

Local

BAKER COUNTY CALENDAR

MONDAY, DEC. 2

■ **Haines Fire Protection District Board:** 7 p.m. at the Haines Library.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4

■ **Baker County Board of Commissioners:** 9 a.m., Courthouse, 1995 Third St.

THURSDAY, DEC. 5

■ **National Oregon Trail Interpretive Center Free-Fee Days:** Free admission; the center is 5 miles east of Baker City just off Highway 86; information about winter hours is available by calling 541-523-1843.

■ **Saint Alphonsus Foundation Festival of Trees:** Preview Among the Trees, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Community Event Center, 2600 East St.; tickets are \$20 each; tickets are sold out for Friday's Gala.

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

■ **4-H Christmas Bazaar:** Noon to 5:30 p.m., at the Extension Office, 2600 East St.; to reserve a table, call 541-523-6418.

■ **Live Music by Keith Taylor:** Ragtime piano, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn Ave.; no charge.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald December 2, 1969

An athletics and activities coordinating committee was created by the Baker County Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors at its meeting Tuesday evening.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald December 2, 1994

The Anne Frank Community Exhibit opened Thursday night at the Oregon National Guard Armory with featured speaker Alice Kern, who presented her story of survival at Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald December 2, 2009

Grant Johnson is 55 hours from playing in his first Civil War, which is to say he's preparing to etch his name into a legend.

They've already battled on the football field 112 times, the Oregon State Beavers and the University of Oregon Ducks.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald December 3, 2018

About 100 people attended a Forest Service meeting Friday at Baker High School, and the possibility that the agency will close roads to motor vehicles was a major topic of concern.

Friday's meeting was one of several "objection resolution" meetings Forest Service officials scheduled after they received more than 350 objections to the revised management plans for the three Blue Mountains national forests, released in late June.

Those plans are intended to replace the 1990 management guidelines for the Willowa-Whitman, Umatilla and Malheur national forests.

The day-long meeting included nine separate sessions, each covering different topics including access, timber and vegetation management, fire and fuels management and livestock grazing.

The sessions were overseen by one of three Forest Service officials: Reviewing Officer Chris French and two associate deputy chiefs, Allen Rowley and Jenn Eberling.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Nov. 30

1 - 4 - 10 - 21 - 22 - 32

Next jackpot: \$6.8 million

POWERBALL, Nov. 30

15 - 35 - 42 - 63 - 68 PB 18

Next jackpot: \$120 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Nov. 29

6 - 8 - 31 - 50 - 65 Mega 9

Next jackpot: \$266 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Nov. 30

15 - 36 - 47 - 48

PICK 4, Dec. 1

• 1 p.m.: 1 - 1 - 4 - 7

• 4 p.m.: 0 - 7 - 6 - 8

• 7 p.m.: 0 - 6 - 0 - 1

• 10 p.m.: 9 - 1 - 7 - 1

LUCKY LINES, Dec. 1

3-6-12-16-20-24-26-31

Next jackpot: \$15,000

SENIOR MENUS

■ **TUESDAY:** Swedish meatballs over fettuccine, mixed vegetables, bread, coleslaw, ice cream

■ **WEDNESDAY:** Beef pot roast, potatoes and gravy, green beans, roll, carrot-raisin salad, apple crisp

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; \$4.50 donation (60 and older), \$6.75 for those under 60.

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Carl Rosato

Richland, 1957-2019

Carl Rosato, 62, of Richland, died Nov. 24, 2019, at his home with his wife at his side.

Carl grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, with 11 other siblings. At 15, he



Carl Rosato

took a road trip with his mom and younger brother to the Northwest and visited Tolstoy, an intentional community near Spokane, Washington, focused on farming and simple living.

Carl left high school and joined Tolstoy later in his 15th year. To support himself, Carl picked apples, peaches, and other tree fruit in Washington state orchards every season for five years.

He worked hard and was known as the fastest and best fruit picker. Carl moved to another back-to-the-land farming intentional community at Wolfe Creek, Oregon, and then onto a start-up farm in Washington where he hoped to work his way into cooperative ownership.

When that did not work out, he began to save money for his own farm, picking fruit, planting trees for the Hoedads in Washington, and grafting.

Carl met his first wife, Rael Reif, in 1979. They bought 10 acres in the Sierra foothills near Oroville, California, in 1980. Carl began building the poor soil on their hilly land with compost and cover crops and planted 1,000 peach trees and 40 mandarin orange trees.

Carl chose many of the peach and nectarine varieties that had been his favorites while picking fruit in Washington. Carl built a small greenhouse and a one-room home, complete with out-house, outdoor shower, and solar hot water.

Carl worked for four years at a local lumber mill. While the fruit trees matured, he grew flowers and sold them on street corners for the five major "flower holidays." Woodleaf Farm was certified organic in 1982 and was the ninth farm in California to be

certified by California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF).

Carl became very involved with CCOF, as a certifier for other organic farms. He attended the very first EcoFarm conference in 1981. He read everything he could get his hands on about organic soil management and farming and started his enormous book collection.

Carl and Rael divorced in 1991.

Carl focused on his farm, diversified, and expanded while purchasing another 16 acres and planting another 2,000 fruit trees, adding to the peaches, nectarines, and mandarins with apples, pears, plums, pluots, Asian pears, persimmons and baby kiwi. He also raised vegetables, including his well-known trelis cucumbers, and shiitake mushrooms.

