

Blackfeet Timeline

Debates on the arrival of our ancestors on this land persist. Some say we have been here since the beginning of time and some want to claim we had just unpacked our bags right before Columbus started snooping around North America (he never set foot on North America).

Since the beginning of time:

- imitāōtāa·sii (when the dog was the beast of burden). The niitsiittūpii referred to themselves as sǎ'ōkiittūpii (Plains People) and lived a natural life with ksu'koōm (earth) for many generations

Late 1600's to early 1700's:

- siksikaitsiittūpii first acquired the horse from the south and gun through trading networks stemming from French traders. The piikūni were first to see the horse when attacked by Shoshone on horse back. It is likely they acquired the horse soon after raiding and trading with neighboring nations. This ushered in the era of pō'nōkāmiiāa·pii (The Horse Culture)

1650

- Canadian settlers find out about the Blackfoot Confederacy

1690

- Henry Kelsey of the Hudson's Bay Company makes a brief contact with Blackfoot in Alberta

1748:

- French trappers invade Blackfoot lands

1750:

- Alexander Henry of the Northwest Fur Company is introduced to the píikǔni

1754:

- Alexander Henry stays in Blood camp of 322 lodges near present day Red Deer, Alberta. His intent was to establish a trading agreement but the Blood was uninterested.

1767:

- Blackfeet acquire the mule

1772:

- Matthew Cocking of Hudson Bay Co. camps with Blackfeet; he describes the Blackfeet as friendly and accommodating. However, no trading agreement was struck.

1780:

- Hudson Bay builds Buckingham House on the Saskatchewan River in Canada, reaching Blackfoot Territory. The confederacy acquires guns through trade.
- War against the Shoshone escalates to high levels over hunting territories. Last for 20+ years.

1781:

- First arrival of small pox, possibly ½ the population died. Píikǔni had attacked a dying Northern Shoshone camp where contracted small pox.

1784:

- War escalates with Shoshone, Salish, & Kutenai

1786:

- The US Department of War establishes ordinance charged with the responsibility of Indian Affairs

1787:

- Piikūni warriors journey south to Santa Fe and encounter Spanish miners and steal their horses.
- Fur trader David Thompson winters with Blackfoot on Bow River, likely the first time Blackfoot Language was represented in a written form. Northwest Fur Company began trading with Siksika and Kainai.

1802:

- The United States buys power from France to colonize North American lands under the “Doctrine of Discovery of 1493,” more commonly known as the “Louisiana Purchase.”

1806:

- Marryweather Lewis enters Blackfoot Territory, stays at “Camp Disappointment” then has a hostile encounter with young Piikuni men, resulting in the death of one of the Piikuni.

1807:

- Blackfeet capture Coltier and send him on his infamous run

1808:

- Mountain men & fur traders begin to enter Blackfoot Territory at higher rates and enter the sphere of Blackfoot interests

1809:

- Trader Alexander Henry compiles a census of the Piikuni, estimating a population of 5,200

1810:

- Missouri Fir Company opens a trading post but is driven out immediately by the Piikuni

1812:

- Blood and Piikuni make a declaration to steal all the horses from white men due to trading with Flathead guns used to kill their family.

1813:

- Notable raids on the Crow in Big Horn River

1815:

- A war party of Crees and Assinibione attacked a camp of twenty Blood and sarsi lodges on the Banks of the Belly Ricer, not far from the site of the first Blood Agency, killing four men and a woman, including Mad Child

1818:

- 49th parallel officially becomes the Canada/US border
- The sun dance was usually held in early summer, when Saskatoon berries were ripe. This year, however, a camp of Bloods on Sheep River was in danger of being attacked by the Cree. A holy woman vowed that if they were spared from harm she would sponsor a Sun Dance immediately. When no attack came, the Sun Dance was held as promised.

1819:

- Measels Epidemic kills $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Blackfoot and Gros Ventre population

1820:

- Hugh Monroe, first non niitsiittŭpii, lives full time with the piikŭni

1822:

- Chesterfield House established within the United States War Department

1824:

- The Bureau of Indian Affairs established in the US War Department
- Conflicts with mountain men and fur traders are constant in Blackfoot Territory

1831:

- American Ethnographer, George Catlin, reaches the Blackfeet. He describes them as “perhaps the most powerful tribe of the continent.” He also writes in his journal that “The perfect specimen for a human being would be to have the torso of Hercules or Atlas and the legs of a Comanche or Blackfeet Indian.” He claimed to have measured a Blackfeet man run 120 miles in 12 hours.
- James Kipp & seventy-five men establish Ft Peigan at the confluence of the Missouri and Marias Rivers

1831:

