



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012

BUCKET-LIST - A refreshed perspective of thanks to all - PS. Buy yourself and a friend a new bed pillow.

For the lack of a better name, new year resolutions seem to be a fading point of use. A bucket-list seems more appropriate. Today, I was watching a movie and Christine Applegate was in it. Didn't she get cancer? Yes, so I found the story (CNN, 2008) of her recent events and life. Reading through her story and experience, she made dramatic decisions to save her life. Her own perspective on life changed as well; treating each day with a special thanks and awareness to make her new short term lease on life very special in every moment. One should do the same. Look at your kids, your home, the sky, the back of your hands, your chin, a friend and remember not only all the good moments, but cherish the challenges and that while reading this, you just shared a treasured moment with me. Forgive yourself for the bad decisions in life, and give thanks for those who still stand beside you and support you regardless of your good/bad decisions. Eat better, exercise a more, laugh at more things, sleep comfortably, take a big deep breath and wish someone a Happy New Year and make plans to spend more time with friends.

Reference: CNN/2008 <http://articles.cnn.com/2008-10-14/living/o.christina.applegate.double.mastectomy>

COMPUTER SECURITY -- PART VII of X

For New Years 2012, I have a little checklist for you to review.

1. Make sure your backups are in place (multiple cascading backups, atleast 3).
2. Also, make sure your computer firewall is enabled either through your operating system or your antivirus program. Firewalls are free these days. Be sure it is enabled. If you are not sure, call for assistance.
3. Be sure to turn your computers off at night and when not in use. The best time to keep your computer off is from midnight to 3AM. If you must leave your computer on overnight, be sure to unplug the network cable or unplug/disable the wireless adapter. If you have external hard drives, make sure you turn them off when not in use. This is essential if you use your laptop in a hotel, motel or some vacation spot, or temporary airport layover, etc. Many customers who travel report to us that they leave their laptop on overnight and awake with a virus.

BUILD TO ORDER SERVERS- PART II

This week, let us determine the choice of hard drive configuration for a server. In the motherboard selection, how many types of hardware level drive configurations are offered? In the BIOS/UEFI of the computer and when purchasing, see if the board offers IDE, AHCI, RAID, JBOD. If RAID, then what types, 0/1/5/10. Raid 0 is stripping (1TB+1TB = 2TB), fast and efficient without offering protection. Raid 1 is mirroring without parity (1TB:1TB) offering OS/DATA protection, and Raid 5 is mirroring with parity, and Raid 10 is the combination of Raid 0 and Raid 1 (ergo 1+0 = 10). In most servers we build, RAID 10 is the choice, typically with 4 or more 500KB/1TB/2TB 7200 SATAII/III drives, and then include a spare drive as a backup within the system ready for usage in years down the road when and if the RAID array should fail or fault on a drive. Typical hard drives in our inventory for servers includes 5 year warranty from the manufacturer.

Reference:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RAID#RAID_10_versus_RAID_5_in_Relational_Databases

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TECH TIPS OF THE WEEK

1. Be sure to blow out your computer once per 6 months. Canned air available at MTN.
2. Make sure the fans on your computer are spinning. Use a flash light to see and verify or use your ears and listen very carefully.



Mountain Computers Inc.
490 E 8th St.
Reno, Nevada 89512

Office (775) 287-9552

Technical Support (775) 324-3524

Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 8am-5pm

Lunch 11x-12x

Saturday 10am to 2pm



**GO GREEN
PC-TUNE UP!**