



PACT E-News

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Questions about PACT? Please e-mail Susie Merrick (merrick@champlain.edu) or Steve Loyer (sloyer@tgvvt.net).

I went home feeling like there was hope for our community and the world. Those kids are so alive, so willing to look at themselves, really wanting to improve the world around them. What more can we ask for!?!
-- Katy Lesser
Owner, Healthy Living Market
after attending the PACT Retreat

Layered Security

By Steve Loyer, PACT Co-Chair

Last week I attended "The Social Networks" PACT event at South Burlington High School. During that event a parent in attendance asked, "What are the schools doing to teach our students about the dangers of social networking?" Both Officer Kevin Grealis and Mariah Larkin explained their role in helping the students navigate the highs and lows of social networking sites that they frequently visited. Mariah noted that protection of our youth cannot just take place in school; it has to happen in the home as well.

Race to Nowhere and Dialogue Night!

Tuesday, February 15, 6:00-8:30 p.m., at SBHS

50 Teen Leaders are ready to lead small-group dialogue, and 50 Note Takers are ready to document the night, as we talk about the film and listen to our young people discuss issues affecting them daily.

You won't want to miss it!



The PACT Retreat, January 2011

("Layered Security" continued...)

In business, clients often put systems in place to protect themselves from perceived risks. All companies that experience a breach in security always revisit and increase security so as to avoid a second breach. Businesses can often survive a single breach, although it may be painful in the short term for them. Unfortunately the same is not true when we are protecting our children; a breach here could have a devastating outcome, thus the need for each of us to put together a layered approach in protecting our most valued treasures: our children.

In my job as a network security consultant, I am often asked by clients, "What can I do to protect my company from those who want to harm us?" With Mariah's response it became clear to me that the concept behind protecting your company's assets is the same as it would be to protect your personal treasures.

Security is most effective when applied in layers. At your place of business you will typically find some, if not all, of the following: firewalls, anti-virus, anti-spyware, and the list goes on. Once these safeguards are in place, the system as a whole is tested on a scheduled basis to confirm that all systems are performing as expected. Even with these measures in place, from time to time something slips, and we are left vulnerable to those looking to gain access to our valuables.

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