

VERIZON
UP TO SPEED LIVE
March 14, 2023 11:30 AM ET

>> Raquel: Hey, V Team. Happy Tuesday!

>> Jen: And Happy Pi Day!

You know Raquel, I once had a math teacher who gave us extra credit for memorizing Pi.

>> Raquel: What? I can't even get past 3.14.

>> Jen: Want to see?

3.1415926. That's all I know, but it shows you I wasn't good at math and I needed to do all I could to get that extra credit.

>> Raquel: There you go. That's good.

I wasn't good at math either, but I do know today is an exciting day for another kind of pie, filled with perks and benefits.

Now, team, I hope you saw Sam recently sit down with Andy to talk about how we're investing in empowering the V team.

Today eligible V teamers are getting a piece of the pie with the first of three stock together payouts this month.

Stock Together is a broad-based equity award program that launched in 2020.

This is the third year of the program, which means if you have been here since the first Stock

Together grant in 2020 you are now eligible to receive a separate payout from each of the 2020, 2021 and 2022 awards.

Today, close to 100,000 V Teamers are receiving the payout for the second third of the 2021 Stock Together award.

Look for all the details about how to access your award in today's email from Human Resources.

Later this month, you'll receive information about the payout of the first third of the 2022 Stock Together award that will

be paid on March 21 and the final third of the 2020 award

will be paid on March 28. For more information on how

Stock Together works and how to access your payout, check out

Today's story.

Sounds like pretty good pie to me.

>> Jen: Yeah, I like that.

That's good pie.

And here's news that highlights Verizon's commitment to advancing Digital Inclusion.

Verizon has been recognised by the World Benchmarking Alliance, ranking ninth among the world's 200 most influential digital technology companies that are helping to advance a more inclusive digital society.

The World Benchmarking Alliance is committed to fostering a fair and equitable #digitalsociety through global best practices and we're proud to be among the top 10.

Our top 10 ranking by the organization also highlights our continued commitment and efforts to support the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

>> Raquel: Yeah, and we all need a little relaxation and inspiration from time to time, which is what members of the tech industry, influencers and media were able to enjoy at the recharge on Verizon Lounge at the South by Southwest conference and festival.

Our lounge featured Verizon's latest gaming technology, the 5G Razer with Gamepass, meditations

from +Play partner, Calm, and Protocol, an interactive hologram.

And of course, everything was powered by Verizon's 5G Network.

VCG CEO, Sampath also spoke at

the Fast Company Grill discussing 5G, talent in the tech industry and what the future holds.

>> Hello, everyone.

This is Sampath here.

I'm coming to you live from the South by Southwest here in Austin.

I'm doing two things I'm really loving doing right now.

Number one, talk to our customers, understand what their pain points are, and figure out how better we can serve them.

Second, demo the best network and best products on earth.

It's a really cool thing.

I'm so excited to be here.

All right, guys, I'm so happy to be part of the Verizon consumer group.

Over the next couple of weeks, you're going to see more of me, maybe you're going to see a lot more of me.

I'm going to spend time in the field.

I'm going to spend time understanding how work gets done, how we can improve things, but more importantly how we let people know that we have the best premium network on planet earth.

Thank you, all, everyone, and remember, we got three weeks left in the quarter.

Let us focus.

Bring it home.

Have a great quarter, and I can't wait to see you all again.

Bye-bye.

>> Awesome.

Sounds like a great time, and it's also really cool seeing tech like holograms being powered by our 5G network.

>> Jen: Yes, we really love his energy.

In fact, one of the businesses that we saw at SXSW was Cha Community, a small business that took advantage of Verizon's Small Business Digital Ready program, a program designed to give small businesses the tools they need to thrive in today's digital economy. Jaja Chen, and her husband Devin Li are co-owners of Cha Community, a brick and mortar restaurant and food truck selling cups of boba tea and pan-fried dumplings.

Yum.

However, this entrepreneurial couple was facing financial challenges.

Inflation in construction costs threatened to derail the opening of the second brick-and-mortar location of Cha Community.

To overcome the setback, Chen signed-up for Verizon Small Business Digital Ready, tapped into the courses and applied for a \$10,000 grant available to eligible businesses.

A month later Jaja was happy to find that she received the grant and had enough funding to continue with the opening.

Not only were Jaja and Devin able to offset the rising costs of labor and material but Chen

also found that the knowledge she gained from the free personalized courses at Verizon

Small Business Digital Ready was just as valuable as the grant.

>> Raquel: Wow, so great to see how we're helping small businesses.

V Team, if you know of any small

business like Cha Community that could use these fantastic resources, tell your friends and family.

