

**NEW**

City of   
**Auburndale**  
INCORPORATED 1911



**CITY STAFF  
UPDATE**

**MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER**

***VERY FIRST CITY STAFF UPDATE NEWSLETTER!***



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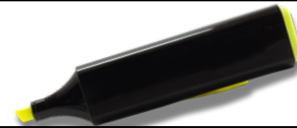
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## Auburndale featured on Tampa Bay 28

On Friday, April 24, 2026, Tampa Bay 28 brought its Good Morning Tampa Bay community show on the road to Auburndale, delivering a live broadcast that highlighted the city's character and local attractions. The crew explored several Auburndale landmarks, including the Baynard House, Lake Myrtle Sports Complex, local businesses, and unique destinations. The live show emphasized the city's small-town charm and ongoing growth, offering viewers across the region a closer look at what makes Auburndale a distinctive and evolving Central Florida community. These news stories can be found online on Tampa Bay 28's website.





## Upcoming Schedule



# Memorial Day

## Monday, May 25

### Remember and Honor

### 2026 Memorial Day Sanitation Schedule

<b>Monday</b>	Pick-Up on Tuesday
<b>Tuesday</b>	Pick-Up on Wednesday
<b>Wednesday</b>	No Brush
<b>Thursday</b>	No Change
<b>Friday</b>	No Change

# TENNIS

## JUNIOR SUMMER LESSONS

June 8 - July 31, 2026 (No Class on July 2nd)  
LED BY HEAD PRO LOGAN AND COACH KEN

<b>5 to 6 years old</b> Tues. & Thu., 8:45-9:30 AM \$10.00 per day \$20.00 per week	<b>High School Students</b> Tue. & Thurs. 9:45 - 10:45 AM \$12.00 per day \$24.00 per week
<b>7 to 10 years old</b> Tues. & Thu. 8:45 - 9:45 AM \$12.00 per day \$24.00 per week	<b>Middle School Students</b> Tue. & Thurs. 9:45 - 10:45 AM \$12.00 per day \$24.00 per week
<b>Group Lessons</b> \$11.00 / Hour / 4 People \$15.00 / Hour / 3 People	<b>Private Lessons</b> \$40.00 / Hour \$22.00 / Half Hour

**Advanced Pathway**  
 INVITATION ONLY!  
 Tue. & Thur. 10:45AM - 12PM  
 \$15.00 per day  
 \$30.00 per Week

SIGN UP INFORMATION  
**(863) 965-5544**  
 LALLEN@AUBURNDALEFL.COM

# CITY OF AUBURNDALE

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July

### CELEBRATION LAKE ARIANA

When & Where  
**LAKE ARIANA PARK & CIVIC CENTER**  
 2220 LAKE ARIANA BLVD  
 July 4<sup>th</sup> 2026 11am-9:30pm

Featuring

- LIVE MUSIC
- FUN GAMES
- MAGIC SHOWS
- CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
- FOOD TRUCKS
- SKI SHOW

AND A SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS FINALE

# AUBURNDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Summer 2026

June 15<sup>th</sup> - July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
 100 West Bridgers Avenue, Auburndale FL 33823

### JUNE EVENTS

<b>Kid's Programs</b> <u>Elementary Program</u> Every Wednesday at 10:15 am - 11:30 AM <u>Preschool Program</u> Every Thursday at 10:30 am	<b>Teen Programs</b> Ages 11 - 17 Every MONDAY from 3 PM - 5 PM <b>LEGO</b> Every TUESDAY from 3 PM - 5 PM <b>POKEMON TRADING CARD GAME</b> Every WEDNESDAY from 3 PM - 5 PM <b>DUNGEONS &amp; DRAGONS</b>
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### Special Guests

Location:  
 \*\*115 W Park St, Auburndale, FL 33823\*\*  
 6:18 at 2 PM - Sphere's Bubbles





## Municipal Services Building



**MOVING IN JUNE: FINANCE, PARKS & REC.,  
UTILITY BILLING, IT, & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**



**(ABOVE)** Information Technology installed fiber to ensure the new offices are modern and reliable.

**(BELOW)** Citizens Academy participants received a sneak peek and tour of the new offices from City Clerk Brandon Henry.





# Recent Highlights



Over 500 patrons participated in the Library's Shrek-themed National Library Week activities.



The Mother-Son Dance was a rockin' time that created plenty of groovy memories.



