

December 31, 2015  
Letters to the Editor  
Sequim Gazette

RE: Celebration of Life

Alana Linderoth's holiday article entitled, "A Thoughtful Turkey Day" (12/23) and an earlier piece, "My First Time Owning a Cow" (6/28), are not beliefs shared by those who choose to eat non-animal foods that support life rather than death.

The core of both articles is that she and her partner have no qualms about eating animals provided they know where they were raised and were "humanely" slaughtered. Humane slaughter is inherently inhumane for it takes the lives of sentient beings that have the same will to live as we do. It is self-serving justification that their steer as well as their turkeys were raised as "humane meat". Free range and factory farm animals meet the same fate and are killed in the same manner.

The holiday article confirms the ease one can kill by slowly cornering and netting the individual turkey, then grabbing and holding it upside down, locking its legs while his throat is swiftly slit "without a struggle" as it bleeds out. The procedure is similar to a human captive being beheaded. It, too, is swift and begins with a sharp knife to the throat "with no struggle" as there is no escape. It is easy to deny the helplessness, fear and terror when you're not the victim.

A photograph shows the turkey carcass that was a living animal "beautifully marked with metallic feathers" that has now been reduced to a centerpiece to "deepen the holiday experience" filled with laughs and joyous memories.

We too had wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners with friends and joyous memories without an animal corpse as a centerpiece but a Tofurkey with all the traditional trimmings. Afterward we visited our rescued turkeys and heard their anticipated chirps for extra holiday treats. None were sacrificed for a mouthful of flesh as we no longer need to kill to feed ourselves and be healthy.

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