

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,234,006,195,713.79. We've added \$8,607,129,146,800.71 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING DR. HENRY C. LEE ON THE CELEBRATION OF HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the University of New Haven as they celebrate and pay tribute to one of our nation's great minds, Dr. Henry C. Lee. Known as the "grandfather of forensic science," Dr. Lee has left an indelible mark on the field of forensic science, the University of New Haven, and our nation.

A nationally and internationally acknowledged visionary, Dr. Lee has built a distinguished reputation while creating one of the most respected forensic science programs in the country. Under his leadership, forensic studies have grown exponentially over the last forty years at the University of New Haven. What began as a small classroom equipped with only a single fingerprinting kit has blossomed into an internationally-recognized, multi-disciplined academic department with state-of-the-art technology—an Institute of Forensic Science named in his honor. Attracting students from across the globe, the Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science is training the next generation of forensic scientists and constantly advancing the field as well as the technologies and techniques used in identifying crucial evidence.

Dr. Lee's extraordinary career extends far beyond the forensic program he built at the University of New Haven. He earned his undergraduate degree in police science from Central Police College in Taiwan, a Bachelor's of Science degree in forensic science from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and then his master's degree and doctoral degree in biochemistry from New York University. He joined the Connecticut State police more than three decades ago serving as the State's first criminologist. The driving force behind the creation of the Connecticut State Police Major Crime Squad and Forensic Science Laboratory, he oversaw its expansion into one of the finest in the country. Dr. Lee also served as the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Safety from 1998 to 2000, during which time he brought the department to the forefront of technology with the development of a new radio system and the Sex Offender Registry Database.

Dr. Lee has served as a forensic expert in all fifty states as well as forty-two countries and consulted with more than 600 law enforcement agencies around the world. Here in the United States he is probably best-known for his assistance with the investigations into the high-profile cases of the deaths of JonBenet Ramsey, Nicole Brown-Simpson, and Ron Goldman, as well as the review of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. However, those are only a sample of the more than 8,000 criminal cases he has helped investigate.

Dr. Lee has authored or co-authored forty books and hundreds of articles in professional journals; taught at more than a dozen universities, law schools and medical schools; and lectured throughout the world. His innovation and leadership has been recognized with more than 20 honorary degrees, and, in 1996, he was awarded the Medal of Justice from the Justice Foundation. Today, as he marks his 40th Anniversary with the University of New Haven I am proud to join his colleagues, family, and friends, in extending my sincere congratulations to Dr. Henry C. Lee and my sincere thanks and appreciation for his innumerable contributions to higher education and the field of forensic science.

APPRECIATING SOLICITOR DONNIE MYERS

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the recent retirement announcement by 11th Judicial Circuit Solicitor Donnie Myers began an outpouring of appreciation for his dedicated service. South Carolina maintains the terminology of its English heritage by citing the position of district attorney as solicitor.

In addition to effectively protecting families from predators, he was especially prudent in recruiting young attorneys who excelled at serving the public.

He was recognized in an abbreviated editorial on March 24, 2016, in the Lexington County Chronicle and the The Dispatch-News entitled "The end of a 40-year career in court" by Editor Jerry Bellune:

Donald V. Myers, the nemesis of death penalty defendants, is ending a 40-year career in 11th Circuit courts.

As capital murder cases go, it has been one of the most dramatic careers in state history.

Facing a state law-mandated retirement age of 72 next year, Myers decided there's no point in seeking re-election with only 11 months left to serve.

That would force taxpayers to bear the cost of an election to fill the rest of his term, he said.

Myers' wife Vance urged him to go to law school and join her father's law practice in Gaffney.

After prosecuting cases for Attorney General Dan McLeod, an opportunity presented itself when 11th Circuit Solicitor Phil Wingard unexpectedly died.

Myers ran to serve the rest of Wingard's term and has not faced a challenger since.

Myers' life and career have been far from smooth. He and his wife had one child, Chris, although they had been told she could not bear children.

Chris had a rare health condition but that did not slow him.

He and his father were inseparable. Chris went along with his father to courtrooms around the four-county circuit.

On Valentine's Day in 2003, Chris's condition proved fatal.

It was a tragedy for their family. Friends overflowed the old Lexington County Courthouse for a memorial service.

Tragedy struck again three years later. His wife Vance, who had a law degree and was her husband's consultant on capital cases, died unexpectedly.

Myers was shattered by the loss of his son and wife in such a short period of time . . .

Myers said he looks forward to retirement, fishing and a few writing projects he has in mind.

We appreciate all he did to help victims of violent crimes.

Prominent attorneys have also joined praising his service with a letter to the editor on March 31, 2016, by Pat McWhirter entitled "Prosecutor Donnie Myers remains one of the best," which reads:

I was the public defender in Lexington County for 14 years. I began shortly after Donnie Myers became solicitor, and he and I sort of grew up together in those roles.

He is an excellent solicitor, honest, forthcoming and reasonable, but tough.

He also is one of the best trial lawyers I have ever seen in a courtroom. He is, and I feel certain will remain, a legend among solicitors in this state.

He has done an outstanding job for the 11th Judicial Circuit, and we will miss him.

When we see him, we should thank him for his work. He will be hard to replace.

COMPETITIVE CARRIERS ASSOCIATION AND HANDS ON NASHVILLE DAY OF SERVICE

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a wonderful event that took place Tuesday afternoon in Nashville, Tennessee. Members of the Competitive Carriers Association (CCA), representing rural and competitive wireless carriers and their vendors and suppliers, opened CCA's Mobile Carriers Show. They did this by teaming with Hands On Nashville for a day of service at Napier Elementary School.

