TO THE EDITOR

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he does not connect with his constituency. He is supporting or espousing a less popular position. He is not connecting and in this case he outright lies.

I really don't mind people supporting whom they think is better for America. I never really think that anyone is really wrong about their support. I have always accepted that one friend may be a liberal and the other may be a conservative. Several of my friends are members of the electoral right and others are more progressive. They are, however all my friends. They have the right to support, vote, help and promote whomever they want. It shouldn't change the friendship. What bothers me is when excuses and excesses become the norm, the topic of conversation and the total disregard, that even though you respect their rights, they seem to think that what you think is just plain wrong. There is no respect.

How can we as a democratic people think it is OK for a candidate to espouse hate towards the very system that for over 240 years has maintained our Democracy? Why is it OK for the candidate to blame a system that has become a respected way to select leaders across this entire world and act that its corruption is not only inevitable but expected, promoted and controlled by a certain group of people, whether they be distinguished by race, profession or influence. If you are a poll worker in New York State, you know the training that we receive. You are

a part of a select group of people that overlook a small part of America's democracy in your neighborhood or community. As a poll worker in my own home town, I am appalled that any candidate would consider that the election process was rigged. It just isn't. It never will be and it should not be used as an excuse for your anemic hate filled campaign.

I think the statements about our elections and our democracy were the Regional News
Globalfoundries Hosts National Manufacturing Day

by Vince Gallagher

MALTA - Nearly 300 area students took part in National Manufacturing Day activities at GlobalFoundries on Friday, October 14. Not only was it a unique learning experience, it was a way to offer insight into manufacturing technologies and how they are changing the way we all live, work and play.

"It's an initiative run by the Manufacturing Institute in Washington, D.C.," said Gwendolyn Bulemich, manager of the Strategic and Workforce Development Initiative for Globalfoundries. "We were one of the founders of this early on."

The agenda included a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fair, a FIRST Robotics demo, and a virtual tour of the Fab 8 cleanroom, where microchips are made. Students from kindergarten through the 12th grade visited the plant. Now in it's the fifth year, National Manufacturing Day has grown consistently from the very beginning.

"It started off as a small program with around 200 events across the country and now it's grown to over 3,000 across North America," said Bulemich.

U.S. Rep. Paul Tonko, who has an engineering degree from Clarkson University, delivered the opening remarks and referred to a group of young students as "future engineers."

"There are continuing opportunities to create, design and explore ideas," said Tonko. "It comes with hands-on experience, like you're going to have here today."

Globalfoundries also created a special "MFG

DAY Challenge", which calls upon students in grades K-12 to manufacture a special design using at least one integrated circuit along with any one or more predetermined elements that include light, sound, movement, color, and alternative energy. Students were invited to exhibit their projects at the event and participate in friendly competition with other schools that culminates with an award ceremony for the most innovative designs.

"It was an opportunity to expose our students to different industries and to build STEM skills

that they will ultimately need in the workforce," said Bulemich.

Some of the participating schools included Ballston Spa Middle School, Capital Region BOCES, and the Mother Teresa Academy. Winners of the MFG Day Challenge included Burnt Hills Middle School for the Sustainable Circuit Award (best use of alternative energy) and SVP's Innovation Award (most creative solution) which went to Clean Technologies & Sustainable Industries ECHS with Saratoga High School as the runner up. Either way, it was a learning experience for everyone.

"We have representation from public and private schools in all different age groups," said Bulemich. "It's all about planting the seed early on and inspiring kids."



"straws that broke the camel's back". It just seemed incongruous that this well- known system that has been in place would now come under suspicion from a major party candidate. This same candidate espouses intimidation at the polls, has encouraged people to go and watch voting and report inaccuracies and inconsistencies to the police and to stop people of "questionable background" from voting. He has asked his supporters to be bullies, intimidators and anti-American polling place terrorists. This is a huge slap in the face to those that work the polls. As

Arizona Senator Jeff Flake stated, "The volunteers of both parties ensure the integrity of America's voting. The system is not rigged."

So when a friend or an acquaintance espouses this type of dialogue, I point out that they are plainly wrong. I find it distasteful that this is becoming language in this election. I don't state this as a supporter of any candidate or political party, I point it out and declare them wrong because this belief is just not what America is all about. It isn't right to

> assign corruption onto the many poll workers and volunteers protect this system of American Democracy. It is not OK to promote "revolution" or hatred as a result of the election results. In the past. in our glorified history, we have always had a peaceful succession of power. That is the American way. It is why all of our national elections have always succeeded. We don't need an angry, spoiled brat to tell us anything different.





