To date, no response has been issued.

While all of us certainly wish that there were only 51 foreclosures filed within the city of Glendale during March 6 and April 3, sadly the numbers are flat out incorrect. In my opinion, it serves as a disservice to the community. While "city reports" may have gathered certain data, and while the general public may gather information by opinions, we on the other hand, obtain the number of foreclosure filings directly from the Los Angeles County Recorder's Office. In other words, straight from the horses mouth and verified by legal recordings.

While I have attempted in numerous ways to "squeeze the numbers" or "trim the fat" with incorrect filings, duplicate filings, etc., how anyone could arrive at 51 foreclosure properties in Glendale calls to question the veracity. So I thought, maybe my calculator was lying to me. With that in mind, I decided to



individually populate each and every single property in Glendale that went into foreclosure during the specified time period and audit each of the filings.

During the time period between March 6th and April 3rd only, there were **216** recorded Glendale foreclosures. This includes Notice of Default (161), Notice of Trustee Sale (47), and Foreclosure Auction (8). Maybe the article meant to say that there 51 foreclosures, (times 4 and then some).

As of Friday May 8, 2009 there are a total of 702 foreclosures in Glendale. Anyone who believes differently may contact my office or me directly via email for a copy of the detailed list and spreadsheet.

Knowledge is Power. Let's start first by being honest with one another. **CHRISTIAN ARBID**

The writer is a Real Estate Broker and Loss Mitigator. 818.232.7899 Questions Relating to Foreclosures, Short Sales, Saving Your Home, Loan Modifications check out his blog at www.LenderLies.infoEmail Christian at 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 Shout Box 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: **BEWARE** In case you get a notice in the mail that says, 'FINAL NOTICE,' on the envelope. They want \$219.00 for annual tax reassessment. People are going to fall for this and think their home might be taxed less when they send money into this organization. This has nothing to do with the County of Los Angeles Property Tax. Small print at the bottom of the page: "A NON-GOVERNMENTAL COMPANY" **Dave Bryce** [ED Several scam notices were shown to the

Friday Vanguard Breakfast crowd along with the real thing from the LA County Assessor.]

I find it so hard to believe the city is refusing to release their salary comparisons with other communities. How can this possibly be considered material exempted for negotiations when all the data is public information? They have compiled it, they should share it. Is there perhaps fear of letting the people see where our civil servants actually fall in the labor market? I find that to be the only viable explanation. This data is not otherwise sensitive at all. I would be very curious to see just how probing these comparisons are. Are they apples to apples comparisons of ALL income and benefits or just select categories? Our Glendale employees seem to get a lot of extra-pay for assignments and such, are these all compared? We have a right to know and to not be stone walled by what is supposed to be an open, transparent government. DN



We get calls: Barry, there was a writer to the GNP that has a better idea of how public comments should be handled at the City Council meeting. Apparently she is unfamiliar with the Ralph M Brown Act that sets the 'agenda' for public comment. I would suggest she read that law before she rewrites it.

- City Manager Starbird painted a rosy picture, in answer to a question from a speaker during Oral Communications last week, about the City's disaster preparedness during the health 'epidemic'. According to the GNP Fire Chief Scoggins painted a different picture. Presently they have begun working on a plan; there are only 3 boxes of Tamiflu, an anti-viral medication used to treat flu, and very few masks available.
- A letter in the GNP complained that the Obama stimulus would not give food to the schools but would help with the cost of kitchens. That's pretty stupid. The kids need food. [ED Actually the stimulus packages are to create jobs not be just another social services campaign. The US needs to start manufacturing products like kitchens, freezers, refrigerators, stoves, ovens, fans, counters, dishwashers. You name it. That is a program that creates jobs.]
- Re: Ovasapyan: The City is off the hook as the judgment is against the police officers but the City will have to pay the \$1.6M because the officers are indemnified by the City. Was that just a lot of wrangling

over words? Does it make a difference? Was there any issue about the City Attorney assigned to this case about playing house with the officers' supervisor? [ED – The latter question was submitted on two occasions to the City Attorney and there has been no comment. The issue is again before closed session on Tuesday. The matter could have been settled for \$400,000 and wasn't. Your questions are valid and I would suggest you ask them of the City Council in open session.]



