



## Southern Ute Indian Tribe Chronology

*Beginning - The Utes were created by Sinawav (the Creator) and were placed in the mountains. The Sinawav told the people they would be few in number but, they would be strong warriors, and protectors of their lands.*

*There is no migration story, we were placed here in the mountains, we have always been here, we will always be here.*

*1 AD Shoshonean speaking peoples separate from other Ute-Aztecan group*

*1150 During the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Yuman and pueblo type cultures began to be replaced by a Shoshonean pattern.*

*1580 The Utes (Mouache band) acquire horses from the Spanish, as related by tribal historians.*

*1598 New Mexico is settled by the Spanish. Early trade is established between the Ute people and the Spanish.*

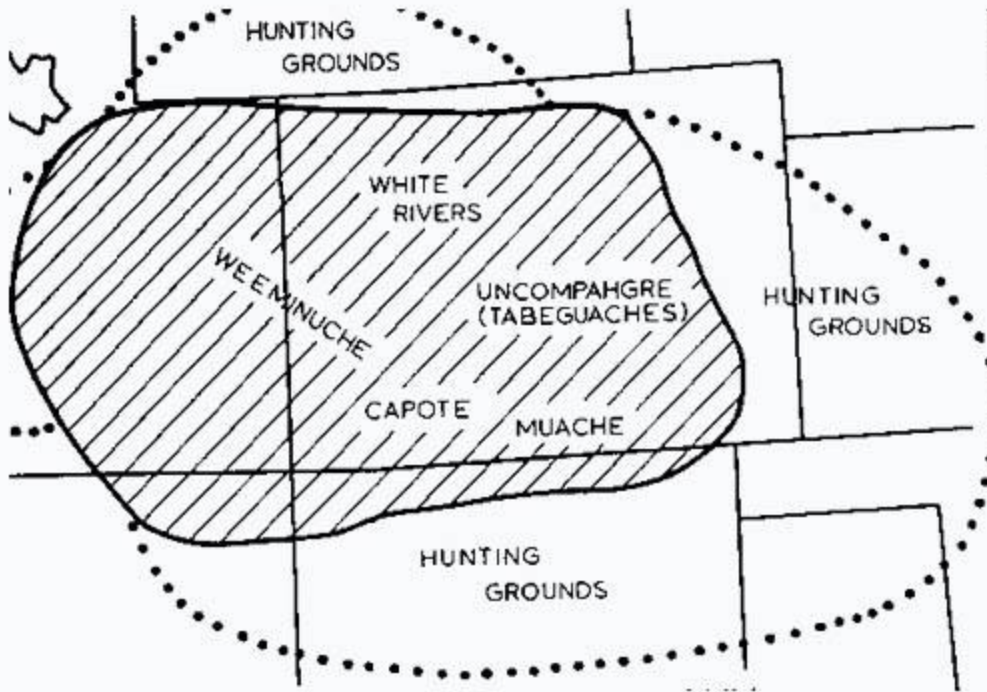
*1626 Traditional Ute-Hopi conflicts began about this time and reached their pinnacle around 1680.*

*1626 Earliest written reference to the Utes by the Spanish*

*1637 First known conflict between Spanish and Utes occurs 1637-1641. Spaniards under Luis de Rosas captured about 80 Utacas (Utes) for forced labor in Santa Fe workshops.*

*1637 Utes acquire the horse, making the Utes the first Native Americans to introduce the horse into their culture. The Utes were part of the group who escaped from Santa Fe and captivity by Spanish troops led by Luis de Rosas.*

