



# BIG FLAT NEWS



November 2021

[www.bigflatelectric.com](http://www.bigflatelectric.com)

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS, SENIORS

## YOUTH TOUR

### Win a trip to Washington, D.C.

**H**ERE'S your chance to win a free trip to Washington, D.C., in June.

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 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. Enter the essay contest due November 30, 2021.

The student and/or parent or guardian must be served by Big Flat Electric Cooperative. Contest rules can be found at [bigflatelectric.com](http://bigflatelectric.com), from your school counselor or by stopping by the Big Flat Electric office in Malta. The topic for the



2022 Washington, D.C., Youth Tour Essay Contest is:

“What does the second cooperative principle, Democratic Member Control, mean to you and your community?”



Essays for the 2022 Youth Tour Contest are due November 30.



Big Flat Electric Apprentice Lineman Brenden Johnson has been invited to attend the National Lineman's Rodeo in Kansas City, Missouri, after winning the apprentice division in this year's Montana Lineman's Rodeo.

### 2021 LINEMAN'S RODEO

## Big Flat's Brenden Johnson wins the apprentice division

**B**IG Flat Electric Cooperative would like to congratulate Brenden Johnson on his top overall spot in the apprentice division at this year's Montana Lineman's Rodeo. He scored higher than any other apprentice from Montana, Northern California, Oregon, Idaho and Washington, with a perfect pole score and a 95 on his written test. Brenden has been invited to attend the National Lineman's Rodeo in Kansas City, Missouri.

When asked what he thought of the whole experience, Brenden stated, “It was a great experience to go, as well as represent Big Flat Electric”.

Once again, congratulations to Brenden on his outstanding performance. 

## OUTAGE REPORTING

**MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.:** Call 654-2040  
**AFTER HOURS ONLY OUTAGE:** Call 654-7400

# Native American

## Co-op member promoting native culture and mental health and wellness

Story by **SHAWNA MYERS** | *Big Flat Electric Cooperative*

**N**ATIVE American Heritage Month has evolved from its beginnings as a week-long celebration, when President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the week of November 23-30, 1986, as “American Indian Week.” Every President since 1995 has issued annual proclamations designating the month of November as Native American Heritage Month.

Big Flat Electric Cooperative is happy to recognize member Hannah HasEagle. In the past 14 years, she has accomplished a tremendous amount to continue to promote Native American culture, along with the help of others. Among several of the achievements, the current powwow grounds in Lodgepole were purchased and, through several fundraisers, the rodeo arena, concession stand, out buildings and greenhouse were built. With their culture being so important, Hannah also makes the dancing attire for the youth so that they will learn to dance and continue throughout their lifetime.

Due to COVID-19, Hannah organized online classes teaching beading, moccasin making, teepee building, canvas painting and Bingo on occasion. She delivered all the supplies to households for those who took the

### CONTACT HANNAH

If you have any questions on volunteering, activities, classes or ordering, please contact Hannah on the Facebook page or call (406)399-0140.



**BELOW AND TOP RIGHT:** Hannah HasEagle creates quilts, beadwork, teepees and much more.

**RIGHT:** Hannah helped get the greenhouse built across the road from the powwow ground in Lodgepole. | **PHOTOS COURTESY OF HANNAH HASEAGLE**



# Heritage Month



**ABOVE:** Hannah HasEagle has achieved much in the past 14 years to support and expand appreciation of Native American culture. Among other things, she helped get the powwow grounds in Lodgepole purchased, along with getting the rodeo arena, concessions stand, out buildings and greenhouse built there.

**BELOW:** Hannah helped get the powwow grounds in Lodgepole purchased, along with numerous upgrades. | **PHOTOS BY SHAWNA MYERS**



**ABOVE:** The rodeo arena was built by money from fundraising and purchased from Sleeping Buffalo, Saco. With the help of all volunteers, it was constructed on the powwow grounds. | **PHOTO BY SHAWNA MYERS**

class.

“Talking Circles” is another online event that Hannah started. It is for people to discuss mental health issues and how to get help. This has been quite successful as there are several people from Montana, as well as out of state, on and off the reservation who participate.

All people are important to Hannah, but the youth are who she really tries to focus on, as they are the future. She placed “You Matter” boxes for suicide awareness in Lodgepole, Hays, Harlem and Dodson. The youth, if they wanted to, put messages of hope or how they felt in the box. Hannah said the youth really took great interest in the project and emotion in the messages.

The Facebook page Hannah created is “Native Connections - Fort Belknap,” and on this page she hosts a “Motivational Monday.” Each week someone different speaks for one minute in hopes to motivate others.

The above, along with many other things, keeps Hannah very busy. Somehow, she still manages to find time to take orders for beading, moccasins, teepees, paintings, star quilts, wreaths and special requests. RM



## BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# 74th ANNUAL MEETING

**T**HE 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held October 9, 2021, at the Malta High School auditorium. All incumbent directors were re-elected, and the proposed bylaws were passed.



Big Flat Electric Trustee Kevin Koss presents the \$300 grand prize to Landusky Community Foundation. | **BIG FLAT ELECTRIC PHOTO**



Trustee Kevin Koss presents the \$50 prize to the Young Member winner Justin Hofer from Turner Colony. | **BIG FLAT ELECTRIC PHOTO**



The Board of Directors and General Manager Gretchen Boardman meet at the Big Flat Electric Cooperative 2021 Annual Meeting. | **BIG FLAT ELECTRIC PHOTO**



## 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**  
Line Superintendent: **Darren Demarais**



## CONNECT WITH US

**OPEN WEEKDAYS 8 AM TO 5 PM**

333 S 7TH ST W  
MALTA, MT 59538  
(406) 654-2040

**AFTER HOURS OUTAGE:**  
654-7400

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