Carl developed an ecological approach to soil and pest management with reduced tillage and living mulches to help cycle nutrients and provide habitat for beneficial insects. He also developed a gravity flow irrigation system, 100% solar power for the farm, low energy use buildings, and had cats for gopher control.

He developed a strong farmer's market clientele selling at six farmer's markets per week in the Bay area and one weekly market in Chico, California. Carl's peaches were renowned for flavor and beauty all over northern California.

Carl was always trying to improve organic farming techniques and understand biological systems with on-farm experiments. In 1992, Carl received the first Organic Farming Research Foundation farmer research grant to study organic methods for peach brown rot management.

Carl's three years of experiments helped him to develop his famous "mineral-mix bloom spray" to manage brown rot. Carl used the bloom spray successfully for more than 20 years.

Carl focused on organic soil management and studied with several leaders in soil

mineral balancing. He became an organic soil management consultant, working with farmers to balance soil minerals and design/maintain organic orchards.

Carl was devoted to education and service. From 2004 to 2010, Carl helped to direct, design and run the CCOF Foundation grant-funded Going Organic Project. From 1994 to 2011, Carl taught four organic farming courses at Butte Community College in California.

Carl was also the president of the North Valley California chapter of CCOF and served as a CCOF state board member (2005-2012) and a Community Alliance with Family Farmers board member (2000-2005). Carl was a volunteer every year at Full Belly Farm's Hoes Down Festival where he also presented workshops.

During the winters, Carl traveled extensively in Central and South America and eventually bought land in Ecuador to save endangered primary native tropical forest. On the unforested part of his land in Ecuador, Carl planted cacao trees and learned to make chocolate, that friends and family say was very bitter.

He sold the land in Ecuador when he found that spending winters away from his Woodleaf Farm in California got in the way of managing his farm and maintaining the kind of quality Carl insisted upon.

Carl met his second wife, Gina Colombatto, at his Marin farmer's market in 2002 and helped to raise his stepdaughter, Lena DGiulia, who was 12 and loved coming to the farm and helping at Carl's farmer's markets. Carl and Gina traveled in Europe and explored the East Coast of the U.S. But Carl's farm always came first and he and Gina divorced in 2008 when Carl lost his entire fruit crop to a spring frost and put all his energy into growing vegetables for the valuable farmers markets he had spent so many years building. Carl turned out to be as good a vegetable grower as he was a fruit grower.

Carl met his last wife, Helen Atthowe, at the 2011 EcoFarm conference where they were both presenting about ecological soil and pest strategies using reduced till-

age and living mulches.

In February 2012, Carl was recognized with a Steward of Sustainable Agriculture Award, at the 32nd EcoFarm Conference. Later that year Helen sold her Montana farm and moved to California and began to farm with Carl.

Carl and Helen also continued to do on-farm research, including a Western Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education grant (2013-2015) to study Woodleaf Farm's disease and insect suppression and soil management system, and a 2013 grant from The Fruit Guys to study Woodleaf's insect suppression strategies.

Carl and Helen did presentations and workshops together and published the results of their research at <https://eorganic.org/node/14129>. Carl and Helen also created educational videos presented at <https://www.youtube.com/user/AgrarianDreams/videos>. In the winter they hiked and camped in the desert and backpacked in warmer climates.

After four bountiful and lucrative years farming in California, Carl and Helen had enough saved to "semi-retire." In December 2015, they bought 211 acres in Northeastern Oregon at the base of the Willowa Mountains with 64 irrigated acres along nearly a mile of Eagle Creek.

They built deer fence, planted a 400-acre orchard with 85 varieties of fruit, including crosses they had made from their favorite Woodleaf Farm peaches. They built a greenhouse and a high tunnel for vegetable production and experimented with further reducing tillage and growing their own fertilizer in their vegetable fields.

Carl built sheds and the shop he had always dreamed of. Helen and Carl continued to travel for presentations and workshops and for camping, backpacking, and snorkeling adventures.

They especially enjoyed exploring the Eagle Cap Wilderness just up the road from their farm. Carl redid his Woodleaf Farm website to include all the new ideas and farming methods he and Helen were experimenting with at Woodleaf Farm, Oregon.

Carl never stopped learning, changing his ideas, being curious, and seeing with the eyes of wonder and awe. He had a life of passion and purpose and service and has been well-loved by family, friends, students, and all the people he touched with his work.

Donations in Carl's name can be sent to CCOF Foundation, the Wild Farm Alliance, or Organic Farming Research Foundation through Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services, P.O. Box 543, Halfway, OR 97834. Online condolences may be made at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

See Obituaries / Page 3A

News of Record
on Page 3A

Santa is in a BIG snowball to meet you at the
Kiwanis Santa Photos

Festival of Trees Family Day

**Saturday
December 7
10AM to 3PM**

the Event Center
(Baker Fairgrounds - 2600 East St.)

Visit Santa and Get Your Picture Taken.
All Ages Welcome.

\$10
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NOV 29-DEC 5

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KNIVES OUT PG-13
FRI & SAT: (12:45) 3:45, 6:45, 9:30
SUN: (12:45) 3:45, 6:45
MON-THURS: 6:45

FROZEN 2 PG
FRI & SAT: (1:10) 4:10, 7:10, 9:40
SUN: (1:10) 4:10, 7:10
MON-THURS: 7:10

A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD PG
FRI & SAT: (1:00) 4:00, 7:00, 9:35
SUN: (1:00) 4:00, 7:00
MON-THURS: 7:00

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