In Your matchless name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LAMALFA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED), the whole number of the House is 429.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WESTERN NEW YORK NATIONAL CEMETERY

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, for years, western New York has been home to one of the largest veteran populations in the United States.

Our community fought for an official solemn resting place for veterans and their families close to home. In 2017, construction began on the Western New York National Cemetery. Early on, there were warnings that the gateway to the cemetery posed traffic hazards. Since then, automobile accidents have occurred, some ending in tragedy.

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs released a report suggesting ways that safety could be improved at the cemetery's entrance, where, right now, oncoming traffic often exceeds 60 miles per hour.

We are calling on the VA to listen to the voices of the community and to respond swiftly with a solution. Action is necessary to protect the grieving families of fallen western New York heroes.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the men and women in the nursing profession today.

This week is National Nurses Week. Every year from May 6 through May 12 we celebrate the work and contribution nurses make in the healthcare field. National Nurses Week ends on Florence Nightingale's birthday, the founder of modern-day nursing.

Prior to serving Congress, I spent nearly three decades in the healthcare profession. There I worked closely with nurses and saw firsthand the care and the compassion that they showed their patients.

Nursing is a science and an art, reserved for those who are the most caring, giving, and passionate about helping others. Nurses help their patients and families with comfort, compassion, guidance, and care.

Mr. Speaker, we should always thank our nurses for their hard work and dedication. Please join me in recognizing the nursing community this week. We should be grateful for their commitment to caring for others, especially during these trying times.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. RUIZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our Nation's law enforcement officers and to recognize their sacrifice.

Today marks the first day of National Police Week, and our fallen heroes and their families are weighing heavily on my mind.

Six years ago in my district, Palm Springs Police Department Officers Lesley Zerebny and Gil Vega were tragically shot and killed in the line of duty. In their memories, I authored the Heroes Lesley Zerebny and Gil Vega First Responders Survivors Support Act to ensure that their families receive the financial support they need.

Last fall, when the Protecting America's First Responders Act became law, we took a momentous step toward fulfilling this mission. With portions of my bill included, we fixed bureaucratic loopholes in the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program that cost families up to tens of thousands of dollars.

Now, we must build on this success and pass my bill in its entirety to fully honor our fallen heroes. This police week, I urge my colleagues to follow words with action and follow praise with pragmatic solutions that will improve the lives of fallen first responders' families.

HISTORY OF THE SHENANDOAH CAVERNS

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, Virginia's Sixth District is home to some of the most beautiful landscapes and natural wonders in the country.

One of the most breathtaking attractions western Virginia has to offer, Shenandoah Caverns, is just a short 2-hour drive down I–81 from our Nation's Capital.

While building the Southern Railroad through Shenandoah County in the 1800s, the rail company asked landowner, Abraham Neff, for permission to dig a rock quarry for stones to help continue the project. While exploring the quarry, Mr. Neff's sons discovered the caverns after climbing 275 feet down an opening that had been exposed.

The family eventually sold the property to Hunter Chapman, who hoped to show the world the marvel that had been uncovered. In 1922, Chapman got his wish when Shenandoah Caverns officially opened, attracting generations of locals and tourists alike.

Since then, for the past 100 years, the caverns have provided stunning views, incredible geology, and extraordinary crystalline formations to all who visited. Shenandoah Caverns is truly remarkable, and I congratulate its current owner, Kathy Hargrove Kelly, on the business' centennial.

JOBS REPORT

(Mr. LIEU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, another terrific jobs report came out last week, showing that over 428,000 jobs were created in April.

Since President Biden took office, over 8.3 million jobs were created, the most in U.S. history. This was partly a result of the American Rescue Plan passed by Democrats. President Biden and Democrats are working for a better America for the people.

What are MAGA Republicans working on? Government-mandated pregnancy. Extreme MAGA Republicans want to ban abortion nationwide. There is a clear difference between Democrats and MAGA Republicans.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SMALL BUSINESSES

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, last week we celebrated National Small Business Week and recognized the great contributions of small business owners and their employees in our towns.

Small business owners create local jobs and drive U.S. innovation. A 2019 report from the Small Business Administration shows that small businesses account for 44 percent of all activity in