



BIG FLAT NEWS



September 2024

www.bigflatelectric.com

Win a free trip to D.C.

ENTER YOUR ESSAY BEFORE DECEMBER 2*

ATTENTION high school sophomores and juniors: Here's your chance to win a free trip to Washington, D.C. June 14 - 21, 2025.

More than 1,500 students from across America take part in the Youth Tour experience each year, and so can you! This unique trip will give you the opportunity to watch history come alive as you explore the museums, memorials, and monuments with other students from your state.

Gain a personal understanding of American History and explore your role as a citizen by meeting your representative and senators. Bottom line, you will make friendships that will last a lifetime and be part of a group that has more than 50,000 alumni in every walk of life.

Student and/or parent or guardian must be served by Big Flat Electric Co-op. Contest rules can be found at bigflatelectric.com, your school counselor or stop by the Big Flat Electric Cooperative office in Malta. The topic for the 2025 Washington D.C. Youth Tour is:

What was the most important event to have occurred in our nation during your lifetime? How did it affect you?

Entry Deadline: December 2. RM

**All applicants have a chance to win \$100 just for applying!*



In 2024 there were 32 students from around Montana that went on the Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. | **COURTESY PHOTO**



Kenzie LaBrie with her steer | **BIG FLAT PHOTO**



Hannah Klindworth shows her pig at the Blaine County Fair. | **BFEC PHOTO**

BFEC supports local fairs

Big Flat Electric is a proud supporter of the Phillips and Blaine County Fairs held in August. The co-op congratulates all the hard work the 4-H youth put into their projects. Pictured are the animals purchased by Big Flat; Kenzie LaBrie shows her steer at the Phillips County Fair and Hannah Klindworth shows her pig at the Blaine County Fair.

Beef and Pork Bundles will be given away at our annual meeting on October 12, 2024. RM

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Harlem Pool Day was July 16. | **BIG FLAT PHOTO**



Malta Pool Day was July 22. | **BIG FLAT PHOTO**

Free swim days were a success

YOUNGSTERS were treated to a free day at the Malta and Harlem pools this summer. Big Flat Electric Cooperative and Triangle Communications teamed together to sponsor the swim days. We hosted free admission and a popsicle at

the Harlem pool on July 16. At the Malta swimming pool, children received a free pass and a concession voucher on July 22. **RM**

5 Tips for a Safe Harvest

Electrical safety during harvest season requires vigilance and proactive measures. Follow these tips to reduce the risk of electrical accidents.

1. Maintain at least a 10-foot distance from power lines when operating equipment like grain augers, elevators and other tall machinery.
2. Use a spotter to navigate safely around power lines and other electrical equipment.
3. Ensure all farm workers are trained on electrical safety procedures.
4. Regularly inspect all electrical equipment and machinery for signs of wear and damage.
5. Keep first aid kits and emergency contact numbers in an easily accessible location.





CLOSURE

Big Flat Electric Cooperative will be closed September 2, 2024, in honor of and to recognize the American labor movement, and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements of the United States.

SAVE THE DATE!

BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 77th ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 12, 2024

MALTA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

REGISTRATION: 9 a.m.

MEETING: 10 a.m.

IMPACTS OF THE EPA'S POWER PLANT RULE

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) power plant rule threatens access to reliable electricity for millions of Americans. The EPA's power plant rule will:



- 1** Force the premature closure of many power plants that currently provide electricity 24/7.
- 2** Mandate the deployment of unproven carbon capture and storage technology.
- 3** Jeopardize the reliability of the grid at a time when America is already facing a surge in electricity demand.
- 4** Heighten the risk of rolling power outages to relieve pressure on the electric grid.
- 5** Increase costs for consumers as utilities are forced to pay for new power generation to comply with the EPA rule.

FROM SEPTEMBER 1961: BFEC NEWSLETTER

15th Annual Meeting of the Members

The 15th annual meeting of members will be held this year in the Malta City Hall on Oct. 28. The morning hours from 10 a.m. to 12 noon will be taken up with registration followed by a free lunch at noon. The business session will start at 1 p.m. with the President of the Board, D.A. Depuydt, presiding. There are trustees from four districts to be elected. The present directors for these district are, District No. 1, Guy Riggins, from the Hogeland area; District No. 2, Eddie Harmon, from the Turner area; District No. 3, D.A. Depuydt, from the Saco-Whitewater-Loring area; and District No. 4, Wm. A. Dorn from the Wagner area.

