NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2026 VOLUME 26 ISSUE 11

IVINS CITY UTAH





IMPORTANT DATES

PUBLIC MEETING LOCATIONS:

85 N MAIN (CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS)

5:30 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

November 17

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

November 5, 19



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DUMPSTER DAYS

NOVEMBER 21

BLUCAN DAYS

NOVEMBER 2, 16, 30

LOCATION:

460 N 100 W

DUMPSTERS ARE OPEN FROM 8:00 A.M - 4:00 P.M. OR UNTIL FULL.

MAYOR'S MINUTE

ARTICLE BY:
MAYOR, KEVIN SMITH

We've received a lot of rain lately, which we're grateful for, but our thoughts are with the residents and families affected by flash flooding in Hurricane and other parts of the County. Ivins City maintains the recreation area known as "Fire Lake Park" at Ivins Reservoir. Water levels for the lake are controlled by the City of St. George and during the recent storms, levels at the lake rose high enough to flow across the sidewalks and parking lot, requiring a temporary closure.

Good news is, the spillway worked exactly how it is designed for an overflowing reservoir, and the Parks Department was able to reopen the Park expeditiously. The water levels remain high, so please use caution while enjoying the Park.

This past month was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Ivins resident Susan Ertel, Board President of the DOVE Center, led the way in creating awareness and support efforts across Washington County. Let us all continue to support efforts to reduce domestic violence and its negative effects in our community.

A group of about 30 local homeschooled students presented their own architectural renderings to the City Council to revitalize Mojave Estates Park, which was destroyed by a fire in 2022. Their efforts have also led to generous financial contributions along with donation of adjacent land to be used for a community garden. We appreciate the efforts of these amazing kids, their parents and all involved.

Last week we held our annual joint Santa Clara-Ivins Police, Fire and EMS meeting. Police Chief Jaron Studley and Fire Chief Dan Cazier gave excellent reports. We are fortunate to have well lead, well trained and dedicated public safety officials and staff in our community!

This month we celebrate Veterans Day. A highlight event in our County is the Washington City Veterans Day Parade which begins at 11 AM on November 11. We're so grateful for our Veterans. "Let their remembrance be as lasting as the land they honor (Daniel Webster)."

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, let us remember all that were grateful for. I'm especially grateful for my family, neighbors, coworkers and colleagues, including City staff, Tuacahn associates, City Councilors, the Planning Commission, Ivins Arts Commission, Ivins Youth Council, the Sensitive Lands Committee, the Open Space Committee, Ivins Inspired, and our local businesses. Indeed I'm grateful for this great City of Ivins and all of you for everything you do to make this such a great place to live.

In conculsion I'd like to share this poem by Lizelia Augusta Jenkins Moorer and wish all of you a HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Thankful for all things let us be,
Though there be woes and misery;
Lessons they bring us for our good
Later 'twill all be understood.

Thankful for peace o'er land and sea,
Thankful for signs of liberty,
Thankful for homes, for life and health,
Pleasure and plenty, fame and wealth.

Thankful for friends and loved ones too,
Thankful for all things, good and true,
Thankful for harvest in the fall,
Thankful to Him who gave it all.



November Agenda Items



The following are some of the topics that may be discussed at the November Planning Commission and City Council meetings. This is not a complete list, and the complete agendas will be posted on the website, www.ivinsutah.gov, a few days before the meetings. Agendas may be amended up to 24 hours before a meeting. Check the website the day before the scheduled meeting for the final agenda items to be discussed. If you have questions regarding agenda items on the Planning Commission, please call or email Sharon Allen at 435-628-0606 or sallen@ivinsutah.gov. If you have questions regarding agenda items on the City Council, please call or email Kari D. Jimenez at 435-628-0606 or kjimenez@ivinsutah.gov.

