

BALDWIN COUNTY

Stay Connected

March 2024

EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER FOR THE 4TH QUARTER OF 2023!



The Baldwin County Commission had the opportunity to recognize Stacy Appleton of the Highway Department, and Brittany Swartz of the Personnel Department as **"EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER"** for the 4th quarter of 2023 at the January 16, 2024, Commission Meeting.

Stacy and Brittany are both outstanding employees who go above and beyond to make Baldwin County a better place for the citizens of Baldwin County as well as for their co-workers.

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A RECAP OF THE 2024 FAMILY FESTIVAL!

- **Roughly 500 attendees**
- **12 NHS volunteers**
- **8 Supervisor volunteers**
 - Tom Tyler
 - Shannon Spivey
 - Beverly Johnson
 - Mark Acreman
 - Anu Gary
 - Jana Murphy
 - Mindy Smith
 - Susanne Spears
- **11 Chili Cook-Off Teams**
 - 1st Jana Murphy - JDC
 - 2nd Vernon Dandridge - EMA
 - 3rd Jaine Joiner - Building Insp
 - People's Choice Vernon Dandridge - EMA
- **4 Judges**
 - Frank Lundy
 - Roger Rendleman
 - Steve Barnett
 - Jonny Walton
- **Live music by Max and the Misfits**
- **2 Dogs adopted (one a long-time resident)**
- **Inflatables by Eastern Shore Inflatables**



Thank You

To the City of Robertsdale for the use of the Coliseum, to the City of Robertsdale and the Town of Silverhill for volunteer Fire Departments cooking hotdogs for us, and to Brent Goodwin at EMA for going above and beyond to assist the Personnel Department with this event.

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*Family Festival
2024*

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*Family Festival
2024*



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BE A HERO! KNOWBE4 ~ USE THE PHISH ALERT BUTTON!

The Baldwin County Commission's Communication & Information Systems (CIS) team is excited about the new partnership with KnowBe4 in the ongoing commitment to information security training and awareness.

If you have a Baldwin County Email Address you should have already received your first training notice with the subject **"You've been enrolled in training"**.

If you have received this notice and have not yet done the training please take a few moments to go ahead and do so.

The first training video will introduce you to the Phish Alert Button (PAB). This button allows users to report suspected phishing emails easily and safely. The PAB will appear in the Outlook app on your desktop/laptop and also in Outlook Web Access (OWA).

What's next?

Please be aware that the "Phish Alert Button" button is the preferred phish reporting method, and, as always, please be on the lookout for suspicious emails. When you see a "phishy" email, simply report it using the button. Whether it is real or simulated, your participation will help us keep Baldwin County Commission secure.

If you have any comments, suggestions, or questions for our office, please reach us as you are a part of our security team.

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BE A HERO! KNOWBE4 ~ USE THE PHISH ALERT BUTTON!



You receive an email asking you to take an action. Sounds suspicious, right? But don't worry. You can be a hero by taking the correct action—and giving your IT department the information they need to defend your organization against the effects of malicious email attacks. It's easy. Thanks to the **Phish Alert Button**, or **PAB** for short.

How do I know what to report?

You should only report messages you suspect are malicious, like **phishing** or **spear phishing** emails. Reporting annoying messages, like **spam**, to IT will waste their time and resources.

Spam is unsolicited and unwanted email, typically sent to try to sell you something. While it is often annoying and misleading, it is rarely malicious.

Simply delete it!

Phishing messages are bulk emails, typically appearing to be from a reputable source, that ask you to take a specific action that can cause damage to you or your organization. These messages are malicious.

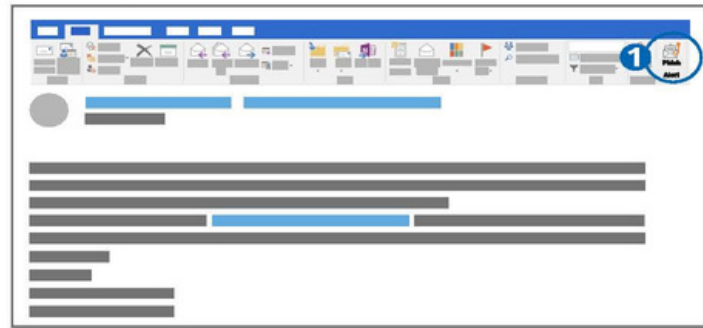
Report it with the PAB!