- First peaceful trade between the American and Blackfeet by Kenneth McKenzie
- Piikuni Horse raider recorded at Arkansas River in southern Colorado
- Alfred Jacob Miller claims blackfeet kill 30-40 trappers annually

1832:

- Missouri Fur Company opens again at Ft Piegan on the Missouri River at the mouth of the Marias River

1833:

- Prince Maximilian, a German scientist-explorer, and Karl Bodner, a Swiss Artist, spend a month with the Blackfeet at Ft McKenzie. Maximilian becomes the first white observer to describe Blackfeet men’s societies, Bodner paints portraits of Blackfeet leaders

1836:

- Small Pox epidemic brought to upper Missouri by steam boat from St. Peters of the American Fur Company, kills nearly 6,000 Blackfeet, $\frac{2}{3}$ of population
- Many children die of diphtheria, “strangulation of the throat”

1840:

- Father DeSmet visits the Small Robes band of the Blackfoot Confederacy. St Mary’s mission built

- End of the mountain man and fur trading era in Blackfoot territory

1841:

- First Blackfeet baptized on Christmas Day

1847:

- Fort Benton is built

1850:

- St. Mary mission abandoned

1851:

- Ft Laramie Treaty, Blackfeet were not present

1854:

- Winter count explains how a starvation reduced some to eating dogs

1855:

- Lame Bull Treaty signed at Judith River. This marked the first official treaty between the Blackfoot Confederacy and the US government. It defined the original boundaries of the Blackfoot Reservation
- Small Robes Band is no longer left, remaining people integrated into other bands of the confederacy

1856:

- Edwin Hatch appointed first Indian Agent of the Blackfeet
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1857:

- Small Pox strikes again
- Alred Vaughn is appointed Indian Agent

1858:

- Sun River Farm, first farm of the Blackfeet built with money from the 1855 treaty

1859:

- Jesuits build first mission in Blackfoot Territory at Fort Campbell on the Marias River

1860:

- Boundaries of the Reservation are surveyed for the first time.

1861:

- Henry Reed is appointed Indian Agent

1862:

- Fort Benton is first Agency of the Blackfeet
- Gold discovered at Grasshopper Creek near Helena

1863:

- Gad Upsom is appointed Indian Agent

1864:

- Montana Territory is created
- Scarlet fever is thought to have killed around 1,100 Blackfeet

1865:

- Unratified Treaty negotiated at Fort Benton

1866:

- George Wright is appointed Indian Agent
- Father Lacombe visits Chief Crowfoot and Chief Three Bulls
- Piikuni defeat Crow and Gros Ventre in large scale battles

1868:

- Unratified "Cullen" Treaty
 - Negotiated Teton River

1869:

- 'Four Person Agency' in Choteau
- Malcolm Clark is killed on his ranch on Little Prickly Pear Creek for rapping Owl Child's wife. Five men indicted for his killing was Owl Child, Eagle Rib, Black Bear, Bear Chief, and Black Weasel, all part of Mountain Chief's band.

1870:

- **January 23:** Bear Creek Massacre, 200 to 280 US soldiers attacked Heavy Runner's camp while looking for the murderers of Malcolm Clark. In below freezing temperatures the peaceful camp full of women, elderly, and children were brutally murdered while suffering from sickness. Some scholars have said it was the biggest mass killing of a foreign government within the contiguous United States for 131 years until 9/11.
- M.M. McCauley is appointed Indian Agent
- 600-800 Assiniboine and Cree attacked a Blood camp near Fort Whoop-Up near Oldman River and St. Marys River. The attackers didn't know that Southern Piikuni with repeating rifles were camped a short distance away. The combined Blood and Piikuni forces succeeded in routing the Assiniboine and Cree, inflicted casualties between 200 and 300.

1871:

- Jesse Armitage is appointed Indian Agent
- A trading post was built on the Highwood River. This was the era of the "free trader" who carried whiskey and repeating rifles as stock in trade. In later years these were dubbed "whiskey forts"
- William Ensign is appointed Indian Agent

1872:

- First school for Blackfeet children opened at Four Person Agency at Teton River Agency. There was not much success for this school
- Calf Shirt, leader of the Lone Fighters, was killed by Joe Kipp in self-defence near Fort Kipp on the Belly River. Blood members tried

to revive Calf Shirt but stopped when they feared he might come back to life as a bear.

1873:

- Richard May is appointed Indian Agent
- President Grant gives Executive Order to move the southern boundary to Missouri & Sun River and eastern boundary to the Dakota Line. This was the response to the pressure by cattlemen to cut the lower 200 miles off the reservation. Blackfeet were not consulted and no payment was made. This resulted in a long, drawn-out legal battle known as the “Big Claim”

1874:

- Executive Order moved southern boundary to Marias & Birch creek
- The Northwest Mounted Police, organized in eastern Canada, arrived at Oldman River and built Fort Macleod
- Choteau Agency established
- Northern buffalo herd and estimated to be around 4 million.