I want to make very sure that I understand a premise and assertion that appeared in your most recent newsletter. Because some portions of my understanding rely on my suppositions and conclusions, I want to be certain those are correct. Here it is:

- Glendale city staff has surveyed 12 ostensibly comparable cities with regard to the ranges of salary paid to the management staff, rank-and-file city workers, and police and fire employees of those cities, and compiled that data in a report that has been made available to, at a minimum, a majority of the city council members. **That is our understanding.**

- You made a formal records request for a copy of this report, and that request was formally denied with the response, "The information you seek is exempt from production pursuant to the deliberative process privilege, in that it reflects the advisory opinions, recommendations and deliberations which comprise a portion of the process by which governmental decisions and policies are formulated." **That is correct.**

- There was no offer to redact portions of the report that constituted the advice of staff with regard to negotiations or, in other words, no effort to simply provide you with the job titles and associated salary ranges collected from the 12 cities. An authorized representative of the city of Glendale did, however, identify the 12 cities surveyed as "Anaheim, Burbank, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Inglewood, Long Beach, Pasadena, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Ana, Santa Monica, and Torrance." The implication being that, you and/or others are welcomed to conduct your own salary survey of those cities. **I can say what the implication is however we have posted salary info on certain of those cities cited.**

Are those three paragraphs a fair, complete and accurate description of what has taken place, the substance of your request and the city's response? Please let me know if I've misunderstood something, or perhaps made an incorrect assumption. **A reasonable one. I can't speak to the Cities use of the records however, when salary issues are questioned by the community Management cites the 12-City survey.**

Finally, have you asked for, have you received, or do you have certain knowledge as to the specific wording of the questions Glendale asked of these 12 cities? Do you know whether all 12 cities received identical survey questions? **Subsequently, Yes** Yellow highlights are responses.

- Who gave the authority to the City Manager to give bonuses to already overpaid City employees and who provides oversight? How many people got the bonuses and how much did it cost taxpayers? [ED – All good questions. I would suggest you ask the City Council during Oral Communications.]
- Do City Employees read Vanguard? [ED - **All Glendale elected officials and Managers are sent Vanguard each week. One CCM claims he doesn't read it but often quotes from it while another doesn't read it. He has a friend do it for him.**]
- Vanguard has yet to hear from the City of Bell on the question of a new Police Chief.

It isn't just Glendale...From Vanguard of Davis:

[Records Show Cozy Relationship between City Manager-Mayor Pro Tem-Enterprise-DFD](#)

Friday, 08 May 2009 Yesterday the Vanguard reported that the city has contracted with Citygate to examine the operations and staffing of the Davis Fire Department. The same Public Records Act Request also shows an interesting relationship between various players in City Hall and the Fourth Estate. The Davis Enterprise following their article that chronicled the number of 100K employees in the city and their editorial call for changes in staffing, ran two articles dealing with employee salaries and fire staffing. First on April 5, Claire St. John ran an article on the latest negotiations.



[City of Davis Commissions Full Review of Fire Operations](#)

Thursday, 07 May 2009 The Vanguard has learned through a Public Records Act request that the city of Davis has commissioned a full review of the Davis Fire Department through a consulting group Citygate Associates. While not a complete secret, the city seems to have intentionally kept this investigation and review under wraps. The size of the contract is 15,000 dollars, which is less than the minimum amount of a contract that would require council approval. However, despite this, the city has apparently kept the city council informed and apprised of their activities throughout.



Click to view the agenda [City Council](#) [Housing Authority](#) [Redevelopment Agency](#)
Monday, May 11

Commission on the Status of Women – 6:30 pm, City Council Chambers, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

Tuesday, May 12

9:30 am **Special Meeting:** Budget Study Session –City Council Chambers, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844
 2:30 pm Housing Authority –Redevelopment Agency **the GRA Budget will be presented during this meeting.**
 2:30 pm **Joint Meeting** – City Council/ Housing Authority RE: **The Economic Stimulus Funding Package**
 6:00 pm Glendale City Council – City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

Wednesday, May 13

9:30 am **Special Meeting:** Budget Study Session – City Council Chambers, 613 E. Broadway 548-4844
 Community Development Block Grant Committee – 2:30 pm, Council Chambers,
 Civil Service Commission – 5:00 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2110

Thursday, May 14

Design Review Board #1 - 5:00 pm, Municipal Services Building, Room 105, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140
Community Meeting – Review of City’s Proposed Water Conservation Ordinance –
 6:30 pm, Perkins Community Room #118, 141 N. Glendale Ave., Glendale. 548-3300.

