



WINTER 2019



A Newsletter from the Tobacco Valley Teachers Federal Credit Union for our iSave Teen Club members.

Shop for Bargains and Save



Here is a list of places where you can often find items from stores like Hollister, H & M, American Eagle and more! **Always check with your parent or guardian before you shop.**

PLATO'S CLOSET: They sell brand name used clothing, shoes and accessories at a discounted price. They also buy... so bring your unwanted items and make some money! Search for a store in your local area.

GOODWILL: These stores sell used items for a low cost and the money they make helps people in your community.

TAG SALES: What someone doesn't want anymore may be exactly what you've been looking for! You can often find new items being sold for very little.

One Teen's Story: 16 year old wins \$10,000 grant

Hannah Pucci had only a few minutes to explain her invention and business concept at the CTNext Entrepreneur Innovation Awards. The student at Danbury High School was presenting in front of a panel of entrepreneurial experts for the chance to win a \$10,000 grant to advance her invention, Egghead Ice Cream.

Hannah's thoroughly outside-the-carton concept is an ice cream-packing method in which egg-shaped, pre-packaged scoops are offered in an egg carton-like package. This method avoids the hassle of scooping ice cream, offers multiple flavor varieties in one carton and provides portion control.

By the time of the CTNext presentation, she had already spent four years pushing this concept forward, and as a regular actress and singer in school plays, she had experience talking about the idea in front of people. But this presentation was different.



“ Unlike the eggs which inspired her invention, Hannah didn't crack. ”

Instead she aced the presentation and earned the \$10,000 grant. She has been invited to meet with executives at both Baskin-Robbins and Dippin' Dots, and she has received guidance and assistance from The Connecticut Small Business Development Center. The center connected her with the UConn School of Engineering, which helped her with the proof of concept and high-volume manufacturing plan for the product. The center encouraged her to pursue a patent for the invention, which was awarded to her.

Hannah had the idea when she was 11. A sixth-grader at the time, she was in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program at Rogers Park Middle School in Danbury. The class required her to come up with an invention and pitch it at the Connecticut Invention Convention. Hannah struggled with the assignment at first.

Continued on the back

Words ² Know

Credit Rating:

Think of it as a report card on how you pay your bills. This is important when the credit union or bank is deciding to give you a mortgage, car loan or another type of loan. If you have a bad credit rating, the credit union or bank will be reluctant to give you the loan or will charge you more interest for it.



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16 year old wins \$10,000 grant continued

Then, she saw her mother struggling to scoop ice cream into a cone and thought it would be easier to just pull out a preformed portion of ice cream and pop it into a cone. The concept for Egghead was born.

Hannah works tirelessly on the project, balancing her role as CEO of a startup company with high school and an after-school job. "She has a double life," says Hannah's mom. "I feel bad sometimes; she stays up late at night doing homework, she gets up, goes to school all day, she gets home and I'm like 'OK, you have a business call.'"

Hannah chimes in, "But it's all worth it. It's really going to pay off one day."

Source: Connecticut Magazine

For more stories about teens starting their own business check out www.teenbusiness.com

Smart Tip

Did you know you can get many discounts using your Student ID; Amazon Prime, tickets to museums, concerts, sporting events, restaurants, groceries, movies, train and bus travel, hotels, restaurants, newspaper and magazine subscriptions, clothing, electronics, shipping and lots more. Anytime you buy something, ask if there is a student discount.

This teaches you about the financial demands of the real world. Some of life's choices lie in the draw of the cards, the roll of the dice or the spin of a wheel.

You may payout money to be in a friend's wedding, have a winning lottery ticket, pay an unexpected visit to the emergency room or get a promotion at work. There is uncertainty around every corner, along with opportunities to make sound financial decisions too!

You'll learn about:

- Earning a wage and paying bills
- What it costs to run a household
- How earnings affect buying decisions
- and more

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