

called the Abandoned and Abused Children's Center, across from the County's Juvenile Hall.

Dylan was born in 1971, at a time when Ted was mounting his first political campaign. Kathy was the key staffer on Ted's campaign for City Council, which he won. Ted served for one term on the Martinez City Council before being elected to the Board of the East Bay Regional Park District in 1977, a position he still holds.

"During that same time, both my parents helped found the Contra Costa Ecology Action," said Dylan. "They were trying to draw attention to environmental issues; how pollution, poor air and water quality affect health. It was an environmental advocacy group."

Ted left county social services for a teaching position at Contra Costa College while Kathy worked as a secretary for the Martinez Unified School District and subsequently the local electrician's union.

Ted's campaign had apparently inspired Kathy to public service, as she was elected to the City Council in 1982 and served for two terms. She ran for Mayor in 1984, but lost to Mike Menesini.

"Although the office is non-partisan, my mother would not be ashamed to be identified as a Democrat. She was really into water quality; it was a hot issue then due to the proposal of the Peripheral Canal idea. She was also dedicated to maintaining Martinez's small town character," said Dylan. "Mom was active in trying to protect the Franklin Hills [from development] and same with Mt. Wanda. She worked with George Miller to get Mt. Wanda to become part of the John Muir National Historic Site."

Former Council member Peter Langley said this week that he and Kathy were very close friends when they served together on the Council.

"We were both on the water subcommittee and what we were trying to do was get better water quality for Martinez," said Langley. "Kathy was very much an environmentalist. One of the issues was a development in the Alhambra Hills, which is still before the City Council and we turned down several proposals for the Franklin Hills. South of Highway 4 where Alhambra Valley Road shoots off from Alhambra, there is a place where there is a sort of natural entrance to the hills, a canyon, and there was a guy who wanted to put a development there," which Radke opposed.

Langley said that one couldn't dislike Kathy Radke.

"She had a very sunny personality, very warm," he said.

Dylan Radke said after his mother left the Council, she returned to finish her Bachelor's degree at Cal State Hayward. She went on to earn a Master's in Human Development and started working on a second Master's in Public Health when she was recruited by Contra Costa County to do geriatric social work.

When he was on the Board of Supervisors, now-Senator Mark DeSaulnier proposed creating a senior peer counseling program and asked Kathy Radke to head it up.

"The program was very successful and became a model for others," said Dylan.

"She set up a fabulous peer counseling program that's been copied elsewhere," said Radke's friend Harriett Burt.

In the mid-90s, Radke was appointed to the John Muir Health Board of Directors and ran for Board of Supervisors, but was defeated by Gail Uilkema.

After retiring from her County position a few years ago, Radke started a new career by

obtaining her license as a fiduciary conservator.

"Conservators are people who manage the care for people who are unable to do it, older adults who no longer have the capacity to manage their financial affairs," said Dylan. "Conservators are court-appointed and Mom would essentially make sure they are being seen by doctors and bills are being paid, it enabled them to continue to live longer in a home environment."

In the late '80s, Kathy and Ted Radke helped found the Friends of the Alhambra Creek organization.

"There was concern over the accumulation of debris and trash in the creek and with more development in [Alhambra Valley], also watershed issues. [The founders] were primarily trying to restore the creek to a natural flow and making sure it was healthy for fish, turtles, and of course, beavers," said Dylan Radke. "[Kathy], along with Igor Skaredoff and Jane Moore, those three would organize creek cleanups because they saw the creek as vital to the downtown and [Alhambra] valley ecosystem."

"The first time I met [Kathy], Shirley [his wife] and I went to a slide show by the Friends of Alhambra Creek. Several members had hiked to the source, in Briones, and took pictures. That's when we joined FAC, circa 1990," Skaredoff said Wednesday in a telephone interview. "We hit it off and started doing things together like surveys and creek cleanup. Kathy and I designed a little brochure [about the creek]. Kathy also created a creek protection ordinance for the City of Martinez that is still in the General Plan. It's a great legacy from her; it's actually written into the General Plan how to protect [the creek]."

