

SCOTTSDALE UPDATE

News for our residents and customers

June/July 2016



DON'T LET THE NEXT ELECTION PASS YOU BY

The mayor and three seats on the Scottsdale City Council are up for election this fall. The primary election will be Tuesday, Aug. 30. Any candidate who receives a majority of the legal votes cast may be elected outright at the primary.

The general election will be Tuesday, Nov. 8. It will decide any seats that remain unfilled after the primary election.

Anyone registered to vote in the city of Scottsdale is eligible to participate in the city's primary election, regardless of political party affiliation.

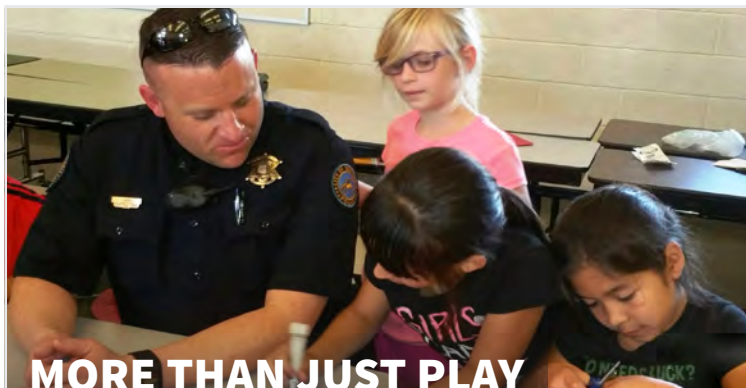
If you are not affiliated with a political party, however, you will not automatically receive an early ballot for the primary election – even if you are on the Permanent Early Voting List. You will need to contact Maricopa County Elections (602-506-1511) to request a mail-in ballot. You can request a political party ballot of your choice or a Scottsdale-only ballot.



If you will be out of town this summer, you can still vote – contact the Maricopa County Elections Department to have a ballot mailed to your temporary location. To help with that, find the “early ballot alternate address request” form and instructions at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “elections.”

Many Scottsdale residents receive early ballots – more than 100,000. But last election fewer than 30,000 were actually voted and returned (about 31 percent). Voting by early ballot is about as easy as it can get – it doesn't even cost you a stamp!

Find more information about Scottsdale's 2016 elections, including links to voter registration and early ballot requests, at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “elections.”



Travis Kerby has the shoulders of a linebacker and the street-smart gaze of a man who's spent 16 years as a Scottsdale cop.

But on a recent Monday afternoon, Officer Kerby was awash in giggles and creativity, surrounded by kindergartners in the Tonalea Elementary School cafeteria. Kerby and the kids were crafting miniature dinosaurs out of construction paper. The kids compared designs and chatted amiably with their “big buddy in blue.”

What seemed like simple chatter was exactly that – and a lot more.

Officer Kerby's presence is part of a new Scottsdale program to break down barriers between cops and the people they serve. It's called the Police PLAY program -- Partnering Law Enforcement and Youth – and it encourages uniformed police officers to stop by after-school programs and just hang out.

At first, the kids didn't know what to think.

“When Officer Kerby first started coming, I always thought someone was in trouble because that's usually what the police come for,” said Thalia, a second grader in the Tonalea after-school program. “But since he comes to play with us ... it's not that scary.”

It usually takes a child only about five minutes to get past the uniform and badge, said Erin McKallor-Quill, a parks and recreation supervisor who worked with Kerby to create the program. The Police PLAY program launched in January and now includes 13 after-school sites.

“It's nice for the kids to know that police officers are there to help them,” said Recreation Leader Megan Lescoe. “I have even heard some kids say that because (Officer Kerby) has been around they also want to be police officers one day.”

Officer Kerby said hanging out with the after-school kids also has changed his perspective on things.

“This program allows you to see a different side of the community and that's good for officers,” he said. “These kids are awesome. They are so much fun to be around. It really restores your faith in humanity.”

For more information about the Police PLAY program, call the Scottsdale Police Public Information Office at 480-312-1910 or email pio@ScottsdaleAZ.gov.

