

If we really believe in family values, then let us do a better job of valuing our families. Let us continue the Democratic fight for what families value: job opportunities, health care, child care, and housing for everyone—not just a select few.

GREAT LAKES, GREAT FISHING

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, sportfishing is already an extremely popular activity in Michigan. In 1994, over 884,000 fishing licenses were issued and there were almost 900,000 boaters—the largest number of boaters in any State in the entire country. 1995 was an exciting year for many Michigan sports fishermen because we set three new records. The largest Longnose Gare, Mooneye, Red ear sunfish were all caught in Michigan last year. Furthermore, one new record has already been set for 1996. A 4 pound 2 ounce Gizzard Shad was caught on Lake St. Clair on May 12.

With such a positive experience, it should be no surprise that the In-Fisherman Professional Walleye Trail anglers are holding the Lubrimatic/Stren Eastern Pro-Am tournament today through Saturday on Saginaw Bay and into Lake Huron, with its headquarters in AuGress, in my congressional district. One hundred and thirty professional anglers will be joined by amateurs as they compete over 1,300 square miles to catch the biggest walleyes they can. This is a regional tournament leading to the national championship this September in Bismark, ND.

Sportsmen are among the best environmentalists we will ever find. They know the importance of the maintenance of habitat and good management practices. In fact, in 1979 fishing groups joined with local governments to form a Saginaw Bay Consortium to raise and stock Saginaw Bay. The Saginaw Bay Walleye Club and the National Guard Construction Battalion built points and upgraded abandoned sewage treatment plants. They raised walleyes, having planted more than 1 million in the early to mid 1980's. Later they were joined by Arenac, Huron, and Losco counties in raising more fingerlings, so that now about 750,000 walleyes are stocked every other year, and northern pike are raised in the intervening year.

Many people think of Michigan as the car State. As proud as we are of our auto industry, we are equally proud of the marvelous recreational and tourism opportunities offered throughout our state. In fact, I have more shore line in my congressional district than is contained in most other States, including many coastal States.

Blue skies, blue waters, great scenery, great people, and great fishing. This is what the anglers at the In-Fisherman Professional Walleye Trail are experiencing right now, and this is what is waiting for anyone who visits the Great Lakes State, Michigan. I welcome all of our visitors, and invite many, many more.

SUPPORT A LOAN GUARANTEE FOR THE OLIVENHAIN WATER STORAGE PROJECT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will help north San Diego County meet its water needs in the event of an emergency and also encourage the Federal Government to shift its role from that of planner and builder of expensive western water projects to the more cost-effective role of being a facilitator and partner in regional efforts to solve regional problems. My legislation will authorize the Secretary of Interior to provide a Federal loan guarantee to the developer of the Olivenhain Water Storage Project, a project currently being planned by the Olivenhain Municipal Water District in my district of north San Diego County.

The Olivenhain Water Storage Project is a critical part of the effort to increase the independence and economic stability of north San Diego County. Currently, the north county is almost 100 percent dependent on imported water from northern California and the Colorado River to meet its residential, industrial, and agricultural/horticultural needs. Potential drought conditions, environmental needs at the source, and demand elsewhere in the State all contribute to a rapidly rising cost of imported water, the cost of water to north San Diego County has risen 55 percent in the last 5 years. Additionally, an earthquake along any one of the three major faults underlying the pipelines that bring imported water to San Diego County could cut off water supply to the region for up to 2 months. The residents of north county must be assured that water will be available should a natural disaster occur.

The Olivenhain Water Storage Project will provide emergency water supplies for over 1 million people, including those living in the cities of Oceanside, Carlsbad, Solana Beach, Encinitas, and San Marcos, as well as portions of the city of San Diego. The San Diego County Water Authority supports my legislation, as they recognize that the lack of emergency water storage in San Diego County must be addressed immediately. A copy of their letter of endorsement is attached at the end of this statement.

The project is fully permitted after going through more than 10 years of environmental review. Working together with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a biological resource management plan has been developed that will enhance regional habitat preservation while also providing 17 miles of nature, hiking and bicycle trails to the community.

The proposed loan guarantee program reflects the changing role played by the Federal Government in developing water projects in the West. Rather than having the Federal Government contribute funds, construct the project and control its management, the loan guarantee program allows the Government to leverage its limited funds to allow for cost-effective private financing alternatives and encourages public-private partnerships in the building and operation of the project. This limited Federal participation in the financing of water infrastructure projects allows the project developers to secure private loans at rates

that are competitive with municipal tax-exempt financing, while preserving the limited bonding capacity of local governments for other crucial community needs like public safety and schools.

The Olivenhain Municipal Water District is considering the possibility of utilizing a public-private partnership such as I have described for the development of the Olivenhain Water Storage Project. Under this scenario, the district would competitively select a private partner to build and finance the project, which would then be leased back to the district. No Federal taxpayer funds would be involved in the financing of the project, and the local ratepayers will benefit from the cost-efficient construction and management of the project.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the costs of complying with the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act will be nearly \$200 billion in the next 15 years. Neither local governments nor the Federal Government have the unlimited resources necessary to meet these costs. However, through a loan guarantee program such as the one that will be demonstrated under this legislation, limited Federal resources can be the catalyst for the development of private capital to meet these needs.

