



October 7, 2019

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**STARTUP GRIND EVENT TO FEATURE KEVIN KYLE OF GERMFREE LABS** — The Ormond Beach chapter of StartUp Grind will host its next event at La's Bistro in Ormond Beach at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 8. [Startup Grind is an independent startup community](#) that engages more than 2 million entrepreneurs worldwide through events, media and partnerships. The guest speaker will be Germfree Labs President Kevin Kyle, who will explain how he has leveraged Germfree's engineering expertise and leading-edge fabrication technology to help shape the company into one of the community's leading industrial businesses. Last year, Germfree Labs was selected as one of [GrowFL's 2018 Florida Companies to Watch Honorees](#). Attendance is free and [requires advance registration](#).

**L. GALE LEMERAND ENTREPRENEURIAL SPEAKER SERIES AT DSC** — Suneera Madhani, CEO and founder of Fattmerchant, will be the next featured speaker in the [The L. Gale Lemerand Entrepreneurial Speaker Series](#). In just five years, Fattmerchant has processed more than \$5 billion in payments for business owners while offering the leading technology in its industry. The company was coined "the Netflix of credit card processing" and is an industry leader, winning awards for its model and tech platform. This free event, which is open to the public, will be held at 9:30 a.m. Oct. 10 at Daytona State College's Hosseini Center. To reserve a seat, call [386-506-4723](tel:386-506-4723) or email [SBDC@DaytonaState.edu](mailto:SBDC@DaytonaState.edu).

**BIKETOBERFEST 2019** — The [27th Annual Biketoberfest](#)® takes place from Oct. 17 to 20. This Daytona Beach motorcycle rally draws more than 125,000 visitors annually, and events are scheduled at locations throughout Volusia County. Bikers, motorcycle enthusiasts and travel seekers will enjoy beautiful fall weather, live music and a variety of vendors. Visitors can also watch the pros compete in Daytona International Speedway's motorcycle races.

**VOLUSIA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CENSUS INFORMATION** — Earlier this year, the USDA issued its Florida county level results from the national 2017 Census of Agriculture, which is conducted every five years by the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Volusia County was found to have 1,575 farms comprising 114,284 acres. There were 576 farms up to nine acres in size, 733 farms with 10 to 49 acres, and 165 farms in the 50 to 179 acre category. The Census found 101 farms larger than 180 acres; 24 of these were 1,000 acres or greater. [This and other Florida data by county can be accessed in the full report](#).

**FREE SBDC WORKSHOP ON GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING** — The Small Business Development Center at Daytona State College will present a [workshop on Government Contracting Basics](#) from 9 to 11 a.m. Oct. 11. Federal, state and local government procurement is the largest target market in the world. Can you be competitive enough to position your business to win government contracts? The session will be led by Steven South, procurement specialist from the UCF Procurement Technical Assistance Center. Consider the possibility that government contracting may be a good growth opportunity for your business. The seminar is designed for those new to government contracting and for business owners who may already be involved in government contracting. The workshop is based on a 10-step framework that helps newer contractors understand the process and helps more experienced contractors identify opportunities to "backfill" best practices in their efforts. To register, call [386-506-4723](tel:386-506-4723) and provide your name and email address.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY** — This academy at New Smyrna Beach High School provides students with law enforcement education, including police ethics, crime lab and accident investigation procedures, defense tactics, and crime prevention. The academy provides shadowing experiences for students who aspire to become attorneys, police officers, forensic scientists or crime lab technicians. For more information, [contact Academy Director Diana Cox](#).

**MORTGAGE CREDIT AVAILABILITY DECREASES** — Mortgage credit availability decreased in August, according to the [September 2019 report on the Mortgage Credit Availability Index](#) (MCAI) from the Mortgage Bankers Association. The MCAI fell by 3.9% to 181.7 in August. An index decline indicates that lending standards are tightening, while increases are indicative of loosening credit. The index was benchmarked to 100 in March 2012. Credit supply declined across the board in August, even as mortgage rates fell and application activity picked up. The decrease was the largest since December 2018 and the first tightening of credit seen for conventional loans all year.

**U.S. CENSUS BUREAU AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY RELEASED** — The U.S. Census Bureau has released the latest update of the American Community Survey (ACS). The survey is a detailed look at America's people, places and economy. It provides updates on income, poverty and health insurance statistics. The statistics are available in briefs, detailed tables, data profiles and more. The ACS also produces statistics for more than 40 other topics. For more information, visit the [ACS webpage](#).

**NEWS ITEMS WANTED!** — Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley, Volusia County Community Information director, at [jmagley@volusia.org](mailto:jmagley@volusia.org). If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.