Spear phishing emails are targeted attacks on a person or organization, occurring after detailed research in order to make them seem especially real. These messages are extremely malicious and can lead to very damaging consequences.

Where do I find the PAB in Outlook?

While viewing your email:

1 You can find the Phish Alert Button in the Outlook ribbon at the top of your screen. Locate the envelope icon with the orange "fish hook."

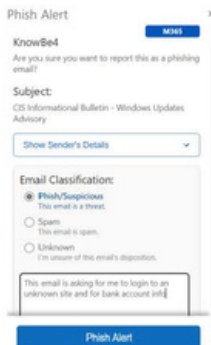


Report:

Report suspected phishing emails by clicking the Phish Alert in the ribbon.

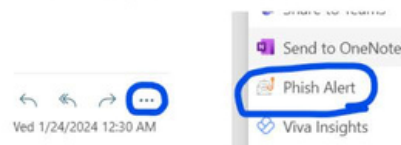
Confirm:

Once you click to report, the pop-up will prompt you to confirm your action and explain why the email is possibly a phishing attempt. Once confirmed, the suspicious email will be immediately forwarded to your IT team.



Where do I find the PAB in Outlook on the Web (OWA)?

To use the Phish Alert Button in outlook.office365.com Open an email while in your browser and click the three ellipses in the top right corner. Then click the Phish Alert icon.



Stop. Look. Think. Report!

Remember, you are the last line of defense against email based criminal activity. Never click on a link or open an attachment in any unexpected or unsolicited email. If you are uncertain, ask your IT team for advice by forwarding the email with your question to spam@baldwincountyal.gov.

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PHISH ALERT BUTTON

PHISH ALERT BUTTON

KnowBe4
Human error. Conquered.

The Phish Alert Button (PAB) allows you to report suspicious emails so that your organization can protect employees like you! Use the information below to learn when to use the PAB, how to tell the difference between spam and phishing emails, and how to report suspicious emails.

WHEN?

Use the Phish Alert Button (PAB) when you suspect that you have received a phishing email. The PAB is used to report emails that you believe are malicious.

WHY?

Reporting emails will help both you and your organization stay safer. By reporting an email, the threatening email is removed from your inbox and your organization is made aware of possible vulnerabilities. Once your organization is aware of these possible vulnerabilities, they can better defend against them. You are an important part of the process of keeping your organization safe from cybercriminals.

WHAT?

To know what emails you should report, you'll need to be able to tell the difference between spam emails and malicious phishing emails. Avoid reporting Spam emails because it can prevent your IT admin from identifying malicious phishing emails in time.

Use the table below to learn the differences between spam and phishing emails:

PHISHING	SPAM
Phishing emails are sent by cybercriminals to entice you to click on a link or to give up personal or sensitive information.	Spam emails are typically sent from companies trying to sell you a product or service.
Has a sense of urgency ("do this now!")	Unsolicited or unwanted "junk" email
Asks you for sensitive information, such as usernames, passwords, or credit card details	Emails sent to advertise a product
Can be more personalized or targeted to you or your organization	Emails such as forwarded chain letters, coupons, donation requests, and unwanted newsletters

HOW?

Now that you know the difference between phishing and spam emails, here is how you can report suspicious email using the PAB.

1. On any open email, click on the PAB icon.
2. If your inbox asks you to confirm that you would like to report the email, click **Yes** to confirm your action.
3. A message will display to confirm you have successfully reported an email.

IN CONCLUSION...

Remember to **"Stop, Look, and Think!"** before you click.

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UPDATES FROM YOUR PERSONNEL TEAM!

Hey Baldwin County Team!!

We have a couple of new training courses out there for our employees!