*1650 The seven Ute bands hold well defined territory.*

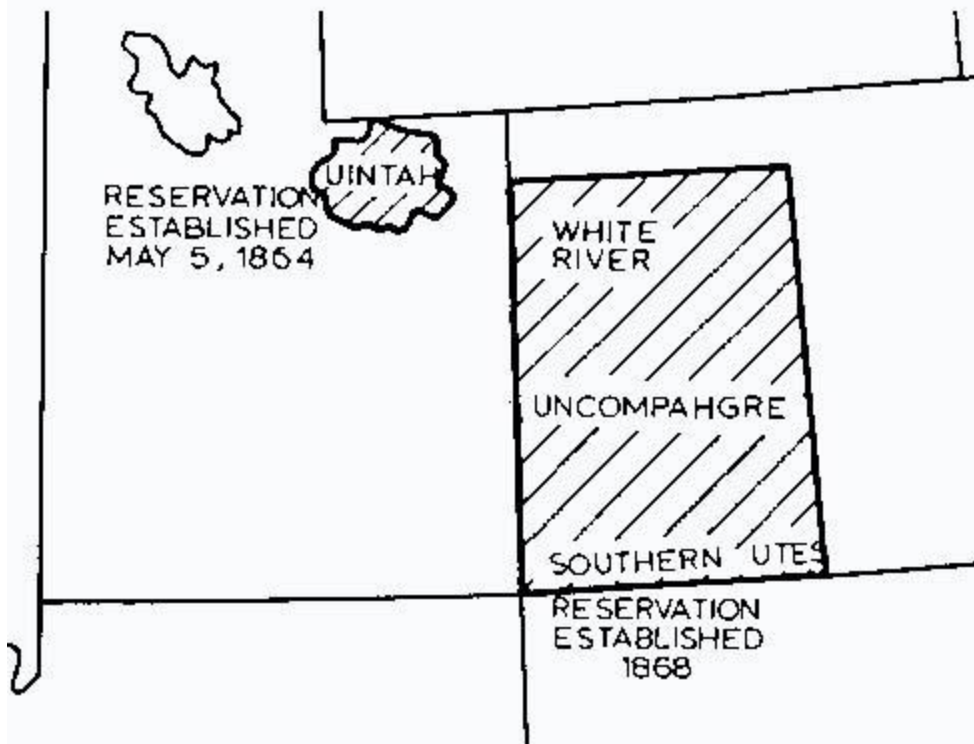


*Original Ute Territory*

- 1670 *First Peace Treaty between Utes and Spaniards.*
- 1692 *Alliance between Paiutes, Apaches, and Hopis, to counter Spanish aggression and expansion.*
- 1700 *Beginnings of raids upon Pueblos and Spanish in New Mexico by Utes, Apaches, and Comanche who formed alliances to carry out raids.*
- 1716 *Spanish campaign against Utes and Comanche in preventing raids is not successful.*
- 1730 *Utes continue to raid New Mexico settlements from 1730 to 1750. In 1747, Ute attacks caused the abandonment of Abiquiu. (It was reoccupied in 1748 by the Spaniards).*
- 1746 *Spanish defeat a combination of Ute and Comanche forces near Abiquiu.*
- 1747 *Spanish carry on a campaign against the Caputa Utes.*
- 1752 *Ute leaders, Chiquito, don Tomas, and Barrigon meet with the governor of New Mexico. The Spanish petition the Utes for a trade agreement for deerskins, in the hopes of forestalling further conflicts with the Mouache, Caputa and Chaguaguas.*
- 1754 *Utes have driven out the Navajos from the upper San Juan drainage.*
- 1754 *Mouache Utes enter an alliance with the Jicarilla Apaches.*
- 1760s *Spanish-Ute relations progress to allow Spanish trading ventures into Ute territory as far north as the Gunnison River.*
- 1770 *Utes and Navajos at war with the Hopis*
- 1776 *Dominguez-Escalante expedition through Ute territory with the help of a 12 year old Ute boy. Ute lands are mapped by Miera y Pacheco.*

