

Two Win KPUD's Power of Youth Award

By Lori Froehlich

Each year, Klickitat PUD (KPUD) presents The Power of Youth Award to Klickitat County 4-H Program members. The award is based on community involvement, volunteer activities and leadership.

Tatiana Taylor and Alex Wooden are this year's recipients. They were selected after review of their 4-H achievements, project record book, and a rigorous interview by a 4-H Leaders' Council committee.

Tatiana has been a member of 4-H for six years and is a member of the Evergreen 4-H Club. She is a seventh-grader at Hood River Middle School.

Involvement in numerous activities helped Tatiana achieve recognition, including volunteering at cleanup activities in the High Prairie community; visiting the elderly in Goldendale and bringing them lunch; picking up aluminum cans and glass from Goldendale streets and recycling them; holiday decorating with her dad in the KPUD truck; and guiding a first-time pig shower through the 4-H process.

Tatiana's father, Martin Taylor, has been an employee of KPUD for 11 years in the operations department and has been instrumental in Tatiana's 4-H career.

Tatiana's community service included her participation in KPUD car washes, which her 4-H club donated to the Klickitat County Fair's market stock sale. She was a member of the intermediate Livestock Judging Team at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup. Tatiana's individual score placed her 16th out of 56 livestock judging participants. She has also complet-



Tatiana Taylor

ed numerous 4-H projects, including raising hogs and steers and showing them in Tygh Valley, Oregon, and Klickitat County, demonstrations at the Klickitat County Fair, and livestock judging at the county fair. Tatiana also finished a record book that accounts for each of her 4-H projects.

"I really appreciate all that people in the community do for the 4-H program," she says. "All the volunteers who put on the award ceremonies and workshops are so valuable. Everything they do really helps to make 4-H more educational. Thank you."

She thanks her 4-H Leader, Karla Better, as well as her father, who involved her with 4-H and pigs in the first grade and has supported all her 4-H endeavors.

Alex has shown dairy cows for the last five years, as well as sheep, llamas and beef. She represented Klickitat County at the Washington State Fair in her dairy project for four years, and is a member of the State Intermediate Judging Team.

This year, Alex was awarded a Spring Dairy Scholarship from the



Alex Wooden

Washington State Dairyman's Association, enabling her to buy a new dairy heifer.

"I could not do any of these things without the love and support of my family," says Alex. "My parents make sure I get to my meetings, have what I need for my projects, and mom even takes me to work at the vet clinic with her. The vets there laugh at me because I am really good at using a shovel. I just smile and tell them that all 4-Hers are."

"Being a 4-H member means the world to me. It has given me the opportunity to create great friendships and discover who I am as a leader."

Alex has assisted with open house at Alpine Veterinary Hospital in Hood River.

"It gives me a chance to educate elementary students on animal safety and things like where milk comes from."

Alex logged about 45 volunteer hours last year and hopes to log 60 hours this year. She thanks everyone who supports the Klickitat County 4-H program. ■