For Immediate Release For more information contact: Karen Glover at <u>kglover@baldwineda.org</u> 251-970-4081

The Baldwin County Job Fair hosted by the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance on March 7 from Noon til 5pm at the Daphne Civic Center will also include "Business Boot Camp" for those who are or want to be self-employed in their own business. Seminars are free and topics range from "Tips to Manage Your Credit Score" and "How to Start a Business" to "Financing Your Small Business". No pre-registration is requested and the seminars will start at 2pm and end at 4:30pm.

The Baldwin County Job Fair Business Boot Camp on March 7 at Daphne Civic Center will include the following seminars:

12:30pm – 1:30pm "Tips to Manage Your Credit Score" – Lora Michael, Certified CU Financial Counselor, Women's Business Center of South Alabama will provide tips and information related to repairing, improving and maintain your credit score. Attendees will also hear more about upcoming workshops, roundtable and networking events hosted by the WBSA which are also at www.womensbusinessalliance.org

2:00pm - 3:00pm "How to Start a Business in Baldwin County" - Yolanda 'Yo' Devine Johnson, Alabama Small Business Development Center Network, will lead participants through the steps from conception to business opening in Baldwin County. Handouts and resources explaining the "How to's" will be provided to attendees. Participants will have the opportunity to register for no cost technical business services provided by the ASBDC at the seminar or online at www.asbdc.org

3:30pm – 4:30pm "Financing Your Small Business" - Brent McMahan, US Small Business Administration from Mobile, will share pointers and guidelines for obtaining financing for your small business. These will include the role of your business plan and how your credit score factors-in to a loan application, and a discussion of the other underwriting steps like collateral, character, capital, conditions, and capacity. He will also discuss the variety of lenders available to Baldwin County small businesses.

The Baldwin County Job Fair is a free annual event and businesses wanting to exhibit should contact the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance at 251-970-4081.