

Session to discuss how to start a business

VALDOSTA — Monica Page of the Valdosta State University

Small Business Development Center will lead a business start-up question and answer event from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, at the Valdosta City Hall Annex Multipurpose Room.

Representatives from Guardian Bank, Wiregrass Georgia Technical College and the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce's SEEDS Business Resource Center will also be present to provide insight on the business start-up process.

At the end of the event, the group will discuss the 2011 Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition, which is open to anyone who has a business idea and is free of charge.

The business must be located in Valdosta-Lowndes

County and plan to employ university or technical college graduates.

The competition is an eight-month process where the competitors are offered free educational workshops to assist in fully developing their business plan before submitting it for judging. Business plans may also be critiqued at the workshops to ensure a quality submission.

The winner will receive \$15,000 in start-up capital provided by Guardian Bank and a prize package valued at more than \$20,000 of in-kind services donated by Chamber-member professional consultants.

To register for the free business start-up question and answer event, contact Varian Brown, SEEDS Business Resource Center coordinator, at (229) 247-8100 or vbrown@valdostachamber.com.