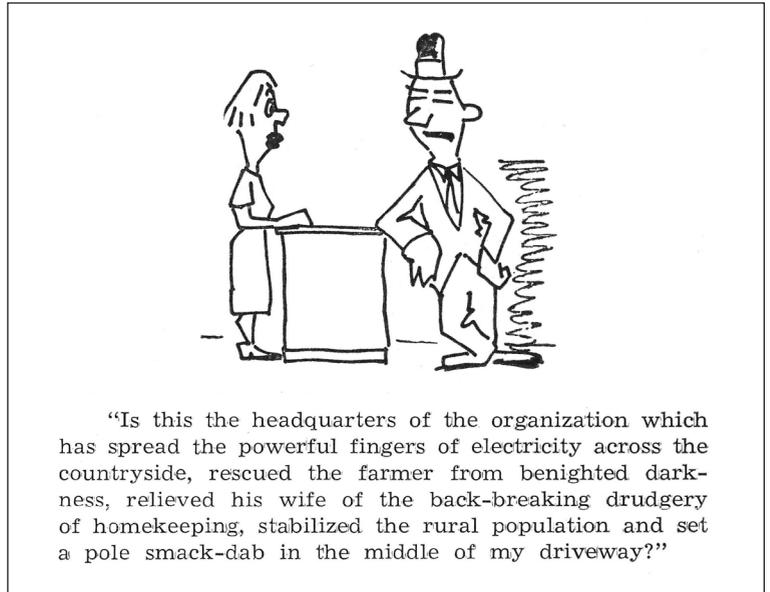
Some may ask the question, "Why attend the annual meeting?" First of all, the Big Flat Electric Cooperative is your cooperative – your private business enterprise. You are more than just a consumer, you are a part owner who has the opportunity and right to voice your opinion in the establishment of policies, and to cast your vote in the election of trustees who will have the responsibility of conducting the business of your cooperative.

Secondly, because you have become so dependent upon the use of electricity, you would shudder to think what it would be like not to have it, consequently you are vitally interested in the welfare of your cooperative, both now and in the future. Its ability to "hold the line" on power cost is important to you, and those who are responsible for it deserve your cooperative support.

Finally, this is the best opportunity you will have to meet and get acquainted with other Big Flat Electric members whose ideas and problems may be different from yours, but just as important. A better understanding which can be gained by association at the annual meetings will make for a better cooperative in the future.

Along Our Lines

- The Gene Sanquins family have moved back to Turner and are living in their trailer house.
- Good rains were reported in northern Blaine and Phillips counties on Thursday, Aug. 17. Numerous outages were caused by the storm, the damage mostly being to individual transformers. A cow owned by Leonard McMullen was reported killed by lightning during the storm.
- A new service was built to the Ed Kirkaldie swimming pool near Hays.
- The Leonard Sevals have a new home under construction on the Ed Kirkaldie place near Hays.
- The Keith Lewis family are now on the lines at one of the Charles Kendall houses in Landusky.
- The Ben Horsemans have a new home under construction near Hays.
- Oren Larsen and family have moved into the Marvin Soennichesen residence in Whitewater. Mr. Larsen will teach in the Whitewater school system.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- District 1 Duane Klindworth
- District 2 Alan Van Voast
- District 3 Alan Wasson, President
- District 4 Betty Campbell, Sec. /Treas.
- District 5 Roger Solberg, Vice President
- District 6 Patty Quisno
- District 7 Kevin Koss

General Manager: Gretchen Boardman



BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

SERVING BLAINE, PHILLIPS AND VALLEY COUNTIES

P.O. BOX 229 • MALTA, MT 59538 • WWW.BIGFLATELECTRIC.COM

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The power of human connections

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PAYMENT OPTIONS:
1-844-968-1965 or
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