Citizens Academy kicked off at beautiful City Hall to discuss local governance and communications.



Jeff Brown had his first official day as the new Auburndale City Manager. Welcome home!





## Parks & Rec. and Publix Serves Collaboration



On April 23, 2026, Parks & Rec. assisted Publix Serves to beautify the campuses of Auburndale High School and Stambaugh Middle School.





# Recent Highlights



Public Works Director Andy Stewart graduated from Polk Vision's Leadership Class XIX.



Steve Zarycki started as the City's new Finance Director. We are glad you are part of the team!



Amy Palmer was recognized for serving as Interim City Manager. Thank you for your leadership!



The Polk County Blueberry Festival in April combined great food and lots of fun!





## AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH



In recognition of Autism Awareness Month, the Auburndale Police Department focused on supporting and engaging with our community through initiatives that promote understanding and inclusion. This year, they introduced the 2026 Autism Awareness Challenge Coin. In addition, they partnered with Haven Coffee Roasters to host Brew with the Blue on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026. All proceeds will benefit Victory Ridge Academy, located in Lake Wales.



# APD STATS



### ARRESTS



59

### CITATIONS



758

### BATTERY CALLS



15

### SERVICE CALLS



2,411

### DUI ARRESTS



3

### CRASH RESPONSE



38





Corporal Murvyn Suttle from the Auburndale Police Department's Traffic/Marine Unit recently completed a 40-hour FWC Marine Vessel Operations Training hosted by the Polk County Sheriff's Office. The hands-on course focused on vessel operation, safety, survival swimming, and search and rescue, with real-world scenarios to strengthen decision-making and emergency response on the water. This training enhances officer safety and ensures our team remains prepared to effectively serve and protect the community on our waterways.

In April, Detective Perrington and Detective Maldonado led a training focused on the "hidden arm technique," addressing situations where a subject lies prone but conceals their hands to avoid handcuffing. Officers practiced safely gaining control and securing the subject with minimal force, along with response techniques for when a subject reaches toward their waistband.



## Congratulations

### BLE CLASS 25-04

Christopher Ferreira, Christian Henigsmith, and Isaiah Mendoza recently graduated from the Kenneth C. Thompson Institute of Public Safety Basic Law Enforcement Academy.

Sponsored by the department, these new officers demonstrated strong commitment and perseverance throughout training.



### SGT. RICHARD MAURER

Sgt. Maurer graduated from the FL Criminal Justice Executive Institute's Florida Leadership Academy, Class 62. The program provides leadership training designed to strengthen agency operations and preparation to better serve their communities. Congratulations, Sgt. Richard Maurer!





## CHILD PREDATOR STING OPERATION

Detectives with the Auburndale Police Department recently assisted in a multi-agency child predator sting led by the Polk County Sheriff's Office that resulted in the arrest of 19 individuals, including a man known in the community for portraying Santa in Polk County.



Operations like this reflect our agency's ongoing commitment to protecting children and holding offenders accountable. We also remind parents and guardians that staying actively involved in their child's online activity is an important part of keeping them safe.

## THE AUBURNDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the Auburndale Police Department responded to a homicide in the Lake Blue Mobile Home Park. The decedent has been identified as William Thomas Martin (W/M, DOB: 07/02/1940). The Auburndale Police Department encourages anyone with information to contact Sergeant Alfredo Marengo at 863-837-5151 or by e-mail at [amarengo@auburndalefl.com](mailto:amarengo@auburndalefl.com).

If you wish to submit an anonymous tip, you may submit a tip to Heartland Crimestoppers at 1-888-400-TIPS or visit [www.heartlandcrimestoppers.com](http://www.heartlandcrimestoppers.com). Anonymous tips may be eligible for a cash reward.





## SERVICE CALLS



477

## MEDICAL CALLS



294

## TRAINING HOURS



898

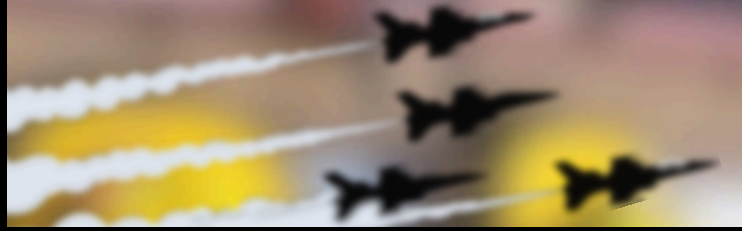


Firefighters engaged in Engine Operations training focused on pump operations as well as dry hose stretch evolutions simulating deployment for a townhome fire.



