

Award; Sandra Jones and Shanna Rogers, recipients of the Young Professionals of the Lewiston Auburn Area (YPLAA) Award; and John Story of L-A Harley-Davidson and Rinck Advertising, recipients of the President's Award.

These recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities and the region, Maine is a better place in which to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
MARY SERVINO

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, President Barack Obama has awarded Mary Servino of Bridgeport, Connecticut, the annual Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Ms. Servino is a science teacher at Interdistrict Discovery Magnet School in Bridgeport, where she has taught for nine years. During that time, she has instilled in her students an impressive curiosity and passion for science. Ms. Servino told a Connecticut newspaper that her students "are constantly discovering new ways to help them explain what is in our world and how things impact their lives." It is this academic curiosity that will help inspire the next generation of scientists, inventors, and innovators who will drive our economy and keep America competitive in the 21st century.

Congratulations to Ms. Servino on receiving this prestigious award. Ms. Servino exemplifies the type of teaching that will turn the students of today into the leaders of tomorrow. This recognition is a testament to her long-standing commitment and dedication to her students, and I want to thank Ms. Servino for her service to the community of Bridgeport and to the future of our city and our nation.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
MARY SUE SWEENEY PRICE

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Sue Sweeney Price for her outstanding leadership of the Newark Museum as its Director and Chief Executive Officer. The Newark Museum, the largest in the State of New Jersey, is a respected public institution that has built a national reputation as a museum of service to the larger community, State and Nation and as a leader in the collection of objects, ideas, innovations, artifacts and documentation that tell the story of our rich culture and accomplished history.

In countless ways the Museum has grown under Mary Sue's tenure, expanding its holdings and exhibits on its eight-building, 80-galley campus. She oversaw the restoration of

the 1885 Ballantine House, the opening of the interactive Victoria Hall of Science and the dedication of Horizon Plaza, the Museum's new entrance. The education division has flourished, visitation and donors have grown, an international symposium has been initiated and groundbreaking exhibitions have heightened public discourse.

Mary Sue is the recipient of numerous awards including the coveted Katherine Coffey Award, which is the Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums' highest honor for distinguished achievement. She has received honorary degrees from Rutgers University, Drew University, Caldwell College and the New Jersey Institute of Technology. She has also attended Harvard University's Publishing Procedures Program, served as President of the Association of Art Museum Directors and sat on the Newark Arts Council. Mary Sue and her spouse, Rutgers historian Dr. Clement Alexander Price, have helped launch a renaissance that is transforming Newark, the City that they love and where they live.

Mary Sue has been associated with the Newark Museum for the past 38 years, including 20 years as its Director. I became a friend and admirer of her work as a member of its Board of Trustees. I have seen her intense vision and energy profoundly reshape the organization founded by the visionary John Cotton Dana in 1909. I thank her for her dedicated public service to the Museum, to the City of Newark, to the State of New Jersey and, indeed, to the arts and cultural history of the United States. I commend her for her lasting legacy of excellence.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, cutting the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program will adversely affect poor people and lower benefits to households with children. SNAP helps families obtain nutritious and healthy foods. This anti-hunger program is immensely effective in providing assistance to a minimum of 46 million individuals and families across America. In addition to food benefits, SNAP educates ways to use food dollars wisely and live a healthier lifestyle by promoting the importance of nutrition. A key component of SNAP is their "No Kid Hungry" campaign, which, aims at fighting against childhood hunger in America by partnering with communities to enroll eligible families with half of the program recipients being children. Reducing spending over the next few years by billions of dollars will affect the lives of Americans who depend on these programs to help put food on the table for their families.

Currently, the legislative language included in the House farm bill, would develop unintended consequences resulting in ancillary hardships to our neediest population. Given our nation's economic recovery, high unemployment rate, and the wide prevalence of food insecurity among children, all are directly problematic to the SNAP program. Every \$1 in SNAP new benefits would generate up to \$1.80 in economic activity. Every time a family

uses SNAP benefits for healthy food on the table, it benefits the store and the employees where the purchase was made including the truck driver who delivered the food, the warehouses that stored it, the plant that processed it, and the farmer who produced the food. Each \$1 billion increase in SNAP benefits is estimated to create and maintain 18,000 full time jobs including 3,000 farm jobs. SNAP benefits have a powerful anti-poverty effect that the Census Bureau reports would lift 3.9 million Americans—including 1.7 million children—out of poverty. SNAP alleviates hunger and improves nutrition by increasing the food purchasing power of low-income households, enabling them to obtain a more nutritious diet that contributes to the prevention of obesity, diseases, and food insecurity.

