

QUICK FACTS: VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA

Population: 7,369 / **Households:** 3,152
Residents ages 18-65: 56.1%
Under 18: 23.2% / **Over 65:** 20.7%
Females 50.3% / **Males** 49.7%
Living in same house at least 1 year: 88.9%

High school graduates 25 and older: 87.3%
Veterans: 754
Housing units: 4,879
Homeownership rate: 75.5%
Persons per household: 2.29

Median household income: \$42,050
Per capita income: \$24,305
Nonfarm employment: 2,108
Nonfarm businesses: 267
Retail sales annually: \$81.4 million

SOURCE: 2010 U.S. CENSUS

QUICK FACTS: READERS

The Courier, Montana's top rated Division 2 paper, reaches over 6,750 readers a week.

In the next 12 months, newspaper readers plan to shop for or buy:

- Health or Medical Products – 78%
- Hardware / Home Improvement – 72%
- Women's Apparel – 70%
- Travel – 58%
- Health Club Membership – 55%
- Men's Apparel – 54%
- Lawn & Garden Products – 52%
- Eyewear – 50%
- Electronics – 41%
- Auto Repair – 36%
- Financial Services – 35%
- Auto Parts – 31%
- Auto Insurance – 27%
- New Furniture – 25%
- Major Household Appliance – 16%

Community Newspaper Readers:

- Spend an average of 40 minutes reading their paper.
- Read most or all of their paper.
- Prefer to look at newspaper ads than watch TV ads.
- Keep their newspaper more than a week (shelf life).
- Say there are days that they read the paper as much for ads as for news.
- Agree that advertising inserts help them make purchasing decisions.
- Are more likely to own their own home.

PROMISING FUTURE? SCOTTIE BOYS KEEPS GRADE 9-10 JEFF JURGENS CHAMPIONSHIP IN GLASGOW/SPORTS, 1B

The Glasgow Courier

Serving Proudly As The Voice Of Valley County Since 1913

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CONNORS NEXT GLASGOW SUPERINTENDENT

Board Brings GHS Graduate Back Home From Stevensville In 4-1 Vote

BY SAMAR FAY
COURIER EDITOR

A Glasgow native has been tapped to be the new superintendent of schools. At the regular board meeting Thursday night, the Glasgow School Board chose Robert Connors, who graduated from GHS in 1981, over two other finalists.

The interviews Wednesday evening and board discussion Thursday were open to the public, and public comment was invited. There was also an open house to meet the candidates before the interviews.

Board members said they were particularly impressed with Connors' strength in special education and his technology background, which they said were needed in Glasgow. He was described as energetic and as having a "spark."

INSIDE

IRVING SAYS
BOARD SUPPORTS
CONNORS FULLY

PAGE 2A

for the past 10 years, including seven years as the junior high principal and three years as the high school vice principal. His classroom experience as a business teacher includes 13 years at Laurel, two years at Choteau and two years at Bate Central High. He earned his degrees at the University of Montana-Missoula, including a bachelor's in business education, a master's in educational supervision and his administrative team to the board. His leadership style is responsible delegation, he said, to build leaders and develop his staff.



"Education is our family business, and we take it very seriously."

— Superintendent-elect Robert Connors. His extended family includes more than 40 educators, including GHS principal Marj Markle.

New Book On Glasgow, County An Early Hit

BY SAMAR FAY
COURIER EDITOR

A book written by Glasgow High School students made its debut Tuesday night and was eagerly purchased by most of the 50 or so people who came to see it launched. Some bought armloads of the handsome, colorful softcover books to give as gifts.

"Glasgow and Valley County, Montana" is the brainchild of Rick Graetz, professor of geography at the University of Montana and co-director of the University of Montana Press, which published the book.

The many sections of the book were written by 12 of Linda Allie's students in composition class, starting in 2008. Their subjects are as diverse as Native Americans, the railroad, churches in the county, Opheim and the Fort Peck Fish Hatchery.

Allie said it was Graetz's idea to bring the campus to the community with this pioneering writing project, which is supposed to be the first of many such books by high school writers.

This is what UM is about these days, outreach more in the communities we serve," Graetz said. The book is lavishly illustrated with photos by Graetz and his wife, Susie, plus several local photographers.

Graetz gave a show of some of his dramatic photographs of the beauty of "Montana east of the mountains" — not eastern Montana, if you please.

"Get rid of the word 'eastern' Montana. There is no such word," he said. "Two-thirds of the state is prairie!"

The new book is to celebrate this part of the state, he said. "Glasgow and Valley County, Montana" can be purchased at Glasgow High School for \$19.95 or by mail for \$22.95 by sending a check to GHS, Box 28, Glasgow, MT 59230.

See related photo, Page 5A.

County Seeks Help With Free Tree Day

Valley County Free Tree Day is asking for donations of \$20 from local businesses and residents.

Valley County has sent for 1,200 trees and bushes to be given away for free. There is a limit of five trees per household and first come, first served.

