

The LandReport

A Monthly Report for the
American Landowner



Newsletter

DECEMBER 2015 • LANDREPORT.COM



LAND REPORT 100^{ER} SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES AND LANDS REUSABLE ROCKET ON WEST TEXAS RANCH

Amazon.com founder Bezos pushes envelope with *New Shepard*.

The nation's 26th largest landowner, Jeff Bezos, made history on his 290,000-acre Corn Ranch in late November. Best known as the founder of Amazon.com, Bezos is also the driving force behind Blue Origin, a company whose goal is to make space travel available to paying astronauts. His team took a giant step forward on Nov. 23 by successfully launching and safely landing *New Shepard's* unmanned capsule and its vertical landing booster



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***New Shepard* on the launch pad at Jeff Bezos's Corn Ranch. Texas's tallest mountain, Guadalupe Peak, looms in the distance.**

rocket. The space vehicle raced at Mach 3 and reached an altitude of 329,839 feet (100.5 kilometers). Watch the historic takeoff and landing of *New Shepard* on the 290,000-acre Corn Ranch and from the upper atmosphere [HERE](#).

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BLM



SOUTHWEST

HOUSE PASSES RED RIVER PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION ACT.

H.R. 2130 passed 253-177 on Dec. 9. "For years, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management has been claiming ownership of land that belongs to private property owners along the Red River," said Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association President Pete Bonds. "This is completely absurd, especially when you consider the fact that these citizens hold the deeds to this land and have paid taxes and successfully managed it for years." The Obama administration strongly opposes H.R. 2130 because it "would set aside existing Federal surveys, divest the Secretary of the Interior of responsibility as surveyor of record for the United States, and transfer lands out of Federal ownership without ensuring a fair return to the taxpayer." Read the administration's response [HERE](#). Read the bill [HERE](#).



PACIFIC

FOR SALE

CALIFORNIA RANCLAND

3,778-ACRE SILICON VALLEY RANCH LISTED FOR \$29.68 MILLION.

California may be the nation's most populous state, but there are still wide swaths of the Golden State that are unspoiled, including the historic

Richmond Ranch. Operated as a working cattle ranch for almost a century, the pristine tract is just 13 miles from downtown San Jose and 60 miles to San Francisco. Two ranch houses on the property date back to the 1800s. The Richmond Ranch also shares more than three miles of fence line with the 28,539-acre San Felipe Ranch, which was acquired by Bill Hewlett and David Packard in 1954 and is still owned by their heirs. According to listing broker Terry Hundemer of The Chickering Company, Richmond Ranch is "a stunning California landscape and very convenient location. With thousands of acres of wildlife habitat that is bordered by huge tracts of protected land, the ranch's intrinsic natural value is both evident and inspiring." Read more about the Richmond Ranch [HERE](#).



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MIDWEST

AUCTION

ILLINOIS FARMLAND

THREE HISTORIC FARMS ON THE BLOCK.

David Davis (1815–1886) was far more than the largest landowner in Illinois. As a state judge, he befriended Abraham Lincoln, who practiced in his court. By 1860, he was managing Honest Abe’s first presidential campaign. Two years later, the Great Emancipator nominated Davis to the U.S. Supreme Court, where he served until 1877 when he became a U.S. Senator. Davis also served as the executor of Lincoln’s estate. On Jan. 20, a group of his descendants will sell 1,448 acres of land acquired by Davis in DeWitt and McLean counties. Virtually all of it is tillable. “Senator Davis not only served his country well, but he also acquired some of the best farmland in the state,” says Joe Bubon of Murray Wise Associates, which is conducting the sale. “These three farms have stayed in the family all of these years, but they believe it is time to let this land go.” Read more details about the auction and this interesting life [HERE](#).

Fay Ranches is once again proud to sponsor *The Land Report 100* for the 5th year in a row!



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