



"Accountability"  
Glendale's Watchdog

## HEADLINES

### Najarian Loses It Again

## BREAKING NEWS!

### Glendale Laughingstock on KFI

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

**As the end of the year approaches, make that tax deductible donation to Vanguardians. See #4 below**

Reality, News, Variety, Comedy programs – Glendale City Council offers free content. You don't need writers. Get your comedy and tragedy every Tuesday evening. Bring your own cameras and recorders to avoid licensing and royalty fees.

**THIS JUST IN:** Secret meeting with Mayor, City Attorney and several members of the community to discuss appointments to Airport Commission. Will the Mayor explain this meeting on Tuesday? Will he abstain from voting on a new airport commissioner?

**THIS JUST IN:** Glendale Police Officers Association agreed to answer questions on their fundraising and will include how much money raised, the contract with the fundraiser, how much went to each of the listed recipients and how much for admin? They have assured the public that none of the money goes to their PAC.

**THIS JUST IN:** Glendale gets national recognition from John & Ken on KFI. They called City Manager Starbird and Mayor Najarian clowns and bozos. John and Ken have taken up the cause of the Collards and the tree pruning causing a \$517,000 fine, Najarian and Starbird were invited to guest with J & K but haven't accepted. CM Drayman sent an email on the issue. Again the City screwed up which is a direct reflection on City Manager Starbird who must be embarrassed. This is another example of the Council showing bias: A 'vote of no-confidence' took a week, and the tree fines months and are yet to be resolved, even though Bob Yousefian brought the issue to the attention of the Council several months earlier. Where is the leadership? According to a well-known Constitutional law attorney, these fines may be unconstitutional. **Click here for more:** [John and Ken show Glendale tree fines](#)



**See #6b Jump**

**BREAKING NEWS:** No matter what, John and Ken on KFI have material for months about the Glendale trees that cause exorbitant fines for pruning. Those that spoke for the need for 'meaningful' fines have not shown up at Council to address the issue and support their determination for the excessive fines. Issues like this arise when only two Council members read the reports and ordinances while the others seem to pander. Where are the priorities of the City?

**Only when WE are vigilant are THEY accountable!**

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

### City Council

**Statement to City Council:** I was asked by a City Official to bring him up to speed on the allegations filed against Councilmember Weaver. After talking with the agencies that are investigating the charges, they have asked that I not provide the information as the investigations are underway. However, there are two distinct subjects that have some commonality -- Dreaming of Roses and Miss Asia. The

commonality is Councilmember Weaver and the nexus drawing them together is the providing of seats on the Rose Float to members of the Miss Asia contest. **See #6a Jump**

### Weekly Council Scorecard

Council	11-20	Overall	
Drayman	A	B	<a href="mailto:jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us">mailto:jdrayman@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>
Najarian	?	C	<a href="mailto:anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us">mailto:anajarian@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>
Quintero	A	B	<a href="mailto:fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us">fquintero@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>
Weaver	A	C	<a href="mailto:dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us">dweaver@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>
Yousefian	A	B	<a href="mailto:byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us">mailto:byousefian@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>
			<a href="mailto:SHoward@ci.glendale.ca.us">SHoward@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>
			<a href="mailto:Starbird@ci.glendale.ca.us">Starbird@ci.glendale.ca.us;</a>

Criteria: Responsiveness to the community, knowledge and understanding of the issues, placing the needs of the public first and attitude, attentiveness and accountability. **Mayor Najarian wasn't rated due to his preemption of a speaker.**

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

### Fire Department

**[Click here to read a dialogue between Bruce Philpott and the fire fighters union.](#)**

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

### HEADLINES

Mayor Najarian loses it for the second time as he banged the gavel and called for police. Vache Mangassarian never got to his prepared presentation because the Mayor pre-empted him with an admonition presupposing the content of his comments. Those comments could have included an award to the Mayor; a contribution to the Mayor's favorite charity; an invitation to be a guest on Mangassarian's TV show. Any number of things. We all know the derivation of 'ass u me' and the Mayor proved the point. Najarian's action is a direct affront to the Brown Act and the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment and Vache Mangassarian. His actions may go



against him as he tacitly seeks a judgeship.

### Judge Najarian being sworn

**Leadership Circles** are forming. Want to find out how to tap into and hone your leadership skills? If you are female and between the ages of 15 and 105, click below to email us to be notified of the next Circle:

[Leadership Circles](#) or call us at 818.243.2322

Fifty-Fifty Leadership [www.fiftyfifty.us](http://www.fiftyfifty.us) is a non-profit organization 501(c)3

**Our Mission:** To transform the culture within which we live to one that naturally includes women on an equal basis in the selection of leaders



**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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## 1 **Commentary**

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

**Mea Culpa:** I apologize to the public for not staying through the Mayor's preemptive strike as I left the Council Chambers to attend another meeting. And I apologize for leaving before Mr. Starbird's attempt to contain the ire of

Council member Yousefian. It appears that when the Executive Director of Vanguardians is present during Council meetings, there is more 'decorum'.