- 1778 *Spanish law prohibits Spaniards and Christianized Indians from trading with the Utes. The ban was ineffective as traders continued to visit and trade with the Utes.*
- 1779 *Mouache Utes and Jicarilla Apaches joined New Mexico Governor Juan Bautista de Anza in a campaign against the Comanche. Comanche forces under Cuerno Verde were defeated.*
- 1786 *Utes represented by Chiefs Moara and Pinto protest the proposed peace treaty between the Comanche and Spanish. However, Spanish leader Juan Bautista de Anza prevails and a Peace Treaty was negotiated between the Mouache Band of Utes, Comanche and Spanish.*
- 1789 *Treaty of Peace between the Spanish and Utes and promise of Ute aid against the Comanche and Navajos. At this time, the Spanish took precautions against an alliance between the Mouache Utes and Lipan Apaches.*
- 1801 *Spanish use Mouache Utes as spies to gather intelligence on plains Indians.*
- 1804 *Utes and Jicarilla Apaches joined the Spanish in a campaign against the Navajos.*
- 1806 *Battle near Taos between about 400 Mouache Utes and an equal number of Comanche forces.*
- Lt. Zebulon Pike presents first Anglo-American intrusion into Ute territory.*
- Two Mouache Utes provide a safe passage to a surgeon under Pike's to Santa Fe.*
- 1806 *Several Spanish and Mexican trading expeditions enter Ute lands from 1806 to 1826.*
- 1809 *About 600 Mouache Utes and some Jicarilla Apaches were attacked on the Arkansas River by the Comanche, Cuampe, and Kiowa. Delgaditio, Mouache chief was killed, along with other leaders Mano Mocha and El Albo.*
- 1822 *Lechat, a Ute leader, proposed treaty with the Americans but little was done immediately.*
- 1829 *Opening of the Old Spanish Trail from Santa Fe to San Gabriel, California, partly through Ute territory.*
- 1832 *Bent's Fort is established in southeastern Colorado.*
- 1833 *Ouray is born near Taos*
- 1840s *Constant attacks by the Utes on settlements in the Taos Valley and the area of New Mexico north of Espanola. Several land grants began to erode the Ute land base.*
- 1844 *Caputa attack on Rio Arriba settlements after an altercation between the Utes and the Governor of New Mexico in Santa Fe.*
- 1845 *Caputa Utes attack settlement of Ojo Calienta.*
- 1846 *Utes agree to remain peaceful after 60 Ute leaders were induced by William Gilpin to go to Santa Fe and confer with Col. Doniphan.*
- 1849 *First treaty between Utes and the United States at Abiquiu. Chief Quiziachigiate, a Caputa, signed as principal chief and 28 other Utes signed as subordinate chiefs.*
- 1849 *Yellow Nose (Moauche) is born*

- 1850 *The Utes began to obtain arms from the Mormons at Salt Lake.*
- 1850 *An agency was opened for the Utes at Taos. It was soon closed for lack of funds.*
- 1851 *Mouache Utes were attacked near Red River by Kiowas and Arapahos. The Utes retreated to Ojo Caliente.*
- 1851 *Settlements by former Mexican citizens were established in the San Luis Valley. This occurred through 1853. Livestock activities and farming began disrupting the Ute lifestyle.*
- 1852 *The U.S. Government established Fort Massachusetts near Mount Blanca to protect and control the Utes. Six years later the post was moved six miles and became Fort Garland.*
- 1853 *Agency reopened at Taos and Kit Carson was the agent from 1853-59.*
- 1853 *An Indian Agent reports war between Mouache Utes and other Indians along the Arkansas River caused by the scarcity of game. The agent requested the U.S. Government to prevent other Indians from encroaching on Mouache lands.*
- 1853 *Rations were being distributed to the Mouache at Arroyo Hondo and Red River and to the Caputa on the Chama River.*
- 1854 *Ute War started by an attack by Utes on Fort Pueblo. The Utes were mainly from the Mouache band under the leadership of Chief Tierra Blanca. Several skirmishes resulted in the Indians suing for peace.*
- 1855 *In early summer, a treaty was concluded with the Caputa band and one with the Mouache band in August. These were not ratified by the United States.*
- 1856 *Mouache Chief Cany Attle claims the San Luis Valley.*
- 1857 *Cany Attle claims the Conejos Valley.*
- 1857 *Officials recommend that the Caputa and Jicarilla Apache be removed to the San Juan River and assisted in becoming self-sufficient.*
- 1858 *Hostilities between the Utes and Navajos.*
- 1859 *Temuche, a Caputa Chief, took presents to Navajo camp (Kiatano's) to maintain friendly relations.*
- 1860 *Utes join U.S. troops in campaigns against the Navajos.*
- 1860 *Tabeguache Utes placed under the Denver Agency; Mouache and Jicarilla attached to a sub-agency at Cimarron on Maxwell's Ranch; Caputa Utes continue to be served at Abiquiu; Weeminuche were managed by Tierra Amarilla.*
- 1861 *Agency for the Tabeguache Utes established at Conejos; Lafayette Head was the first agent.*
- 1863 *Tabeguache cedes San Luis Valley to the U.S.*
- 1868 *Treaty with the Utes and a reservation created for them consisting of approximately the western one-third of Colorado. Ouray selected as principal chief.*