Cutting funding is a threat to SNAP's mission to alleviate the health problems many children face in America. Studies indicate that children who are provided with healthier food are less likely to develop health problems and more likely to excel better in school. Sixty-two percent of teachers in a survey said that they have children in their classrooms that come to school hungry regularly because they are not getting enough food to eat at home.

TRIBUTE TO OF ALEXANDRA
REYNOLDS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Alexandra Reynolds of Clive, Iowa for receiving a coveted Fulbright award to study and conduct research abroad this academic year.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. This program is known as America's flagship international exchange program. First established by Congress in 1946, the Fulbright Program has served the purpose of building mutual understanding between American citizens and the rest of the world. Appropriations from the United States Congress, participating foreign governments, and private sector contributions fund the Fulbright Program. The program has exchanged over a quarter of a million people in more than 155 countries, since its inception. Alexandra's host country for the 2013–2014 academic year is Germany.

To receive a Fulbright award is truly a great honor. Recipients of this award must demonstrate significant leadership potential in their chosen field and are selected on the basis of their academic or professional achievement. The experiences provided by this program ensure that tomorrow's leaders are both knowledgeable about the world and well-rounded.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent future leaders like Alexandra from the great state of Iowa in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating her for receiving this prestigious award and I wish her the best of luck in her studies and future career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, January 9; Friday, January 10; and Monday, January 13, 2014, I was unable to be present for recorded votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on rollcall vote No. 7 (on the Sinema Amendment to H.R. 2279); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 8 (on the Tonko Amendment to H.R. 2279); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 9 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 2279 with instructions); "no" on rollcall vote No. 10 (on passage of H.R. 2279); "no" on rollcall vote No. 11 (on passage of H.R. 3811); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 12 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1513), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 13 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 230).

ALLEVIATING HUNGER IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I submit an article that appeared recently in *The Boston Globe* about innovative work being done to help alleviate hunger in developing countries using safe storage technologies.

[From the *Boston Globe*, Dec. 17, 2013]

FOR PHIL VILLERS, HELPING FEED THE WORLD IS IN THE BAG

(By Bella English)

CONCORD.—Phil Villers has founded several high-tech companies, but the one he oversees now offers something much more basic: a way to alleviate hunger in developing countries. GrainPro, Inc., which Villers runs out of Concord, makes airtight, impermeable bags of polyvinylchloride, similar to the material used by the Israeli Army to protect its tanks in the desert heat.

The bags are critical because about one-fourth of grain products grown in developing countries or shipped to them—rice, peanuts, maize, seeds, beans—are lost to insects or rodents, or rot in cloth or jute storage bags.

GrainPro's "cocoon" are made of the same material as the company's bags, and serve as huge "ultra-hermetic" encasings for grain bags. They can reduce grain losses from 25 percent to less than 1 percent, Villers says, and the company concentrates on hot and humid countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

"The insects suffocate, and the rats can't get a tooth-hold," says Villers, who joined GrainPro as a board member in 1996 and took over shortly after, when the company's president was injured in a car accident.

"We eliminate the need for pesticides, and we can protect food supplies against all kinds of calamities such as typhoons and earthquakes," Villers says.

"We eliminate the need for pesticides, and we can protect food supplies against all kinds of calamities such as typhoons and earthquakes."

During Typhoon Haiyan, which recently devastated the Philippines, the rice, cocoa, and seeds stored inside the cocoons were protected. In fact, GrainPro's products are all made at a factory on the former US Naval Base at Subic Bay, 75 miles from Manila.

"The cocoons are massively solid when filled with bags," Villers says. "They're like a brick outhouse. They just don't move."

The bags and cocoons are used in 97 countries, from small villages to national food authorities. Villers deals with the US Agency for International Development, the World Bank, and other agencies and private companies. "We know that there are over 100 million people who don't have enough to eat in Africa alone," he says.