**When is volunteerism nor Volunteerism?: Volunteerism** may be defined as contributing one's time or talents for charitable, educational, social, political, or other worthwhile purposes, usually in one's community, freely and without regard for compensation. **Volunteerism is important** in every community. Temple Israel of Hollywood started a program several years ago called BIG SUNDAY. Members of the Temple volunteered to build Habitats for Humanity, work at group homes, and serve food to homeless teens and much, much more. In addition they feed the homeless a Christmas dinner and relieve working Christians when they are required to work on Christmas. BIG Sunday grew and grew. Thousands of volunteers came from Churches, Synagogues, Temples, Mosques, agnostics and atheists, just everybody. Last count about 35,000 volunteers – people that aren't being compensated or paid – turned out. A figure so impressive that BIG SUNDAY was co-opted by the City of LA. A supporter of a recent luncheon for the Glendale Fire Department told me that he supported that cause because so many fire fighters and especially one battalion chief volunteered lots of time, when in fact the City of Glendale was paying them, most often overtime. That is not volunteerism. How does a salaried city official volunteer? Does he or she give money back to the City from their paycheck?

**Appointment to the \$12,000** a year airport commission this year includes a free January junket to Hawaii. Who should get the appointment? Today, the two remaining appointees are a former Mayor and a Glendale Police Lieutenant. The Council has many tasks: the Housing Authority, the Redevelopment Agency, SCAG, MTA and other Joint Powers groups. The job should not go to a busy City Council member that signed up to work for the people of this community but to a community member that has knowledge and interest of aviation, security, logistics and operations. Whoever is considered should be interviewed in an open, public interview.

**Decorum was certainly** an issue on Tuesday evening. From the talk about John and Ken; anger and preemption of Vache Mangassarian; gaveling and calling police. Mayor Najarian provoked an expletive from Mr, Mangassarian with his prescience of speaker topic. His actions were taken against the public while Mr. Yousefian displayed anguish against the staff, people we pay the big bucks to. There is a difference. When Mr. Najarian shouted out that a scam is being run on the public by the questioning of impact fees, was he just grandstanding for the AYSO whose member yelled from the back of the Chambers, 'corruption'? The Council does not enforce the current code of ethics, why should we expect something different with a code of conduct.

**It's our fault** that the City has turned into a quagmire of forgotten promises, trading votes for projects and not properly responding to the needs and demands of the public. Soon the American's with Disabilities Act will be 20 years old and only because Dr. Espiritu is speaking up (along with Bonnie Adams) are we seeing any movement. Retired Police Chief Bruce Philpott speaks for all of us when he demonstrates the lack of good management practices by the Fire Department. Hopefully the interest of the Council will be the needs of the public not just their campaign coffers. The City was not very happy when the California Supreme Court said the public was entitled to the salary information of City Employees. The City still hasn't told the public just how much that Fire Captain getting \$215,000 per year actually costs with the additional benefits, burden and pension. It is our fault – you and me --for not speaking up and out (See #7). 300 new employees were added in just one year according to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and yet neighborhood services has a budget that required them to cut the number of inspectors.

Having a difficult time with the City bureaucracy? Have your Council member or Mayor request a meeting with you, the City Attorney and a member of Management Services and KFI.

Integrity starts with the individual

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## **2** Announcements – Letters – Calls -- Calendar -- Articles – OP-ED

### **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.**

**No one loves Bob** -- Everyone is against Bob Yousefian, even the house organ, the News Press, [Ed. Glendale News Press]. Bob wasn't meeting the mythical standards of decorum. Let's see: Weaver didn't like something and left the dais with the slam of a door; Quintero sided with Solis and Masihi [ED Commissioners removed from their posts for reasons known only to the Council] and walked off the dais; Mayor Najarian made it known loud and clear that a scam was being run [ED impact fees]; Drayman moved out of City Hall because of the constant lobbying by city staff. For more, there is the constant messaging during meetings, Weaver constantly chatting with the City Attorney and the up and down to make and take calls while going for a water break in the back room. SG

**Weaver update** -- Thanks for sharing the update on Mr. Weaver. What I can't understand is that he is always crying that he is broke, has no money and yet he is building a huge addition on his house. Makes you wonder, doesn't it? GK