Planning Commission Meeting - November 17, 2026

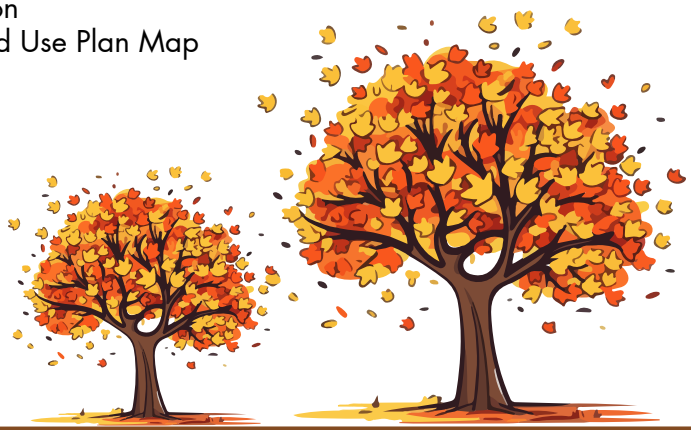
- Public Hearing regarding amendments to Title 5 Chapter 3-Home-Based Businesses and Obtaining a Business License.
- Discuss and consider recommendation of amendments to Title 5 Chapter 3-Home-Based Businesses and Obtaining a Business License.
- Discuss and consider approval of Sage Villas Condos Preliminary Plan, located at approximately Fitness Way and Guy Lane. Sage White Mountain, LLC Owner/Applicant.
- Discuss Revising the Process to Appeal Administrative Land Use Decisions.
- Discuss Ivins City Land Use Map.

City Council Meeting - November 5, 2026

- Fiscal Year Ending 2025 Audit Report – Larson and Company
- Public Hearing and Ordinance Amending Title 14 of the Ivins City Code entitled "Buildings and Construction"
- Public Hearing and Ordinance amending sections of the Accessory Dwelling Unit regulations regarding ADU's, garages, carports, accessory units for agriculture and manufactured homes to comply with State Code.
- Public Hearing and Ordinance regarding amendments to Building Permit Issuance and Certificate of Occupancy Rules
- Ordinance regarding the City Council meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2027
- Resolution appointing Brett Henke with Kuma Engineering to the Sensitive Lands Committee (replacing Tyler)
- Continued discussion of the fire station remodel and expansion
- Continued discussion regarding progress of updating the Land Use Plan Map

City Council Meeting - November 19, 2026

- Swearing in of SCIPD Officers - Officer Brayton Tobler and Sergeant Laynce Bartruff
- Intermountain Health Annual Presentation
- Proclamation for Alcohol Free School Year for Youth with Washington County Youth Coalition in Ivins
- Possible Quarterly Report
- Resolution to approve Washington County Task Force Memorandum of Understanding
- Continued discussion regarding the Interlocal Agreement governing Animal Control Services – Public Safety Meeting on November 12th – will know after that if this is on the 11/19 City Council agenda
- Continued discussion of the fire station remodel and expansion
- Continued discussion regarding progress of updating the Land Use Plan Map





AARP Age-Friendly Survey Results: What You Want to See in Ivins Parks & Outdoor Spaces

Ivins is part of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities, a nationwide network of towns and cities committed to being great places to grow up and grow older. An age-friendly community isn't a retirement community. It's a place that works for every generation, from young families to longtime residents who want to stay in the homes and neighborhoods they love.

This April, residents helped us rank AARP's eight domains of livability, and Outdoor Spaces and Buildings came out as one of our top priorities. So this summer, we took a closer look with an AARP Age-Friendly survey on Outdoor Spaces and Buildings. Thank you to the 124 residents who took part.

Your feedback is shaping how Ivins City thinks about parks, trails, and community facilities. Here's a look at what we heard, and what we're already doing about it.

What We Heard

Who responded. Residents across every age group weighed in, with the biggest groups falling between ages 35 to 54 (37%) and 65 to 74 (27%). Most respondents have lived in Ivins for 4 to 9 years (44%), and nearly 90% told us they have no disability or mobility limitation affecting how they use our parks.

How you use our parks. Most residents visit Ivins City parks at least a few times a year, and 28% visit weekly or more. When we asked why people don't visit more often, the top answer, at 63%, was that they already visit as often as they'd like.

Accessibility and safety. You rated the physical accessibility of our parks 4.15 out of 5, and safety even higher at 4.33 out of 5. Most residents said they haven't avoided a park because of an accessibility barrier.

What you want to see more of. Outdoor pools, dog parks, indoor gyms, more trails, and more community events topped the list of desired improvements.