*Ute Lands - 1868*

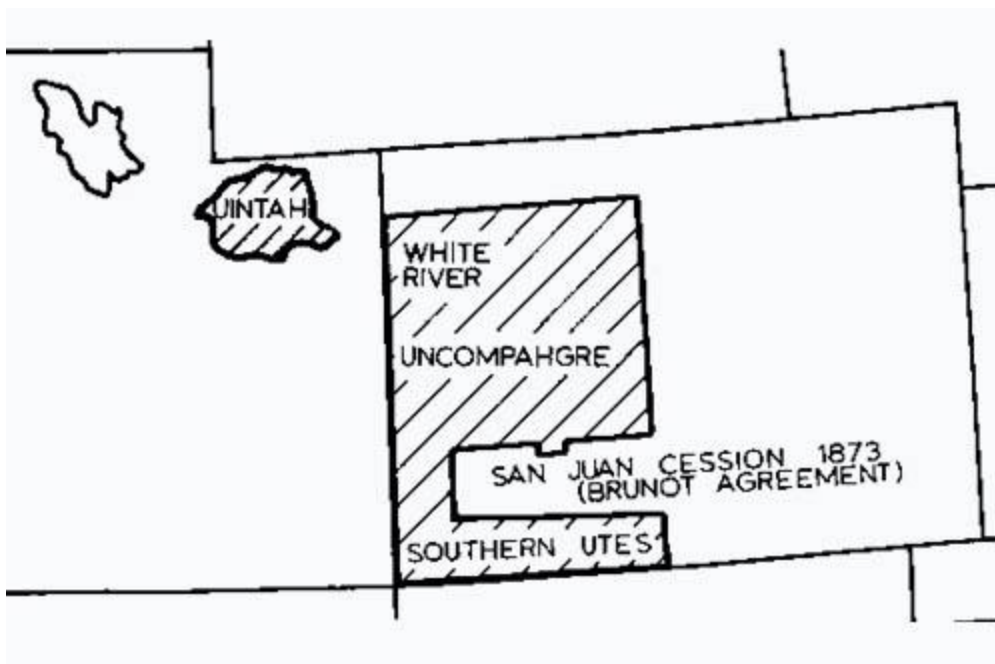
1870     *The Weeminuche object to removal to reservation in Colorado. Cabeza Blanca was one of the principal leaders of the Weeminuche at the time.*

1870     *Army's census of 1870 shows 365 Caputa Utes under the leadership of Sobotar.*

1871     *Denver's Indian Agency is established and maintained for Utes who continue to hunt buffalo on the plains.*

1873     *Mouache conclude treaty at Cimarron.*

1873     *The Utes cede the San Juan Mountain mining area by terms of the Brunot Agreement.*



*Ute Lands - 1873*

*1874 President U.S. Grant signs the Brunot Agreement and thousands of Ute lands are now appropriated by the U.S. government.*

*1874 U. S. takes more Ute lands, granting hunting rights as long the Utes are at peace with the white people. U.S. sets aside a perpetual trust of \$50,000 per year in money or bonds which shall be sufficient to produce the sum of twenty five thousand dollars per annum. Which sum of twenty five thousand dollars per annum shall be disbursed or invested at the discretion of the president or as he may direct, for the use and benefit of the Ute Indians annually forever. For said services Ouray Head Chief of the Ute nation shall receive a salary of one thousand dollars per annum for the term of ten years or so long as he shall remain head Chief of the Utes and at peace with the people of the United States. Approved April 29, 1874.*