1875:

- John Wood is appointed Indian Agent
- Blackfeet agency moves from Teton River to Running Crane Agency on Big Badger Creek
- Executive Order to restore some of the taken land.
- The Northwest Mounted Police closed illicit whiskey forts and within a year all liquor trading had virtually stopped.

1876:

- John Young is appointed Indian Agent
- Northwest Mounted Police report that buffalo were plentiful in Blackfoot hunting grounds during winter, but that by spring the herds were confined mostly to the Cypress Hills area

1877:

- Treaty 7, This involved the Blackfoot Confederacy Bands of the North Piikuni, the Siksika, and The Blood signing a treaty with the Canadian Government and the representatives of the Queen of England.
- Chief Joseph, Nez Perce, surrenders east of the Blackfeet Reservation near Bear Paw Mountains
- James Willard Schultz visits Blackfeet Reservation and marries a Blackfeet Woman.

1878:

- Of 1,2000 estimated school-age children among the Piikuni, only 50 had so far attended school for more than a month. However, 2 of the students had learned to read and write. This marks the beginning of literacy within the Blackfeet
- First wooden cabins built along Birch Creek; among the builders were Gambler, Spotted Eagle, White Calf, and others

1879:

- First formal education for Blackfeet at St. Peter's mission on the Sun River
- Agency moved upstream to what is now known as "Old Agency"
- During the winter, the Piikuni engage in their last traditional buffalo hunt

1880:

- Executive Order stealing more land
- The extermination of buffalo comes at full force and people begin to starve

1881:

- First rations roll created at Blackfeet Agency (Old Agency)
- 80 cabins now owned by the Blackfeet people. First permanent settlements in nation's history
- John Clarke, kŭtai·pŏ'yii·s (Does't Talk), grandson of Malcolm Clarke, was born. He was the first Blackfeet to do wood carving. His wood

carvings of mountain goats have inspired the Great Northern Railway and Glacier National Park.

1883-1884:

- Starvation Winter, over 500 Blackfeet died, nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ of the people. The agency was unprepared to feed people in the aftermath of the buffalo extermination. Stories persist that people were potentially poisoned by the Indian agents to reduce the amount of mouths they needed to feed.

1884:

- Reuban Allen is appointed Indian Agent
- Last traditional Buffalo hunt near the Sweetgrass Hills. Four lone buffalo were found by Piikun hunters.

1885:

- US government takes western portion of the Blackfeet reservation for mineral exploration
- Blackfeet Agency moved to Willow Creek

1886:

- Mark D. Baldwin is appointed Indian Agent
- The St. Paul & Manitoba Railroad arrives in Fort Benton bringing western industrialization in contact with the Blackfeet.

1887:

- A Code of Laws was enforced by three tribally elected leaders, along with Indian Agent Wood.
- DAWS act passes in Congress, which forces private property onto tribal nations
- The US Government takes control of Native American property rights.

1888:

- Sweet Grass Hills Agreement. Sold the eastern portion of the original reservation for 1.5 million dollars (58 million in 2026 economy). White

Calf and Three Suns signed the deal in what is known as “The time we sold the Sweetgrass Hills”

- Established 2 other reservations along Montana’s highline: Fort Peck, Belknap, and Blackfeet

1889:

- First Blackfeet sent to Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania
- George Steell is appointed Indian Agent
- **April**, Montana becomes 41st state of the union
- The last intertribal battle between Piikuni and Gros Ventre. Piikuni had arrived home with one scalp and many horses.

1890:

- Blackfeet used in product commercial “Montana Indian Remedies”
- 500 weapons issued by the government to Piikuni families over the next few years. Many women found them complicating, preferring their horse drawn travois for hauling their lodges, tools, and children.

1892:

- *Blackfeet Lodge Tales* by George Bird Grinnell is published.
- First Boarding school for the Blackfeet opened at Willow Creek, west of present-day Browning

1893:

- Completion of the Great Northern Railway
- Capt. L. W. Cooke is appointed Indian Agent

1894:

- The agency moved to Willow Creek, eventually becoming the town of Browning; named after Commissioner of Indian Affairs Daniel M. Browning
- 75% of Piikuni children start to be educated in the western education.

1895:

- George Steell is reappointed Indian Agent

1896:

- A 20-mile wide strip of the Blackfeet Reservation was ceded. This “ceded strip” is known today as Glacier National Park. The Blackfeet claimed the land was only provided for a 99-year lease. The tribe was given the sum of 1.5 million dollars (58 million for 2026 economy).