Staying Connected

We were glad to learn that 42% of respondents get their information about Ivins City recreational events and services through this newsletter. If you're not yet signed up to receive it by email, you can subscribe here: https://mailchi.mp/dd6dedce21cf/ivins-city-newsletter-sign-up-form

The Ivins AARP Age-Friendly Community Committee: Sharon Barton (Ivins City Council), Chuck Gillette (Ivins City Manager), Marc Christensen (Ivins City Parks and Recreation Director), Tiffany Wynn (Ivins Inspired), Matt Marten (Kayenta Development), and Kelly Reeder (Five County Association of Governments)

You Spoke, We're Listening

Trails. 28% of respondents asked for more hiking and walking trails. The good news is that Ivins already has an impressive trail system, with only a few remaining gaps to connect. The Snow Canyon to Black Desert Resort trails are expected to be complete by the end of the year, adding a much-needed piece of all-purpose trail connection. We're also working on a map, ideally an app, that shows the full trail system so it's easier to explore.

Dog park. A dog park was one of the top requests in our survey. We haven't decided whether to move forward with one, and we'd like to hear from the community first. We plan to host a community discussion on the pros and cons of a dog park. Stay tuned for more information.

Heritage Park railing. A survey respondent let us know that the stairs near the bathrooms at Heritage Park's west pavilion need railing on both sides. We're already working on it, and we appreciate you flagging it.

Community pool. 37% of you told us you'd like to see a community pool in Ivins, and we want to be upfront with you: a pool isn't in our budget right now, and realistically won't be for some time. Liability issues and maintaining trained staff for a community pool are two other major considerations. What we do have is the nearby Sand Hollow Aquatic Center (SHAC) in St. George, where Ivins residents qualify for resident pricing. You can find hours and pricing here: https://sgcityutah.gov/business_detail_T18_R113.php

Open space. 26% of you asked for more open space and natural areas. The Ivins City Open Space Committee is already committed to this work. To learn more about the committee and how to get involved, contact Council Member Sharon Barton at sbarton@ivinsutah.gov.

Thank you for bringing all of this to our attention, and for every other comment you shared.

Looking Ahead

Over the next 3 to 5 years, our top priorities are expanding and improving existing parks, developing new indoor facilities, and growing community events and opportunities to gather.

Thank you again for making your voice heard. It's already making a difference.

Thank You and Welcome: Board Changes and Project Updates

Every good thing Ivins Inspired has done grew out of the time and care of people who said yes to serving. This season, we're thanking three board members who are stepping away, welcoming new members who are joining us, and sharing a few updates on what we're working on.

Thank you, Jamie, Robert, and Sharon

Jamie Shaw brought a big view of the world to our small town. She has spent two decades working on sports projects across five continents and now consults with Utah 2034, the organizing committee for the 2034 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. She gives just as much energy to Southern Utah through the Women's Influence Network, A Bolder Way Forward, SUU's National Alumni Council, and Encircle. Jamie believes that showing up to serve your neighbors is one of the best answers to the polarization and loneliness so many people feel right now. She helped us strengthen our partnerships with Ivins City and other local organizations, and that work continues to shape who we are.

Robert Bolar has been a real estate professional for more than 25 years and knows Ivins and its residents well. Robert valued Ivins Inspired as a non-political space where neighbors can make a real difference, and he saw our greatest strength in connecting residents, local organizations, and the city. He's putting that belief into action with the new community Facebook group ❤️ Ivins, a place for neighbors to connect and share what's happening around town. He also pushed us to think long term about lasting partnerships and about reaching newer residents, goals we'll keep working toward. Join the group here: https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1VnwL1ChNa/

Sharon Gillespie served as our board secretary, bringing more than 40 years of leadership and business experience, including fiscal and budget management. Since moving to Ivins, she has served as an HOA president, volunteered on city committees, and was elected to the Ivins City Council in 2024. Sharon cares deeply about connecting Ivins neighborhoods to each other and to citywide events like Heritage Days. We also want to thank Council Member Gillespie for all she does to engage our community. Ivins IQ, the city's civic engagement and education program, has been a huge success, and it's a great example of her commitment to keeping residents informed and involved. We appreciate her service to Ivins Inspired and her continued service to our community on the City Council.

