





August 22, 2024 Dear Friends,

This newsletter details my participation in last week's statewide digital equity conference held in Syracuse. It was a rewarding meeting of digital training program practitioners, governmental officials, and members of the NYS Digital Equity Network.

Also included are updates from community groups on upcoming events and offerings.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me or my staff on issues in this e-mail or any matter in which we can be helpful. My office number is 914-939-7028.

Warm regards,

NYS Digital Equity Network Statewide Conference



Last Tuesday I participated in a one-day conference of the New York State
Digital Equity Network in Syracuse. NYSDEN is the statewide network of groups
that provide digital equity and inclusion programs in their communities. I was a
panelist on a session that discussed state and local government efforts in this
work.

One of the most exciting benefits of last week's meeting was that it was the first time the NYSDEN members had convened in person at a statewide meeting. Previous meetings consisted of regular statewide zoom calls and connecting at regional digital equity events. This statewide meeting energized planning for advancing the cause of providing digital literacy, access, and training.

Westchester attendees also included Meg Kaufer, Executive Director of the STEM Alliance and Patricia Brigham, Development Director of the Westchester Library System.

The network is composed of eleven regional digital inclusion coalitions as well as over 35 member organizations that lead digital equity work in their communities across New York State. NYSDEN's mission is to unite regional and state leaders to advance digital equity priorities in New York State.

I have worked with NYSDEN groups from across the state for the past four years. Their growing effort is part of a larger national movement to provide affordable broadband access, a training course, and devices to individuals in need of digital literacy assistance.

NYSDEN members have been providing digital inclusion programs for many years. Recognition of importance of these programs in addressing the digital divide has grown in Washington and across the country, with funding opportunities on the rise. NYSDEN works with the Empire State Development ConnectAll office and with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the state and federal government agencies focused on supporting this work.

I have been a leading proponent of digital equity programs in the state legislature. Those without digital skills and access are left at a disadvantage when it comes to education, health care, employment, and the countless other parts of our lives that require digital access. NYSDEN programs address these inequities with each individual or family served by their programs.





New York Forward Loan Fund 2 - Small Businesses

If you're a small business in New York looking to grow, the New York Forward Loan Fund 2 could be the right fit for you.

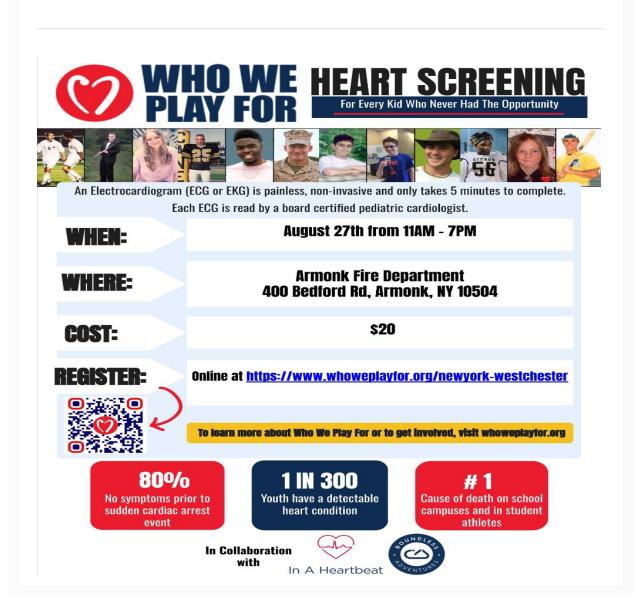
The New York Forward Loan Fund 2 is a mission-driven, relationship-based program that's accessible anywhere in the state through a virtual platform. It empowers small businesses and nonprofits toward success, connecting them with working capital loans and business support services.

Access loans of up to \$150,000 that are simple, affordable and business friendly, and they offer competitive, fixed rates.

It's more than a loan, it's a network of experts dedicated to your business' success. Fill out our pre-application now to determine if you meet initial eligibility requirements and if your business is loan ready. You will then be matched with an experienced lender who can help you before, during and after the application process or connect you with additional support services.

Click here to pre-apply.

Additional information can be found here.



New Rochelle Council on the Arts Concert Series



Summer fun continues with the free Summer Sounds Concert Series at Hudson Park every Wednesday and Friday at 7:30 pm, EXTENDED until August 30th.

35th Annual

PORT CHESTER RECREATION presents

CHESTER DAY

Sat, Aug 24th 2024

Lyon Park 12 - 9 p.m.

FOOD TRUCKS 12 - 8 p.m.

Walters Hot Dogs Latusion (Peruvian) Yumbro (Asian Fusion) Kisco Sweets & Treats (Italian Ice) Nothing Bundt Cakes Steph's Sweet Creations

Wrappers Delight Longfords Ice Cream Road Grub (American)

12 - 9 p.m.



Madilyn Klein - Star Spangled Banner 12 noon Jete Dance pref. by Company dancers 12:30 - 1 p.m. Peter Lovitt (Guitar) 2 - 2:30 p.m.

DARK DAMA - Latino Rock 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Rico Dos Anjos - Tae Kwon Do Demo 3:30 - 4 p.m. THE DEEP END - 80's, 90's and more 4 - 5 p.m. SUBURBAN CHAOS- Soulful Rock & Pop 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

HEADLINER TOM PETTY PROJECT (Tom Petty Tribute) 7:30 - 9 p.m.



Free Childrens Rides 12 - 5 p.m. Clay Art Center Activities Home Depot -Crafts for Kids Gaga Ball 12 - 5 Bubble Bus 12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Face Painting

For more information, contact PC REC (914)939-2354 or visit @ www.portchesterny.gov



