

Spotlight on Kids



Jatina Baldwin

This month's *Spotlight* is on Jatina Baldwin. Although Jatina has lived in Butte Falls for only three years, she has become an active member of our community. Jatina is a member of Natural Helpers and BFAA, Senior Class Secretary/Treasurer, Secretary of State for B.F. Student Government, and Recycling Club President.

Jatina became involved in recycling last year when she was asked to work on a project for her health class that would also tie into the community. After coming up with a few ideas she contacted Joyce Hailicka. Along with help from Alan Buchta of the BLM and Joyce, a grant request was submitted to the DEQ. In March of last year the grant was approved and the Community of Butte Falls was awarded \$10,000 to design, build, and run a recycling center. The recycling club was then formed.

Jatina said they have many activities in the planning stages and added that meetings are open to the public and community members are encouraged to join in on the planning of the recycling center.

When asked what she did in her spare time, Jatina replied, "I work a lot, I have two jobs." Jatina is a very busy young lady, she works at the Totem Pole where she says she has fun. About her second job she says, "I really love baby-sitting Angie's kids." Jatina shows a strong love for kids and wants a career working with children. After graduation, Jatina said she will attend college and probably become a kindergarten teacher.

Jatina enjoys living, working, and attending school in Butte Falls, but says there's little for kids to do here. When asked what changes she would make, Jatina replied, "I would open up a place where us kids could go hang out and have fun. It would have video games and a pool table, a couple of booths to eat french fries at, and it could be open for the little kids also." Jatina said she hears a lot of gossip and "it makes me mad when people comment about how they don't like the kids to hang out at the park, and I think to myself...well, where else are we supposed to go?"

Jatina describes herself by saying, "I'm a good listener, but I LOVE to talk, I'm a really blunt person, but very nice, and I'm not short, just vertically challenged!" As you can tell, Jatina has a wonderful sense of humor.

Jatina is a delight to be around. She enjoys life and knows how to have fun, even while working.