Board service is volunteer work, and much of it happens behind the scenes in meetings, emails, and planning sessions. Thank you, Jamie, Robert, and Sharon, for the hours you gave and the care you brought to this organization.

IVINS INSPIRED
WHERE CONNECTIONS FLOURISH

Welcome, Sandra, Julie, and Dillon

We're excited to welcome three new members to our board.

Sandra Petersen is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, an educator with a master's degree in education, and a dedicated advocate for families. She founded Grow Con Amor, which supports whole-child development, and through her initiative The Mom's Heart, she helps parents create calmer, more intentional homes with hands-on, screen-free learning. Her work includes bilingual educational programs, family resources, and in-home consultations. Sandra co-directed the Miss Ivins 2026 scholarship pageant, where she mentored contestants and honored local women. She and her husband, Jason, are the proud parents of Miss Ivins 2024 and Miss Ivins 2025, and their family also includes a new son-in-law and two dogs, Toto and Cossette.

Julie Fleming has built her career in hospitality, helping clients host successful groups, meetings, and events, and building relationships grounded in trust. She is also a photographer with strong skills in marketing and communication. Julie has served on many boards, including the Salt Lake Chamber and Leadership Dixie, and currently serves on the board of the Kayenta Arts Foundation. She approaches her work and life with positivity, gratitude, and a focus on being present, and she's excited about the new directions ahead. We're glad one of them brought her to our board.

Dillon Hurt is a lifelong Ivins resident, a member of the Ivins City Council, and one of the youngest elected officials in Southern Utah. He holds a bachelor's degree from Dixie State University and a master's degree from Utah State University, works in commercial real estate, and owns Shade Bro's, a local window coverings business. Dillon and his wife, Kylee, have four daughters. He cares about keeping

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Southern Utah a place where young people and families can thrive, with good jobs, a range of housing options, and open space to enjoy. He brings experience in public service and business, along with the perspective of someone who grew up here and is now raising his own family here.

We're also welcoming Jason Petersen, who will lead our new Health and Wellness Committee. Jason is a registered nurse, a devoted dad, and a steady supporter of Sandra and her work with families. His background in nursing makes him a natural fit to lead this effort. Wellness has been part of our mission from the start, and we're excited to have Jason helping us grow that work.

Each of them brings something new to the table, and we're looking forward to what we'll build together. If you see them around town, please say hello and welcome them.

Project Updates

UPDATE

The roundabout at Center Street and Red Mountain Boulevard is getting some attention. It's being cleaned up, the paint will be touched up this month, and a two-week traffic study will follow. We'll share the results once we have them.

We're also excited to support the Up & Atom Homeschool group as they revitalize Mojave Estates Park and the new community garden next to it. It's a great example of neighbors seeing a need and stepping up to meet it. Come see the progress for yourself at the Holiday Market at Mojave Estates Park on Saturday, November 21, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We hope to see you there.

Ivins Inspired exists to help our neighbors connect, serve, and create together. Our board is one of the places where that work starts, and we're thankful for everyone who has been part of it.

Want to stay in the loop?
Visit our website at https://ivinsinspired.org to learn about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and ways to get involved.

You can also follow us on Facebook at:
https://www.facebook.com/IvinsInspired/ and on Instagram at:
https://www.instagram.com/ivinsinspired/ for the latest news and photos from around Ivins.

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BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Giving Thanks AND LOOKING AHEAD

As November arrives, we have another opportunity to reflect on how fortunate we are to call Ivins home. From the stunning red rock landscapes and desert sunsets to out trails, open spaces, and welcoming community, there is much to be grateful for. Preserving the unique beauty and character of Ivins is something we all share a responsibility in protecting.

Over the next few months, we encourage residents to take a look at the Ivins City Land Use Plan Map and consider how it helps guide the future of our community. The Land Use Plan is an important tool for understanding how land may be used as our city grows and changes. It helps guide decisions about future development, including the types of uses that may be appropriate in different areas.

If you are considering building a home, making improvements to your property, or developing land, it is helpful to understand the difference between the Land Use Plan and the zoning regulations. The plan provides a guide for future development, while zoning requirements and other city regulations help determine what can actually be built on a particular property. Residents are encouraged to contact the City's Building and Zoning Department with questions before making plans.

