

JOE MORGAN | SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Fowler & Company received a check for \$15,000 for winning the 2011 Guardian Bank Business Plan competition. The Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition is an initiative of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce to cultivate new business development in Lowndes County. Pictured from left is Guardian Bank President Ray Chitty, Curt Fowler with Fowler & Company, Guardian board member Judge H. Arthur McLane, branch manager Courtney Nelligan, bank officer Eric Johnson and board member Larry Colson.

## Fowler & Company wins Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition

Fowler and Company received a check for \$15,000 from Guardian Bank and an assortment of other donated services valued at more than \$20,000 to enhance and expand the company. The prize package was presented to Curt Fowler at the Guardian Bank Business After Hours on Thursday.

Fowler & Company exists to help its clients increase the value of their organizations through a values driven approach to strategic planning, performance improvement and execution coaching.

"If you are a business owner or executive who is not satisfied with where your organization is today or where it is heading, we can help. Our founder brings more than 15 years of industry and consulting experience to increase the value of your organization. He has worked with Fortune 500 companies like Verizon and Sara Lee

and some of the best local organizations," stated Fowler.

Fowler entered the competition to ensure his company was involved in the community's efforts to support entrepreneurship. Fowler acknowledged the support from the Chamber's SEEDS Business Resource Center and Valdosta State University's Small Business Development Center as a tremendous resource.

The Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition is an initiative of the Chamber to cultivate new business development in Lowndes County.

It is an eight month process that requires businesses to be located in Lowndes County and have the potential to employ technical college and/or university graduates. Competitors are offered educational workshops to assist in developing their business plans.

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