There have already been congressional hearings on legislation to create a loan guarantee program—April 18, 1996. Opposition to that legislation (H.R. 2781) centered around the potential exposure of the Federal Government to a loan default and the elimination of the existing direct lending program at the Bureau of Reclamation. This new bill addresses those concerns by: First, limiting the loan guarantee authority to the development of one project; second, requiring that project developers secure any loans guaranteed by the Government; and third, allowing the existing loan program to remain unaffected by this new proposal.

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation provides tens of millions of loan guarantees for the private development of water infrastructure in foreign countries. Shouldn't we afford our own communities in the United States with the same opportunities for competitive infrastructure development?

My legislation will demonstrate that loan guarantees provide a cost-effective alternative for Federal assistance in financing water infrastructure development. I urge my colleagues to support this measure. I have attached a letter of support from the San Diego County Water Authority.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY
WATER AUTHORITY,
San Diego, CA, May 20, 1996.

Re support of Government loan guarantee for water storage project in San Diego County.

Hon. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM,
Congress of the United States, Cannon House
Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN CUNNINGHAM: The San Diego County Water Authority has been working diligently to complete an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under CEQA and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under NEPA for emergency storage in San Diego County. Currently four alternatives are under consideration. The Water Authority staff expects the Board of Directors to select a preferred alternative and certify the EIR in July 1996. Certification of the EIS and granting of a 404 Permit by the Corps of Engineers would occur months later.

The Olivenhain Water Storage Project is a component of the Water Authority's emergency storage alternative known as System 25. The Olivenhain water storage and treatment project is needed, whether or not the Water Authority and Corps choose System 25 for the Authority's project. The Water Authority is aware that Olivenhain is pursuing legislation to obtain a government loan guarantee under the Dept. of Interior's Small Projects Act. The Water Authority staff supports the Olivenhain Water District's endeavors to obtain such guarantee and to develop a storage project in northern San Diego County; whether this project is pursued independently or in partnership with the Water Authority or others.

San Diego County, including the North County, has an acute lack of emergency storage. Olivenhain, other member agencies and the Water Authority are working together to improve this situation. If you have any questions on the San Diego County Water Authority's Emergency Storage Project, please contact me or Ken Steele, the Authority's project manager. If you have any additional questions on the Olivenhain Water Storage Project, you may contact David McCollom, General Manager of the Olivenhain Municipal Water District at (619) 753-6466.

Thank you very much for your interest in your projects.

Sincerely,

MAUREEN STAPLETON,
General Manager,
San Diego County Water Authority.

A CELEBRATION OF SUBURBAN LIFE

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, when the men and women came home from the Second World War, they moved into the sprawling suburbs that were springing up across America. There, they quickly settled into lives in which they worked hard, raised their children, and played by the rules. Not the kind of lives that make headlines—but precisely the kind that make nations strong. Until now, no one had chronicled the world of these quiet heros.

Author Donald Waldie, who grew up in one of these postwar communities—Lakewood in California's 38th district—has filled that void. Mr. Waldie has made a significant contribution to American literature with the publication of his book "Holy Land," in which he recounts the unique joys and frustrations of American suburban life. Not surprisingly, he reveals that the backbone of America lies in the families who live quietly and unremarkably in these communities.

Lakewood is a proud part of the 38th congressional district. The beautiful tree-lined streets, an attractive civic center in which citizens find a responsive government, a vibrant business and professional community, and marvelous senior and recreational programs which welcome those of all ages—that is Lakewood. People sense the quality of Lakewood when they enter its boundaries and know their judgment was right when they go elsewhere.

I submit the following article from the Los Angeles Times which details Mr. Waldie's achievement.

[From the Los Angeles Times, July 5, 1996]

A LITTLE PIECE OF HEAVEN IN LAKEWOOD

(By Thomas Curwen)

On most Saturday mornings, Donald Waldie is out weeding his frontyard, which he will say desperately needs it, but don't be deceived. The azaleas are a little burned out, but the lawn is green and well-manicured.

Waldie lives in Lakewood, and his home is one of the hundreds of homes that make up the nearly anonymous patchwork of suburbs in southeast Los Angeles County. Little distinguishes Lakewood—unless you recall the brief notoriety of the Spur Posse, the group of teenagers who a few years back made it a cruel sport to have sex with as many girls as possible.

Today Lakewood's tree-lined streets and well-maintained homes are quiet and almost defy attention, unless of course you're interested in the almost mystically simple qualities of everyday life in a classic American suburb. Waldie is, and has lovingly rendered his perceptions in "Holy Land" (Norton), a memoir of growing up—and still living—in one of the largest postwar housing developments in the country.