Taking time to understand the map and how it relates to building can help us make informed decisions and contribute to thoughtful growth that respects the qualities we value most about Ivins. This Thanksgiving season, let us be grateful for the remarkable place we call home and work together to preserve its beauty, character, and quality of life for generations to come.

Learn more: Visit ivinsutah.gov and select City Maps to view the Land Use Plan Map, or contact Building and Zoning at 435-634-9753 with questions.



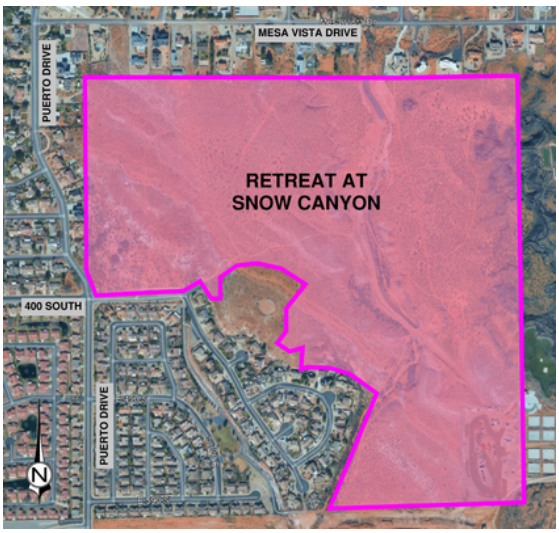
CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Retreat at Snow Canyon

Residents will soon see significant grading activity at the Retreat at Snow Canyon development, which covers approximately 100 acres of previously undisturbed desert. This work will reshape much of the site to prepare it for development, creating a substantial and highly visible change to the landscape.

Sensitive areas—including the wash, lava formations, and portions of the existing ridgelines—will be fenced off and protected from construction disturbance. Grading will take place throughout much of the remaining development site.

Given the project's size and the extent of the earthwork, this will be one of the more noticeable construction activities in Ivins. We want residents to be aware of the upcoming work and the significant changes they will see as it gets underway.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

KEEPING IVINS CLEAN, ONE STREET AT A TIME

Living in Ivins has plenty of perks: beautiful red rock views, sunshine, and fresh desert air. One thing that comes with desert living, however, is DUST. LOTS OF DUST. Add in leaves, landscape rocks, and the common tumbleweed, and our streets can collect quite a bit of debris!

Here's where one our unsung heroes in Public Works comes in–our trusty street sweeper. Think of it as a giant vacuum cleaner for our roads—minus the annoying cord and with considerably more horsepower.

Our street sweeper does more than keep Ivins looking tidy! By collecting dirt, sand, leaves, and other debris, it helps keep our streets safer and prevents pollutants from washing into storm drains and eventually into receiving waters. The sweeper uses brushes, water sprayer jets and a vacuum collection system to pick up debris, which is then disposed of properly rather than being left to wash away with the next rainstorm.



How Can Residents Help?

YARD DEBRIS

When cleaning up leaves, branches, gravel, dirt, mulch, or other yard waste, dispose of them properly instead of sweeping or blowing them into the street or gutter.

SECURE LOOSE LOADS

If you're hauling dirt, gravel, yard waste, or other materials, make sure everything is secured. Nobody wants to follow a truck leaving a breadcrumb trail of rocks down the road.

GIVE SOME SPACE

When you encounter a street sweeper or other Public Works vehicle, slow down, give the crew plenty of space, and pass only when it's safe and legal to do so., make sure everything is secured. Nobody wants to follow a truck leaving a breadcrumb trail of rocks down the road.



Parks & Recreation Department

By Marc Christensen and Sarah Nash

Tennis and Pickleball Courts Resurfaced

The tennis courts at UNITY Park and the pickleball courts at Desert Rose Park have been resurfaced and are officially ready for public play!

This project was partially paid for by a generous donation from a local resident –"In Memory of Mike Richardson" who loved playing pickleball at the Desert Rose courts!

We are so grateful for this donation that helped push this project forward. The rest of the cost was covered by R.A.P. Tax funds.