1897:

- George McLaughlin is appointed Indian Agent
- First medical clinic established in Browning

1898:

- Forty percent of the Blackfeet tribal cattle herd was lost.
- Thomas Fuller is appointed Indian Agent
- Joseph Sherburne purchases license to trade with Blackfeet

1899:

- William Logan is appointed Indian Agent
- Post office in Durham relocated to Browning

Late 1800's - early 1900's:

- Horse Racing began in Fort Benton
- Charles Curly Bear becomes the first college educated Blackfeet. He deems himself “The only Indian Card Writer in the world.” He eventually moved back the reservation, going by the name, C.A. Randall. He was unsatisfied with what the reservation had to offer and moved back to the city where he eventually, tragically, ended his own life.

1900:

- First official rolls of the Blackfeet

1902:

- Oil discovered by a copper minor on Swift Creek

1903:

- First Tribal Council elected.
- Fence around the reservation was completed. Permission was needed from the Indian Agent to cross it.
- White Calf, last head chief of the Blackfeet People, dies while visiting Washington DC

1904:

- In September, Cut Bank Creek Boarding School opened.
- Clark Wissler records Blackfeet songs and stories

1906:

- Construction of irrigation system

1907 – 1908:

- The first allotments, surveyed land put in parcels, were made on the Blackfeet Reservation. Approximately 2,656 individual Blackfeet tribal members received allotments.

1909:

- Chief Rocky Boy's band were each given 80 acres of land in the Babb area. It is why Babb is referred to as sināakkāattŭpisskoō, Cree Town.
- Fence around the reservation is removed
- Enlarged Homestead Act brought many people to the area

1910's - 1920's:

- Government irrigation system,
- Homestead Act
 - Enacted trust patents, people could trade land
 - Enacted fee patent, people could sell outside the tribe
 - Forced patent, a result of trust and fee patent forced patents began and were the avenue for local traders (Broadwater,

Sherburne, Scriver, & others) to attach lands for groceries and other bills owned by individual

- Indian Agents denied the people, by force, from practicing their spiritual rituals and sacred ceremonies. Social gatherings, such as horse racing, were stopped. The youth of this time is the first generation of siksikaitsiittŭpii being raised in a world of năapyă·pii, the white, anglican culture.

1910:

- US census reports that 2,268 Indians are living on the Blackfeet Reservation, about the same number as there was in 1885.

1911:

- Surplus lands to be opened for sale were estimated at 156,000 acres. Children born after the middle of the year were allotted 80 acres.

1913:

- Two Guns White Calf is the model of the Indian Head Nickel
- Great Northern Railway sends 10 Piikuni to New York City

1914:

- Glacier National Park was created. A law was passed that prohibited Blackfeet from hunting in GNP except for hook & line fishing. GNP officials would claim animals traveling on to the reservation was GNP property
- Walter McClintock's book *The Old North Trail* is published
- GNP pressures tribe to sell an additional six-mile stripe east of the Park. BIA and Blackfeet reject the attempt at more land grab
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1915:

- The Browning Review newspaper was published
- Blackfeet start raising livestock on the reservation
- Blackfeet Tribal Business Council (BTBC) is created

- Great Northern Railway sends a delegation of Piikuni to the World's Fair

1919:

- severe drought and winter
- Glacier Country and Pondera Country are incorporated
- President Wilson signs legislation repealing the 1907 Blackfoot Allotment Act
- Sherburne Dam and St. Mary's Diversion Dam completed
- Severe drought dropped cattle prices, forcing land sales.

1920's:

- Hospital at Blackfoot and Hospital at Cut Bank Creek Boarding School
- Day Schools opened: Reevis, Mad Plume, Cold Feet, Swims Under, Heavy Breast, Higgins, Star School, Heart Butte, Pontricina, Willow Creek, Boarding School, Mission School, Fort Shaw, among others,
- Moonlight schools for adults in the evening
- Jack Gailbreath ranch on Whiskey Gap hosted many Blackfoot traveling north for family or ceremony. He would feed their journey to and from the border.

1920:

- 5 year Industrial Program implemented opening large scale farming
- Blackfoot cattle herds wiped out due to severe winter

1924:

- Blackfoot became citizens of the United States of America
- **July, 4**, Jack Dempsey vs. Tommy Gibbons heavyweight championship in Shelby, MT. The event was held with hopes of drawing more settlers to the area.
- Blackfoot attempts to get recognition of hunting right in GNP but no progress is made.

