

Forum: Student project raises money for nonprofit

Continued from C4

rections and her current fiancé is incarcerated.

After the forum, several students expanded on the project, in order to complete needed hours, by conducting a survey of teachers who attended, asking the following questions:

Was there any unexpected information? What did you find useful? Did any of the information change your mind? How did you feel about the stories? Do you think the students attending benefited?

Many of the answers revealed that much of the information shared at the forum was new to the adults in the room, such as the differences between federal and state prisons, the fact that both panelists were women, the differences between "white-collar" and drug-related crimes and just how hard re-entry from prison life into society can be.

Many of the teacher responses reflected a deep satisfaction that the students present were getting an in-depth glimpse into the actual paths people took that led to incarceration.

During an interview, Chief Ramstead shared with Morgan some of the strategies employed by his police force to lay a good foundation for children in the community.

When officers encounter families in



Panelists answer questions during the June 8 forum at Nooksack Valley Middle School. — Lynden Tribune | COURTESY PHOTO

public, Ramstead said, he often overhears parents threaten their children with words to the effect of "You better be good or he'll come put those handcuffs on you and put you in jail."

Ramstead said officers immediately offer the child a gift such as a sticker to try to bridge any divide the parents may have caused in their children in attitude toward

law enforcement.

Morgan said she was amazed by the work done by the student organizers. The students were Yasmin Cabrera, Miguel Zavala, Nick Lane, Roberto Baltazar, Eric Lopez and Tanner Klemen.

"The teachers didn't do much of the planning," Morgan said.

In general, Morgan said, she was im-

pressed by the breakout projects all students have to complete before moving on to high school, especially the fact that they are not a state requirement, just something required at the local school.

"I went to the displays," she said. "There was a lot of information and talent on display."

E-mail Mark Reimers at reporter@lyndentribune.com.

Art: September class open to anyone

Continued from C5

than impressed with the quality of his students' work. The students have been more than happy, however, to go over the same course work again, a task Miller is willing to do, knowing that a second time through can help the class catch what they may have missed the first time.

Starting on Friday, Sept. 10, Miller plans to open up the class to all comers.

E-mail Mark Reimers at reporter@lyndentribune.com.