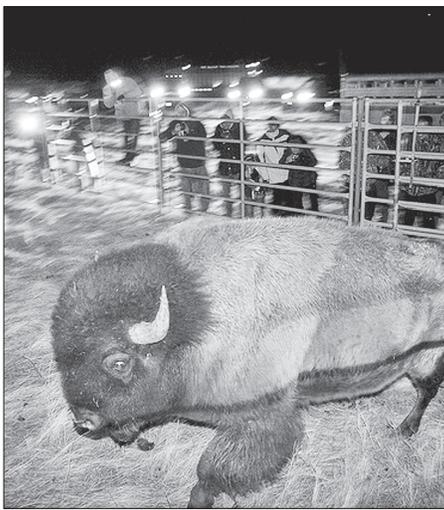
"Your donation will go to defray the cost of the trees," county Commissioner Dave Pippin said. "It is our hope of making Valley County greener and cleaner."

Donations can be sent to: Valley County Commissioners; Attn: Dave Pippin; 501 Court Square, Glasgow, MT 59230.

Bison Whisked To Fort Peck

Governor Calls Reservation A 'Beachhead' For 'Genetically Pure' Buffalo In West; Judge Refuses Restraining Order; Critics Call Move Of 62 Animals A 'Sneak Attack'

BY SAMAR FAY
COURIER EDITOR



Bison from the Yellowstone Park herd were released into a corral on the Fort Peck Reservation on Monday night. Half of the 62 animals will go to the Fort Belknap Reservation when a pasture is fenced for them.

In a surprise move, state officials moved 62 Yellowstone bison onto the Fort Peck Indian Reservation Monday. An agreement with the tribes on the management and ownership of the bison was reached quietly on Friday.

Ranchers and several organizations who have sued Fish, Wildlife & Parks to prevent this move asked Judge John McKeon Monday afternoon to grant a temporary restraining order, but he denied the request Tuesday on procedural grounds.

Cory Swanson, the attorney for the plaintiffs, said the move without public notice was a "sneak attack" and vowed to ask that the bison be returned, but Floyd Azure, chairman of the Fort Peck Tribal Council, was quoted as saying that the state has no jurisdiction now that the bison are on the reservation.

Gov. Brian Schweitzer was quoted in an Associated Press story Monday as saying, "This is where we're going to establish the beachhead of genetically pure bison that will be available as their numbers grow to go to other reservations and other public lands all across the West."

The bison were hauled about 500 miles from the Gardiner area, detouring around a heavy spring snowstorm, and arrived on the reservation after dark. They were greeted by tribal drummers in a ceremony conducted under the lights of pickup trucks.

The bison were captured after migrating north out of Yellowstone Park in search of food in the winter. They have been quarantined for five years and repeatedly tested for brucellosis, a disease that can cause bison, elk and cattle to abort their young.

Having tested clean, they are now to remain in quarantine on tribal land for another five years, while FWP completes a statewide conservation strategy for bison.

Yellowstone bison are prized because they have not bred with cattle. However, the herd, descended from 44 original animals, has been criticized as being inbred and suffering from mitochondrial disease. The lawsuit sought to stop the translocation of the bison until the state had its plan ready. Ranchers who live near existing tribal bison herds on the Fort Peck and Fort Belknap reservations complain that they break out of fences and stray onto private land.

Please See BISON, Page 5A

A REPORTED 26 COWS, CALVES DIE IN BARN FIRE

BY EILEEN TREHOUT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

March so far has lived up to its reputation of being the "windy month" — contributing to the significant losses of cattle, a barn and other farm and ranch property between Lustre and Wolf Point.

Tuesday had been calm during the daytime, so Ferris Toavs took the chance to burn some garbage in his barn barrels. But suddenly during the early evening, the wind hit in excess of 47 mph, whipping a smoldering piece from the barrel into the nearby hay. It spread quickly, and within 20 minutes the barn was engulfed in flames.

They opened the gates where they could and herded the cattle out, but just that morning they freshly bedded the cows that were calving in the barn and they

couldn't be saved. They lost 12 cows, and as close as they can count for now, 14 calves.

Also lost in the fire were the barn, corral, part of the pole barn and approximately 100 tons of hay. Power was lost early in the fire and the night was very dark, so managing the fire was additionally difficult.

Responding to the fire were the BIA fire department, the Wolf Point fire department and the sheriff's department, and the tribal police were there to direct traffic.

Saturday evening, the fire broke out again in a smoldering hay stack to the south. The Wolf Point Fire Department and BIA responded at about 6 p.m., and the BIA stayed on location until midnight to watch.

No one reportedly was injured or suffered smoke inhalation due to the thick clouds of smoke.



Tuesday's fire destroyed a barn and left charred reminders of its destruction at the Ferris Toavs property.



OPINION — 2A BELIEGOW — 6A OBITS — 7A COURIER MEMORIES — 8A BUSINESS DIRECTORY — 8B SPORTS/OUTDOORS — 1B CLASSIFIEDS — 6B LAW ENFORCEMENT — 6B

The Glasgow Courier

Celebrating 100 Years As The Voice Of Valley County In 2013

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