*1876 Yellow Nose kills General George Armstrong Custer.*

*1877 Establishment of the Southern Ute Agency at Ignacio to serve the Caputa, Mouache, and Weeminuche Ute bands.*

*1878 Caputa and Weeminuche cede rights to the 1868 reservation.*

*1878 Fort Lewis established at Pagosa Springs to protect and control the Southern Utes.*

*1878 Nathan Meeker named Ute agent at White River.*

*1879 En route to White River agency at the request of Nathan Meeker, Major Thornburgh and 13 men are killed in Ute Attack for violating an agreement with the Utes*

*1879 Meeker's attempt to change the lifestyle of the Utes failed. Resulting in the demise of Meeker and 11 others. Meeker's destruction of the Utes valued racetrack and killing of their horses was the final injustice that spurred the attack. The Meeker incident resulted in cries for the removal of all Utes from Colorado.*

*1880 Fort Lewis moved to the site near Hesperus, Colorado, on the Southern Ute Reservation.*

*1880 Ouray goes to Washington DC for treaty negotiations.*

- 1880 *Ute Agreement signed, resulting the loss of more acres of Ute land.*
- 1880 *Chief Ouray Dies.*
- 1881 *Tabeguache and White River Utes removed to the Uintah Reservation in Utah.*
- 1881 *Denver and Rio Grande Railroad goes through Southern Ute land.*
- 1886 *Consolidation of the Uintah and Ouray Reservations for the Northern Utes.*
- 1888 *Utes agree to move to San Juan County, Utah, but Congress fails to ratify agreement.*
- 1891 *Fort Lewis deactivated as a military post and becomes an Indian school.*
- 1894 *Ute allotment bill presented to Congress.*
- 1895 *Ignacio led most of the Weeminuche to the western part of the Southern Ute Reservation in protest against the government's policy of land allotment*
- 1895 *Utes agree to the allotment bill.*
- 1896 *New agency set up at Navajo Springs to serve the Weeminuche who did want to accept land in severalty*
- 1896 *Allotments are distributed to Southern Utes*
- 1905 *Buckskin Charley and Antonio Buck (son) travel to Washington, DC, to meet with President Roosevelt.*
- 1905 *Buckskin Charley and five other Native Sovereign leaders in Theodore Roosevelt's Inaugural Parade.*
- 1912 *Buckskin Charley dedicates the ancient Ute Trail near Manitou Springs in a celebration known as Shan Kive.*
- 1918 *Consolidated Ute Indian Reservation established.*
- 1920 *First Southern Ute Tribal Fair held.*
- 1924 *American Indians become United States citizens*
- 1925 *Reburial of Ouray. Chief Ouray reinterred in Chieftain's Memorial Cemetery, Ignacio, CO.*
- 1931 *Distribution of rations from Federal Government stopped.*
- 1934 *Passage of the Indian Reorganization Act by Congress (commonly called the Wheeler-Howard Act).*
- 1936 *Death of Buckskin Charlie at age of 96. He was succeeded by Antonio Buck.*
- 1936 *Establishment of a Tribal Council in accordance with the Wheeler-Howard or Indian Reorganization Act of 1934.*
- 1936 *Chief Antonio Buck becomes the first Tribal Chairman of the Southern Utes*

