

Re: Turkey Bowling Event

We applaud Channel 13 for organizing the recent holiday charity event that aired on either Monday or Tuesday morning featuring your employees, local citizens, Seattle Seahawks and Safeway Stores. Many of us who had long careers with Safeway (35 years) while working in the main office in Bellevue as department heads participated in countless charity events with our Government/Public Relations Department.

Unfortunately, we and others were disappointed that this wonderful event had to resort to using recently slaughtered frozen turkeys as bowling balls. It simply reinforces the idea that turkeys which happen to be a visible symbol in America are worthless and stupid and acceptable objects to be used for sport. More importantly is the impression that the event gives our youth who are avid followers of the Seahawks and influenced by their conduct on and off the field. To see these animals as playthings for human use is wrong when instilling respect for the value of all living things. Surely the event wouldn't have been diminished by using non-animal props.

Channel 13 is in an enviable position to exert positive influence and elevate the best of our culture which, in many respects, is incredibly violent and shallow. We hope that Channel 13 can change the derogatory turkey stereotype portrayed in the event. A number of your great morning personalities can send the right message of respect and compassion for future charity events.

It is encouraging to realize, with the creation of farm animal sanctuaries, turkey adoption programs, and vegetarianism, that the public has new opportunities to get to know turkeys and see they are friendly, curious toward people, trusting and beautiful.

Incidentally, we should know since we are the sanctuary that rescued the unwanted turkeys from the Town of La Conner when a mayor wanted a humane solution (featured on Channel 5. We are also the sanctuary who rescued all the rabbits from Woodland Park and Green Lake when the populace of Seattle demanded a humane solution (rescue aired on Channel 7) as well as other farm and companion animals.

I think we can all agree that the good in all of us especially during the holiday season is elevating our culture that animals do not exist solely for humans to demean and exploit.

For the animals,

Ralph and Caryl Turner, Co-Founders
Precious Life Animal Sanctuary
a 501C(3) non-profit organization

www.preciouslifeanimalsanctuary.org
Sequim, Washington-