Seventy-five volunteers from all over the country were welcomed by Principal Watechia Lawless to help create beautiful spaces outside of the school to complement the loving community on the inside. Napier Elementary is a cornerstone in their community, serving 400 students from pre-kindergarten through the 4th grade. CCA members worked inside and outside, landscaping, renovating playground equipment, painting murals, and creating teaching resource kits, hygiene kits, and reading booklets for every child in the school.

I commend Steve Berry, CCA and their members for their work. They have set an excellent example of leadership through service. The impact they've made in this community will certainly not be forgotten and I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the efforts they put forth to make this event happen.

HONORING SUNFLOWER COUNTY  
FREEDOM PROJECT

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable organization, Sunflower County Freedom Project.

Founded in 1998, the Sunflower County Freedom Project was started by three Teach for America teachers who saw a need for an educational program in the Mississippi Delta that would challenge and engage young people in the area. Initially, the organization was a summer program at Mississippi Delta Community College that grew into a year-round program at the University of Mississippi. In 2002, the organization purchased the LEAD Center in Sunflower, which houses all of their programs. They target students in Sunflower County to complete a six-year fellowship with the organization beginning with the summer before they begin seventh grade. The overall goal is to have 100 percent of their "fellows", also known as students, go on to enroll in four year colleges and universities. To this date they have met that goal.

The Freedom Project is for students in 7th–12th grade who want to discipline themselves into becoming leaders in their homes, schools and communities. The middle school students partake in Freedom Summer, which is named for and rooted in the Civil Rights history of Freedom Summer '64. The high school students can participate in ACT Camp or summer opportunities around the country including Phillips Exeter Summer Academy and Explo at Yale University.

We seek to provide students with opportunities and challenges that will allow them to grow and mature into leaders for the Mississippi Delta. Our multi-faceted approach includes rigorous academic work, arts enrichment, fitness and wellness training, educational travel and character development for every student. We travel the country, live in college dorm rooms, and camp in the wilderness to develop our students and enrich their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sunflower County Freedom Project for its dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

PREMIUM PANELS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Premium Panel for receiving a Business Recognition Award from the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation.

The Business Recognition Award is given to companies that show growth in primary employment, sales and/or capital investment in the last year. Premium Panels is a family-owned and operated metal roofing manufacturer and custom sheet metal fabricator in Arvada. The company specializes in concealed

fastener standing seam metal roofing panels, wall panels and also provides aggregate panels.

In 2015, Premium Panels expanded to a 30,000 square foot facility in Arvada and has more than doubled the size of its manufacturing facility space and employment.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Premium Panels for this well-deserved recognition by Jefferson County EDC. Thank you for your contributions to the Jefferson County economy and community.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE  
SCIENTISTS AND TECH-  
NOLOGISTS—MICHAEL SPORKIN

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michael Sporkin from Katy, TX for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists to represent the state of Texas at the Congress of Future Science and Technology leaders.

Michael attends Cinco Ranch High School and is one of 13 high school honor students selected from the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas. These students were selected as Texas delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. This program was designed for high school students to be recognized for their hard work in school, as well as to support their aspirations of working in a science or technology field. The National Academy was founded by Richard Rossi and Dr. Robert Darling; Mr. Rossi currently serves as president. The Congress is being held at the Tsongas Center at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell from June 29th through July 1st. Michael was selected by a group of educators to be a delegate for the Congress thanks to his dedication to his academic success and goals of pursuing science or technology. We are proud of Michael and all of his hard work, and know he will make Katy proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Michael for being accepted into the National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Keep up the great work.

TRIBUTE TO DYLAN LAMPE

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dylan Lampe for being named a 2016 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based

on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2016 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 640 business leaders and growing.

As the Manager of Administration Training and Quality Control at the Sammons Financial group, Dylan is responsible for improving the practices and training of his division. He is dedicated to providing a work environment where his co-workers can be happy and enjoy coming to work every day. Dylan is also passionate about giving back to his community and serves on a number of boards and committees including: Winefest Des Moines, Des Moines Community Playhouse, Downtown Neighborhood Association, and Food Bank of Iowa, to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Dylan in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Dylan on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

BORINQUENEERS CONGRESSIONAL  
GOLD MEDAL AWARD

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 14, 2016*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had the privilege of participating in the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony in honor of the 65th Infantry Regiment, known as the Borinqueneers. I want to once again express my most heartfelt congratulations to the Regiment on this important and long overdue recognition.

This all-volunteer Puerto Rican unit, of more than 100,000 soldiers, served in World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. The Borinqueneers have been recognized with one Medal of Honor, 10 Distinguished Service Crosses, more than 250 Silver Stars, over 600 Bronze Stars, and nearly 3,000 Purple Hearts. Yesterday, they receive the highest award Congress can bestow.

Hundreds of these veterans and their families have made my district in Central Florida their home. I am honored to have been a co-sponsor of the legislation that finally awarded them the Congressional Gold Medal. I am also proud to have urged the President to expedite the striking of their Medal, and in accordance with Public Law No. 113–120, a single gold medal was struck to honor the 65th Infantry Regiment.

This medal honors the lives of soldiers like Richard Acosta, a resident of my district. Originally from Arroyo, Puerto Rico, Mr. Acosta bravely fought on the front lines during the Battle of Outpost Kelly in Korea. He recounts how he almost lost his life when his rifle jammed in the middle of the battle and when he went to go inform his Lieutenant, he felt the whizzing sound of bullets that narrowly passed within inches of his head. Immediately taking cover, Mr. Acosta continued to battle without a