1925:

- EGPS school built
- The Browning Review ends operations
- Blackfeet file a lawsuit based on the National Park Service prohibition of subsistence activities in GNP. the NPD renews its pressure on the Blackfeet to sell a six-mile wide strip on the Park's eastern border

1927:

- Great Northern Railway commissions Winold Reiss to painted Blackfeet people\
- 1927 Indian Act forbade First Nations in Canada to practice their traditional cultures and languages.

1930's - 1940's:

- Star School is named after George Star, who gave his home for the school building
- Schools:
 - Chief Crow Shoe on Two Medicine,
 - Cold Feet on Two Medicine,
 - Durham School, George Shoe Cat gave home for school, then Old Chief home in 1930-32,
 - Heavy Breast, Northeast Kiowa,
 - Willow Creek, Archambault home,
 - Heavy Runner below Boarding School
- An era of children forcefully taken from home and given white education
- Rejuvenation of women started dancing at cultural gatherings, namely Bertha Ackerman and Beverly Kittson
- Continued loss of cultural and ceremonial objects to collectors and museums
- In violation of the treaty of 1855, Blackfeet men were drafted
- Separation of Blackfoot Confederacy by written enrollments, recognized by the United States

1931:

- The Glacier County Chief newspaper is published

- Oil and commercial quantities discovered in Cut Bank

1934:

- Of the 1,785 eligible voters, 994 voted in favor of tribal organization under the Wheeler-Howard Act, commonly known as the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA). Under this legislation, the Blackfeet Tribal Constitution and By-Laws were ratified in 1935, creating a representative form of government through elected tribal council representatives. Originally numbering 13 tribal council representatives, which is why the Blackfoot term for BTBC is *nii-ikoōpoōtsiiks*, The Thirteen. However, oral history states that many people had traveled north for ceremony during this vote and, in their absence, the agent counted them as voting in favor
- The Teepee building was built to serve as a gas station.
- Douglas Gold, a teacher/principal in the Browning Schools for 20 years stated in a conclusion that Blackfeet Indians were less intelligent than whites. His thesis has been rightfully criticized and debunked and his racist legacy is a testament to the plight of the early years of Piikuni formal education.

1936:

- Napi Elementary (Originally a High School) Building.

1939:

- Led by Chief Albert Mad Plume, 12 Blackfeet serve as extras in the Shirley Temple led movie *Susannah of the Mounties*. Martin Goodrider played the role of Little Chief. As an act of goodwill, Temple swore in all members of the Blackfeet tribe as members of the Shirley Temple Police Force while Temple was made an honorary member of the Blackfoot tribe and given the name Bright Shining Star.

1940's:

- The younger generation, being educated in the white culture and value system, focused on surviving within the white materialistic culture
- Social Dancing
 - Circle Dance
 - Owl Dance
 - Warbonnet Dance (men)
 - Round Dance (women)
 - Whip/Whistle
 - Weaselhead
- Societies:
 - Blood Clan People; Heart Butte area– Stabs-by-Mystake, Day Rider, Jackson, etc...
 - Rough Rider; Star School area– Bull Child, Cross Guns, Young Running Crane, Little Plume, Home Gun
 - White Shirt Society– Henry Morning Gun, George Night Gun
 - Black Lodge Society– John Tatsey, Paul Old Chief, John Little Dog, Joe Morning gun
 - Slickfoot Society; Bachelors living in the Badger and Little Badger areas– Buffalo hide, Iron Pipe Wold Plume, Iron Breast, etc...
 - Mixed Group Society– John Grounds
 - Parted Hair/Grass Dance Society
 - Brave/Crazy Dogs
 - Warrior Society, historical war leaders such as: Bird Rattle, Turtle, Mountain Chief, etc...
 - War Mothers, mother of warriors and 1900's veterans who actively supported and honored the warriors
 - Pigeon Society
 - Dove Society

1940:

- The Glacier County Chief newspaper ends operations

1941:

- Museum of the Plains Indians opens by John Ewers in Browning
- Newspaper Browning Chief starts publishing

1942:

- Winnie Spotted Woman becomes first Native American Woman to join the Marines in WWII.

1945:

- Frances (Hirst) Thompson establishes first post office in Heart Butte

1950's:

- Hutterites purchase land on the reservation
- First group of Blackfeet educators, the Bullshoe sisters

1951:

- Montana Intertribal Policy Board Formed

1952:

- A vote to abolish the IRA did not pass
- Federal Era of Termination and Relocation, many Blackfeet were taken to the cities; although some came back home, many did not.

1953:

- Alcohol becomes legal on the Blackfeet Reservation
- The newspaper Browning Chief ends operations
- Glacier Reporter is created.
- First NAID celebration.

