



The DoIT Digest

Volume 5 Number 31

November 20, 2020

Thanksgiving Edition

This Week:

- **DOI First to Operate at the SDDC**
- **CyberStart America Competition is Now Open**
- **Let the Shopping Begin ... Safely**

DOI First to Operate at the SDDC

The Department of Insurance has distinguished themselves as the first DoIT managed agency to migrate their applications to the Software Defined Data Center (SDDC). In order to qualify for the move and benefit from the enhanced DR, security, and monitoring, an agency must first be running Windows 2012 or 2016. Following some research done by the DoIT team at Insurance, all application dependencies were identified and allowed through the new firewall to avoid any surprises once mission critical applications were moved. The Department of Insurance executive team has a dashboard to view their servers from afar and a full disaster recovery with failover was successfully accomplished, proving the ability of the new configuration to bring up applications without interruption. Kudos to the team, led by Greg Doerfler and Nick Kneer, for taking the plunge!

CyberStart America Competition is Now Open

CyberStart America, the sequel to Girls Go CyberStart which premiered last year, is a national program of online challenges that allow high school students to act as cyber protection agents, solving cybersecurity-related puzzles and exploring related topics such as, code breaking, programming, networking, and digital forensics. 381 students from Illinois high schools participated in 2019 with 45 making it to the national finals. A national program offered free of charge, CyberStart America could open doors for job opportunities and even scholarships. Spread the word among your High School friends and family. Link [here](#) to register.



Let the Shopping Begin ... Safely

As the holiday shopping season spins up with more intensity than ever, be ever vigilant in ensuring safe cyber practices. Beware of email from your vendors stating that your account has been frozen or that they are tracking a delivery. Before you provide any information, go to their website to verify. Simple typos when trying to look up favorite shopping brands are often diverted to malicious web content. Don't use public wifi to shop and if a deal sounds too good to be true, it may be. Check out store ratings and reviews. Remember to keep all of your software up to date. Don't save usernames, passwords or credit cards in your browser and ... remember to shop on safely!

DoIT FYIs and Reminder

The idea of an annual harvest celebration dates back to ancient Greece and the Cornu Copiae or "horn of plenty" can be traced to ancient Greece and Rome. While archaeological evidence traces the turkey to America around 10 million years ago, the plump version we have come to covet received its name from the country of the same. Around the world, diverse cultures give thanks for blessings as varied as the environment, human rights, peace, nature's beauty/bounty and the elderly, to name but a few. Most celebrations involve a feast! State Offices will be closed November 26 and November 27 in observance of Thanksgiving. Enjoy!

