

Family for the loss of their dear brother and with the House's consent, I would like to end my remarks with a recent article that was printed in The Buffalo News which commemorates the life of Joey Keane.

MAYOR OF SENECA STREET DIES AT 60—JOEY KEANE WAS "TRUE POLITICIAN" OF THE CLAN
(By Gene Warner)

Six years ago, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and Bishop Henry J. Mansell attended a Labor Day Mass in South Buffalo, where Clinton seemed to be grabbing the most attention.

Joey Keane—of the prominent South Buffalo Keane clan—spotted Mansell, who was standing alone, drinking a cup of coffee and perhaps feeling a little ignored by the Clinton spotlight.

"Hello, Bishop, I'm Joey Keane," he said. "If you put that cup of coffee down, I'll take my picture with you."

That was Joey Keane, one of the best known of the famous Keanes, a man intimidated by no one, a South Buffalo man who always had a hug or a quip for everyone—whether it was the governor, the bishop or just a man or woman on the street.

Dubbed the "mayor of Seneca Street," Keane died Friday in the Mercy Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility, following an almost two-year battle with Alzheimer's and its complications. He was 60.

When he was born, in February 1947, family members were told that infants with Down syndrome had a life expectancy of about 21 years. Usually, they were taken to an institution for the rest of their lives.

His mother, Catherine, would hear none of that. So he spent the first 30 years of his life with his parents, Richard and Catherine, the next 30 rotating among about a dozen siblings and nieces, each for about 3 months at a time.

Among his 14 surviving siblings are a former Buffalo fire commissioner, a former assemblyman and a former deputy county executive. But everyone acknowledged who the true politician was in the family: Joseph Jeremiah Keane.

"He worked a crowd better than any of his politician brothers," said niece Kate Carr, one of 183 nieces, nephews and their children who called him "Uncle Joey."

"His whole life, he was a cause célèbre along Seneca Street," said brother James P. Keane, the former Common Council member and deputy county executive. "People just took to him."

Here's a testament to his popularity in South Buffalo. Ten years ago, following a newspaper story about his gala 50th birthday party, a childhood friend living in Australia sent him a letter addressed to "Joseph Keane, Somewhere in South Buffalo, Buffalo, N.Y." The letter reached him.

Within his family, Joey Keane was the peacemaker of the 16 siblings. When they fought as kids, there was Joey in the middle of things, settling everybody down and leaving the participants to walk away with hugs and handshakes.

"He was kind of the glue that kept us together," said brother Cornelius J. "Neil" Keane, the former fire commissioner.

Since his death, South Buffalo has been filled with dozens of Joey Keane stories. Here are a few of them:

Years ago, Joey Keane had just moved from the roomy Orchard Park home of a niece, Pat Allman, to the more modest South Buffalo home of his sister Maureen Sullivan.

"Cup of coffee, Joe?" his sister asked him the first morning.

"What, no cappuccino?" Joey replied.

"You're back in South Buffalo, buddy," his sister answered.

Following The Buffalo News story 10 years ago, then-Mayor Anthony M. Masiello bought Joey Keane a cappuccino maker for his 50th birthday.

Sometime after his father's death, one sibling kidded that their mother could marry widowed Gov. Hugh L. Carey, who had 14 children. Together, they'd have more than two dozen.

Joey Keane apparently remembered that comment when he saw Carey at some South Buffalo function.

"Stay away from my mother," he told Carey, according to another brother, former Assemblyman Richard J. Keane.

Among other things, Joey Keane loved watching soap operas; impersonating everyone from John Wayne to Tom Jones; dressing up in Sabres, Bills or Bisons garb, while watching or listening to their games; dancing at weddings, often trying to snag the first dance with the new bride; needling his "big shot" brothers; watching the old Lawrence Welk TV show; and catching the garter belt at any wedding.

Surviving are seven sisters, Nancy Lafferty, Mary Alice O'Neil, Sally Trevean, Catherine Keane, Connie Smith, Margaret Ray and Maureen Sullivan; seven brothers, Richard J., Thomas J., Michael A., Cornelius J., Daniel J., James P. and Peter C. Another brother, Firefighter William T. Keane, was killed in 1978 while responding to a false alarm.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in St. Teresa Catholic Church, 1974 Seneca St., after prayers at 9 in Thomas H. McCarthy Funeral Home, 1975 Seneca St.

IN HONOR OF EARTH DAY

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 20, 2007

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, today, in honor of Earth Day, I introduced a resolution that would support the only nationally-recognized day dedicated to recycling.

Every November since 1997, millions of Americans have become better informed about recycling and buying recycled products as a result of events held in honor of America Recycles Day. Last year, events were held in communities in every state. In my home state of Washington, 12 communities are planning events to commemorate this important day in 2007 in cooperation with counties, elementary schools, businesses and local troops.

