

Utah community wants to be your home — if you can find one

Although fewer than 1,000 people live in Green River, the town known for its melon crop faces an affordable housing crisis.

By SOFIA JEREMIAS | The Salt Lake Tribune

This story is part of *The Salt Lake Tribune's* ongoing commitment to identify solutions to Utah's biggest challenges through the work of the Innovation Lab.

Green River » Janet Smoak wanted the job. Yet when she got the offer to become executive director of the John Wesley Powell River History Museum in

Green River in 2022, she wasn't sure if she could accept.

Smoak lived in Washington state and wasn't in a position to buy a house, but renting wasn't a solution, either. The problem wasn't that she couldn't afford the rental options — it was that there were none.

"This is the first community I've

Please see GREEN RIVER, A1



MAURICE MILLER | Special to The Tribune

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TIM FITZPATRICK | The Salt Lake Tribune

When a Utah monument led the charge on solar energy

Natural Bridges National Monument was home to the largest solar energy plant in the world in 1980.

By TIM FITZPATRICK | The Salt Lake Tribune

Natural Bridges National Monument » It was here, 44 years ago, in the rugged country below the Bears Ears, where water and wind cut through sandstone to form three natural bridges, that sun-generated electricity came down to Earth.

Photovoltaic power was first discovered in the 19th century. It took until 1964 for a team at Bell Labs to produce the first practical solar panels. Early applications were limited to satellites and spacecraft that had no other way to get power.

But in the late 1970s — after the world had been shocked by a jump in oil prices — the U.S. government wanted a large demonstration of photovoltaics on the ground.

So it turned to the engineers at the Lincoln Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Lincoln Lab was launched in 1951 to develop the nation's first air defense system to counter the threat of Soviet nuclear strikes, and it has led out on multiple defense and non-defense technologies

Please see SOLAR, A1

Above » Brian Maholy, facility manager at Natural Bridges National Monument, stands in front of the solar array — with the Bears Ears in the background.

Largest stegosaurus discovery ignites private fossil trade debate

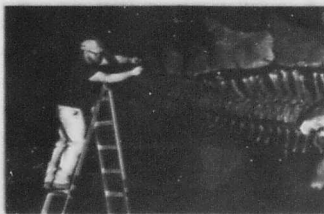
Commercial paleontologist's selling of "Apex" at auction rubs some in the scientific community the wrong way.

By ASHER ELBEIN | The New York Times

In May 2022, Jason Cooper, a commercial paleontologist, went for a walk around his property near the sparsely named Colorado town of Dinosaur with a friend and found a bit of femur protruding from some rock.

That femur led to a stegosaurus fossil, among the largest and most complete ever found, which has subsequently been nicknamed "Apex." In July the Sotheby's auction house will sell Apex at auction at an estimated value of \$4 million to \$6 million, making the skeleton the latest flashpoint in a

Please see STEGOSAURUS, A2



WINA RIGGIO | The New York Times

Jason Cooper, a commercial paleontologist, assembles "Apex" in London in May. The fossil is expected to fetch millions at auction.

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