

Development. He also served as Executive Director of the Allegheny County Industrial, Hospital and Higher Education Authorities.

Steve returned to Northeastern Pennsylvania to become the President/CEO of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry and its affiliates, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Fund and the Greater Wilke-Barre Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority, the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association, the American Chamber of Commerce Executives, and the Industrial Development Research Council.

Steve serves on the board of the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, the United Way of Wyoming Valley, the Ethics Institute, Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and the Downtown Task Force of Wilkes-Barre. Steve also serves on the board of the Earth Conservancy, a non-profit, charitable organization that is restoring, preserving, and developing more than 17,000 acres of land throughout Luzerne County previously owned by a bankrupt coal company. He also played an important role in helping to win an American Heritage River designation for the Upper Susquehanna-Lackawanna Watershed.

I have worked closely with Steve on countless projects to improve the quality of life for Northeastern Pennsylvania. Despite the enormity of the challenges he has faced on complex projects such as restoring the former Pomeroy's building in downtown Wilkes-Barre, creating a new sports area/convention center, and the day-to-day work of attracting new industries to our area, Steve has always shown the utmost devotion to the community. He leads his organization with the highest level of professionalism.

Over the past several years, I have enjoyed working with Steve Barrouk to promote economic development in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Steve's efforts have literally helped create thousands of jobs in the Wyoming Valley. I am pleased to join Leadership Wilkes-Barre in thanking Steve Barrouk for his efforts. Luzerne County will undoubtedly benefit from his further labors in the years ahead.

ANIMAL CRUELTY LEGISLATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, criminals should not profit from illegal acts. That is why I introduced H.R. 1887 last week that will ban illegal, disgusting acts that are occurring nationwide.

People around the country are making "crush videos." These videos feature women crushing small animals with their feet while wearing spiked heels. The videos are sold nationwide to people who enjoy this type of so-called "foot fetish." and sellers of the video are making millions of dollars.

The acts of animals cruelty featured in the video are illegal under state law. However, according to District Attorney Michael Bradbury of Ventura County, California, it is difficult to prosecute these acts under state animal cruelty laws. First, a District Attorney must iden-

tify the individual in the video. This is a difficult task given the fact that most of the time, only the actress' legs are shown. Second, it is difficult to prove that the act featured in the video occurred within the statute of limitations. Third, local animal cruelty laws do not prohibit the production, sale, or possession of the video. There are also no federal laws that could be used to prosecute the individuals.

Sick criminals are taking advantage of the loopholes in the local law and the lack of federal law on animal cruelty videos. This is a serious problem. Thousands of these videos are being sold. Thousands of dollars are being made. By not closing these loopholes and allowing this sick behavior, we are encouraging people to profit from violating the state animal cruelty laws. This must be stopped!

H.R. 1887 will put a stop to this offensive behavior. This legislation is narrowly tailored to prohibit the creation, sale or possession of a depiction of animal cruelty in interstate commerce for commercial gain. H.R. 1887 does not preempt state laws on animal cruelty. Rather, it incorporates the animal cruelty law of the state where the offense occurs.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in pursuing this legislation which will put an end to profiting from these disgusting criminal acts. Please contact Wendy Wiseman of my staff at 5-5811 to cosponsor H.R. 1887.

WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF MONMOUTH COUNTY PAYS TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN VICTOR V. SCUDIERY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, May 23, the Women's Democratic Club of Monmouth County, NJ, will pay tribute to Mr. Victor V. Scudieri, who for the past 10 years has served as the Monmouth County Democratic Chairman.

A native of Newark, NJ, Mr. Scudieri graduated from Seton Hall University. He served his country in the U.S. Army in both active and reserve duty. Since then, he has achieved the status of one of our most prominent citizens in the worlds of business and politics and in the civic life of our community. He is the president of Interstate Electronics in Hazlet and also oversees several other business ventures in New Jersey and Florida. But it is probably in his capacity as the Monmouth County Democratic Chairman that Vic Scudieri is best known.

As if his chairmanship didn't keep him busy enough, Vic Scudieri devotes considerable time to many worthwhile causes. He serves on the boards of seven community organizations, and his energy, devotion and sincere commitment to giving something back to his community is felt in all of the endeavors that he is involved with. He is the chairman of the Bayshore Senior Day Center Board of Advisors, a lifeline to many area senior citizens, providing meals, companionship and daily activities. As chairman of the Buck Smith Memorial Foundation, he has overseen the granting of scholarships to deserving students. The Bayshore Hospital Health Care Center selected Mr. Scudieri as chairman of the Board

of Trustees, where he is responsible for land acquisition and construction of facilities.

In recognition of all his hard work and generosity—and in spite of his natural sense of modesty—Vic Scudieri has received countless honors from civic and charitable organizations throughout New Jersey, including the Bayshore Senior Center, Brookdale College, Knights of Columbus, Society of St. Anthony of Padua, the NAACP, and various municipal and Democratic organizations.

On this occasion, Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join with the Women's Democratic Club of Monmouth County, and the many friends of Victor Scudieri, in paying tribute to a great chairman and one of our most distinguished citizens.

COMMEMORATING THE LEADERSHIP OF EAST SIDE SCOUTMASTER DAN NELSON

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, we must recognize outstanding efforts by individuals that are continuing to set aside private lands for the general welfare of today's youth and future generations.

Dan K. Nelson of St. Paul, a neighbor of mine back home, was recently awarded the Boy Scouts of America's "William T. Hornaday Gold Medal" award. The award is surely a positive recognition, but I know that Dan Nelson's real joy is the knowledge that this special landscape along the St. Croix River will be a legacy for future generations.

Thanks Dan and congratulations on your good work. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD an article from the May 17, 1999 East Side Review outlining Dan Nelson's life long vocation and profession which has been inspired by experiences and lessons learned as a Boy Scout.

[From the East Side Review, May 17, 1999]

EAST SIDE BOY SCOUT LEADER WINS NATIONAL AWARD

(By Scott Nichols)

The developer in possession of the 1,100 acres adjacent to the St. Croix River wanted to turn the property into a golf course community boasting more than 200 homes.

Through the persistence of East Side trial lawyer, resident and assistant Scoutmaster Dan Nelson, the developer never got his chance.

Nelson joined in the neighborhood push for the sale of the property. Together the group was successful, eventually, in coming up with the developer's price tag of \$1.1 million, through private donations and appeals for funds to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

It's for continued effort like that that the Boy Scouts of America Indianhead Council announced April 12 that Nelson has been awarded what is perhaps the most prestigious award in all of scouting, the William T. Hornaday Gold Medal.

"Rare is not an appropriate term (for the award). They are very, very extremely rare," says Ron Philippo, chief executive of the Indianhead Council.

The award is given out to adult Scouters who render a distinctive and unusual service to natural resources conservation over an extended period.