

### Old Town comes alive as Western Week returns to Scottsdale



Western Week rides back into Scottsdale this January, bringing a weeklong celebration of the city's history, culture and Western roots to Old Town and beyond.

From Saturday, Jan. 24, through Sunday, Feb. 1, residents and visitors are invited to experience family-friendly activities, educational programs and signature events that honor Scottsdale's Western heritage and Native American cultures.

Highlights begin opening weekend with hands-on experiences like a frybread-making workshop at the Scottsdale Waterfront and the Parks and Recreation Department's Wild West Roundup at the Civic Center. Throughout the week, Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West will host classic Western films, biodramas featuring iconic frontier figures, free admission days and the arrival of Pony Express riders delivering mail to the museum steps.

The Arizona Indian Festival, held Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 at the Scottsdale Civic Center, showcases all 22 Arizona tribes through traditional arts, foods, cultural demonstrations and performances, along with the return of the Indigenous Food Symposium.

Anchoring the week is the 72nd Annual Scottsdale Parada del Sol Historic Parade and Trail's End Festival on Saturday, Jan. 31. About 150 parade entries — including floats, mounted riders, marching bands and stagecoaches — will travel through Old Town celebrating the 2026 theme, "A Diamond in the Desert: Celebrating 75 Years of Scottsdale." The festivities continue with a Western-style street festival featuring live entertainment, food trucks and a kids' zone.

A full schedule of events is available at [OldTownScottsdaleAZ.com](http://OldTownScottsdaleAZ.com).

### Scottsdale volunteers contribute more than \$4.3 million in community service



Scottsdale's volunteers made a big impact in 2025, contributing more than 129,000 hours of service across city programs and departments.

A total of 4,695 volunteers donated their time last year. Based on the estimated value of volunteer service in Arizona, those efforts equal more than \$4.3 million in community value — comparable to the work of 62 full-time employees.

"Scottsdale's volunteers exemplify what civic pride and community partnership look like in action," City Manager Greg Caton said. "Their dedication helps the city enhance services and better serve residents."

The Adopt-a-Road program had the highest participation, with nearly 2,000 volunteers helping keep Scottsdale's streets clean through ongoing and one-time litter cleanups. Volunteers also play a critical role at the Scottsdale Food Bank, supporting food distribution for residents in need.

At Scottsdale Public Library, teen volunteers continued to support daily operations and helped power the popular Summer Reading Challenge, which encourages residents of all ages to read and earn prizes.

To learn more or get involved, visit [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov) and search "volunteer opportunities."

### Scottsdale turns 75 in 2026



Scottsdale turns 75 in 2026. Join us as we celebrate the people, progress and spirit that have shaped "The West's Most Western Town" since 1951. From special events to stories from the past and a look ahead, Scottsdale's 75th anniversary honors the city we all call home. Learn more at [Scottsdale75.com](http://Scottsdale75.com).

## Around the City

The **Scottsdale Police Department's** focus on proactive policing and community partnerships kept Scottsdale among the 15 safest U.S. cities with populations over 100,000, placing it in the top five percent nationwide in 2025.



Year-to-date comparisons show a 24.3% drop in reported Group A crimes from 2024. Group A crimes are the most serious offenses tracked by law enforcement under the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System.

Targeted traffic enforcement addressing speeding, racing and noise concerns led to a 24% reduction in traffic complaints.

Specialized units delivered high-impact results throughout the year, including lifesaving mental health crisis responses, major drug and firearm seizures, and assistance in the international arrest of one of Scottsdale's most-wanted fugitives.

Scottsdale's **Transportation & Infrastructure Department** completed major projects in 2025 that improved safety, mobility and access across the city — from neighborhood streets to regional roadways.



Pavement crews installed more than 730 ADA-compliant curb ramps and treated more than 820,000 square yards of roadway to extend pavement life. In Old Town, streets, alleys and parking lots were resurfaced on an accelerated schedule, completing nearly 370,000 square yards of improvements in just over two months.

Scottsdale Trolley ridership grew in 2025, including a 70% increase during Spring Training. A new pilot program provided free trolley service to the city's expanded food bank on Thursday mornings, improving access to essential services.

The department also handled more than 3,400 service requests and cleared storm debris throughout the year to keep roads and sidewalks safe.

Scottsdale's **Economic Development Department** earned reaccreditation from the International Economic Development Council as an Accredited Economic Development Organization, placing Scottsdale among just 90 agencies worldwide to meet this internationally recognized standard of excellence.

**Looking for a rewarding career — or know someone who is?**

Explore current openings and learn more about working for the city of Scottsdale at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://scottsdaleaz.gov/careers), search "careers."

## Curious about what's happening in your neighborhood?



Join the city's What's in My Backyard? community open house from **5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21**, at Fire Station 603, 8191 E. Indian Bend Road.

This free, family-friendly event includes food, kid-friendly activities, a fire station tour and the chance to chat one-on-one with city staff. Residents can learn about nearby projects, city services and upcoming events — all while connecting with neighbors close to home.

This is the second event in a neighborhood-focused series, with each open house tailored to a specific area.

**Registration is available online at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://scottsdaleaz.gov).**

## Things To Do

Visit Scottsdale's event calendar at [Community.ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://community.scottsdaleaz.gov) for a full list of activities.

**WM Phoenix Open** Feb. 2-8 | TPC Scottsdale

**Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show** Feb. 12-22 | WestWorld

**Presidents Day**, Feb. 16. Most city offices/facilities are closed; trash and recycling will be collected as scheduled.

**Super Sports Saturday** Feb. 21 | Chaparral Park

**Scottsdale: Fact or Fiction** Feb. 24 | 7506 E. Indian School Road

**Founder's Day Celebration** Feb. 26 | Little Red Schoolhouse

**Exclusively Little Expo** March 14 | McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park

**WIMBY: What's in my backyard?** March 16 | Fire Station 608

**SCOTTSDALE UPDATE** is published six times per year by the City of Scottsdale.

If you have questions or suggestions, please email [communications@ScottsdaleAZ.gov](mailto:communications@ScottsdaleAZ.gov)

**General city information:**

**480-312-3111** or email [questions@ScottsdaleAZ.gov](mailto:questions@ScottsdaleAZ.gov)



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