We may be a little biased, but it's hard to beat the views from these courts. There's something special about getting out, playing your favorite sport, and enjoying the incredible red rock scenery that makes Ivins such a great place to live.

Grab your racket or paddle and come enjoy the parks!





2027 Youth Basketball Registration

NOW OPEN
Signs ups close on November, 13 2026
Grades 1st - 6th
Find more information and sign up online at ivins.recdesk.com
Location: Games at Lava Ridge Intermediate School

Reptile Club

Shell-ebrate the holidays with us as we kick off Reptile Club!
Wednesday, November 11th
Wednesday, December 9th
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Location: UNITY Park Recreation Room
400 S 200 W Ivins, UT
Fee: $25/participant for BOTH nights.

Reptile Club is THE place to learn about, and share, your love of reptiles. Join Lacey, owner of Leaping Lizards Reptile Experience, as she and her scaly friends explore the wonderful world of all things reptile. Each club night we will have an animal or two join us for up close encounters, do a fun craft or activity, and have all kinds of wild fun!

Registering more than one child? The first child's registration fee is $25 and each additional sibling is $20. Each child must be registered individually. Select fee when checking out.

Suggested ages 6-10 but open to all!
Kids 6 & under must be accompanied by an adult.



Parks & Recreation Department

By Marc Christensen and Sarah Nash

Bingo in the Park



Dates: October 20th to November 12th
When: Tuesdays/Thursdays from 5-5:45p.m.
Location: Ivins City Heritage Park West Pavilion
Come join us for some Bingo fun!

Regular prize Bingo from 5-5:30 p.m. and special grand prize round from 5:30-5:45 p.m!

Free! No pre-registration required
If you know of a local business interested in donating prizes or grand prizes, please have them contact the Parks Department.



Come along on a fun Las Vegas day trip to complete your holiday shopping!
Date: Monday, November 16th
Meet/return at Ivins City Hall (85 N Main St)



Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,500 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

The program this year will be held on December 19th at 10:00 a.m. at the Ivins City Cemetery (400N 200W)

Do you have a story as a Veteran or a loved one's story as a Veteran? Share them at the Wreaths Across America program! Saturday December 19th at 10am at the Ivins City Cemetery

Email your stories to Sharon at sgillespie@ivinsutah.gov by Sunday, November 15th.

Santa in the Park

Mark your calendars – Santa's coming to town!
Date: Wednesday, December 2nd
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Ivins Heritage Park (100N 100W)
Come for hot chocolate, s'mores, kids craft, Christmas music and OF COURSE to meet and take a picture with the one and only Santa!



Be sure to follow our Facebook page, Ivins City Parks and Recreation and our Instagram page, Ivins City Parks and Recreation (ivinscityparksandrec) for more updates and excitement!

SCI PUBLIC SAFETY
SANTA CLARA-IVINS

Public Safety



Animal Control

474 N 200 W
IVINS, UTAH 84738
PHONE: 435-628-1049
ANIMAL CONTROL/
SHELTER MANAGER:
MACKENZIE REID



INKAS - Ivins No Kill Animal Supporters

IVINS NO-KILL ANIMAL SUPPORTERS inkas

Go to: www.inkas4pets.org for more information or to donate

Ivins No-Kill Animal Supporters (INKAS) is a 501(c)3 organization and a Registered Utah Charity. It was founded in 2010 with the mission of providing support to Ivins Animal Shelter and Adoption Center, now the Santa Clara-Ivins Animal Shelter. In 2006, our shelter became the first no-kill municipal shelter in the state of Utah. Maintaining a no-kill shelter, as opposed to one that euthanizes animals after a set period of time, is more costly because the animal's needs must be met at the shelter until they are reclaimed by their owners, adopted, or transferred to an animal rescue organization. Through a memorandum of understanding with Ivins City, INKAS provides support through veterinary care, specialty foods, and other needed supplies. Funds are gained through the donations of many generous animal lovers by donating on our website.



SATURDAY MARKET SCHEDULE
(THE SATURDAY MARKET IS OPEN YEAR-ROUND)

May – September 9AM – 1PM
October – April 10AM – 2 PM

The Tuacahn Saturday Market is one more way to experience the magic of Tuacahn.

