**“Tell me about yourself in 2 minutes or less”**

Script For Elevator Pitch Week 3:

Hi, my name is Charles Fehringer. I am 19 years old and I have an associate from NJC. I have experience working as an installer for a wireless internet provider.

I enjoy looking at problems and finding solutions to them. I have taught myself how to program and use Arduinos. These allow me to connect software and the digital world to the physical world and make motors move or lights flash. I am currently developing laser tag guns, an autonomous robot weeder, as well as an irrigation pivot monitoring system.

I got the idea to develop laser tag guns when my youth group rented them out and I saw how expensive they were. I am in the final prototyping stages. The project was delayed by chip shortages as well as the guns didn’t have enough range, but I recently found some lenses that will boost the range much past what I was aiming for as well as I switched to a brain that was more widely produced.

My parents are organic farmers. With this comes the challenge of weed control. Without sprays, you have to kill the weeds in the field before you plant, and hope the crop you are planting will outgrow the weeds. I am developing an autonomous spot weeder that will be able to drive in the field after it has been planted and kill any emerging weeds to help reduce competition for the crop. It will use AI to identify the weeds and will mechanically spot-kill them.

My parents also have several irrigation pivots. The cost to buy an off-the-shelf pivot monitoring system is too expensive to pay for itself, at around $1500 per pivot as well as a phone plan for each. I am developing a system that will cost around $300 a pivot in materials and will be able to share phone plans for pivots that are within eyesight. I have the monitoring equipment developed, but still need to develop the backend the connect the pivots to a phone. I am taking this boot camp to learn the skills to make a backend as well as get more credentials that are closer to what I do.