NICOLETTE BRULEY, Dept of Computer Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering, Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV, 25443, and OSMAN GUZIDE, Dept of Computer Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering, Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV, 25443. Blockchain: Catching On.

Blockchain is a digital ledger that stores and records any and all transactions on a shared network. Its core use is in the cryptocurrency Bitcoin and was first conceptualized in 2008 by Satoshi Nakamoto. Blockchain has come a long way since 2008 and a long way since cryptocurrencies. It is a distributed computing platform that is used in the financial industry for secure bookkeeping and in the business industry for its use in smart contracts. Small and large businesses are dedicating resources to learning about it and governments have even started planning on how they can use it to securely store information.