Turning to the more personal attributes of Radke, Skaredoff described Kathy as possessing a great sense of humor.

"Always she could find something to laugh about, something positive. Whenever you were around her you always felt better, she had that way about her," said Skaredoff. "She was a vital force. I'm very happy I met her and our community was so much better off with her in it."

Jane Moore also became close to Radke after joining the Friends of Alhambra Creek, and later worked on Radke's campaign for the County Board of Supervisors.

"I've been meaning to look up the definition of this word, although it's usually used in a negative way, because Kathy always comes to mind when I hear it: instigator. She was an instigator in the best sense of the word, in the way she got ideas going, got people interested in ideas, instrumental in showing people how to use their best potential," said Moore. "I wouldn't be doing the work I'm doing without her, she inspired me to get my degree. The loss of Kathy Radke is a huge loss to Martinez and Contra Costa County. She was pivotal in so many people's lives, programs and services. She was an incredibly important person, giving and generous."

Another friend who had known Radke for many years, Sheila Grilli, said described her death as "such a loss."

"We were political cohorts: I ran for City Council when she ran for Mayor. She was fair and well liked, and a happy person. We traveled together a couple of times a year to Mexico and Hawaii—and she was easy to get along with, energetic and open to suggestions. It's hard to imagine that someone as dynamic and interesting is gone," said Grilli.

Dylan said traveling the world was one of his mother's passions.

"She couldn't do it enough, she been all over the world," said Dylan Radke. "She

also loved to camp, especially with the family, and she loved to garden."

Anyone who has visited the Radke home was witness to Kathy Radke's passion for gardening. When he was young, Dylan said his parents maintained huge planters for kitchen garden crops; about 15 years ago, Kathy transformed the back yard into an Asian-themed wonderland.

Besides raising their two biological children, Kathy and Ted Radke served as foster parents to three children.

Trying to remember all of his mother's accomplishments, Dylan added that Kathy was also a licensed social worker on top of all her other achievements.

"She passed the social work exam right after I passed the bar," to practice law, said Dylan.

Dylan's wife Deidre Seguenza said Wednesday afternoon the family had set a date for Kathy's funeral; it will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 16 at St. Catherine's in Martinez.

"She will be greatly missed," said Seguenza with heartbreak in her voice.

INTRODUCTION OF THE YOUTH CORPS ACT OF 2011

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Youth Corps Act of 2011 to help increase opportunities for youth in Hawaii and nationwide.

In the worst recession since the Great Depression, 2010 marked the highest unemployment rate for youth ages 16–24 since the Labor Department began tracking the figure in World War II. Nearly 1 in 5 youth were unemployed in 2010.

Youth Corps can help. Modeled after President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Civilian Conservation Corps, today's Corps Network includes 143 programs in 44 states and the District of Columbia. Youth Corps programs have helped 600,000 youth gain critical education, civic engagement, and job training skills.

A shining example of a Youth Corps leader is my constituent Mari Takemoto-Chock, who is one of six 2011 Corps Member of the Year. Mai grew up on Hawaii Island and thrived at excellent public schools. Once she attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa, she became aware of the daunting opportunity gap between young people of different socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds.

Last spring and summer, Mari served as a UH Fellow in my Washington office, where she was one of the most effective employees I have ever had. Wanting to do more on-the-ground service, Mari became an AmeriCorps VISTA intern for Kupu, the Hawaii Youth Conservation Corps. There she helped develop and implement Kupu's new Urban Corps program.

In 2011, Kupu itself is honored with a Project of the Year award. Kupu in Hawaiian means "to sprout, grow, germinate, or increase" and like the Kupukupu fern that grows after a lava flow, Kupu brings life back to the people, the land, and the ocean. Kupu used Recovery Act funding to create a Recovery

Youth Conservation Corps. The program provided education and job training to 45 underserved young adults; produced nearly 83,000 service hours, and yielded nearly \$1.5 million in community improvement projects.