GrainPro is, as he calls it, a "not-only-for-profit" company. "We take our social mission very seriously," he says. "But to be successful we have to be profitable, and we are. We're growing at 50 percent a year." The smaller bags sell for \$2 to \$3 each, while the cocoons start at \$1,000. The company is developing a thinner, cheaper line of cocoons.

One of their biggest customers is the Ghana Cocoa Board, and in Rwanda, hundreds of cocoons are protecting corn, seeds, and rice.

GrainPro also has a minor market of coffee growers and roasters in the United States. "We tell them we can't change bad coffee to good coffee, but we can make sure your good coffee stays good," says Villers.

The walls of Villers's small office bear some health care posters and awards. The staff consists of him, an administrative assistant, and a financial manager. In Washington, there's a vice president for food security.

The rest of the 125 employees are in the Philippines, in research and development, and production.

Martin Gummert is a senior scientist with the International Rice Research Institute, a nonprofit headquartered in the Philippines and dedicated to improving the yield and quality of rice in poor countries. The agency has collaborated with GrainPro to develop the grain bags.

"GrainPro is a company with a big social conscience," says Gummert. "They started small, promoting hermetic storage against many odds in the initial years."

That his company is doing well while doing good makes Villers a happy man. "I love what I do and I'm trying very hard to make sure my life counts, not just to me and my family," he says.

Philippe Villers was 5 years old when he fled Paris with his family two hours ahead of the German Army. His father, a member of the French Army, left for London disguised as a Polish officer. Once there, he joined the resistance.

Philippe, his sister, and mother headed to the safety of Montreal. After the war, the family was reunited and moved to New York. At age 10, Philippe became a US citizen, and his life since then has unfolded like an immigrant version of the American Dream.

He graduated with honors from Harvard and earned a master's degree in mechanical engineering from MIT. He founded companies and made good money. Long a social activist, he put his money where his mouth was.

In 1982, Villers and his wife, Kate, started the nonprofit Families USA Foundation, dedicated to achieving quality health care for all Americans, and they've been cited by President Obama for their work.

Kate Villers is also the president and founder of the foundation's sister organization, Community Catalyst, a nonprofit work-

ing in more than 40 states to build support for improved health care and insurance rights.

The couple, who live in Concord, apparently have passed along their helping hands philosophy to their daughters. Their oldest runs a foundation in Costa Rica to improve preschool education for poor children. Their youngest is executive director of the Mass. Senior Action Council, a nonprofit grassroots group of senior citizens fighting for social justice. Their son, who is in the film business, lives in Budapest.

Though he can talk on and on about his pet subjects—alleviating hunger, providing affordable health care—Villers is less talkative about himself. He's not interested in discussing the motives behind his do-good work.

"My lifelong goal has been to make a difference in this country," he simply says. Is it because of the opportunities the United States provided an immigrant boy? "I'll leave that to psychologists," he adds, with a bemused half-grin.

He won't even give his age, but will say that he graduated from Harvard in 1955, along with David Halberstam, "a great guy."

Villers is a member of the ACLU's President's Council and the executive director's leadership council of Amnesty International. He describes himself as "a change agent and a human rights activist."

Just don't ask him why.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RONALD BAKARI

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Dr. Ronald Bakari of West Des Moines, Iowa for receiving a coveted Fulbright award to promote a stronger global understanding abroad this academic year.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. This program is known as America's flagship international exchange program. First established by Congress in 1946, the Fulbright Program has served the purpose of building mutual understanding between American citizens and the rest of the world. Appropriations from the United States Congress, participating foreign governments, and private sector contributions fund the Fulbright Program. The program has exchanged over a quarter of a million people in more than 155 countries, since its inception. Ronald's host country for the 2013–2014 academic year is the United Kingdom.

To receive a Fulbright award is truly a great honor. Recipients of this award must demonstrate significant leadership potential in their chosen field and are selected on the basis of their academic or professional achievement. The experiences provided by this program ensure that tomorrow's leaders are both knowledgeable about the world and well-rounded.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Dr. Bakari from the great state of Iowa in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him for receiving this prestigious award and I wish him the best of luck as he continues his career excellence.