

NORTHERN KITTITAS COUNTY TRIBUNE

The Upper County's Independent Voice Since 1953 - Local Family Owned & Operated from the Heart of the Upper County

Serving the upper Kittitas County communities of Cle Elum, Roslyn, Ronald, South Cle Elum, Easton, Snoqualmie Pass, Suncadia and Thorp

happy
THANKSGIVING
November 22nd

What are you most grateful for this year?

by Jim Fossett

jim@nkctribune.com

CLE ELUM – Last Wednesday organic ranchers Brad and Lisha Newhall of Thorp's Windy N Ranch jumpstarted Thanksgiving for Cle Elum Elementary kindergartners with a live turkey show-and-tell, while the NKC Tribune scoured the upper county looking for people who had something to say about the little things in life they feel grateful for.

It was a first time experience for Brad and Lisha and what they quickly discovered is that kindergarten-age children respond better – to the Dr. Seuss approach.

Starting around 1:00 p.m., three classes took turns marching in line to the playground where the Newhall's awaited them with two caged White Holland heritage turkeys. The first group of children got the beta version of the Newhall's pitch, a simplified version of this.

Brad: "The White Holland is a white-feathered variety that originated in Europe. It

was developed from Mexican turkeys brought to Europe from the Americas beginning in the 1500s. They were documented in England in the early 1800s and imported to the United States not long afterward. The White Holland is the same breed and bloodline Early American forefathers ate. It's an all natural, free-range bird, raised in our orchard."

While Brad talked, he and Lisha noticed the blank expressions on the faces of the toddlers and decided they had to adjust the approach.

After group No. 1 left the playground and group No. 2 marched from the classroom for their turn, Brad and Lisha emerged from a huddle with a new attack plan.

Lisha: "Hi kids. I want to introduce you to Hobble and Gobble. Want to learn how to talk to a turkey?"

With that Lisha let out a string of authentic-sounding gobbles and, smiling, the kids joined in ... for the next five or ten minutes straight. The teacher had to rein them in to



SIXTY CLE ELUM ELEMENTARY KINDERGARTEN KIDS kicked off the Thanksgiving Day holiday with a show-and-tell gratis Thorp organic ranchers Brad and Lisha Newhall – and that story ended with an unexpected twist.

N.K.C. TRIBUNE/Jim Fossett photo - 2012



CAROL GOULD (right) says: "I'm grateful for the Scauk-Teaway Grange." Pictured left Claire Lucke, Grange president.



ROSLYN'S COLE LOWENSTEIN: "Availability of so many friends in a small town. I walk out the door and in five minutes I could run into any one of them at any time of day."



NORAH & NELLIE NICHOLLS of Cle Elum: "Replanting trees on Table Mountain ... for the Lorax."



CLE ELUM'S NINA RATLIFF and Sean Flanagan met in eighth grade. Nina recently said with a hint of humor: "I'm grateful we're FINALLY MARRIED."



SNOQUALMIE PASS RESIDENT TRACY HILL: "My man, my roof, my job, my coffee – and happiness."



YAKIMA RIVER GUIDE Tyler Savage: "Seeing the smile on someone's face when they catch their first fish."



CLE ELUM'S DAVE FRANKLIN (not shown): "Getting service from someone who calls you by name – with a smile." Pictured is Gina Clutcher and Gary Berg.



USFS'S RACHEL PENNEBAKER: "Having a job I love that let's me work where I love to be – in the woods. (I'm also grateful for holiday-flavored coffee creamers.)"



CLE ELUM'S Nate Rowley: "Being my own boss." Shown with Nate, son Marshall, 3.

get them to stop, seemingly not because they had become obnoxious and irritating – but because they had become too patient and too determined. It was obvious they were having fun learning the new language.

After Brad and Lisha had answered an exhausting round of questions posed by the last class, they turned to each other with a sigh of relief because nobody had asked if Hobble and Gobble would be

eaten for Thanksgiving.

Based on their tender age in life, the Newhall's had been asked to avoid that question. If that question had been asked the company line would have been, "Nope. They're pets. Turkeys you eat come from the supermarket." But it didn't work out that way.

Before the last class left, and at what seemed to be the very last minute, a substitute teacher shepherding the group

innocently and unknowingly whispered the fatal question.

Caught off guard, the Newhall's glanced at each other with that wide-eyed, caught-in-the-cookie-jar look. Then, following a very awkward moment Brad, after a shuffling of his feet and a look toward the heavens, struggled to come up with something.

Not wanting to embarrass an unsuspecting adult with a sidestep or muddle the minds

of babes, and noticing they had long since lost their attention span, he quietly improvised, "Well. The answer is yes. But isn't it wonderful these turkeys give up their lives for us. That's something we can all be grateful for."

Brad's response sets the stage for the question the NKC Tribune asked residents last week: "It's Thanksgiving. What are the little things in life you feel grateful for?"



"GRANDFATHERS," said (L-R) Jordan Pugh, Dylan Pugh, Gabriel Windborne and Evan Pugh, with their grandfather. Cle Elum Mayor and Glondo's Sausage Company owner Charles Glondo.



CLE ELUM-ROSLYN High School Head Volleyball Coach Erin Dell. "For athletes who try hard." Pictured congratulating Samantha Schaeffbauer.



CLE ELUM'S NICK COBY: "To be able to waking up in the morning and taking nourishment."



JAMIE LUNSTAD of Jamie's Depot in Cle Elum: "Closing shop, moving to Arizona and retirement."



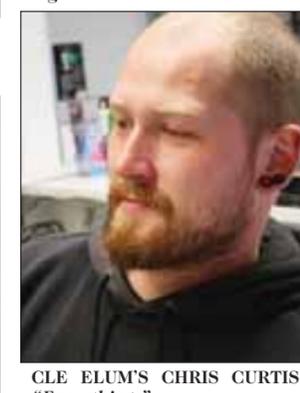
ELK MEADOWS RESIDENT DORA WOLFE'S 5-year-old Pomeranian. "Gettin' out of the hospital with a new lease on life. I still find myself runnin' into walls now and then ... but I can live with that."



TEANAWAY RESIDENT Russ Hobbs: "I'm grateful for having a home surrounded by 50,000 acres of forestland. It's like being in heaven."



CLE ELUM'S ALEX CURTIS: "Mountains covered in snow."



CLE ELUM'S CHRIS CURTIS: "Everything."

Happy Thanksgiving!



CLE ELUM'S TERRA SILVASY: "The state of Washington and the City of Cle Elum. They changed the life my husband and I led in California."



CLE ELUM'S JANICE HAYWOOD: "Discovering a health issue before it became too serious."



CLE ELUM'S SUSAN DANIEL: "Seeing firsthand the holiday spirit in a small community – and waking up to quietude and birds singing."



ANONYMOUS: "HopeSource Food Bank. In tough times, I can feed my family."



CLE ELUM'S JEANNE GRITTON: "For seniors and others who make Third Street's Centennial possible." Pictured are upper county locals Del Punton (left) and Jonas Smith (right).



CLE ELUM'S DAVE FRANKLIN (not shown): "Good conversations. It's why we're here on the planet." Pictured are upper county locals Del Punton (left) and Jonas Smith (right).



CLE ELUM'S CHRISTINA PARR: "Having a healthy baby when the doctors said I couldn't. Every day I say thanks for my daughter, Aubrey. She's two, now."



ANONYMOUS: "For all this city's patriarchs pushing 100 – who still wanna sling a chain saw." Pictured is Cle Elum's Sam Taleric.