Recycling creates 1.1 million U.S. jobs, \$236 billion in gross annual sales and \$37 billion in annual payrolls. Recycling also saves energy, prevents air and water pollution, reduces the need for new landfills and combustors, reduces our dependence on foreign oil, reduces the need for extraction of certain natural resources, and can stimulate the development of greener technologies.

Over the past 10 years, many new markets for recycled products have been created. For example, plastic containers can be remanufactured into other plastic containers, fleece, carpet, car parts, strapping, stuffing, bottles, pipe, lawn and garden products, injection molded products, and plastic lumber. Yet, as markets for recycled products have increased, recycling rates for certain recyclable household products, like plastic and aluminum containers, has decreased or stayed the same, and

curbsid pickup programs have decreased in communities.

There remains a significant opportunity to increase recycling in the United States and I believe that the activities of America Recycles Day provide one way to achieve this end. It is time for Congress to support this important day and effort. I urge my colleagues to take up this important resolution and pass this bill before America Recycles Day on November 15th.

RECOGNIZING WORLD WAR II VETERAN ROBERT WALTER DINGMAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 20, 2007

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring the attention of the House to Robert Walter Dingman, a decorated veteran of World War II who was wounded in combat 62 years ago today, on April 20, 1945. Private Dingman was seriously wounded as he crossed an open field and laid paralyzed until a heroic medic rescued him under enemy fire.

Bob Dingman had just turned 18 when he was drafted into the Army in 1944. After basic training at Camp Blanding, Florida, he was soon aboard a troop ship to Liverpool, England and then on to LeHarve, France, in early 1945. The French rail road took him and his fellow soldiers to Verviers, Belgium, where he was issued an M-1 rifle. He was soon taken across the Rhine River where he was assigned to Comp B of the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion of the 3rd Armored Division.

As a young soldier with a strong faith in God, Private Dingman was determined he would not hate his enemy and had occasions to show kindness toward captives, while carrying out his duties. Since those dark days 62 years ago, Bob Dingman has led a successful, active, inspiring and selfless life. After graduating from Houghton College in New York state, he began his career here in Washington as an employee of the U.S. Navy. He later went into the executive recruiting business and formed his own executive recruiting firm in California in 1978. He rose professionally and is recognized as one of the nation's top executive recruiters.

During his recruiting career, he repeatedly went out of his way to assist faith-based organizations in their searches for competent leadership, in addition to his broad array of commercial clients. Over the years he led the search projects for leaders of such organizations as World Vision International, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Young Life, numerous Christian Colleges, and many other church-related organizations. He also gave generously of his time and abilities by serving on the national boards of such organizations as the Salvation Army and Mission Aviation Fellowship and the local boards of Hospice and Whitworth College.

As a disabled veteran of World War II, he was awarded a 50 percent disability in 1951. As one who has experienced the physical and emotional pain of rehabilitation, Mr. Dingman is currently turning his attention to finding ways to help newly disabled veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

I ask that the House join me today in recognizing Bob Dingman for a lifetime of service to his country and others, and for his example of determination, hard work and commitment to his faith.

IN HONOR OF JOHN DALLAGER

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 20, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of John "J.D." Dallager's appointment as President and CEO of the Pike's Peak United Way.

After serving his country for 34 years in the United States Air Force, Mr. Dallager went on to serve the Colorado Springs as the Chairman of the Board of the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Dallager's admirable sense of duty and clear commitment to the service of others enable me to say with confidence that he will be an excellent addition to the Pike's Peak United Way.

For over 80 years, the Pike's Peak United Way has sought to improve the lives of Coloradans living in El Paso and Teller Counties through numerous family support, emergency food and shelter, and charity grant programs. A strong leader, Mr. Dallager will provide direction to this valuable organization, allowing it to further serve the needs of my constituents. I am profoundly thankful for all that Mr. Dallager has done for Colorado's Fifth Congressional District and our Nation.

COMMENDING EXCEPTIONAL
NORTHWEST INDIANA TEACHERS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 20, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend seven exceptional teachers from Northwest Indiana who have been recognized as outstanding educators by their peers for the 2006–2007 school year. These individuals are: Margaret Hurt, Susan Kucharski, John Nawrocki, Faylene Altomere, Eileen Meier, Amanda Johnsen, and Michelle Strong. These honorees will be presented with the Crystal Bell Award at a reception sponsored by the Indiana State Teachers Association. This prestigious event will take place at the Andorra Restaurant and Banquets in Schererville, Indiana on May 8, 2007.

Margaret Hurt, from the Tri-Creek School Corporation, has been a superior role model to her students at Lowell High School for 26 years, where she has served as Social Studies Chair for 20 years. Margaret also serves as co-coach for the Lowell Spell Bowl team. She is always willing to give her time to prepare students for the future, mentor new teachers, and promote new projects that will improve her school.