The Fire Department recently purchased an Electrical Vehicle (EV) fire blanket. These blankets are a tool that can be utilized on electric vehicle fires involving batteries. As these batteries have been proven to be difficult to extinguish, we now have an EV fire blanket on our command truck. The blanket can be used not only to assist in extinguishment but can also be used to protect surrounding exposures from the fire such as homes, businesses or other vehicles.





Each year the AFD provides a water tanker to assist with the renowned Sun N Fun event in Lakeland to help meet FAA water requirements during the event. The event is a joint effort by many agencies and crews always have a great time! Pictured are members from AFD, Lakeland FD, and Polk County FD.



## Congratulations

Nicholas Grandchamp, John Toney, Brayden Kent, and Cody Gilman completed the 45-hour rope technician course. This is an advanced Florida Urban Search and Rescue (FLUSAR) course that required a 45-hour Rope Operations course as a prerequisite to attend. The course covers advanced rope rescue techniques, congrats to our new Rope Technicians!





## COMMUNITY CONNECT



Congratulations to the Auburndale High School Class of 2026!  
We wish you the best success in your future endeavors.



Adler's Burgers held their grand opening ribbon cutting on April 13. Adler's is located near the Downtown Park. Welcome!



# FSC - 14 FLAGLER - 9

Florida Southern College defeated Flagler College at their NCAA Quarterfinals Match hosted at Lake Myrtle Sports Complex.





# GAME ZONE

## Word Search

Category:  
Words Found in  
this Newsletter

B	E	L	A	D	N	R	U	B	U	A	K	K	L	R	E
N	D	N	E	W	S	L	E	T	T	E	R	L	D	U	C
E	F	I	R	E	F	F	A	T	S	R	G	L	C	G	I
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M	C	M	F	Y	O	N	G	E	K	E	R	H	S	P	P
P	O	Z	J	O	H	N	C	Y	S	C	D	M	U	M	Q
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8	T	J	R	A	N	O	O	E	U	H	T	D	M	Z	T
U	Y	E	T	S	R	R	N	V	N	K	E	T	A	T	E
R	P	E	N	F	K	R	F	E	M	S	V	J	C	R	H
O	R	Y	Y	S	Z	S	R	E	L	D	A	F	Q	G	G

- AUBURDALE
- HAVENCOFFEE
- PUBLICWORKS
- NEWSLETTER
- LAKEARIANA
- TAMPABAY28
- GRADUATION
- OPERATIONS
- COMMUNITY
- BLUEBERRY
- CITIZENS
- ADLERS



POLICE | WATER | PARKS | STAFF | SHREK | FIRE | CITY | TENNIS | UPDATE





## LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT VENUE?



### LAKE ARIANA PARK



### HAMANN HALL



### PERGOLA

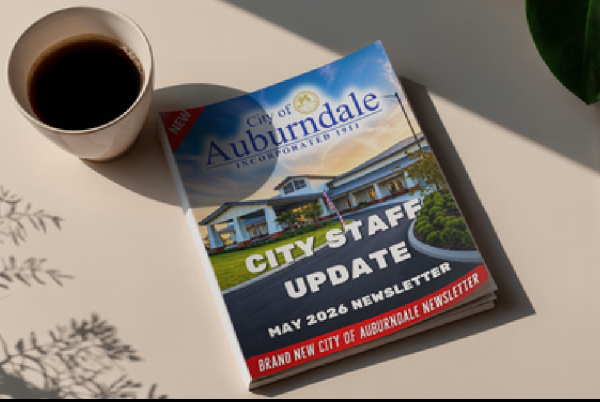
**ARIANA SUITE  
LAKEVIEW SUITE  
MAC'S REC ROOM  
& MORE!**



### HISTORIC DEPOT

**These and more! For more information on venues and facilities, please visit [www.auburndalefl.com/park\\_facilities](http://www.auburndalefl.com/park_facilities)**





# STAY CONNECTED!

Stay connected on social media to receive all updates about the City newsletter, including June's issue!



**City of Auburndale, FL Government**



**Auburndale Fire Department**



**Auburndale Police Department**



**auburndalefl**



**www.auburndalefl.com**





City of

# Auburndale

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