

# BEETS, TOPS & LIVESTOCK

THURSDAY



# RARE BREE

4-H project turns into family

Tribune Staff Writer

**H**annah Hogan was looking for a way to raise money for college. Then she found GreatC.

In doing research into raising cattle for a Park County 4-H project, Hogan wanted a breed that would be smaller — the perfect size to fit in a freezer. But mostly, she wanted cattle that were easy to handle.

She came across a stre brood, the Scottish Highland. Highlands have a least history with humans. Archeological evidence dates them back to the sixth century — they are gentle beasts accustomed to humans and do not stress easily. Easy to halter or bridle, train, ear- tags. Scots would keep the family cow — like other herds during the

Due to a double hair count, Highland Cattle herds don't need a heavy layer of backfat for insulation. This allows the animal to metabolize naturally low input forage while producing, at least, low fat, high quality cuts of beef, according to the American Highland Cattle Association.

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Hogan is celebrating a decade with Gracie. Her choice was popular with the family and the sale of steers more than paid for cologne.

"I ended up making money,"

meat  
can be  
on grass.'

Heather Hogan  
of cattle owner

Hogan's Highlands.

"It would be smarter to sell her  
now, but we've decided to keep  
her," Hogan said. All the family  
members have a favorite in the  
pasture, but the steers, she

With the Hogan team living with a camera, the herd is currently at nine and provides the family with tasty table fare and extra income.

"It's less meat and they can be patterned on grain," she said.

Homes' 4-H project turned out to be a winner. Her advice to those starting 4-H projects: Do your research. Find the best breed for you, she said.

"Although I'm biased," she said, "I think they're pretty fun."

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A close-up photograph of a Highland cow's head, showing its thick, shaggy brown fur and a single, curved horn. The cow is looking towards the left.



Hannah Hogan shows Cayle in the Highlands now has a small herd of 7-hunter. (Photo by Steve Chasen)

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## INSIDE



Rare breed



Growing grapes  
SEEDS

There's been a recent  
& Kennel Cough in the



# Be

## EARLY DIG SLO

BY TESSA BAKER  
*Tribune Features Editor*

**A**rea farmers had only a few days of sunny weather to begin the sugar be harvest.

They made the most of the nice weather prior to the storm by picking as many beets as possible.

"We were far enough ahead on Thursday [Sept. 14] to quit and it started raining Thursday night. We couldn't have harvested Friday through the weekend anyway," said Mark Bjornstad, senior agriculturalist for Western Sugar Cooperative.

The harvest resumed Monday. The Western Sugar factory in Lovell didn't stop a beat.

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# et har

## OWED BY WEATHER

keep a constant supply going to the plant.

"We have about five days of beet (piled) on the ground right now," Bjornstad said Tuesday morning.

Thorpe said that calendar work for the factory to stay operating, he said, adding, "we'll put as much supply on the ground as we can to collect the wet weather."

Thorpe said it is in the forecast again this weekend, sunny skies should return early next week.

Bjornestad said the plan is still to harvest about 16 percent of the sugar beet crop — roughly 2,560 acres — in September.

Early indications are that the

*Farmers of the*  
He  
bount  
'We appreciate  
of a



Shoshone Spring

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