VILLAGE COMPUTER

INSPIRED BY STL JOBS CLINTION PEABODY

JANUARY 2018

ISSUE #1

What Is Crypto Currency?

Nick Curlett
Computer Village

The hot topic this year is Bitcoins and how do I invest? So lets look at what is crypto currency, the types of currency and the pros-cons of this currency. We are not giving advice on how to invest in crypto currency but making an attempt to get a familarization of this new technological market. So what is cryptocurrency? It is a digital or virtual currency that uses cryptography for security. A cryptocurrency is difficult to counterfeit because of this security feature. A defining feature of a cryptocurrency, and arguably its most endearing allure, is its organic nature; it is not issued by any central authority, rendering it theoretically immune to government interference or manipulation.

The 6 Most Important Cryptocurrencies Other Than Bitcoin

By Prableen Bajpai, CFA (ICFAI) | Updated December 7, 2017 — 1:55 PM EST

1) Litecoin (LTC)

Litecoin, launched in the year 2011, was among the initial cryptocurrencies following bitcoin and was often referred to as ‘silver to Bitcoin’s gold.’ It was created by Charlie Lee, a MIT graduate and former Google engineer. Litecoin is based on an open source global payment network that is not controlled by any central authority and uses "scrypt" as a proof of work, which can be decoded with the help of CPUs of consumer grade. Although Litecoin is like Bitcoin in many ways, it has a faster block generation rate and hence offers a faster transaction confirmation. Other than developers, there are a growing number of merchants who accept Litecoin.

2) Ethereum (ETH)

Launched in 2015, Ethereum is a decentralized software platform that enables Smart Contracts and Distributed Applications (ĐApps) to be built and run without any downtime, fraud, control or interference from a third party. During 2014, Ethereum had launched a pre-sale for ether which had received an overwhelming response. The applications on Ethereum are run on its platform-specific cryptographic token, ether. Ether is like a vehicle for moving around on the Ethereum platform, and is sought by mostly developers looking to develop and run applications inside Ethereum. According to Ethereum, it can be used to “codify, decentralize, secure and trade just about anything.” Following the attack on the DAO in 2016, Ethereum was split into Ethereum (ETH) and Ethereum Classic (ETC). Ethereum (ETH) has a market capitalization of $41.4 billion, second after Bitcoin among all cryptocurrencies.

3) Zcash (ZEC)

Zcash, a decentralized and open-source cryptocurrency launched in the latter part of 2016, looks promising. “If Bitcoin is like http for money, Zcash is https," is how Zcash defines itself. Zcash offers privacy and selective transparency of transactions. Thus, like https, Zcash claims to provide extra security or privacy where all transactions are recorded and published on a blockchain, but details such as the sender, recipient, and amount remain private. Zcash offers its users the choice of ‘shielded’ transactions, which allow for content to be encrypted using advanced cryptographic technique or zero-knowledge proof construction called a zk-SNARK developed by its team.

4) Dash

Dash (originally known as Darkcoin) is a more secretive version of Bitcoin. Dash offers more anonymity as it works on a decentralized mastercode network that makes transactions almost untraceably. Launched in January 2014, Dash experienced an increasing fan following in a short span of time. This cryptocurrency was created and developed by Evan Duffield and can be mined using a CPU or GPU. In March 2015, ‘Darkcoin’ was rebranded to Dash, which stands for Digital Cash and operates under the ticker – DASH. The rebranding didn't change any of its technological features such as Darksend, InstantX.

5) Ripple (XRP)

Ripple is a real-time global settlement network that offers instant, certain and low-cost international payments. Ripple "enables banks to settle cross-border payments in real time, with end-to-end transparency, and at lower costs." Released in 2012, Ripple currency has a market capitalization of $1.26 billion. Ripple's consensus ledger -- its method of conformation -- doesn't need mining, a feature that deviates from bitcoin and altcoins. Since Ripple's structure doesn't require mining, it reduces the usage of computing power, and minimizes network latency. Ripple believes that 'distributing value is a powerful way to incentivize certain behaviors' and thus currently plans to distribute XRP primarily "through business development deals, incentives to liquidity providers who offer tighter spreads for payments, and selling XRP to institutional buyers interested in investing in XRP."