Accessing Your Benefits

EXECUTIME

SELF SERVICE

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MEDSTAR

SYMBOL

BCBS

FLORES

MEDONE

METLIFE

RETIREMENT

ACCESSING YOUR BENEFITS -

THIS TRAINING IS LED BY BRITTANY SHEALY (B2)

This training allows employees an opportunity to look at the benefits they personally have and how to access them and use them to your advantage!

FIRST AID TRAINING - THIS TRAINING IS LED BY KRISTINA HARRIS

The training gives an overview of 911 the information dispatchers need in an emergency, tips on how to handle events like strokes, allergic reactions, diabetic emergencies, tourniquet usage, snake bites, and much more!

Common Workplace Injuries



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7 HABITS- PART 1 TRAINING HAS BEEN A HIT!

We loved each group and the engagement, conversation, and interaction they have given.

We are excited to be pushing PART 2 out in MAY!!!!

In order to attend this second training, you will need to have completed Part 1 AND the follow up questionnaire regarding what you've learned and applied since the training. - *This email is sent to employees approximately 1 month after they attend Part 1 sessions.*

Because Part 2 is heavily team based, we **require** attendance to Part 1 which is YOU based. Since you're the foundation to your success, we don't want to build on a foundation that hasn't been laid yet.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this process and how it works, please do not hesitate to reach out to Brittany Swartz (B1).



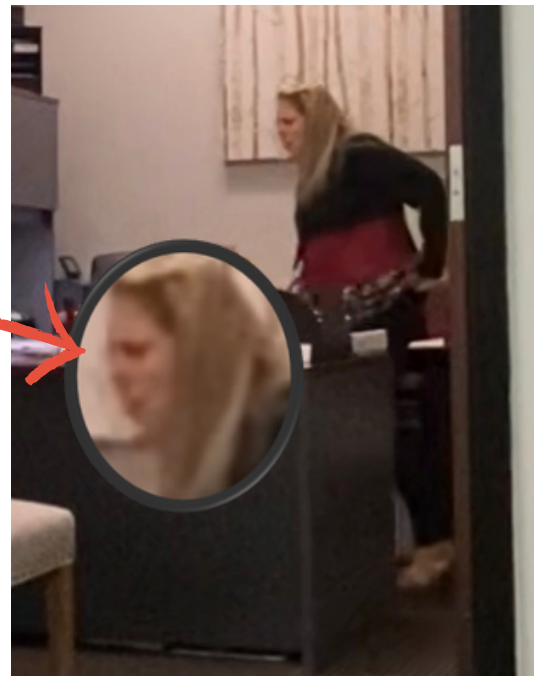
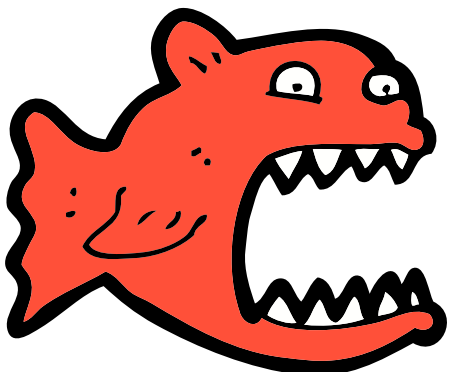
This new crew we have in our Management Fundamentals training is **BIGGER THAN EVER.**
And it's a great group!

We are working hard to instill a mindset in our current and upcoming leaders of work/fun/stewardship and how to make it all a balance in everything we do.

With that being said, here are a couple fun things that have happened in and around our workplace!

Low-quality picture - high-quality content.

B1 shows up to work with a REAL (dead) taxidermized piranha on her desk. You heard it right. A PIRANHA!



