In my district, I’m working with high schools and manufacturers on recruiting students to go into STEM fields. We’re working on connecting students with manufacturers who are looking for employees.

I want to recognize the efforts of Medusa Consulting, Illinois Worknet and Manufacturing Careers, Incorporated for their leadership in bringing these important jobs fair and manufacturing workshops. This is absolutely critical if we want to get America back to work.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 150th anniversary of Weld County, Colorado. Weld County takes its name from Lewis Ledyard Weld. Weld was appointed by President Lincoln as Colorado’s first territorial secretary. On November 1, 1861, the Colorado Territory’s General Assembly officially organized Weld County. This November marks the 150-year anniversary.

As with most Western settlements during the 1860s, Weld County had an extremely sparse population. Today it’s got over 250,000 people. From a humble start as an area based predominantly on coal mining, Weld County has flourished with a thriving business sector and strong agricultural economy. In fact, Weld County is the eighth-leading agricultural county in the entire United States and the only county outside of California ranked in the top 10.

From small businesses, great land for farming, Weld County is also home to the University of Northern Colorado and the Pawnee National Grasslands. It’s home to over 19 different towns, each one with a unique identity that makes this area of Colorado distinctive. And it’s home to thriving energy interests and some of the Nation’s leading water pioneers.

One of my favorite events every year is the Fourth of July Greeley Stampede and Parade. It reminds me of what it means to call Colorado home.

Weld County embodies everything that is great about heading West, and I am proud to recognize their 150th anniversary.

SERVING FELLOW AMERICANS ON THANKSGIVING

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, with Thanksgiving approaching, let us think about our fellow Americans and ask ourselves the question, what can we do to serve them this coming week and into the future?

Average incomes for Americans, for the average family, have gone down about 6.7 percent, and we know poverty rates have risen 15 percent. For all of those listening today as we look across our country, think about what you can do this week and every week to help our food banks that are short on supplies across our country, and ask yourselves the question, what can we do to serve them this coming week and into the future?

Think about how you can help a local food pantry or a local family in need. Thank you.
in you, we want to help you through these difficult times. It reaches the true heart of the American people, the people full of goodness who know what’s right to do. And let’s give every American a happy Thanksgiving every day. God bless America.

AMERICAN ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE JOBS ACT
(Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week Speaker BOEHNER announced a bill that will be introduced soon to Congress to deal with our jobs issue. It’s not one that raises taxes. It’s not one which is going to add to the deficit. It is the American Energy & Infrastructure Jobs Act, which will be introduced soon.

It is an act that in part is related to a bill that I have presented in this Chamber for the 8 years now in an bipartisan move to get America back to work.

Instead of importing $129 billion worth of oil every year and sending them our wealth, it uses our oil off our coastal resources.

Our infrastructure in America has a $2 trillion pricetag to repair our roads, highways, and bridges. We also still have 14 million Americans out of work and another 10 million looking for work.

I urge all of my colleagues to make sure they’re part of this bill when it comes out and get Americans back to work and rebuild America once again.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LANDRY). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SIMPKUS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I come down to the floor once a week to talk about the high level of nuclear waste in this country and the fact that this country still doesn’t have a single repository to store high-level nuclear waste.

Throughout this last year, I've talked about Hanford, Washington, which has billions of gallons of high-level nuclear waste. I then went to Zion nuclear power plant right off Lake Michigan to talk about its nuclear waste right next to the lake. A couple of weeks ago, I went to Savannah, Georgia, to talk about the Savannah River and the nuclear power plant that sits right next to the river. Then I went to the Pacific Ocean between Los Angeles and San Diego. San Onofre, where there’s a nuclear power plant right on the Pacific Ocean.

The other thing I’ve been doing has just been highlighting, as I’ve been taking the country through the high-level nuclear waste areas around this country: Where are the Senators based upon their past votes or current statements?

Right now, we have 17 Senators in support; we have three in opposition; and we have four who really have no defined positions as of yet. Senator FEINSTEIN, of course, has spoken in opposition to Yucca Mountain and with Fukushima Daiichi and with the fact that she has nuclear power plants on the shore of the Pacific Ocean, I think she is reevaluating that position.

I need 60 votes to move forward and to finish the science on Yucca Mountain so that, by Federal law, Yucca Mountain becomes the single repository for high-level nuclear waste in this country.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMERCE CLAUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reallocates the balance of the majority leader’s time to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. In Hosea 4:6, God says:

My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as My priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.

This is a promise from a holy, righteous God who could do nothing else but fulfill that promise. We have to look at this and understand that, in this country, we have a tremendous lack of knowledge about our U.S. Constitution and that we have a tremendous lack of knowledge about the biblical foundations of our Nation and of how our Founding Fathers believed in liberty. We’re losing that liberty tremendously because we have a tremendous lack of knowledge.

In Psalm 11, God says:

If the foundations are destroyed, what are the righteous to do?

I believe it’s a call to duty to rebuild the foundational principles that are behind liberty.

Sworn officers of the United States—in fact, all public servants—have taken an oath to uphold the Constitution against enemies both foreign and domestic; and for decades, sworn officers of the United States have been violating that oath to uphold and protect our Nation’s most precious document, the U.S. Constitution. Practically, there are many by their actions, either intentionally or unintentionally, who undermine our governing document.

Every day, officials, ranging from Federal judges to U.S. Senators to Members of the House to leadership, ignore the original intent of our Founders that was put in the Constitution of the United States. The distortion is so great now that there is little correlation between their words and our actions here in Washington, D.C. This has become the norm for today’s body of government, but it was not what the great lawmakers of the past envisioned for America’s future.