Wednesday - MAY 27 6:30PM Glendale Central Library, 2nd Floor, 222 E. Harvard Street, Caltrans and Metro are currently studying all practical alternatives for extending the SR-710 through the use of a tunnel. We are holding a meeting to inform the community about the Study. Staff will be available to answer questions about the Study and the soil testing and tunneling and the latest in tunnel technology all over the world.

Contact: Thelma Herrera, 626.798.4400, SR 710 Tunnel Technical Study Team www.710tunnelstudy.info
 3412 North Eastern Avenue | Los Angeles, California 90032, T 323.222.1710 F 323.222.9710 | 1-877-710-4111 |



Public Information

Name	Monthly	Annual	Employer Name
CHRISTOPHER GRAY	\$15,016.72	\$180,200.64	GLENDALÉ
RUSSELL SIVERLING	\$13,064.38	\$156,772.56	GLENDALÉ
WILLIAM HALL	\$12,329.44	\$147,953.28	GLENDALÉ
DONALD BIGGS	\$12,300.48	\$147,605.76	GLENDALÉ
MICHAEL HANEY	\$12,287.52	\$147,450.24	GLENDALÉ
MARK DISTASO	\$11,776.34	\$141,316.08	GLENDALÉ
JAMES REZ	\$11,435.25	\$137,223.00	GLENDALÉ
WILLIAM BAILEY	\$11,267.90	\$135,214.80	GLENDALÉ
ROBERT FRANZ	\$11,145.38	\$133,744.56	GLENDALÉ
JAMES SWINFORD	\$10,896.40	\$130,756.80	GLENDALÉ
MICHAEL POST	\$10,339.44	\$124,073.28	GLENDALÉ
JOEL MARKSS	\$10,313.46	\$123,761.52	GLENDALÉ
RICHARD HINZ	\$10,242.06	\$122,904.72	GLENDALÉ
DONALD SHADE	\$10,050.54	\$120,606.48	GLENDALÉ
DAVID THOMPSON	\$9,908.68	\$118,904.16	GLENDALÉ
JOHN LINGUA	\$9,802.88	\$117,634.56	GLENDALÉ
JON PAQUET	\$9,786.68	\$117,440.16	GLENDALÉ
OLIVER TETREAUŁT	\$9,723.96	\$116,687.52	GLENDALÉ
DONALD FROELICH	\$9,672.09	\$116,065.08	GLENDALÉ
GERALD MILLER	\$9,553.37	\$114,640.44	GLENDALÉ
JAMES ANTHONY	\$9,452.18	\$113,426.16	GLENDALÉ
JOHN HOFFMAN	\$9,397.92	\$112,775.04	GLENDALÉ
PETER MICHAEL	\$8,982.37	\$107,788.44	GLENDALÉ
THOMAS MCLAUGHLIN	\$8,981.12	\$107,773.44	GLENDALÉ
LAUREL PATRIC	\$8,903.41	\$106,840.92	GLENDALÉ
JAMES WOODY	\$8,856.74	\$106,280.88	GLENDALÉ

CALPERS has provided a list of the 40 \$100,000 club members who receive pensions paid from the Glendale pension account. If CALPERS is unable to fund the pensions due to a downturn in investments it is up to the City to do so make the payment. If the City can't do it...guess who is next?

Bottom line is that it is you and me that will make those payments.

Name	Monthly	Annual	Employer Name
NAOMI KISHIMOTO	\$8,792.88	\$105,514.56	GLENDALE
GERALD STOLZE	\$8,791.37	\$105,496.44	GLENDALE
RALPH STOWE	\$8,758.19	\$105,098.28	GLENDALE
GREGORY LOVEJOY	\$8,734.64	\$104,815.68	GLENDALE
DEAN CARRIGER	\$8,624.33	\$103,491.96	GLENDALE
JACK BILHEIMER	\$8,576.35	\$102,916.20	GLENDALE
PATRICK SHEA	\$8,567.68	\$102,812.16	GLENDALE
MARK WHIPP	\$8,540.45	\$102,485.40	GLENDALE
LAWRENCE SILVA	\$8,539.28	\$102,471.36	GLENDALE
RUSSELL PIERCE	\$8,527.23	\$102,326.76	GLENDALE
MANUEL SANZ	\$8,524.95	\$102,299.40	GLENDALE
LINO TORRES	\$8,464.56	\$101,574.72	GLENDALE

CALPERS has provided a list of the 40 \$100,000 club members who receive pensions paid from the Glendale pension account. If CALPERS is unable to fund the pensions due to a downturn in investments it is up to the City to do so make the payment. If the City can't do it...guess who is next?

Bottom line is that it is you and me that will make those payments.

