

and in 1948, acquired his California Professional Engineers License. He settled in Central California, and founded Jack Baskin, Inc., focusing on building affordable housing in the San Francisco area, in Santa Cruz and in Watsonville.

Jack Baskin is dedicated to his community and has given generously to it. Among the local organizations that are beneficiaries of Mr. Baskin's time and donations are Cabrillo College and Dominican Hospital. He was the founder of the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County, and he has participated in many other organizations for children, families, and senior citizens. The University of California, Santa Cruz, UCSC, has been a long time recipient of Mr. Baskin's extensive contributions. His donations have supported computer engineering, instruction in the arts, the Institute of Marine Sciences, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, an endowed chair in psychology, and a scholarship in literature. Mr. Baskin chaired the UC Santa Cruz Foundation for 2 years and remains a trustee. His commitment to education is memorialized by two prominent buildings named in his honor on the UCSC campus.

Jack Baskin is a model citizen and a highly respected member of the community. Thousands of individuals have benefited from his generosity and dedication to higher education and community health care.

Mr. Speaker, Jack Baskin's life is an eloquent statement about what one committed citizen can do. We ask all our colleagues to join us in honoring him for all he has done to strengthen our community and to make our country better.

HONORING DR. J. KIRK SULLIVAN,
OF IDAHO, FOR RECEIVING THE
DISTINGUISHED EAGLE SCOUT
AWARD

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a unique individual in Idaho of high moral character and immense talent, J. Kirk Sullivan.

J. Kirk Sullivan is widely known in Idaho as the current chairman of the Idaho Republican Party, but Dr. Sullivan is much more than that. He is a husband, father, grandfather, friend, engineer, entrepreneur, businessman, and most recently, he is the recipient of the highest award granted by the National Eagle Scout Association—the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

As several of my colleagues know, the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award is a rare honor indeed, given only to those who have held the rank of Eagle Scout for 25 years or longer, have gained status of fame or eminence in their life work, and have shared their many talents with their communities on a voluntary basis. In each of these categories, Kirk not only meets the requirements, he far surpasses them.

Kirk has participated in many organizations and boards, currently serving as the Ore-Ida Council Boy Scouts of America President, as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Public Employees Retirement System of

Idaho, Board of Trustees for Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, and as a member of the Idaho Governor's State Science and Technology Advisory Council.

As mentioned earlier, Kirk is married to Elizabeth M. Sullivan, they have two children and three grandchildren. Originally from South Carolina, Kirk attended Clemson University where he earned a Ph.D. and M.S. in chemistry. He also attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Program for senior executives. During college he was a member of U.S. Army Reserve.

In his professional life, Kirk is a partner in Veritas Advisors, a philanthropic fundraising and political consulting firm. Kirk retired from the Boise Cascade Corporation in 1998 after 27 years with the company. He retired as vice president of Governmental and Environmental affairs. He also worked for the FMC Corporation for 13 years as an engineer, technical superintendent, and marketing manager.

In reviewing the criteria for the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, I learned that only nominations of truly distinguished individuals, those receiving extraordinary recognition, fame, or eminence, are accepted. Previous award recipients include President Gerald Ford, Astronaut Neil Armstrong, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, retired General William Westmoreland, Senators RICHARD LUGAR and LAMAR ALEXANDER, film director Steven Spielberg, and one of our former colleagues J. J. Pickle of Texas.

This is a pretty impressive cast of characters with which Kirk's name will now be associated. He is deeply deserving of this honor and I want to take this opportunity to thank Kirk for his service to his community, the State of Idaho, and the United States of America. Kirk is a good citizen, a good friend, and a great model for us all.

A TRIBUTE TO LOCAL HEROES OF
HURRICANE KATRINA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two heroes whose leadership following Hurricane Katrina is truly inspiring.

Randy Boone, a retired U.S. Coast Guard Aviation Survivalman, recently wrote me a letter describing the selfless actions of two soldiers from the Army's 1108th Blackhawk squadron: Sergeant Stacy Eubanks and Sergeant Kring.

Immediately following the landfall of Hurricane Katrina, Sergeant Eubanks, whose own home was damaged, loaded his truck with ice and water that he delivered to the Mississippi coast. He went from house to house distributing all of the ice and water. He made a second trip that same day, and the following day was joined by a neighbor. Others were soon inspired to join him. Sergeant Eubanks and his fellow volunteers delivered over 5 tons of ice, hundreds of boxes of food, and several hundred cases of water throughout south Alabama and Mississippi. He also organized a caravan with a tractor trailer truck and pickup trucks with trailers loaded with food, water, ice and medical supplies from Mobile to Gulfport, MS.

Sergeant Kring and his family live in Waveland, MS, a community that was completely wiped off the map in the path of Hurricane Katrina. Thankfully, Sergeant Kring's family is alive and well, but their home was destroyed. When Sergeant Kring returned after the storm to what previously was his home, he spotted a group of displaced and disoriented survivors of Katrina gathered in a Waveland K-mart parking lot. Sergeant Kring organized the group, built a temporary shelter and a makeshift triage unit, and began assisting the injured. This parking lot was given the name "Camp Katrina." Sergeant Kring remained there for days until he was able to get outside assistance. I understand that the location later became a portable military medical facility to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina in Waveland.

Following Hurricane Katrina, Sergeant Eubanks went to Waveland to locate comrades he had not been able to contact. Sergeant Stacy found Sergeant Kring at the "Camp Katrina" parking lot. The two tried to recover personal items from the remains of Sergeant Kring's destroyed home.

The 1108th Blackhawk unit stationed at Fort Shelby was training to go to Iraq in October, when Hurricane Katrina hit the gulf coast. Because of the massive destruction to our coastal communities and because many of these soldiers' homes were severely damaged or destroyed, it is my understanding that only 50 of the soldiers will be deployed to Iraq. Sergeant Stacy is one of the 50, and I was not surprised to learn that Sergeant Kring has volunteered to go as well.

Mr. Speaker, the selfless dedication of these two gentlemen to their communities in a time of crisis is a tribute to their families, their communities, and their service in the Armed Forces. I am grateful to have these men serving in our Nation's military, and I commend their service.

AN ASSAULT ON AMERICA'S PUBLIC LANDS THE HARDROCK MINING PROVISIONS OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S BUDGET RECONCILIATION PACKAGE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, among the many egregious provisions of the Budget Reconciliation recommendations recently approved by the Resources Committee is a raid on America's public lands and our natural resources heritage of almost unparalleled proportions. Included in these recommendations to be considered by the House Budget Committee is the worst kind of "sham reform" of the Mining Law of 1872 that has ever been promoted during my tenure in Congress and if enacted would result in a blazing fire sale of Federal lands to domestic and international corporate interests. It is actually a step backward from this 133-year old statute.

Signed into law by President Ulysses S. Grant, the Mining Law of 1872 to this day governs the mining of valuable "hardrock" minerals such as gold and silver on Federal western public lands. The law allows private companies to patent—purchase—public lands containing valuable minerals for a mere \$2.50 to