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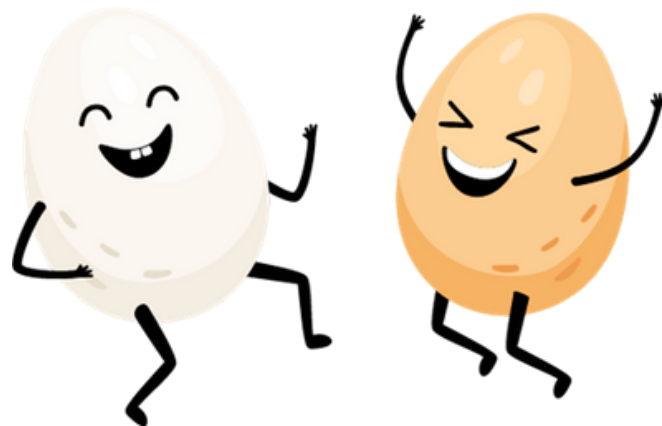


**Mark Acreman - Highway's
Assistant County Engineer
had a birthday!**

DAD JOKES WITH JUNIUS LONG!

(Building Maintenance Department Head)

"Why don't eggs tell jokes?"



..... "Because they would crack each other up!"

GAME:

"Antics with Anthony!"

The first employee to find Anthony hidden in the newsletter **AND** email **Brittany Swartz** where he was found, will get a tiny prize! Don't be shy, you may have to **ZOOM IN!**

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EMA ALWAYS HAS FUN!



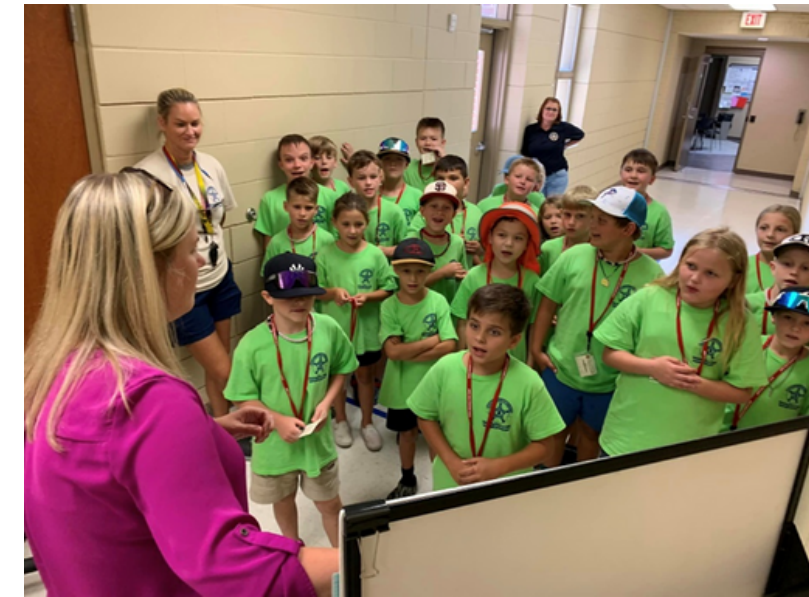
Connie Merchant (left)
Vernon Dandridge (right)
Always smiling at EMA



Left to right - Karen Giordano,
Danon Smith, Tom Tyler →



← Jessica Waters



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Left to right -
Doug Hatten
Brent Goodwin
Vernon Dandridge
Tom Tyler



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

As always, we are so thankful for our partnership with Coastal Alabama Workforce Development.

We had 5 employees from Foley Highway successfully complete the online coursework and the hands-on lab portion for the program and **are now certified for Mini Excavators!**

- **Devin Harvey**
- **Caleb Ossler**
- **Cleo Byrd**
- **Logan Brock**
- **Nick Brown**



FEMA

Emergency
Management
Institute

Jessica Waters at EMA received her Advanced Public Information Officer Certification at the Emergency Management Institute in Maryland.

This training is FEMA funded and equips PIOs all around the world with the necessary skills for handling escalating incidents, including strategic communication and incident action planning.

Great Job!

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CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

BRATS Bus Drivers earn top awards at Alabama Transit Driver Rodeo hosted by ALDOT March 17-18 in Eufaula, AL. Winners of each division received a scholarship to represent Alabama at the national transit driver rodeo in West Palm Beach, FL in June, 2024.



Shannon Dumas-BRATS, 1st Place, High-Roof Van Division; Steve Huggins-BRATS, 1st Place, Medium Bus Division; and Nioka "Coco" Boyce, Birmingham Transit, 1st Place, Large Bus/Motor Coach Division; shown with Bradley Lindsey, ALDOT Transportation Bureau Chief.

