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By Jon Sapper

President's Day 2016

Today is Presidents' Day. I don't get too political in my comments and I'm not going to start, but today does help one reflect on the challenges that will face our next President. The race to the White House by serious contenders is fraught with emotion and shrewd political calculation. What often appears as unrehearsed responses during debates are usually well scripted actor's lines delivered like it's the first time the thought had come to mind. It's a skill to do this effectively.

Throughout the debates there has been little talk about the national debt, which is now over 19 trillion dollars. How much is that? A million dollars of \$100 dollar bills fits into a grocery bag. One hundred million dollars fits on a four foot square pallet, four feet high. A billion dollars would require ten pallets. A trillion dollars would require ten thousand pallets. Our current national debt would require over 190,000 pallets stacked with \$100 bills. On top of each other, these pallets would reach 144 miles into the sky. Mind boggling.

I also haven't heard how common problems would be handled. For example, I had the most painful charley horse the other night that brought tears to my eyes. I'd like to hear how the candidates would handle that. If the moderator of a debate asked that question, I'll bet you Donald Trump would say, "On my first day as President, I will utterly and convincingly destroy those responsible for creating charley horses." Rubio would smile and say, "I am the only one who can bring us together to successfully solve this important issue." Cruz would say, "The establishment is behind these debilitating charley horses and we need an outsider who is willing to stand up and say enough, this cannot continue." Bush would say, "My family has had these experiences. I will call my mom and let you know what she says." Dr. Carson would say, "I'm the only person on this stage that has saved the lives of infants who have experienced charley horses." Kasich would say, "Not many people know that I have successfully addressed this issue in Ohio and we are leading the country with reduced charley horses." Sanders would say, "I've dealt with this over the 79,000 years I've been on this planet. From my observation, it's not fair that the top 1% don't suffer from charley horses as much as the rest of us. When I'm President, I'll guarantee you that will change." And, Hillary Clinton would say, "I'm glad someone finally asked that question. When I

have a charley horse I snap my leg out straight with enough power to knock Bill right off his feet. I call it the Lewinski move.” The moderator immediately turned off the mike.

God bless America. We’re going to need it.

This has been Jon Sapper for Community Comment.