1954:

- **March 2**, *Blackfeet and Gros Ventres Tribes V United States*
- EOP elected to council
- Oil and gas development. The tribal government wanted to negotiate leases instead of just taking what was given.
- Last ămsskăapii piikŭni Sundance held in Heart Butte before cultural revitalization spurred from the movement in the 1970's

1955:

- Last horse races in Dr. Martin Hill

1956:

- KW Burgan school built, BES built (Originally a High School)
- Medicine Lodge at Heart Butte- Maggie Swims Under

1960's:

- Pencil Factory

1962:

- Article II of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Blackfoot Tribe, defining tribal membership, was amended. The definition went from lineal descent to $\frac{1}{4}$ blood quantum. Only tribe within the Blackfoot Confederacy to use such measurement criteria for membership. This coincided with the sale of the Sweetgrass Hills
- BTBC goes from 13 members to 9

1964:

- Two Medicine Dam burst causing a flood that left 30 died while destroying over 100 homes

1965:

- Vina Chattin school built

1966:

- BTBC goes from 13 members to 9.
- Blackfoot Tribe sold land on the east end of the reservation for \$5.00 an acre

1969:

- Browning Sentinel newspaper is published, closed in 1970

1970's:

- Depot rodeo arena and race track
- Buildings, programs, housing and tribal campgrounds:
 - Head Start
 - Sewing Center at Heart Butte
 - White Buffalo
 - Community Action Program (CAP)
 - Red Eagle
 - Duck Lake
 - Jail
 - Blackfeet Nursing Home
 - Last Star
 - Low Rent
 - Heart Butte scattered home sites
 - Glacier Homes
- Health boards at IHS and BIA
- Many business closed:
 - Buttreys
 - Conoco
 - 76 Station
- First Indian woman mayor in the United States, Junlene Kennerly
- Protests, challenges, and regaining of the inherent rights of the Blackfeet people to access our land. Woody Kipp, author of *Veit Cong at Wounded Knee*, is among those who were arrested for accessing the park.
- Forest Gerard was architect of the Indian Self Determination Act
- Catherine Gobert Lamar is the First American Indian Woman department head in the BIA. She was a social worker at the Anadarko Area office
- TERO
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1971:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State title

1972:

- Article X, Section 1(2) of the Montana Constitution: The state recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians and is committed in its educational goals to the preservation of their cultural integrity
- The north side water tower is put up
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State title
- Pencil factory opens for the Blackfeet Indian Writing Company
- First full time Blackfeet educator at BPS

1973:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State title

1974:

- The Blackfeet Tribe chartered Blackfeet Community College led by Carl 'Buckles' Schildt. It operated in conjunction with Kalispell Community College for transferable credit.
- *Winter in the Blood* is published. Written by James Welch. Book receives critical admiration and praise.
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State title

1975:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

1976:

- BMS built
- Sawmill burnt
- City Police designated
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State title
- Indian Child Welfare Act passed
- Glenn Heavy Runner indoor swimming pool opens up. Named for the late Glenn Heavy Runner who had drowned at a young age. Glenn had drowned swimming at "Fifty Cent" swim hole on Willow Creek.

1977:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State title
- Forest Gerard named first Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs
 - Earl Barlow was head of Indian Education
 - Wayne Chattin was head of 638 services
 - Bobby Howard was head of ONAP
 - Dwight Billedeaux held high ranking, as well

1978:

- Percy DeWolfe elected to the State Senate.
- Earl Old Person became Chief of the Blackfeet Tribe, first since White Calf.
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State title
- Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act passed
- GNP considers fencing their border with the Blackfeet reservation but ultimately fails.

1979:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State title
- Indian Land Consolidation Act passed

1980's:

- Blackfeet purchase buffalo
- Cut Bank Creek Boarding School focus of students change in relation to development on reservation. That particular boarding school no longer becomes a place of colonization and assimilation but a place of safety. The new legacy of that boarding school becomes one of nurturing and protection.
- Mission torn down
- BCC bilingual teacher training program
- Business closed:
 - Bell Jewelry
 - Joe Lewis Cafe
 - Gambles

- Browning Mercantile
- Jack Miles Pool Hall
- Glacier Drug Store
- Minyard's
- Yeagans
- Hagerty's

1980:

- Browning Running Indians Basketball team wins State
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

1981:

- Renaming of Trick Falls to Running Eagle Falls
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

1982:

