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The Humboldt Sun



Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Winnemucca, Nevada
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State grapples with issue of rape kit backlog

Over 3,000 remain untested in Nevada

By Shanna Cummings

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Since the initiation of the Nevada Sexual Assault Initiative in 2015, 5467 Sexual Assault Kits (SAK) have been processed, leading to 563 DNA matches and 13 arrests, according to a Nevada Attorney General's Office press

release. As of presstime Monday, 3,772 remain untested.

The endnevadasbacklog website describes an SAK as a kit "used to store physical evidence collected during invasive and lengthy examination conducted at a hospital or rape crisis center following a sexual assault. These kits are comprised of evidence gathered from the victim by a medical professional, often a specially trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE).

— See SAK, Page Five —

Missing hunters found safe

Hesses reunite with rescuing pilot

By Timothy Vaughan

Special to the Humboldt Sun

Early Tuesday morning, Oct. 30, when experienced hunter Joe Hess, 66, and his wife Kim, 61, set out to fill their Nevada Division of Wildlife deer tag in Unit 31, north of Winnemucca and west of Orovada, they did not expect what would happen by the day's afternoon.

At about 4 p.m. that afternoon, as the pair drove off-road through Lovely Valley — on the upper side of Bilk Creek in the Trident Mountains and below Shyster Butte —

— See RESCUE, Page Five —



TIMOTHY VAUGHAN • Special to the Sun

Joe Hess kisses the engine cowling of Angelo Root's vintage Cessna 140 airplane in gratitude.

Slingin' pumpkins —



ASHLEY MADEN • The Humboldt Sun

On Saturday, the Boys & Girls Club hosted a chili tasting and Pumpkin Chuckin. The community was invited to come taste chili and bring their pumpkins to shoot with a giant slingshot at targets made of dirt piles. There were also mini apple slingshots. Calvin Reeder, age 2.5 takes a shot at the targets with the apple slingshot. For more, see Page 32.

WSRRA National Rodeo Finals



CHARLIE ROOME • The Humboldt Sun

The Winnemucca Events Complex was the site of the 9th annual Western States Ranch Rodeo Association National Finals last weekend. The four day event was packed -with hundreds of cowboys and cowgirls from western states competing in a multitude of events. For more, see Page 20.

Pumpkin Chuckin fun at the Boys & Girls Club

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SHANNA CUMMINGS • The Humboldt Sun
Chef **Ian Tolotti** demonstrates one of the bicycles that Boys & Girls Club kids use to make smoothies.



ASHLEY MADEN • The Humboldt Sun
Colby Barry (left), age 6, and **Wes Barry** (right) pull back the apple slingshot to try to hit one of the targets.



ASHLEY MADEN • The Humboldt Sun
Boys & Girls Club Program Manager **Nathan Green** (left) helps **Maddox Lage**, age 10, pull back his pumpkin slingshot to launch a pumpkin over the fence.



SHANNA CUMMINGS • The Humboldt Sun
Naomi Leahy (right) won this year's chili cookoff. She is pictured with **Koralee Bernardo**.



ASHLEY MADEN • The Humboldt Sun
Above left: **Erick Bergenheier**, age 13 pulls the slingshot back to launch his pumpkin as far as he can. Right: **Addison Reeder** (right), age 7.5 launches an apple into the field.