

Around Moab

Colorado Honeybee Festival

By Sharon Sullivan

Moves to Grand Junction's Cross Orchards Historic Site

Live music, presentations about the important work of honeybees and other pollinators, cooking with honey demonstrations, and much more are all part of the Colorado Honeybee Festival presented by Safeway, happening Saturday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Cross Orchards Historic Site in Grand Junction.

Formerly known as the Palisade International Honeybee Festival, the 18th annual festival has expanded and this year has a new name and location.

“Our mission is educating people about honeybees, pollinators, and their impact on the food supply,” said Colorado Honeybee Festival Coordinator Michelle Gossage. For that reason, “we feel it’s so important that we keep this event free,” for the public.

Bees are important to the ecosystem and contribute to the pollination of crops and wild plant species. Unfortunately, bees are experiencing significant population declines worldwide.

The festival kicks off at 10 a.m. with live music in the gazebo, performed by Slim Pickins, a four-piece bluegrass band. Throughout the day there will be vendors selling honey and honey-related, and other crafted items. Plus, there will be an array of food trucks, and various activities for both kids and adults. Singer-songwriter musician Bryce MacEvoy will perform at 12:30 p.m.



At noon, John Mola, a pollinator researcher and assistant professor at Colorado State University in Ft. Collins, will give a presentation about native pollinators and what people can do to help them flourish.

Cross Orchards, at 3073 F Road, is part of the Museums of Western Colorado, and will be open for visitors to tour its living history museum that day. There will additionally be a bump-n-jump, free train rides, a spelling bee for elementary-age kids, and a costume contest.

Attendees can meet Dan Bean, director of the Palisade Insectary, who will talk about “good bugs” used by growers to combat crop pests.

Several beekeepers from the Western Colorado Beekeepers Association, and young beekeepers with the 4-H Bee Club will be bringing their portable hives to the event. The 4-H club will also be selling honey, Gossage said.

While there is limited parking space at the site, transportation will be available from two locations – Grande River Vineyards in Palisade, and Central High School in Grand Junction. People can park at either of those sites if they wish, and take free shuttle buses that will run all day to and from the event.

“It’s going to be great,” Gossage said. “There’s so much to learn, and to see. It’s hands-on, fun, educational.”

For more information or questions visit: <https://coloradohoneybee.org> or call 970-462-7236.

UTE MOUNTAIN TRIBAL PARK

TOWAOC, COLORADO

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

During the National Preservation Month of May the “Twenty-sixth Annual Ute Mountain Tribal Park Open House” will be held on May 23, 2026.

Porcupine House Tour at 9:10 a.m., \$40.00 per person.

Ute Beardance demonstration, Ute giveaway, Fry Bread & Anasazi Beans tasting at 8:30am. Transportation is free and on a first come first serve basis.

No reservations required.

“Inaccessible, Casa Colorado, & Casa Blanca House Cliff Dwelling Tour”, July 11, 2026 at 8:30 a.m.

Tours are \$40.00 per person and transportation is \$18.00 per person.

Departure from entrance of Mesa Verde National Park (MVNP).

Tour reservations are required.

“Porcupine House Cliff Dwelling And Train Site Tour”

August 8, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. departure time from the Tribal Park Visitor Center. This tour is \$40.00 per person, transportation is free and on a first come first serve basis.

Tour reservations are required.

Full day, half day, remote, and private tours are conducted April 2026 to October 2026

(No tours on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, major holidays & Tribal holidays)

Departure times from the Tribal Park Visitor Center

Tour fees vary.

Tour reservations can be made at phone numbers (970) 565-9653 & (970) 993-0069
e-mail: utepark@fone.net
Website: utemountaintribalpark.info

Note: Ute Mountain Tribal Park does not accept credit cards. Accepted are: personal checks, cash, money orders, and traveler checks.

(7% tax on all tours)

Tours maybe canceled due to inaccessible roads or bad weather. Advance notice on cancellations will be provide.

You can pick up Moab Happenings in Grand Junction!

Fairground Liquors

- Trek Bicycles
- In the Middle Liquors
- Fisher Liquor Barn
- Family Dollar
- Andy's Liquor
- Bookcliff Liquors
- Clifton Liquors
- Pufferbelly's Restaurant
- Orchard Mesa Market
- True Value Hardware
- Western Colorado Center for the Arts
- Habitat for Humanity Restore
- Kokopelli Liquors

Walgreens

- Homestyle Bakery
- Conoco Stop & Save
- Walmart - Delta
- Starvin Arvin's - Delta
- Don's Market - Paonia
- Stop & Save - Paonia & Montrose
- GoFer Store - Cedaredge
- Foodtown - Cedaredge
- Crossroads Fitness
- Post Offices in ...
- Grand Junction, Palisade, Clifton, Fruita, Delta, Montrose

and many other locations