6) Monero (XMR)

Monero is a secure, private and untraceable currency. This open source cryptocurrency was launched in April 2014 and soon spiked great interest among the cryptography community and enthusiasts. The development of this cryptocurrency is completely donation-based and community-driven. Monero has been launched with a strong focus on decentralization and scalability, and enables complete privacy by using a special technique called 'ring signatures.' With this technique, there appears a group of cryptographic signatures including at least one real participant – but since they all appear valid, the real one cannot be isolated.

Read more: The 6 Most Important Cryptocurrencies Other Than Bitcoin? | Investopedia https://www.investopedia.com/tech/6-most-important-cryptocurrencies-other-bitcoin/#ixzz53QTtHWAH

Follow us: Investopedia on Facebook

As stated in the article above there are alternatives to investing in cryptocurrency. The purpose of this article is to make you aware of the suject matter, we are not giving investment advice. Please consult a professional if you want to invest in cryptocurrency.

Pros of Digital Currency

Syed Balal Rumy
Chief Technical Writer and Founder of 'Technical Ustad website
YouTube channel

- Digital currency allows instant transfer of payments to any place in the world and that too with zero transfer fees.
- Digital currency is not controlled by any single government, bank or person. in other words it's not in the hands of any single person.
- It's a secure way to transfer money. Digital currency works on the principle of a public/private key. The only way someone can gain access to your money is by having access to your private key. Your digital currency is safe as long as your private key is in safe hands.

Cons of Digital Currency

- There is no concept of personal identification in digital currency; anyone who has the private key is the owner of digital currency.
- This anonymous nature of digital currency is helping terrorists and criminals to carry out their activities on the internet. For instance,
- **wanna cry** ransomware encrypts all data on your computer and can only be decrypted by the key which hacker gives you after you pay him Bitcoin.

Staff Highlite: Kenyatta Madison

Nick Curlett

Computer Village

Computer Village Staffer: Kenyatta Madison

I have the pleasure to introduce to you an incredible person, Kenyatta Madision. She primarily works with primary and middle school students, but she has a great repore working with young and senior adults. My first assignment with her was at a local church, where we had 25 primary students with no internet accessiblity and the daunting task of teaching them coding. With her calm demeanor and command of technology we accessed our cellphones and connected laptops to the internet, teaching our young people for the summer how to use "Scratch", a computer software for creating online video games.

Her Resume

Figure 1: Blossom wood students

Currently Kenyatta is teaching at the Blossom Wood Academy utilizing the Khan Academy curricullum and at the Peabody Adult learning class. She is teaching job readiness and jobfair prepardness. She has also taught computer classes at the Lift for Life Academy and web design for Blue 1647.

Along with her class room experience her artistic side includes 3d printer design and Sketch-up CAD usage. She is into drones and uses the 3d printer to create replacement parts for the drones when they crash.

Figure 2: Blossom wood students

Her education began at Dunbar Elementary School were a bad environment influenced her need to learn. She was pushed by the neighborhood to learn and make a difference. In high school her computer skills came naturally. She attended Forest Park Community College, studying Mass Communications. She has traveled from the west coast to the east coast as a videographer and had job offers from PBS and Joyce Meyers Ministries, but her longing for family brought her home. Her other skill sets include Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator.

She has asperations to study Cisco, Computer Forensics and Cyber Security. I did mention the most imprtand thing to her is family. She admits she's a daddy's girl, but a proud mom in her

own rite. Along with her life partner Jamal they have 3 children (2 girls and a boy). She continues to apire here collegues and those she meets everyday.

Computer Village Executive Director, Don Holt

"Don continues to stress the importance of IoT as a major component for the growth of young people associated with job stability in our community.

VILLAGE COMPUTER
INSPIRED BY STL JOBS CLINTON PEABODY

Web: http://www.computervillage.org/index.html

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/cvillagestlouis/

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn3uTiYe4Tf91Ug44WlvIkA

Twitter: https://twitter.com/CvillageStl

Main Office
"Where People and Technology Come Together"
4411 N. Newstead
St. Louis, MO 63115
P: (314) 533-1900
E: cvillagestl@gmail.com

Don Holt
Executive Director
E: don.holt-cv@att.net
Home: 314-741-4854
Mobile: 314-537-0274
5404 Sun Trail Drive
Florissant MO 63136