1937 Restoration Act returns 222,016 acres to the Southern Utes.

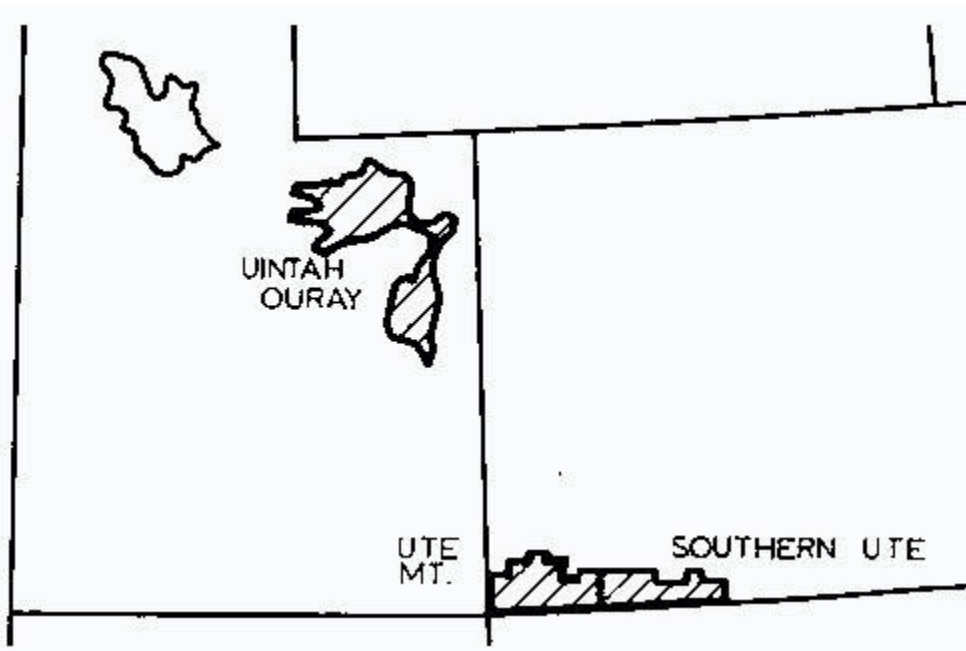
1939 Ute Chieftain's Memorial dedicated on the Last day of the 1939 Ute Fair. The Memorial honored Ouray, Severo, Buckskin Charley and Chief Ignacio.

1946 Southern Ute Tribe and rancher Raymond D. Farmer enter into a land exchange to provide land for La Plata County Municipal airport.

1950 Confederated Ute Tribes, consisting of the Northern Utes, Ute Mountain Utes and Southern Ute Tribes were awarded a \$31,761,206 monetary judgment for lands taken illegally by the U.S. Government.

1950s Returning WW II veterans assist in drafting Rehabilitation Plan utilizing land claims moneys to establish an economic plan for social welfare of the tribal membership.

1953 Settlement with U.S. Government for Ute land.



Ute Lands - Present

1954 Ute Rehabilitation Program.

1961 Antonio Buck, Sr., last hereditary chief, dies.

1961 Southern Ute Tribal Council is comprised of two men and four women; Sunshine Smith, Anna Marie Scott, Euterpe Taylor, Martha Ruth Evensen, John Baker, Sr., and Anthony Burch.

1959 Southern Ute Police Department.

1966 Southern Ute Community Action Program started on reservation

1970 Chimney Rock (located within the Southern Ute reservation) is declared as Archaeological Area and National Historic Site.

1972 Opening of Pino Nuche Purasa, the motel-restaurant-community building complex, by the Southern Ute at Ignacio.



1975 Southern Ute Tribe changes enrollment criteria, lowering the blood quantum requirement from one-half to one-quarter Southern Ute blood. Thus doubling Southern Ute Tribal enrollment.

1977 Buckskin Charley stained window glass dedication in Denver, Colorado. The stained glass depiction of Chief Buckskin Charley will be displayed in the Capitol building along with other notable historical figures in Colorado history.



Chief Buckskin Charlie – designed by Eugene Naranjo

1977 Ute-Comanche Peace Treaty. This historic event sealed a treaty between two powerful tribal allies that reigned over the southwestern plains. The treaty began in the 1700s and was interrupted before it was finalized.

1978 Southern Ute Health Center opens. The new facility replaced a clinic that was outdated and ill-equipped to deliver quality care to the increasing tribal populace.

1984 Tribal Council declares Education as a top priority of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. In Tribal Council Resolution No. 84-28, tribal leaders reaffirmed Education as a priority by establishing the Tribal Higher Education Scholarship Committee and Tribal Higher Education scholarship program.

1985 Elbert J. Floyd Scholarship established by descendants of Elbert J. Floyd, longtime friend of the Southern Ute people and past BIA Superintendent who assisted the Tribal Council.