4 *Vanguardians*

- Vanguard Friday Breakfast Club had a powerful, energetic group at Foxy's. Each week we add more people with good information to share. We showed and explained the Court files on Ovasapyan – which is on the closed session for Tuesday. We learned the differences between bookings and arrests. We also got it from the real estate experts on the scams relating to the paying for a property tax assessment review. There was considerable discussion on the proposed Ordinance to fine lenders up to \$1000 a day for failure to keep up the property. This provides an excellent opportunity to share opinions while networking. We are looking forward to seeing you at FOXY'S, 206 W Colorado, every Friday.
- Vanguardians is preparing to host a series of televised debates on topics such as: Public Safety, Budget, Bonds, Open Government. Look for us, soon, on Charter Channel 284
- Get breaking Glendale News by signing up for an RSS feed at www.vanguardians.org.
- You can suggest web links and events for the Vanguardians website without having to register. Just click on the "Suggest a Link" and "Tell us about an Event" links from the main menu and submit the forms. You can also contact webteam@vanguardians.org directly.
- Serious bloggers wanted for the Vanguardians website. Contact webteam@vanguardians.org for more information.
- Great opportunity for you to place your ad or link on www.vanguardians.org

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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.



Your work on the Cities "Bonus" program is priceless. Staff has always wondered how Starbird bought loyalty from certain managers, now we know he actually paid for it. The fact that the City does not want to release that information is classic because they know the granting of the bonuses is based on loyalty and not merit. Obviously, good staff working for bad managers is never considered for bonuses.

More on 503 Kenneth: Turns out that Mayor Quintero's handpicked member of the DRB, Mr. Insua, is the driving force against the owner of 503 Kenneth. Seems he has personal issues with the designer of the project and is using his position to attack his projects. This matter has nothing to do with design, and everything to do with personalities.

6 Humor



7 News from the neighborhood – Public Safety and More

I just came from my local Vons on Glendale and the 134 where the fire dept is out in force with boots in hand begging for their favorite charity. Two engines, one from station 24 (known as "Club Canada") and one from station 25 plus a rescue ambulance 25 for a total of 3 units and seven firefighters plus assorted hanger-on's.

I noticed that Stephen Elliott, a firefighter who makes over \$158,350 a year was standing there with a boot in his hand. If the firefighters gave just a fraction of their overtime pay to this charity they would make a better impression on the residents and exceed their charity goal.

I also like how they parked one of the engines in the No parking red zone in front of the supermarket forcing traffic into one lane, I witnessed a near collision because there was no room for a car to navigate this hazard. They were out in force today with the boot thing. Since they have nothing to worry about anymore, all political positions are now controlled, they can do anything they want. **Concerned**

From Sen. Carol Liu: Tuesday, May 5, 2009 - State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell has released the California Department of Education (CDE) calculations of the amount of Title I funds that local education agencies (LEAs) in California will receive, as well as the amount of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B funds that Special Local Plan Areas (SELPAs) will receive under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). To view the list visit the [CDE's website](#).

The U.S. Department of Education awarded \$564 million in ARRA funds to California last month for Title I for disadvantaged students and \$634 million in IDEA Part B for students with disabilities. That amount constitutes half of the ARRA Title I and IDEA Part B funds expected to come to California. The remaining half is expected to be awarded in the fall.

Other Grant Updates

The Senate Majority Caucus and the Senate Office of Research have partnered to provide you the latest information about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and local grants. This past week has presented two new opportunities; details about these and other open grants can be found in this [ARRA Open Grants List](#). Please remember that documents on our server can only be downloaded by Senate accounts. If you wish to forward this information to local/district contacts, you will have to download the document and save it prior to forwarding the information.

The best sites for more news and information on ARRA are recovery.gov (where you can find a [list of all websites devoted to opportunities of ARRA](#)) and ca.recovery.gov (for California specific information).

Firefighter McCarter responded to the Vanguardians letter. His response and our reply are on the Vanguardians website.

State May be Liable for Municipal Bankruptcy Unless Cities Oppose Assembly Bill

The Assembly Appropriations Committee staff analysis of AB 155 (Mendoza) raises a number of concerns and notably considers the state's liability a major factor in its conclusions. **Sponsored by the California Professional Firefighters**, the legislation would require local agencies contemplating bankruptcy to first obtain approval from the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission (CDIAC) prior to filing for bankruptcy. [\[FULL STORY\]](#)

Howard Jarvis on the May 19 election: Voters Not Buying Sacramento Con Game

Sacramento -- Recent public Polls show voters are tired of the same old "scare tactics" used by "greedy politicians" to pass new taxes to pay for their overspending.