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CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!



Sage earned his first flight hour toward his pilot's license at Lightning Aviation at the Foley Municipal Airport on Dec 30th, 2023. Sage is scheduled to complete his 40 hours of flight time to test for his pilot's license by his 17th birthday in August 2024. Sage attends the Aviation Program through the Academy at The Fairhope Airport and will graduate as an Aviation mechanic with an airframe endorsement in May 2025. Sage aims to become a commercial pilot while completing his hours toward his private pilot's license.

Sage is the son of Susan Marino and the grandson of the late John J Marino.

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CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!



Samantha Gary, received her Master's in Social Work from the University of West Florida this fall. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of South Alabama. Samantha is now a team lead case officer at the Mobile County District Attorney's Office for the Helping Families Initiative, which is a crime prevention program based on school truancy prevention. Samantha is the daughter of Anu Gary, Baldwin County Commission Administrative Services Manager.

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CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!



Congratulations to Noah Givens on being inducted into the Pi Psi Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society at Coastal Alabama Community College!

Noah is the oldest son of Tiffany Givens, Commission Executive Assistant for District 3.



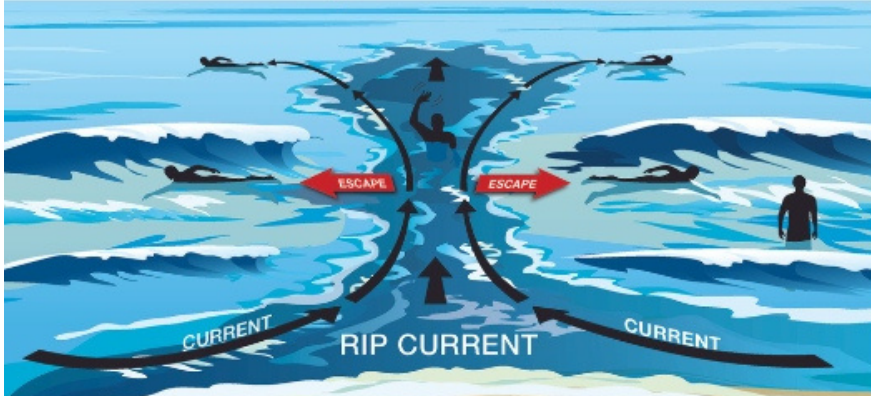
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RIP CURRENTS

Know your options



Rip currents are powerful currents of water moving away from shore. They can sweep even the strongest swimmer away from shore. If at all possible, swim near a lifeguard.

IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT

- ◆ Relax, rip currents don't pull you under.
- ◆ Don't swim against the current.
- ◆ Swim out of the current, then to shore.
- ◆ If you can't escape, float or tread water.
- ◆ If you need help, yell or wave for assistance.

SAFETY

- ◆ Know how to swim.
- ◆ Never swim alone.
- ◆ If in doubt, don't go out.
- ◆ Swim near a lifeguard.

More information about rip currents can be found at the following websites:

weather.gov/safety/ripcurrent/
usla.org



Beach flag WARNING SYSTEM



YELLOW
Moderate surf
and/or currents



SINGLE RED
High surf
and/or currents



DOUBLE RED
Waters closed
to public



PURPLE
Dangerous
marine life



BEACH SAFE

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



It's vital to **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO** to the beach. Refresh your memory on what each beach flag represents, and know what to do if you get caught in a rip current. Preparing beforehand can help you **BEACH SAFE** and make it back home to your loved ones at the end of a fun and safe day at the beach.

Sign up for daily Surf Condition Text Alerts by texting "**ALBEACHES**" to **888777**.

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2024 is starting out to be a busy year for the Coroner's Office outreach.

In March they hosted a field trip with the Robertsdale High School STEM students who were given a tour of the facility and introduced to types, cause, and manner of death along with policies and procedures for escalated investigations and administrative procedures.



The office exercised the portable state mortuary cooler during the biannual cleaning of their morgue area.