- Native American Speaks program opens at Glacier National Park. The program highlights Blackfeet, Salish, and Kutenai story tellers. The program was designed to honor the ancient traditions of Indigenous stories, science, and connection to the land. It was the program of its kind in the nation. Harold "Bear Chief" Gray, Curly Bear Wagner, Jack Gladstone among others were involved.
- BPS first time having full staff for speech language pathology
- There are 643 oil wells (producing 50 million barrels annually) and 47 producing gas wells, 90% of Blackfeet annual income
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title, again

1983:

- Hospital built
- First National bank closes
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

1984:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'B' title
- Browning Girls Cross Country wins State 'B' title

1985:

- Blackfeet Community College receives accreditation
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'B' title
- Browning Girls Cross Country wins State 'B' title
- Sampson George "Sam" Bird is inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame

1986:

- James Welch's *Fools Crow* is published. It is awarded the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the American Book Award, and the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Award.
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'B' title
- Browning Girls Cross Country wins State 'B' title

1987:

- Blackfeet National Bank, first tribally-owned, federally chartered bank on an Indian Reservation established.
- The American Museum of Natural History returned Blackfeet human remains taken from Old Agency on Badger Creek.
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title
- Piegan Institute is created. Notable players were Daryl Kipp, Dorothy Still Smoking, etc...
- American Museum of Natural History returned Blackfeet human remains taken from Old Agency on Badger Creek

1988:

- *War Party* released. Filmed on the Blackfeet Reservation, with many Blackfeet used as extras
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

1989:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

1990:

- Chief Mountain Hotshots become the 1st certified All Native Type 1 Hot Shot Crew in Montana
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title
- Glen Heavy Runner swimming pool is condemned due to damages to the building

1991:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

1992:

- **July 2**, due to an earth quake, a chunk of Chief Mountain crumbled, causing a landslide
- Malia Kipp is first Blackfeet to play basketball for division 1 school, University of Montana
- Browning Girls Cross Country wins State 'A' title

1993:

- Glenn Heavy Runner swimming pool opens back up

1994:

- Tribally controlled community colleges received Land Grant Status.
- Heart Butte High School completed.

1995:

- Browning High School first gets internet with 28.8k dial up
- Nizipuhwasin school opens for Blackfoot language revitalization

1996:

- Browning Lady Indians win class 'A' State in basketball
- The name of Sq••• Mountain was changed to Pretty Mountain Woman

1999:

- Carol Juneau elected to Montana House of Representatives

- Indian Education for All (IEFA) becomes law in the state of Montana, which mandates teaching of Native American history in public schools.
- Siyeh Corporation chartered. It was created on behalf of the government to protect businesses from inappropriate political influence. Named after the great warrior known for fearless leadership, sīyyii, Mad Wolf.
- Chief Mountain Hotshots receives the National Safety Award

2000:

- Heart Butte boys basketball win class 'C' state
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

2001:

- Browning Running Indians win class 'A' State in basketball
- Heart Butte boys basketball win back-to-back class 'C' state

2002:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title
- Browning Running Indians become back-to-back state 'A' champions, one of the strongest basketball teams in Montana history. It is also said they had the greatest mascot in the history of all sports. His rendition of YMCA on the middle of the gym floor was legendary and people speak of it to this day.

2003:

- Babb School built
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title
- BIA forcefully takes over law enforcement by surprise on the Reservation

2004:

- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

2005:

- Charging Home Park opened.
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2006:

- Glacier Peaks Casino opened.
- Red Eagle fire
- First time a Blackfeet referee officiated a home varsity basketball contest.

2007:

- Browning Referee Pool takes over varsity basketball games. The referee pool was spearheaded by Victor Lee Hall to ensure fair contests.
- Carol Juneau elected to Montana House of Representatives
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

2008:

- Browning Running Indians win class 'A' state in basketball
- Chief Mountain Hotshots become P.L. 93-636 certified, allowing the Blackfeet Nation to contract the Wildland Fire Management Program through the BIA.

2009:

- New Browning High School opened.
- Cobell V Salazar settled
- Basketball court 'The Cage' opens on Government Square
- Piikuni walking park created

2010:

- Heart Butte gets internet
- Blackfeet tribe takes back control of law enforcement

2011:

- Creation of the 'Blackfeet Descendents' Facebook page. Created by Bob Juneau designed to talk about enrollment. Discussions of enrollment and blood quantum become more prominent. Creation of BEAR (Blackfeet for Enrollment Amendment and Reform) was focused on providing enrollment to Blackfeet descendants. This was met with the creation of BAOE (Blackfeet Against Open Enrollment).
- Thunder Radio opens. Volunteer deejays take Browning airwaves by storm. Notable Deejays in the early days were: John 'The Captain' Davis, Gene Rutherford, S & S Shaking Ground (Sheldon and Sheridan Ground, Winddancer Radio (Gayle Skunkcap), Everett Armstrong and Arlin Edwards, Hall on the Call with Heartthrob Rob (Kellen and Robert Hall), Steve Running Crane, Kieth Running Crane, DJ Love (Jim Higgins), etc...

