

KPUD Nominee Wins State Utility Scholarship



Daniel Thiel, Klickitat PUD's nominee for the 2010 Walkley Scholarship, was selected as the scholarship winner. His name was drawn by the Washington PUD Association at its annual meeting in December. Nominees included in this drawing were submitted from all Washington public utility districts.

This \$1,000 scholarship is sponsored by Glenn and Elvira Walkley. Glenn was a Franklin County PUD commissioner from 1945 to 1980.

Congratulations to Daniel and best wishes on your bright future! ■

From left, KPUD Commissioner Ray Mosbrucker, parents Dan and Veda Charters, Daniel Thiel, KPUD General Manager Jim Smith and KPUD Commissioner Randy Knowles.

Tips to Help You Use Electricity More Efficiently

With the arrival of spring, our days are getting longer, the sun is shining and life is busy. Taking time to do a few home improvements will save energy while reducing your electric bill. Below are some helpful tips.

- Turn your water heater down to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. This is also a safety measure, especially if you have children in the house.
- When you do your spring cleaning, make sure all of the fans work properly and are dust-free. During the warm months, switch the direction and draw air upward, cooling the room and ensuring constant airflow.
- Regularly wash or replace furnace and air conditioner filters.
- If you have a sliding glass door,

make sure to keep its track clean. A dirty track can ruin the door's seal and create gaps where heat or cold air can escape.

- Pets shed during the spring. When dust and pet hair build up on your refrigerator condenser coils, the motor works harder and uses more electricity. As part of your spring-cleaning routine, make sure the coils are cleaned so air can circulate freely.
- Use natural lighting as much as possible. If you have lights on a timer, this is a good time to check them and make sure they are only on when needed.
- Dust or wipe light bulbs. Clean bulbs provide more light.
- Most people close their windows at night and open them in the morning when they see it is a nice day. You

should do the opposite. Your home heats up during the day on warm spring and summer days, so you should open your windows at night when the temperature drops, then close the windows in the morning to keep the cool air in and the hot air out.

- Evaluate your home. Do you need to replace windows, add insulation and seal leaky areas? Some energy improvements you make this year may qualify for a tax credit on next year's taxes.

If you plan to install energy-efficient measures to your home and you heat your home with electricity, call Klickitat PUD before you start your project to see if it qualifies for a low-interest loan or rebate: (509) 773-7622 or (800) 548-8357 ext. 622. ■