Susan Kucharski has 29 years of experience as a teacher and is this year's recipient from the Lake Central School Corporation. Susan is currently a fourth grade teacher at Protsman Elementary School. She is known for her giving nature and always going the

extra mile. She serves on the PL 221 School Improvement Team and Safety Committee and also plays the piano for annual musicals.

This year's recipient of the Crystal Bell Award from the School Town of Highland is Amanda Johnsen. Amanda is a fourth grade teacher at Warren Elementary School, where she has taught for 9 years. She has given extended time in the K-Kids Program, a partnership with the Kiwanis Club to develop student leadership and community involvement. Amanda serves as the school's Parent Teacher Organization liaison and led the girls' baseball team to a tournament championship.

John Nawrocki, a math teacher at Taft Middle School for 32 years, has been a great asset to the Crown Point Community School Corporation. He has served as Math Chairperson and moderator of the Math Bowl, and he has also served on the NCA/School Improvement Committee and ISTEP Cut Off Committee for the State of Indiana. John always goes to great lengths to make himself available to his students and faculty.

Eileen Meier, this year's recipient from the School Town of Munster, has been teaching for the past 24 years. Her expertise lies with foreign language, having taught German at Munster High School for the past 8 years. Eileen challenges her students to broaden their horizons and go the distance in reaching their goals.

Faylene Altomere is known for her dedication and consistency as a great educator. Faylene, a 43-year veteran of the teaching profession, is this year's recipient from the Hanover School Corporation. Faylene is currently a teacher at Jane Ball Elementary School and has played an active role in the lives of students from three generations of some families.

Michelle Strong is this year's Crystal Bell recipient from the North Newton School Corporation. Michelle is a beloved military veteran and art teacher at Lincoln Elementary School. She has shared her strength, positive nature, and love of art throughout her community and her school.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding educators on being recipients of the 2006–2007 Crystal Bell Award. Their years of hard work have helped to shape the minds and futures of Northwest Indiana's young people, and each of these outstanding educators is truly an inspiration to us all.

CONGRATULATING THE VILLAGE
OF SOUTH CHICAGO HEIGHTS, IL-
LINOIS

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 20, 2007

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Village of South Chicago Heights, Illinois on their Centennial Celebration. On its founding day, March 7, 1907, 150 citizens of Hannah and Keeney Subdivision voted to incorporate as the Village of South Chicago Heights.

The first permanent settlers in the area, Adam and Phoebe Brown of Ohio, built a home and opened a general store some 74

years earlier at the intersection of Sauk Trail and the old Hubbard Trail. "Brown's Corner" became a busy crossroads, first allegedly for the Underground Railroad, then later for wagons, stagecoaches, railroads, and automobiles.

One year after incorporating, the residents worked together to build the village's first school, the U.S. Grant School. As the village grew so did the budget and city services. The first year's budget was \$3,800, which was met by property taxes and three saloon licenses at \$500 each.

In its early days the village steadily grew as immigrants of Italian, Polish, German and other ancestries moved here to work in nearby factories, railroads, and local businesses. South Chicago Heights is still home to many of these families and businesses.

The village has had only 12 mayors in 100 years, including the Honorable David Owen, who has served as mayor since 1989. Mayor Owen has officially declared South Chicago Heights as a good place to live, to work, and to raise a family; and the Centennial gives all 4,000 citizens a special opportunity to take pride in our history and to celebrate our heritage. On May 7, 2007, during the Founders Day program, the Village will dedicate a new Village Clock to start the next 100 years.

I am proud to represent the Village of South Chicago Heights and I congratulate them on 100 years of service and I look forward to future celebrations.

HONORING GEORGE TORNEY, EX-
ECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PYRAMID
ALTERNATIVES

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 20, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor George Torney, who became the Executive Director of Pyramid Alternatives in the City of Pacifica on August 6, 1976, and has served San Mateo County for 31 years. Under his leadership and guidance, Pyramid expanded its horizons beyond alcohol to recognize addictive personalities as they relate to all substance abuse. Pyramid now frequently collaborates with the San Mateo County Health Department to address links between substance abuse and mental illness.

Although George Torney's work with Pyramid began in Pacifica, the organization itself has since branched out into nine school districts and serves the entire San Mateo County community through seven offices, offering services in five languages. Pyramid has offered a wide range of counseling and education in the fields of: substance abuse, domestic violence, anger, management, first and multiple drinking driver programs, parenting issues and senior adult Services.

Madam Speaker, Pyramid has become an essential partner in the Bridges Program, an intensive alcohol and drug day treatment program for men and women operated by San Mateo County Adult Probation, Superior Court and the County Sheriff. This exceptional program helps non-violent offenders transition back into their families and the community.

Madam Speaker, after three decades of dedicated service, George Torney is retiring and Janeen Smith is assuming the Executive