**Open letter to the Mayor:** Dear Mr. Najarian,

I watched last night's video clip of the city council meeting where you began attacking Mr. Mangassarian and provoking him to anger. First of all, your position as a Mayor is to be a 'father figure' to this city and a force to unite its residents. Instead, since you have been Mayor, you have provoked and manipulated your colleagues to gang up on Mr. Yousefian and now are provoking the residents who are emotionally distraught about your and other council member's behavior. As you have heard the saying in Armenian, you're working from under the table, unlike some of us folks who do not have the lawyer training to be as cunning as you. I watched the city council meeting tape, and I did not hear Mr. Mangassarian's comments until you made a point of repeating it loudly from the dais. If you are so concerned about children watching the show then why repeat a derogatory comment so they can hear, unless, you were manipulating, yet again, your colleagues and the public opinion. LL

**The vote for Yousefian's replacement** on the airport commission is coming up on Tuesday. Will Margaret Hammond, Lila Ramirez and Lenore Solis be there with their prepared speech supporting Quintero or Weaver? Will Mayor Najarian abstain from voting because of the meeting he had with the City Attorney and Margaret Hammond about the airport commission appointments? I agree with you that the third airport commissioner should not be a council member. Also Yousefian is the only one that ever reported on the happenings at the Commission. Weaver just wants the free trip to Hawaii this January. Shame on this Council. JG

**Weaver** again caused a city employee in the Management Services office to file a complaint after his crude remarks involving female anatomy. How disgusting. **INSIDER**

## **CALLS**

**So many calls regarding the Mayor's behavior:**

**Why did Najarian pre-empt Mangassarian's free speech rights? Najarian overstepped his authority.**

**He is worse than Weaver. Weaver only called for the police once and that was just for [Herbert] Molano. It took two cops to watch over him. At least Weaver let Molano speak before attacking him.**

**Najarian can't keep order in the City Council. Maybe we should vote him for a judgeship and get him out the way we did with Gomez [Gus Gomez, a former Council member that ran for and was elected as Judge].**

**Maybe the Hat Lady [Margaret Hammond] should offer Najarian sensitivity training. [No doubt about the use of the term, 'coolie'.]**

**I was one** of the pro-Yousefian speakers on Tuesday. Bob neither requested nor knew that I was going to speak on his behalf. The GNP never asked me.

**Can you imagine**, Sal Gangi was with CM Weaver at a fundraiser on Saturday and on Sunday at the Caruso tree lighting? Gangi gave money to Miss Asia, made a lot of money selling land to the City and a family member has a suit against the City they will probably cost \$5-6M. Just a heads-up for you.

**Mayor Najarian** sells an opportunity to go first on Oral Communications if you are willing to give up 2 minutes. It must be ingrained in politicians. Also speakers should be first come first to speak, just like the butcher shop. Your card is numbered and that is how you get called.

**LINKS.** [Click here for Vanguard Archives by Hal Weber](#). [Open Government Guide](#). See [www.vanguardians.org](http://www.vanguardians.org) for more [Check Zip Code Demographics](#). [Global Incident Map updated every 5 minutes](#)

## **CALENDAR**

**Click on the underlined to view the agenda** [City Council](#) - [Housing Authority](#) - [Redevelopment Agency](#)  
Monday, November 26

**Special Meeting** – Board of Zoning Appeals – 10:00 am, Room 105, Municipal Services Building, 633 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2140  
Transportation and Parking Commission – 6:00 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2716

**Tuesday, November 27**

**City Council CIP 9:30 am**

Glendale Housing Authority -- 2:30 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2060  
Glendale Redevelopment Agency -- 2:30 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-2005  
Glendale City Council -- 6:00 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 613 E. Broadway, Glendale. 548-4844

**Wednesday, November 28**

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, November 29**

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

**Saturday, December 1**

Montrose Christmas Parade – 6:00 pm, Honolulu Boulevard, Montrose. (818)-399-0296

**Monday, December 3rd** at 7 PM The Glendale Homeowners Coordinating Council will hold its December meeting at the First Congregational Church of Glendale, 2001 Canada Boulevard, at Wabasso. The speaker will be Peter Kavounas, Water Services Administrator, GWP. Mr. Kavounas will be discussing the proposed water rate increase and the Chevy Chase 968 Reservoir and pump station as well as other issues of current interest to the residents of Glendale & surrounding areas. Following will be a question & answer period. Guests are cordially welcome. No admission charge. Refreshments will be served. Ample free parking. For more information, please call 242-7334, or 626-300-4990.

