



Amy Reed / The Herald

**A M.W Industries Peck Spring Division spring-making machine was one of many pieces of heavy machinery on display during the Manufacture Your Future Careers Expo II held at the Hartford Expo Center Wednesday morning.**

## Career expo gives students a glimpse at their futures

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

The Connecticut Business & Industry Association, the Connecticut Community College's College of Technology Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing and dozens of manufacturing companies in the state hosted "Manufacture Your Future: Careers Expo" this week. The purpose of the three-day event is to increase student awareness of opportunities in manufacturing and help them consider rewarding, high-paying careers in the industry.

More than 3,300 middle school and high school students from across the state visited the

Connecticut Expo Center, which was transformed into a simulated manufacturing company. Actual manufacturing processes were demonstrated to show how products are made, and there were exhibits of a wide range of Connecticut-made products along with student demonstrations. Students participated in a virtual manufacturing process to help them understand the connection between what they learn in school and the job skills they will need in the future.

The actual machinery used in design and production was on display and running, helping students see how raw materials become finished products.