This Week:
- **Month-Long Illinois Blockchain Hackathon**
- **DoIT Innovation Center Hosting "BizCamp"**
- **Office 365 Roll-Out Rolls On**

Month-Long Illinois Blockchain Hackathon

The Illinois Blockchain Initiative (IBI) hopes to establish Illinois as a hub for innovation. The IBI is hosting a month-long virtual hackathon aimed at students, recent graduates and blockchain industry leaders who have been challenged to look at the unique circumstances of the public sector. With 100 participants signed up so far, the Hackathon is part of an initiative to attract blockchain businesses and investors to the state of Illinois and to empower the younger generation of our state. Illinois has a strong technology community, world-class universities, and research and talent resources, making Illinois ideal for business growth and collaboration. In the words of Governor Bruce Rauner, "Illinois is sending a signal to the nation and the world that we will continue to lead and embrace innovation." More information about the Illinois Hackathon can be found by clicking here.

DoIT Innovation Center Hosting "BizCamp"

The Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) is hosting a 2-week "BizCamp" at the JRTC DoIT Innovation Center from 7/17 - 7/28. This camp allows high school students to learn how to successfully launch a business by solving real-world problems in a real-world business setting. DoIT guest speakers include Hardik Bhatt and Mike Wons who are providing technology innovation perspectives on entrepreneurship. Click here for more information.

Office 365 Roll-Out Rolls On

Twenty agencies, boards, and commissions have now completed deployment of Office 365 for their employees; bringing a fresh version of the Office suite and its collaboration and mobility features to their workplace and portable computers. Seven additional agencies are nearing completion of their O365 upgrades and several large agencies are in the testing and deployment phase. The project team looks forward to establishing Office 365 across the enterprise as the common desktop suite and collaboration tools for all. Click here for resources and tips.

DoIT FYIs & Reminders

Countdown to the Bicentennial - Video Contest

Break out your smartphones and video cameras and become a part of the Illinois Bicentennial Celebration! Illinois High School and College students across the State are invited to submit a 45-60 second self-made video highlighting a fact, event, place, person or something to learn about the incredible history of Illinois. Students can go to www.illinois200.com for more information.