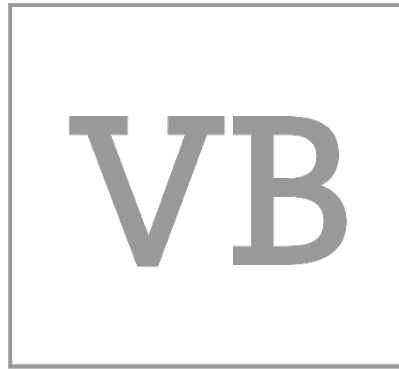


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Village Bank Tees Up Community Banks as an Important Ally for Start-Up Growth

Village Bank Launches #ItTakesaVillage Educational Series to Engage Twin Cities Start-ups and Small Businesses around Funding, Financing, Brand Building, and More.



WE'LL GET YOU THERE

MINNEAPOLIS, October 07, 2019 – Despite headlines involving big bets in venture capital, crowdfunding, accelerators, and angel investing, the number one source of funding for start-ups is personal savings and credit, which is why Village Bank announced today it will partner with award-winning entrepreneur Erin Newkirk to host a series of educational events this quarter featuring entrepreneurial gurus and community bankers to help entrepreneurs make fruitful decisions when it comes to financing the success of their business.

“Entrepreneurs are key to thriving economies and are the backbone of our communities, which is why Village Bank developed the #ItTakesaVillage Educational Series,” said Aleesha Webb, president and vice-chairwoman of Village Bank. “Village Bank wants to ensure start-ups and small businesses have the knowledge and the tools to achieve success, so I’m thrilled to announce I will be joined by my team, Erin Newkirk, Amanda Brinkman, and Allison Kaplan to discuss hard-won learnings, big ideas, and smart financial wisdom to pave the way of an entrepreneur’s journey to success,” said Webb.

“The financial nuances of starting and running a business are profoundly important and incredibly stressful. It would have been amazing to have had a banker advocating and helping me navigate the various phases of growth in my earlier start-up days. I just didn’t know that was an option,” said Erin Newkirk. “Village Bank and Aleesha genuinely want to engage with start-ups in a new way, meeting us where we are at and empowering entrepreneurs to pursue our dreams in a way that doesn’t keep us up tossing and turning all night.”

Join Village Bank and these high caliber experts at the following events:

October 15: Funding Your Start-Up: Beyond VCs, Angels, and Accelerators, Hosted during Twin Cities Startup Week at N401 Studios (401 N 1st Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55401). Two sessions: 8:00am (breakfast will be served) and noon (lunch will be served).

October 31: #ItTakesaVillage: The Evolution of Small Business Revolution. Hosted at ModernWell (2909 S Wayzata Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55405) with guest speaker Amanda Brinkman, 9am-11am.

November 14: November 14: #ItTakesaVillage: Get in Touch with Your Money Mindset. What Your Financial Statements Can and Should Do for Your Business. Hosted at ModernWell (2909 S Wayzata Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55405) 9am-11am

December 18: #ItTakesaVillage: By All Means. Business Trends You Need to Know, Now. Hosted at ModernWell (2909 S Wayzata Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55405) with guest speaker Allison Kaplan, 9am-11am.

For more details on these educational events for entrepreneurs, check out Village Bank's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/VillageBankOnline/.

About Village Bank

Village Bank is a community bank headquartered in Blaine, Minnesota. Founded in 1993, Village Bank has a long legacy of building strong communities. The ultimate goal of Village Bank is to help customers and clients fulfill their dreams — whether it's buying a home, starting a business, saving for college or planning for their future. The bank has four physical locations in the Twin Cities area: Blaine, Ramsey, East Bethel and St. Francis. For more information on its products and services, visit villagebankonline.com.

About Erin Newkirk

Erin Newkirk is the Founder of Satya. Satya is a new type of Growth Accelerator that helps founders focus as much on your How and Why as it does your What. Erin's wins include co-founding Red Stamp, helping launch Bright Health in the role of Chief Marketing Officer, and gratefully advising some of the hottest start-ups in town (Omnia Fishing, ModernWell and Local Crate). Full consumer work includes award-winning brand management at General Mills and Kaplan. Erin received her MBA in Marketing + Operations from Indiana University Kelley School of Business, a BA in Journalism from Drake University, and a Certificate of French Studies in Art + History from the Université Paris at Sorbonne. Say hello at erinnewkirk.com.

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