Exercise your mind. READ!

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 1

Summer Reading Program

Programs for all ages! To register, visit:
scottsdalelibrary.org/summerreading



BE “WATER WISE” DURING SCOTTSDALE’S TWO SUMMERS

As every veteran of a Scottsdale summer knows, there are actually two seasons packed into our hottest months. June and early July can be dry, but once the monsoon kicks in so do the humidity and storms.

This summer, prepare your yard for both conditions.

During our low-humidity, dry weeks, landscape watering needs will increase. Try these strategies:

- Hand-water dry spots rather than increasing irrigation runtimes
- Use a timer as a reminder to turn off the hose
- Mow Bermuda grass to 1½ to 2 inches high to reduce water loss
- Add a few inches of mulch under plants and in flower beds to minimize weeds and evaporation

When the monsoons arrive, plants lose less water to evaporation. It will be easier to overwater. Remember to skip a watering cycle if storms produce ½ inch or more of rain.

For more water-saving tips, visit ScottsdaleAZ.gov and search “water conservation.”

DON’T GIVE WILDFIRES THE FUEL TO START

Summer is here, ushering in a dangerous time for Scottsdale’s scenic desert and nearby structures. High temperatures dry out vegetation, which provides fuel for wildfires.

With planning and perseverance, however, it is possible to reduce this threat to our homes, community and fragile desert.

Create a 30-foot defensible safety zone by thinning overgrown plants and removing dry and dead vegetation around your home.

Remove tree branches that are within 4 to 6 feet from the ground, and remove overgrown branches from the roof and patio areas of homes.

If you believe you see signs of a wildfire, call 911 immediately while the fire is still small and before you take action yourself.



Get more wildland safety tips from the Scottsdale Fire Department, just visit ScottsdaleAZ.gov and search “wildland fire prevention.”

Scottsdale residents can schedule a free wildland safety inspection by calling 480-312-FIRE (3473).

SCOTTSDALE UPDATE is published six times per year by the city of Scottsdale. If you have questions or suggestions, please email communications@ScottsdaleAZ.gov.

General city information:

480-312-3111 or email questions@ScottsdaleAZ.gov



SLIMY, SLIPPERY AND SO MUCH FUN! MIGHTY MUD MANIA IS JUNE 11

Come sling mud at this year’s Mighty Mud Mania from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 11, at Chaparral Park, 5401 N. Hayden Road. Get all the dirty details at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “Mighty Mud Mania.”

Your donations are needed to support Vista del Camino’s 2016 Back-to-School program.

This year’s goal is to provide 800 students with clothes and supplies to help them successfully start back to school. Kids need new clothing, socks, underwear, shoes, backpacks and school supplies. Donations are due Friday, July 15. Learn more at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “Vista.”

Improvements to bus routes are making travel more convenient.

Route 72 (Scottsdale Road/Rural Road) now runs every 10 minutes on weekdays from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. between Camelback Road and the Tempe Transportation Center. Route 81 (Hayden Road) now provides service to the west side of The Pavilions at Talking Stick. For more specific info about bus stops and schedules, visit ValleyMetro.org.

Celebrate with dad this Father’s Day.

The Granite Reef Senior Center’s “Ugly Tie Brunch” is 10 a.m. to noon Friday, June 17. Call 480-312-1700 to register. The Via Linda Senior Center honors dads from 1 to 3 p.m. that same day with trivia, raffles and delicious food. Registration is recommended: call 480-312-8510. Cost is \$5 for residents and \$7 for nonresidents.

THINGS TO DO

For details search terms in **bold** at ScottsdaleAZ.gov:

- McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park’s free **summer concert series** continues through July 3
- Learn about **green building** techniques at a June 2 lecture
- Take a **moonlight swim**, June 17 and 25 at Scottsdale pools
- **Celebrate 4th of July** with fireworks and fun -- on July 2 at WestWorld
- Stroll the **International ArtWalk** July 7
- Register for the city’s **After-School Program** starting July 20



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