1991 New Education Facility housing Higher Education, Private and Public Education opens its doors in Ignacio, Colorado.

1992 Tribe establishes Red Willow Production Company. Red Willow will buy back natural gas leases and improve gas well production.

1993 Southern Ute Tribe signs gaming compact with State of Colorado to open a Class III Casino on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

- 1993 *First Iron Horse Motorcycle Rally held at Sky Ute Downs, Ignacio, CO.*
- 1994 *Red Cedar Gathering Company established to process and transport tribal natural gas.*
- 1999 *Financial Plan adopted, separating Tribal Government from its business enterprises.*
- 2000 *Growth Fund Implementation Plan enacted by Tribal Council creating the Growth and Permanent Funds.*
- 2000 *Southern Ute Indian Academy opens to provide services to Southern Ute Children or children of Southern Utes, from infancy to twelve years old.*
- 2001 *On June 8, the Southern Ute Tribe was awarded a Triple AAA general-obligation bond rating, the highest credit rating possible. The Southern Ute Tribe is the first Native American tribe to earn the rating.*
- 2001 *SunUte Community Center opens its doors. The facility houses a gymnasium, adult and children's swimming pools, classrooms, weight lifting and exercise equipment.*
- 2003 *Chairman Leonard C. Burch dies. Burch led the Southern Ute Tribe for over 40 years.*
- 2003 *On December 1, the Leonard C. Burch ribbon cutting ceremony for the Leonard C. Burch Tribal Administration Building was held.*
- 2004 *New Housing areas, Cedar Point East and West open.*
- 2004 *The U.S. Post Office in Ignacio, Colorado was officially designated by Congress as the "Leonard C. Burch Post Office Building."*
- 2005 *Southern Ute Tribal Growth Fund Building opens.*
- 2006 *Mercy Medical Center Grand Opening held June 23. The land for the medical complex was donated by the Southern Ute Tribe.*
- 2008 *Southern Ute Alternative Energy established to manage alternative and renewable energy investments.*
- 2008 *New Sky Ute Casino and Resort Opens. The resort features 140 rooms complete with refined suites, four restaurants, and bowling alley.*
- 2009 *Southern Ute Indian Tribe approves hunting and fishing in the off-reservation Brunot area, including rare game species. Tribal hunters will participate in the special hunt with special permits.*
- 2009 *Southern Ute Indian Tribe takes over Operation of Southern Ute Health Center after successful litigation with the Indian Health Service.*
- 2009 *Lake Nighthorse is filled with water supplied from the Animas La Plata Project.*
- 2009 *Housing and Urban Development awards the Southern Ute Indian Tribe \$1,233,976 in housing grants to improve tribal housing.*
- 2009 *Solix and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Partner on Algae Plant, an alternative energy facility*
- 2009 *Southern Ute Indian Tribe hosts First Annual Tri-Ute Games.*

2010 *Annie Bettini Memorial Stone Dedication at the Southern Ute Academy. Ms. Bettini was an outstanding tribal elder, linguist, and educator who advocated for higher education, and her great belief in the Creator.*

2010 *Multi-Purpose building and Memorial Chapel open. The Multi-purpose building is a 16,350 square foot facility and the Memorial Chapel consists of 5,048 square feet. The facilities offer services to the tribal membership at no cost.*

2011 *Pearl Casias is elected Chairperson. Ms. Casias is the first woman Chairperson of the Southern Utes*

2011 *February 18 declared by the State of Colorado as "Ute Recognition Day".*

2011 *Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Durango Discovery Museum enter into five year agreement to provide science, technology, engineering, and math education that will serve tribal youth through high school.*

2011 *New Southern Ute Culture Center and Museum opens.*

2012 *President Barack Obama declares Chimney Rock the site of ancient Pueblo ruins (Located within the boundaries of the Southern Ute Indian reservation as a National Monument on September 12.*

2012 *In November, the National Christmas Tree is harvested from the White River National Forest. Ute Elders from all three Ute tribes participate in commemorating the event. In December, Elders from all three Ute domains travel to the Nation's capital to witness first-hand Christmas tree dedications.*

*Southern Ute Indian Tribe*



<https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/history/chronology/>