

Verizon  
Up To Speed Live  
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>> DIANA ALVEAR: Hello, my friends.

Welcome to Up to Speed live today.

I'm Diana Alvear.

Thanks so much for joining us.

And as usual, it's been a very busy week.

But before we jump into our week wrap-up, I want to talk a little bit about the note from Hans that went out yesterday.

So specifically he was discussing our stance on recent voting legislation.

So what Hans said in his notes, we strongly oppose the passage of any legislation or the adoption of any measure that would make it harder for any voter including historically marginalized groups, People of Color, seniors, students, and people with disabilities to exercise their fundamental right to cast a ballot.

If you'd like to read the full letter, we are going to link to it in today's story.

All right.

So let's get started with the highlights from this week.

As usual, I tell you, we have this past week and we sit there and think, man, we have so much to talk about.

Let's start with Monday.

So we hung out with newcomers David Weissmann and Libby Jacobson fox to talk about interesting new survey results about how Americans really feel about shopping, parenting and lots of other things.

It was really interesting to see what they had to say.

Today all about 5G, changing the game when it comes to tech and of course our pal George talking tech.

And yesterday we joked about Verizon's prank blocker.

Wouldn't that be nice?

Unfortunately the prank blocker doesn't exist.

I wish it did because all day yesterday I was on Twitter, and I'd see startling things and

then oh, it's April Fools'.

But we've got to talk about Wednesday and the promo that had everybody buzzing.

All right?

So it basically went viral for good reason, right?

This promo is insane.

You can bring in your phone.

It's busted.

It's cracked.

It's broken.

You might give hundreds towards your new device.

Existing customers get up to \$440, and I am serious when I say everyone was talking about this.

You definitely want to get in on this deal and go say hi to our friendly retail folks out there.

They're ready to serve you and help you go home with a new phone.

In fact, I'm talking about doing it today after the show.

All right.

So let's talk about Verizon business group.

We've got a cool partnership to tell you about.

They are announcing a partnership with dreamscape.

And their first goal is 5G immersive learning and training innovations for use in enterprise, public sector, and education environments.

Very exciting.

And also, Verizon business signed its first European private 5G deal with associated British ports.

This is so cool.

Check this out.

So they operate the port of Southampton.

That is the UK's number one port.

It's responsive for 40 billion pounds in exports in the UK and millions of cruise passengers every year.

So the port is going to be using our private 5G solution for better communication across the mainland port to start.

Then they're going to take advantage of the technology for realtime analytics, IoT and machine learning for asset tracking, autonomous-guided vehicles, workflow management, predictive maintenance, and safety monitoring.

This is a very big deal.

Verizon really beat out a bunch of competitors for this deal, and we couldn't be more excited for our VBG friends.

Now that the weather is getting nicer all over, but I'm going to be honest, I'm a little cranky it's so cold here in jersey today.

We all want to get outside, we want to get active, and I've got the perfect solution.

We are calling all of our V team cyclists, start assembling your teams now for the American heart association's Cyclenation event for stroke awareness month in May.

You can ride at home.

You can ride outside.

You can ride however you want.

You just want to ride.

And you're going to be competing against other teams to see who ends the month with the most miles.

Those are part of social media, spread the awareness.

We already have V teamers like Jason Neer, Ian Anderson and Rick Schonbachler that are prepping and participating in the event.

And you can be there, too.

All the details on how to get involved will be linked in today's story.

Finally, in my favorite story of the day, babies!

Yes.

We want to congratulate a new V team daddy, Rakesh Patel.

Oh, my goodness.

He's cuddling his adorable newborn baby girl, and he writes, her name is Shree, the goddess of wealth in Hinduism.

We are so thankful to God for giving us such a bundle of joy and very much appreciate a workplace like Verizon who cares deeply for employees' health.

Throughout the pregnancy my wife was in touch with healthy pregnant program by Verizon and as a father I got precious time with my little one to make our bonding even stronger.

And it is all possible because of Verizon's amazing parental leave program.

I will never forget that Verizon stood by me when my family needed me the most.

Oh, Rakesh, we wish you all the luck and all the coffee in the world.

You're going to need it.

Congratulations.

You are on, as I put it, the hardest best journey of your life, and your little girl, Shree, is just so beautiful.

Thank you so much for helping us end today's Up to Speed live in such a beautiful note.

Now, by the way, if you've been itching to travel as I tell you that I have been wanting to travel lately, you are in luck because Monday, get your suitcases.

We are going to hit up three different cities.

And we're going to have live guests.

It's going to be awesome.

Super rockin' on Monday.

You're not going to want to miss it.

Join me.

I'll be right back here on Monday and lots of friends.

Okay?

But on that note, I want to wish my friends who are celebrating Passover and my other friends who will be celebrating Easter a good weekend, a safe weekend.

Hopefully you get some family time.

And for those of you who also believe in the Easter bunny and those chocolates, I hope that the Easter bunny is good to you.

I'm Diana Alvear.

Thanks so much for joining me today.

And until next time, you're "Up to Speed."