Come enjoy its wonderful surroundings at our outdoor market in our beautiful red rock canyon featuring local artwork, crafts, food and free entertainment. You'll find something new and different every Saturday morning at The Tuacahn Saturday Market. The market is every Saturday, year round (weather permitting). Admission and live entertainment is free. Patrons stroll along a tree-lined walkway next to a beautiful running water feature while browsing displays created by local painters, artists, crafters and more.

EXPLORE THE ARTS IN IVINS

IVINS CITY ARTS COMMISSION

The Ivins Arts Commission meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month in Ivins City Hall, from 5:00 PM-6:00 PM. The meetings are open to the public and we welcome your thoughts, ideas and input. Vist our website to find out more about us or join us in person at our monthly meetings. Creativity belongs to everyone. Follow along, get involved and explore the arts and culture that make Ivins City a uniquely inspiring place to live. https://www.ivinsartscommission.com

IVIN'S FEATURED STUDENT ARTIST





CONGRATULATIONS!

Rydek Dahle is a fourth-grade student at Red Mountain Elementary School. He has loved making art for as long as he can remember. What began with coloring as a little kid has grown into creating abstract art from wood, metal, and experimenting with plants and sand. Now he has developed a special interest in glass art. Rydek is fascinated by the process of turning glass into something creative and unique. When he isn't making art, he works hard at school, and plays on a traveling baseball team.

Along with art and sports, Rydek enjoys pretty much anything that gets him outside.



See Rydek's hand blown glass sculpture, **"Ocean Water"**, in the Council Chamber at Ivins City Hall

IVINS CITY ARTS COMMISSION

2027 IVINS CITY RAP (Recreation, Arts & Parks) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/Funding Applications Available Now online at https://www.ivinsartscommission.com Application Deadline, December 31, 2026

UTAH IVINS CITY



Tax-exempt organizations located in Ivins City, or those that contribute significant tax revenue to the City, are eligible to apply for the excess RAP (Recreation, Arts, and Parks) tax funds for arts-related projects taking place within Ivins City. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m., on Monday, December 31, 2026. Check the website for guidelines and application.

"Navajo Children Weaving the Future," a Utah Arts & Museums Traveling Exhibition Program in collaboration with the Ivins Arts Commission featuring traditionally woven rugs created by young Navajo children educated in the traditional art form through the Adopt-A-Native-Elder Program. The textile work will be on display at Ivins City Hall, from October 1 through November 17, 2026. The rugs in this exhibition are created by Navajo children and on loan from the nonprofit organization Adopt-A-Native-Elder.





If your school has a group or any Ivins organization has a group that would like to tour of this exhibit, please contact us at https://www.ivinsartscommission.com, to set up a time.

EXPLORE THE ARTS IN IVINS

IVINS CITY ARTS COMMISSION

Heritage Days Arts Exhibit Correction!

The Mayor's Award and the People's Choice award were incorrectly identified in the October Newsletter.
Congratulations to Sandy Ross for the Mayor's Choice and Robert Coresetti for People's Choice Awards.



Mayor's Choice, "Chaos", Sandy Ross



People's Choice, "The Last Lion", Robert Coresetti

"Living Artfully" Blog Posts on the Ivins Arts Commission Website

The monthly blogs feature in-depth articles and discussions about the arts in Ivins in 2026. Recent topics and photos include details about the Navajo Children's Weaving Exhibit now in City Hall, a map of the newly formed Ivin's Arts Districts, how art can create pedestrian safety and how to join the Ivins It's a Wrap program and have a box wrapped with art in your neighborhood. The "Living Artfully" Blog can be found on the tab of the Ivins City website.

Ivins City Art Commission Dates for November and December Changed

The Ivins City Arts Commission typically meets on the second Wednesday of each month with meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m. at Ivins City Hall. Please note that the remainder of meetings for 2026 will be held on Tuesdays: Tuesday, November 10, 2026 and Tuesday, December 8, 2026.

All meetings are open to the public. The Commission welcomes comments and suggestions from Ivins residents regarding art in our community. Agendas, minutes, and meeting video can be viewed on the Ivins City website. Find the "Meeting Tips and Tricks" section on the City's main page.

