

YOUR | LETTERS

School district thanks community for their support

Dear Editor,

The 25th Annual Dickens Fair was by far the busiest and best attended of them all. Over 100 vendors, many dressed in Dickens era clothing, sold their handcrafted items while choirs and bands from the district's schools performed throughout the day.

This community event provides spaces for free to non-profits and community civic organizations in an effort to support their fundraising campaigns. The Senior Class parents take over the cafeteria providing food throughout the day with profits going to help pay for the All Night Drug and Alcohol Free Graduation Party. As shoppers leave the fair many purchase their Christmas wreaths and swags from Lake Stevens High School FFA students; proceeds helping to support their program.

At the door shoppers were greeted by the Lake Stevens Police Explorers who gathered food and monetary donations for the Lake Stevens Food Bank. The community was extremely generous providing over 2,000 pounds of food and \$1,249.16.

There are many thanks that go out to those who contributed to make this day a huge success. Thanks to Lake Stevens Po-

lice for organizing the Explorers to spend the day greeting at the front door, thanks to City Administrator Jan Berg and her daughter Macy who collected food and donations at the west entrance, thanks to the early morning Lake Stevens Fire crew who helped to direct vendors to the correct parking locations, thanks to Assistant Principal Lisa Sanchez who assisted with logistics on Friday prior to the fair, and thanks to Mitch Robinson with the L.S. Food Bank who helped with the organization and logistics of the donated food.

And so, on the first Saturday in December, for the past 25 years, the Lake Stevens community has come together to support each other and to spend the day here in our community. So mark your calendars now for next year, December 1, where you can start your day at the Dickens Fair, see the arrival of Santa via a "Big Red Fire Engine" in downtown Lake Stevens, and end the day at Ixtapa where firefighters collect tips to make Christmas merry for those in need.

Thank you for making this an amazing event for our community.

Arlene Hulten
Director of Community Services
Lake Stevens School District