

WOMEN IN BUSINESS



Liza Jane McAlister harnesses her Belgian team to pull her hay wagon for winter feeding.

6 Ranch

By Ellen Morris Bishop
Wallowa County Chieftain

McAlister, a hands-on rancher who does most of the work herself, began raising beef about 30 years ago with 20 conventional cattle. "I started thinking we needed a breed that could go anywhere, be light on the land, graze on steep ground, and was really hardy," she said. She decided to try Corrientes—a breed that originated from Spanish cattle brought to the Southwest as early as 1493. McAlister operates a farm stand on her ranch that carries products from 15 producers in Wallowa County. She's considering opening another in Joseph. "We raise such good food here," she said. "I want our local foods to be more accessible to people who live here."

Liza Jane McAlister owns and runs the 6 Ranch just west of Enterprise. Her ranch mission: "To produce healthy food, restore ecosystems, and preserve western traditions" drives and sustains her business. The sixth generation on this ranch, McAlister raises Corriente cattle, and also markets their beef to food stores and restaurants in northeastern Oregon and Portland. Products include a boxed ¼ beef, individual cuts, and "whole grind" ground beef that includes meat from steak, roasts and other cuts. 6 Ranch beef is highly valued as low in fat, high in nutrients, and, simply, delicious.

WHERE TO FIND 6 RANCH BEEF

Enterprise, Oregon

• Liza Jane's farm stand; The Dollar Stretcher; Ruby Peak Naturals; Terminal Gravity Brewing

Joseph, Oregon

• East Fork Brewing; Winding Waters River Expeditions.



Deve Wolfe in her Joseph Main Street shop, "Tempting Teal Boutique." Wolfe has been a Joseph business owner for 21 years.

Tempting Teal Boutique

By Christian Ambrosio
Wallowa County Chieftain

Deve Wolfe owns and operates Joseph's popular Main Street shopfront Tempting Teal Boutique. There she specializes in women's fashion. Inside you can find anything "from cowboy boots, fashion jeans, rodeo wear, casual wear, stylish jewelry, leather goods, home-made fleece, and hidden gems." Wolfe, a sixth-generation local, is celebrating 21 years of owning a business in Joseph. Originally called Wolfe Fleece & Clothing, she first started selling clothing items in Wallowa County after graduating college and a stint abroad traveling Europe. With few

job prospects and not much cash, Wolfe was inspired to make her Christmas gifts that year sewing fleece. She then began selling her items on consignment and due to popular demand, her business grew from there. Eventually, Wolfe's specialty and store name would evolve. Growing up on a farm, Wolfe is no stranger to hard work, something she credits to her current success as a business owner. "Working every day was a necessity," Wolfe remarked. In fact, "the thing that's stayed true the whole time is I'm open every day." That's right, for 21 years in business, Wolfe would only plan to close for four days out of the year.

TEMPTING TEAL BOUTIQUE

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Phone: (541) 432-9653.
Website: temptingtealboutique.com.



Wallowa County surveyor, Kristina Powell, is one of the few women in the state who owns their own surveying business, Wallowa Associates. She bought the business in 2016 and is still going strong.

Wallowa Associates, LLC

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Kristina Powell of Lostine is Wallowa County's lone woman working as a fully certified surveyor who also owns her own business: Wallowa Associates, LLC. She's been in the business in one form or another since 2005. Only three percent of surveyor license holders in the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying are women. As she describes it, the universe chose her profession for her. She graduated from EOU with a Bachelor of Science in math and spent her summers as a survey technician working at Anderson and Perry, a La Grande engineering firm. Upon graduation, Ron Walter, owner of Wallowa Associates, LLC

— Land Survey Company hired her. Walter passed away in January of 2015. "Gail Walter, Ron Walter's wife, offered to sell the business to me so what they had built together would have a chance to continue," Powell said. She bought the business in January of 2016. What did she find most difficult about jumping from employee to business owner? "Being the boss is stressful!" she said. "Obtaining my land surveyor licenses in Oregon and Washington seemed daunting — while running/managing a business full-time." As for the future, Powell plans to take it slow. "One day at a time," she said. "With the help of my mentors: Rod Lewis and Richard Shaver."

The Wallowa Land Associates, LLC

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