If the three polls are correct and the election were held today, five of the six measures -- including Proposition 1A, a \$16 billion tax increase -- placed on the May 19 Special Election ballot by the Governor and the Legislature would lose, and lose badly.

"The poll results show that California voters are sick and tired of the Sacramento politicians crying wolf," said Jon Coupal, chairman of the No on 1A campaign and President of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. "Now politicians are panicking because the public is seeing through their dishonest campaign to wring more money from taxpayers, and they may actually have to go to work to fix the system in a fiscally responsible manner."

The recent articles listed below illustrate that the May 19 ballot is really about "Sacramento Politicians versus the Rest of the State" . . .

San Francisco Chronicle - Schwarzenegger has new warnings to win votes <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/05/05/BAOC17F9JU.DTL>

The Christian Science Monitor - Voters pan Schwarzenegger and his budgetary 'Valley of Doom'
<http://features.csmonitor.com/politics/2009/05/06/voters-pan-schwarzenegger-and-his-budgetary-valley-of-doom/>

San Francisco Chronicle - Schwarzenegger has new warnings to win votes <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/05/05/BAOC17F9JU.DTL>

Sacramento Bee - Dan Walters: Schwarzenegger uses scare tactics on ballot fight
<http://www.sacbee.com/capitolandcalifornia/story/1837150.html>

Governor threatens cuts to firefighters - <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/05/04/BAB017EFO9.DTL&feed=rss.bayarea>

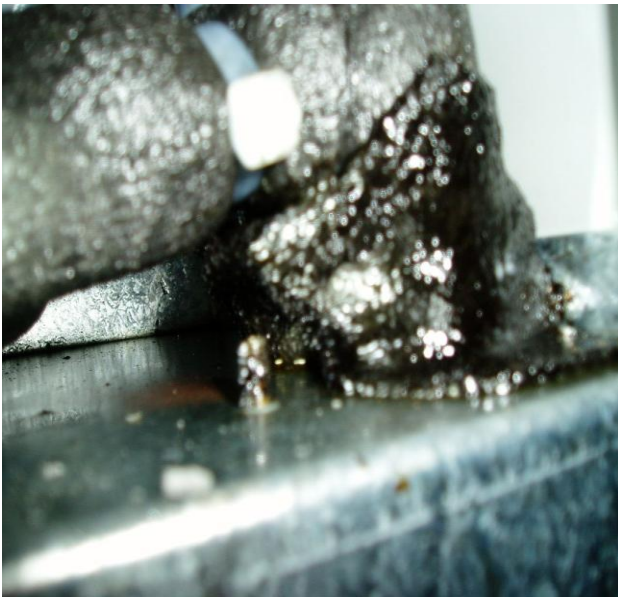
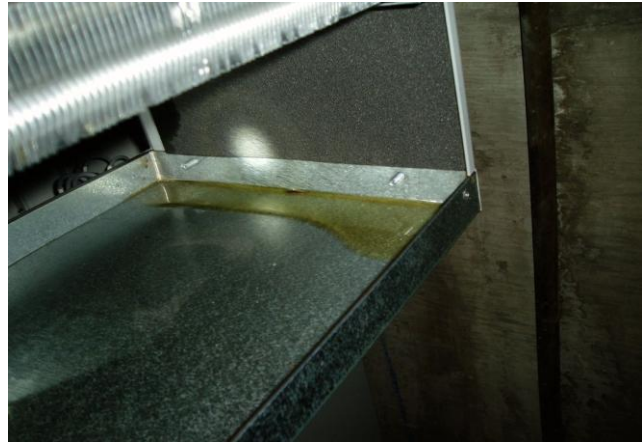
Sacramento Bee Santa Barbara Fire Changes Governors' Message
<http://www.sacbee.com/capitolandcalifornia/story/1844208.html>

Los Angeles Times FAILURE GETS A PASS: L.A. Unified pays teachers not to teach
<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-teachers6-2009may06,0,1697213,full.story>

Orange County Register - Editorial: Arnold's scary stories
<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/governor-voters-firefighters-2395941-many-employees>

Proposition 1A is opposed by No New Taxes Committee, a Project of Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, FPPC No. 922117. For more information on Proposition 1A, go to www.NoProposition1A.com

8 Pictures of Oil Leaks Glendale Unit 1 & 2 Bassler AVR AC



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