



WINTER 2020



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

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## One Teen's Story: 15 year old uses his drawings to create a business

Like most teenagers, 15-year-old Keegan Bonds-Harmon loves spending time on social media. But he's not on Instagram to post selfies. Instead, the high school student is uploading photos and videos in support of his business: Keegan's Creatures.

The Providence, Rhode Island, native started his business at just 11 years old after he decided to take his love of drawing to the next level. After learning how to screen print, Bonds-Harmon transferred his conceptual designs — which mostly consist of monsters and creatures from his imagination — onto T-shirts. He then began selling them at local artist markets, independent stores and on Etsy. "I'm making them myself from start to finish," said Bonds-Harmon.



**“It's been very exciting and fun — both as a business and art venture.”**

And when it comes to coming up with his unique designs, the teen, who is a sophomore at The Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center in Providence, relies on his surroundings. "It's always from random places," he says. "I'll see a chain-link fence or a flower or a pattern or color that I really enjoy, and I'll figure out the visual language to express that." He also draws inspiration from his school, The Met, which is an innovative career and technical school where students pursue their passions through internships and projects that make an impact in the community.

"I was lucky enough to find The Met and get accepted," he says. "I felt it was the perfect fit because of how individualized it was. So I'm able to go to internships two days a week and it offers more of a community setting, which is important to me. They have been very supportive of my business and my artwork. I'm thankful to be able to attend such an amazing school."

Continued on the back

# Words <sup>2</sup> Know

## Direct Deposit:

Having money directly deposited electronically into a checking or savings account.

## Account Balance:

The amount of money that is available in your account. Note: The account balance printed on an ATM receipt may not be the most current amount.

### One Teen's Story... continued

He credits his determination in part to his community. "When I discovered the Providence art community, that really helped. Seeing people who are making things that are unique and interesting inspired me to get involved," he says.

"And I think it's just a general creative drive that a lot of artists and makers have," adds Bonds-Harmon, who wants to attend art school one day. "For me, it just happened to take form in a business."

Source: People.com

## SENIORS

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Make a list before you go shopping. This will help you from making impulse buys, which lead to breaking your budget and buying things you may not even need. When you don't have a list you're more likely to get distracted by everything you see. This tempts you to spend more of your money. So have a list with you next time you go shopping!

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