### 3 Open Government

**Brown Act violation? Council members sitting at open council sessions on Tuesday evenings get many email messages and phone calls that should be made public else they are closed**

**communications that are prohibited during a regular open meeting. For instance Mayor Najarian acknowledged that he was corrected that his brother-in-law is a Major, not a Captain.**

**These ex parte communications must be stopped and the callers need to come in and speak on an agenda item or speak during oral communications on issues within the purview of the Council.**

Public Criticism: The body may not prohibit public criticism of policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or the acts or omissions of the body. The Legislature has provided that this protected right to criticize individuals does not grant any privilege or protection for such speech beyond what is already provided in the law, most notably the “qualified immunity” provisions of [Civil Code Section 47 Section 54954.3](#)

### 4 Vanguard

**Wants and Needs: Besides operating cash Vanguardians could use vehicles in running condition, Vista compatible software, a video camcorder – digital, color laser printer with duplexer, office space.**

## VANGUARDIANS

**Please make checks payable to “VANGUARDIANS”**

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Contributions are tax deductible – Rev. Proc. 92-85, 1992-42 I.R.B. 32 -- You will receive a receipt for income tax purposes

Email [Vanguard1@charter.net](mailto:Vanguard1@charter.net) to subscribe to the Weekly News on issues that impact Glendale.

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### 5 Humor

**“Bzzz”. “City Attorney Scott Howard here.”**

**“Scott this is (static) what can we do about the Bob and John, John and Ken thingy?”**

"I'll have to get back with you after I talk with Jim, OK?"

Time lapse.

"Bzzz"

"Yello."

"This is Scott. I talked with Jim and he suggests we hire a copyright law firm and go after those miscreants for copyright infringement. They used our copyrighted materials and didn't pay for them."

"Great, let's do it."

"I'll draft a staff report, budget \$2,000,000 and set it up for an emergency meeting – the Brown Act says we can do that."

"We'll show them!"

"Bye, bye."

## 6 a Jump

As I reviewed materials from the complaints I would like to share some of those with you.

1- The Rose Float Association Bylaws require that funds collected are used to reimburse the City of Glendale for its expenses for the cost of the Rose Bowl float, not to provide scholarships. There are no criteria published for these scholarships.

2- A checking account separate and distinct from the Glendale Rose Float Association was established for the proceeds from the Dreaming of Roses event. That account engendered an IRS investigation as to large amounts of money being deposited and not claimed by the GRFA which is not a 501(c)3. It is this account that Council member Quintero wanted audited and was rebuffed as the result of an erroneous staff report.

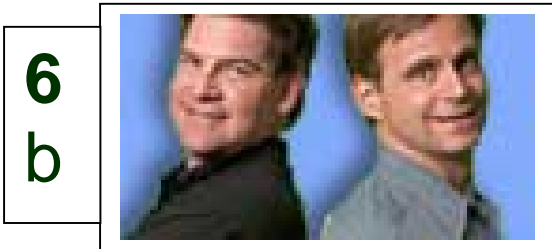
3 - Miss Asia, a production by Virgelia Productions, a for profit entity, on whose executive committee Mr. Weaver sits, according to a City of Glendale biography, and a business where Mr. Weaver receives mail and on whose behalf he solicited City services for free in violation of the Glendale Municipal Code section 2.83.

4 - The GWP gave City materials to Miss Asia upon the request of Mr. Weaver and on May 1, 2006 did erroneously indicate in a staff report to the GWP Commission that Virgelia Productions was a non-profit entity

5 - Mr. Weaver made a direct written request to Chief Adams for the use of police personnel and equipment which was granted without charge.

6 - Mr. Weaver then made a request to the Director of Libraries and received free use of the auditorium by a for profit entity something that a non-profit entity must show proof of status.

All of the foregoing is documented by public records and is not denied by any of the agencies involved. A review of some of the contributors to Miss Asia indicated they had business before this City and this Council which is a questionable practice. I understand why this Council has chosen not to further investigate this matter as it would lead to further divisiveness This City needs an ethics commission to investigate conduct such as this, a commission that is not under the control of the Council or Management.



Tree Fine 4PM Hr (11/19)  
City Of Glendale Fined Couple \$347,000 For Cutting Trees



To download the podcast, right-click "Listen" and select "Save As" from the menu.

Their Story 6PM Hr (11/21)

Glendale Couple Fined \$347,000 For Trimming Trees



To download the podcast, right-click "Listen" and select "Save As" from the menu.

Glendale Stooges 5PM Hr (11/21)

Glendale City Council Denounces John and Ken For Sticking Up For The Tree-Fine Couple



To download the podcast, right-click "Listen" and select "Save As" from the menu.

## 7 "First they came..." Martin Niemoller

When the Nazis came for the communists,  
I remained silent; I was not a communist.

When they locked up the social democrats,  
I remained silent; I was not a social democrat.

When they came for the trade unionists,  
I did not speak out; I was not a trade unionist.

When they came for the Jews,  
I remained silent; I wasn't a Jew.

When they came for me,  
there was no one left to speak out.

Speak up and speak out – support your community – take on an issue – we'll help. Don't wait until you are the last one. Become involved, be engaged and be proactive.