

Cooking hobby spawns business for HJHS student

Written by Kyle Arnoldy



For most kids, the cooling weather and shortened days of the fall marks the countdown to Halloween and Christmas. But for Holyoke seventh-grade student Keegan Shaw, the change in seasons brings forth the ideal weather for his soup business, Soup Coup.

At just 12 years old, Shaw has already been selling his homemade dehydrated soup mixes for two years.

What started as an experiment with leftover Thanksgiving food sparked a genuine interest in the culinary art. Little did he know at the time, but by mixing the leftover Thanksgiving food into a soup, Shaw was creating one of his first soup recipes.

“It was pretty easy because it almost felt natural,” Shaw said of his early attempts at creating dishes. “When I was 10 I just saw the ingredients and pictured how they would fit together.”

Although he prefers to make fresh soup, while attending classes put on by Young Entrepreneur through AmeriTowne that aimed to help students better understand business practices two years ago, it was suggested that he try his hand at dehydrated soup mixes.

Shaw says he wasn’t really thinking about starting a business when he went to the classes, but he liked the idea of people trying his soup and giving their feedback on it.

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