Be sure to visit our website for all things ART in Ivins at https://www.ivinsartscommission.com. Be a part of the ART!

IVINS CITY ARTS COMMISSION







CENTER FOR THE ARTS AT KAYENTA

kayentaarts.org

435-674-2787
BOXOFFICE@KAYENTAARTS.COM

UPCOMING EVENTS

IVINS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Everyone is welcome to attend our monthly meetings, volunteer, or share their family's history.

Monthly meetings: Third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. | Ivins City Hall

Turkey Farming in Early Ivins

With Thanksgiving approaching, it seems like a good time to remember a part of Ivins history that many may not know about. Did you know that turkeys were once raised in and around Ivins? Several families, including the Ence's and Reber's, spent years raising turkeys to help support their families. It was hard work, and between unpredictable weather, disease, and changing turkey prices, there was never a guarantee that all their efforts would pay off.

Milo Ence and his sons raised turkeys in several locations, including fields in Ivins, Three Mile, St. George Field, the Meadows, and Pinto. According to the family history, "Some years this was a good investment, and other years it was not. There was always the worry of disease that could take a flock of turkeys before you knew it."

Keeping the young turkeys warm was especially important. The family had a brooder house south of their home in Ivins. Their history recalls, "In the first brooder house they had, they used a tunnel under the floor and kept a fire going underneath to keep the turkeys warm." Later, they switched to gas-heated brooders, which still required close attention throughout the night.

Moving the turkeys from one field to another also requires careful timing. The Ence family history recalls: "They would get up very early in the morning to move the turkeys from one field to the next. The reason for doing it early, almost at daybreak, was to keep them from breaking away and trying to return, which they would do when it got lighter. When one got away from you, the whole flock would be gone before you knew it, and you were right back to square one."

Weather was another constant concern. Thunderstorms could frighten the birds, causing them to crowd together so tightly that they suffocated. The Ence family recalled losing 600 turkeys during one storm. Extreme heat could also be deadly if the birds did not have enough shade.

The Reber family also knew how quickly a promising turkey business could turn into a loss. Shirley Reber recalled: "When the three older children were in their teens, Dad went into the turkey business. Raising turkeys is a lot of work. They are rather stupid birds. Dad nearly lost his whole flock and I might add that his shirt, on several occasions when a sudden storm arose and many hundreds of small birds were drowned."



Ernest Reber with turkeys in Ivins.

The work involved the entire family. Feed came from Salina, Modena, Cedar City, and the Hurricane Plains. Lillie reused the colorful cloth feed sacks; the family history calls her "a very creative woman, as well as very frugal."

The Ence family history also shares a moment of frustration: "One time Pa had been gathering turkey eggs and had a bucketful in one hand, with four loose eggs in the other. As he went to get over the fence, he caught his foot on a wire and tripped, breaking the bucket of eggs. He was so tired and exasperated by the fall that he threw down the other four eggs in his hand as well."

The family also traded imperfect turkey eggs with McArthur Bakery for baked goods and other supplies. During wartime rationing, they sometimes obtained white Karo syrup to use on their mush instead of sugar.

This Thanksgiving, these family memories remind us of the hard work and resourcefulness of early Ivins residents.

A Century Since the Original Ivins Chapel

November also marks 100 years since an important milestone in Ivins history. The original Ivins chapel was completed in November 1926 and dedicated that December. For many years, it served as a gathering place for worship, celebrations, and community activities. Next month, we'll share more about the chapel and the Christmas memories associated with it.

Connect with the Ivins Historical Society

We invite everyone to get involved with the Ivins Historical Society! Whether you have family stories or photographs to share, would like to volunteer, or simply enjoy learning about our community's history, we would love to have you join us.

New in 2027 — Second Saturday Events!

Beginning in January, the Historical Society will host monthly Second Saturday events featuring stories, demonstrations, and hands-on activities that bring Ivins history to life. These family-friendly events will be held on the second Saturday of each month from **10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Ivins City Council Room**. Be sure to look at the accompanying flyer for the upcoming activities!

You can also connect with us through our Facebook group, become a member for $20 annually, or make a donation to support projects such as historical displays and original homesite plaques.

Connect with us

Support historical projects

Join our Facebook Group