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2012:

- The BTBC was fractured into two separate councils. This led to the government shutting down and a halt on checks for tribal workers since neither side had authority to issue them. The split lasted for over 8 months in which both factions refused to meet with one another.
- Glacier Family Food "New Store" opened
- Land Buy Back, tribe bought money from tribal land owners.

2013:

- Bud Connelly inducted into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame

2014:

- Truman 'Mouse' Hall inducted into the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame

2015:

- opening of The Skate Park. Jeff Ament of Pearl Jam funded the project.
- Governor Steve Bullock established November 5th as 'Elouise Cobell Day'

- BPS creates a Blackfeet Language immersion program. Carolyn Zuback is the first instructor of the program.
- North water tower is taken down, RIP

2016:

- Keeper of Our Language Run, led by Northern Piikani William Big Bull, joined all bands of the Blackfoot Confederacy by having runners carry a baton to and from each Reserve. During this run, as the runners run across the border from Canada to the United States, many siksikaitsiittüpii youth did not stop at the border and were allowed to run by the border guards. Runners from each band of the Blackfoot Confederacy were represented.
- Jeane Whiting wins water compact, Obama signed in to effect
- Horn Society reestablished
- FAST Blackfeet created
- Diabetes Health Center opens
- Badger-Two Med oil leases begin to be cancelled
- Blackfeet Tribal Council votes 8-1 in favor of changing the government to create a separation of powers

2017:

- Ashley Heavy Runner/Loring MMIW. Although not the first, nor last Blackfeet person to be missing/murdered, her story generated a shift in consciousness in all Blackfeet citizens on the scale of the MMIP crisis.
- The adoption of a new Blackfeet Constitution was voted down. The new constitution was designed to create a separation of powers within our government that our current system does not have.
- Blackfeet Water Compact

2018:

- Joe Sam Scabby Robe is inducted into the Montana Hall of Fame
- Southern Piegan Diabetes Program open Family Clinic
- The town of Browning is disincorporated, Tribe takes over the town.

2019:

- BMS addition, new gymnasium and cafetorium

2020:

- *The Only Good Indians* by Blackfeet author Stephen Graham Jones, published on July 17th, became a New York Times bestseller. It receives the Bram Stoker award, Los Angeles Times Book Prize, Shirley Jackson award, and Alex award.
- The Blackfeet tribe shuts down the west side of Glacier National Park due to mitigate the risks of COVID-19
- BHS graduation was a driving parade due to COVID precautions.

2021:

- Earl Old Person passes away.
- COVID vaccine is developed and Blackfeet become the first population to have over 90% inoculation
- BHS sports complex opens

2022:

- First Pride/Two Spirit parade is held in Browning.
- 3Rivers is purchased by Seyieh
- New Heart Butte rodeo grounds completed
- Construction for new Arbor in Browning begins
- Seville clinic opens
- Blackfeet Tribe declares state of emergency due to fentanyl and drug overdoses

2023:

- The last of the Badger Two Medicine oil leases are cancelled
- Blackfoot DNA scientific article certifying ancient *piikūni* ties to the land
- Browning Boys Cross Country wins State 'A' title

2024:

- Lily Gladstone wins the SAG and Golden Globe for her performance in *Killers of the Flower Moon*. She is also nominated for an Oscar for best actress in a leading role, The first Native American actor to receive such nomination.
- Beaver Bundle Ceremony held within Park boundaries with permission of park superintendent, first in over 100 years.
- Kevin Kicking Woman is named first Class 7 license instructor to be awarded Montana Teach of the Year.
- Buffalo Woman's society reestablished
- Arbor is completed.

2025:

- **June**, Food service/BNAS building opens for BPS
- **July 25-28**, *Fire in the Mountains* heavy music festival. Globally known musical artists such as: Wardruna, No Man's Child, Steve Von Till, Chelsea Wolf, Converge, etc.. performed music at Red Eagle camp ground. The event was highly involved with the Browning Public Schools, the High School and Buffalo Hide Academy. Blackfeet musicians who played the festival were Joseph Running Crane, Dylan Running Crane, and Robert Hall (along with Drew Landry)
- **July 30**, Warrior's Den opens up in Heart Butte
- New Heart Butte pow wow arbor opens up
- Free School demolished, during demolition murals painted by the No Runners were shared with the community before crumbling to the ground.

2026:

- MOA between Glacier National Park and Blackfeet Community College
- Glacier Reporter ends operations in Browning
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