And speaking of resources, Verizon recently announced that a new grant funding opportunity for small businesses, totaling \$500,000, is now available via Verizon Small Business Digital Ready.

From now through May 12th small businesses can unlock the application for this round of grant funding by first registering on Verizon Small Business Digital Ready and completing at least two of the following, in any combination: courses, live coaching or community events.

Small businesses that complete the application will be eligible to receive a \$10,000 grant. For more information and how to register check out today's story.

>> Jen: And if you watched the Oscars this past Sunday, you may have seen our latest spot featuring +play, Verizon's subscription hub to shop, manage and save on your favorite content subscriptions.

For a limited time, Verizon wireless customers can get one year of Netflix's Premium plan on us through +play, giving customers \$240 in annual savings.

To get the special offer for Netflix's Premium Plan,

customers must purchase an annual subscription from a selection of +play partners, including AMC+, Calm, MasterClass, the Peloton App, STARZ and Super Duolingo.

And adding to these partnerships, 10 new partners have been added to the platform including Blue Apron, FlixLatino, MasterClass, Paramount+ and more, making +play home to over 20 partners.

>> Raquel: Wow, I love that. Now since we're on the topic of things to tell your friends and family, why don't we remind you all of the Friends & Family discount, which can give your loved ones up to \$25 a month off new Unlimited postpaid mobile accounts and \$10 per month off Fios Gigabit Connection plans when they switch to Verizon online.

In addition to the Friends and Family discount, eligible customers can also get added savings when combined with the Mobile + Home Discount.

To share your code, visit the Friends & Family About You page which will be linked in today's Story.

>> Jen: And last week in Brooklyn, a student-focused Verizon tech event took a big step forward toward developing the next generation of leaders and sparking a lifelong love of STEM for innovators of all ages.

In partnership with the New York City Public Schools and the Partnership for New York City, Verizon continued its proud tradition of participating in Career Discovery Week, immersing Local 10th-grade students from the Cultural Academy for Arts and Sciences from East Flatbush, Brooklyn, in the city's wide-ranging industries and myriad tech-focused career possibilities.

These future leaders participated in hands-on educational activities,

including Augmented Reality,
Virtual Reality, and a robotics demonstration.
Aligning with Citizen Verizon,
the company's responsible business plan for economic,
Environmental and social advancement, this partnership
further extends Verizon's Longstanding commitment to
digital inclusion and improving
student education through accessible tech and comprehensive
training programs.

>> Raquel: Wow.

Now, team, it's time to whip out your digital and or physical
calendars to take note of some Important reminders!

Today at 1 p.m. eastern, join women's CoLab for a conversation with
wave co-lead, Kia Wilson, who will be discussing the importance of
the employee resource groups and how to build and grow them with women
from ERG leaders like LinkedIn and Kimberly-Clark.

And if you haven't already, make sure to join Women's CoLab, a
collection of personal and Professional development
resources, curated with women in mind, and open for all to join.
Check out the link in today's story for more information.

>> Jen: And team, as you know, March is women's history month,
and just last week we hosted an event right here on Up To Speed
to celebrate International Women's Day.

It featured Verizon leaders that spoke about building your brand,
career development, leadership and even offered professional advice.

If you haven't caught it, you
can still find a link to that replay in today's story.

And on the topic of women and celebrating their greatness, our
WAVE employee resource group recently created a microsite to
celebrate Women's History Month by sharing their personal
pictures and stories from the women in their lives.

The stories are from WAVE members both in the U.S. and
internationally.

Be sure to check it out team. the stories are very inspiring.
you can find a link in today's story.

>> Raquel: Now before we go, we want to have a little fun.
We want to take time to shout out a couple of V teamers.
You may have caught one of our latest post on Inside Verizon's
Instagram page where we asked you to leave a comment if you
wanted a shout-out on up to speed.

>> Jen: Yeah, and we're keeping our promise, and we want to give a
special shout out to . . .

>> Raquel: We've got @robins.Verizon.
I'm number one in my territory for VZCC and I'd love a shout-out.
Robin, here's your shout-out.
And we've also got Aurora.EOS and @MIGs got it.
All right.

>> Jen: Very cool. Now let's look at mine here. Roamingamber.
She says Bozeman, Montana, top story desert mountain three months
in a row. You go, amber. That's awesome.
we also have here kelseybear2.0 saying she loves the company.
we love the company too. And Candice hall pass.
Shout out to you guys. Super, super neat.
Thank you for leaving a comment.

>> Raquel: All right, we'll be picking out more shout-outs throughout
the month of March, so make sure to keep tuning in for your special
moment.

And on that note, we'll see you right back here next Tuesday for
another edition of up to speed live.

>> Jen: Have a great Tuesday, and until next time, you're up to speed.