They are also looking forward to hosting the first ever Citizens' Academy which will include introductions to the office, administrative processes, case reviews and presentations with different agency partners.

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C  **RONER**
CITIZENS ACADEMY

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BALDWIN COUNTY VOTING PRECINCT CHANGES!

NOTICE



NOTICE

VOTING LOCATION CHANGES



Scan QR Code for Baldwin County Voting Precincts Interactive Map

Check your polling location at:
myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview

Stay Connected

Download Baldwin Apps
Apple Store and Google Play

**LEARN MORE
HERE!**



STAY CONNECTED WITH THE BALDWIN COUNTY APPS!

Did you know that there is a Baldwin County Commission App, Baldwin County Historic Tours App, BRATS Public Transportation App, and Baldwin County Sheriff's Office App? All of these apps can be downloaded via the Apple Store or Google Play! For more information visit: <https://baldwincountyal.gov/stay-connected>

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STOCKING THE SHELVES FOOD DRIVE RESULTS!



The Stocking the Shelves Food Drive coordinated by Jill Mason, Customer Service Center netted 504 items for area seniors. The Customer Service Center was the top contributor donating 113 items, followed closely by Bay Minette Revenue and Highway Administration.

Thank you to everyone who helped fill the shelves!



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ANIMAL SHELTER RIBBON CUTTING



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ANIMAL SHELTER ~ NEW FACILITY!



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FREE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE DISCOUNTS ~ GOVX

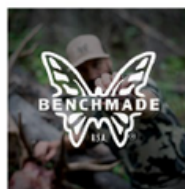
Are you interested in discounts on items like YETI, Benchmade, Vortex Optics, Oakley, Costa, and Disney?!?

Save 10% - 20% on Yeti items, 40% on sunglasses, up to \$100 on gate prices at Disney World! And up to 20% on hotels and car rentals!

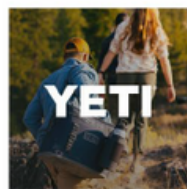
Sign up for your FREE GOVX account!!!

- Visit <https://www.govx.com/>
- Click "Create My Free Account"
- Enter in your email address
- Select "Government Employee"
 - Select "State/Local"
 - Select the type of department you work in
- Enter in name and date of birth
- Upload a photo or PDF of your ID badge
- Verify your photo

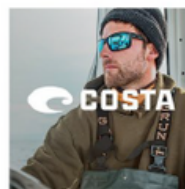
Once the photo is submitted, it takes up to 48 hours to be approved. Then start saving!!



SAVE 25%



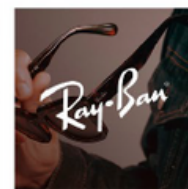
SAVE 10%



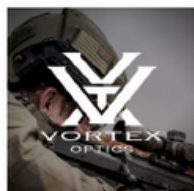
SAVE 40%



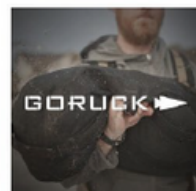
UP TO 40% OFF



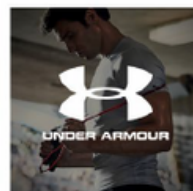
SAVE 40%



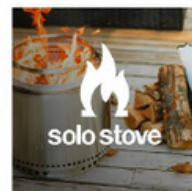
SAVE 35%



SAVE 15%



SAVE 30%



SAVE 35%



SAVE UP TO 20%

FREE Government Employee Discounts on items like YETI, Costa, Oakley, Under Armor, and much more. All you need is your information and a clear picture of your ID Badge to get started.

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UPCOMING HOLIDAYS / BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION FACILITY CLOSURES

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, March 29, 2024

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 27, 2024

**JUNETEENTH
INDEPENDENCE
DAY**

Wednesday, June 19,
2024

To View All Upcoming Holidays/Baldwin County Commission Facility Closures

<https://baldwincountyal.gov/facility-closures>

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To submit content for the
Stay Connected 2024 - Issue 2 Newsletter
please email:

newsletter@baldwincountyal.gov

NO LATER than Tuesday, June 18th at
Noon.

SUBMIT