Unfortunately, Youth Corps programs today must cobble together funding from a wide variety of sources, and they operate with tremendous uncertainty. The Youth Corps Act of 2011 would provide more stability for Youth Corps affiliates and the youth they serve by authorizing a new program through the Workforce Investment Act, WIA.

I thank Congressman ANDREWS for his continued leadership on this bill and urge my colleagues to support this effort.

RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDAL OF
FREEDOM

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to this year's recipients of the Medal of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian honor; to individuals who have made our country stronger, our culture richer, our world more peaceful; to men and women who have helped shape our history and lay the foundation for a better future.

In bestowing this honor, President Obama highlighted leaders of vision and courage. Each hails from a different background. Their fields vary, ranging from public service to civil rights, from the arts to athletics, from poetry to politics, from environmental activism to labor and business. Yet they share a common commitment to bold leadership, principled action, and the common good.

In particular, I rise to recognize three recipients who I am privileged to call respected colleagues and friends.

Congressman JOHN LEWIS is the conscience of the Congress, a true hero of our history, and an inspiration to all who serve with him and to every American. From the first Freedom Ride in South Carolina to a "Bloody Sunday" in Selma to the well of the House, he stood for his own rights, and extended the blessings of liberty to others. He sought equality for African Americans, and secured justice for all. Through non-violence and courage, he advanced our most basic rights—to vote, to

speaking, to assemble. JOHN LEWIS' story is a triumph for those whose souls cry out for freedom. No one is more deserving of this recognition.

Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, founder of VSA, carries forward her family's torch of service, offering children and adults with disabilities the freedom to celebrate their artistic talents, and ushering in an era of peace and cooperation as our Nation's envoy to Ireland. For more than 35 years, she has worked to empower all people with disabilities to reach their full potential through the arts. She has long believed in the power of art to inspire and to connect individuals and communities of different backgrounds. Through her passion and her commitment, Jean Kennedy Smith has lived up to her own words: that "art is central to what makes us fully human."

John Sweeney has provided more than a strong voice for our middle class; he has fought for the freedom of our workers to organize, support their families, and earn a living wage. In California and nationwide, workers have never had a more resilient, more passionate champion than John Sweeney. His life's work is a tribute to fairness, equality, and opportunity for all. On behalf of working Americans—from the chambers of Sacramento to the halls of Washington, DC—when John Sweeney speaks out, America's leaders listen.

In their lifetimes of service, today's recipients of the Medal of Freedom have played a central role in upholding the promise of a better future for all Americans and for our fellow citizens of the world. To them, I offer congratulations and gratitude.

HELP BORDER HEALTHCARE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 541, the Pay for All Your Undocumented Procedures (PAY UP!) Act. This bill will provide payments for emergency services provided to undocumented aliens.

The costs of uncompensated emergency care for undocumented immigrants are sky high and border area hospitals, physicians, and ambulance providers are choking on the costs that they have to eat. My bill, the Pay for All Your Undocumented Procedures (PAY

UP!) Act, is the first step to solving this problem which is well known in border communities.

Undocumented aliens receive emergency services in a hospital and yet that hospital is not reimbursed for these services. My bill will ensure that the healthcare providers are reimbursed for the emergency services they provide.

My bill makes permanent a provision of the Medicare Modernization Act that provided payments to eligible providers for procedures for undocumented aliens. The bill authorizes \$250 million a year to reimburse eligible providers for this care. Two-thirds of the funds are divided among the 50 states and the District of Columbia based on their relative percentages of undocumented aliens, the last third is divided among the 6 states with the largest number of undocumented aliens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, February 11, 2011, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 32 (on the motion to recommit with instructions), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 33 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 72), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 34 (on approving the journal).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, yesterday evening, Monday, February 14, 2011, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 35 (on the motion to recommit with instructions), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 36 (on passage of H.R. 514), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 37 (on approving the journal).