Beginning in 1950 and continuing for almost three years, Lakewood was a flurry of building. As many as 100 homes were started each day, more than 500 a week, and by the end—33 months later—17,500 had been raised.

When considering this astonishing boom, Waldie breaks ranks with critics who disparage sprawl. He paints instead a picture of a community of simple and practical values that worked 50 years ago and still works today. A recent survey of homeowners in Los Angeles County backs him up. The average Lakewood resident lives here 15.6 years—the longest length of stay of any municipality in the county.

As the public information officer for Lakewood, Waldie, 47, makes his living explaining the city to its residents and the press. That he defends the place might not be surprising, but unlike the boosters who sold homes here in the 1950s on the benefits of a regional shopping center (the Lakewood Center Mall was one of the first and largest in the country) and a garbage disposal in every kitchen, he focuses on the spiritual benefits of life here.

"These are not perfect places, and the people who live in them are not perfect," admits Waldie, a soft-spoken man who picks his words carefully. "But my book is about the possibility of leading a redeemed life in this kind of suburban place—a life that has some value to others and a life in which one gets saved."

Welcome to the first church of the suburb. Let "Holy Land" be your bible.

Comprising more than 300 minichapters, ranging from a single sentence to a page and written much like an extended prose poem, "Holy Land" is the story of Waldie's faith and his notion that a kind of salvation takes place within the context of a suburb like Lakewood. Responsibility and obligation, he will tell you, are the linchpins of this faith, holding neighbors and communities together to make this a real holy land.

If you look carefully behind a scrim of materialism—these homes and these yards—you will see that the simple upkeep of a frontyard is symbolic of a complicated social contract between neighbors.

Waldie—whom Buzz magazine described in its list of 100 notables as having "a passion and eloquence worthy of Joan Didion"—composed the chapters of "Holy Land" during the half-hour it takes him to walk to or from work. Poor eyesight keeps him from driving. He lives alone, almost like a monk, in the house his parents bought in 1946. He attends Catholic church.

The homes in his neighborhood would probably sell in the high \$150,000s; most have three bedrooms, one bath and a detached two-car garage. Windows look into neighbors' windows. Cars, trucks and campers are parked in driveways and in the street. Some lawns are scruffy; some are immaculate. It is, in Waldie's words a place for the "not-quite middle class."

These straight-arrow streets and single-family homes are as much a part of the American landscape as shopping malls and 7-Elevens and from here to Levittown, Long Island, have been easy targets. Writer Ron Rosenbaum described his 1956 screenplay for "The Invasion of the Body Snatchers" as "about the horror of being in the 'burbs." In his influential 1964 book "God's Own Junkyard" (Holt, Rinehart & Winston), architect Peter Blake wrote: "The kind of stratified, anesthetized and standardized society being bred in America's present-day Suburbia is not one to look forward to with pleasure."

Nowadays critics are less unkind. Robert Bellah, principal author of "Habits of the Heart: Individualism & Commitment in American Life" (University of California Press), a 1985 diagnosis of what ails American communities, today sees suburbs as "a catastrophe for this country." First, their population density is low, leading to a wasteful use of land; second, they cater to the automobile, which is expensive and polluting; and third, they represent a closed door to what's happening in urban centers.

"People [in Lakewood] may be able to look out for themselves," Bellah says. "But what about the rest of society?"

Waldie is not surprised by the anger and the harsh language the suburban experience can evoke.

"These are furious, vituperative attacks on the kind of suburban space that Lakewood best exemplified," he says. "Willful ignorance about these places is one of the reasons I wrote 'Holy Land.'"

Take a Saturday walk through Jose del Valle Park in Lakewood and you will see what the critics probably didn't take into account. People really seem to enjoy living here.

Children scramble for the playground equipment. Baseball diamonds are packed with players; parents cheer children from the bleachers. Waldie pauses to watch a foul ball fly into a quiet street. He wrote "Holy Land" with the presumption that the ordinary lives of ordinary people have a unique value.

In 1949, Louis Boyar, Mark Taper and Ben Weingart purchased 3,500 acres of farmland to create this landscape. Boyar who had built homes on Long Beach in the 1930s, was responsible for the plan. He used a simple formula—straight streets at right angles and 5,000-square-foot lots—parameters that were surprisingly prescient. Urban planners today, in an attempt to build more friendly communities, are returning to straight-line grids, which seem to be more conducive to neighborliness than curved streets and cul-de-sacs.

But Boyar did more than plot 17,500 homes and a scattering of social amenities, Waldie says. He built a community out of his heart, creating a network for possible social interactions that reinforce common values. Values that make Jose del Valle Park so popular. Values that seem at times forgotten—or at least under-reported—in the country.

Of course, the motives of the developers were not entirely altruistic. By the time they dissolved their corporation, they had made almost \$12 million—money that ironically was made from a community that kept Jews, like themselves, as well as blacks and Mexicans from living here.

Filled with sad truths and terrible ironies, "Holy Land" chronicles the distance between 1950 and now. Here was a suburb, after