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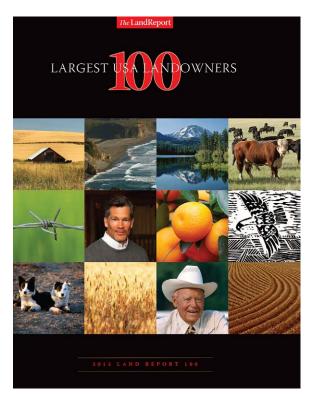
# 2015 LAND REPORT 100 DEBUTS

It's HERE! The Winter issue of the Magazine of the American Landowner featuring the 2015 Land Report 100 presented by Fay Ranches is now available online. Find out which landowning family added more than 500 square miles to their holdings. See where Jeff Bezos moved Blue Origin, his commercial space transportation launching operations. (Here's a hint: It will no longer be based on his 290,000-acre Far West Texas ranch.) And get a first look at Ted Turner Expeditions, an unparalleled ecotourism opportunity in New Mexico on three different

Turner Ranches: 588,000-acre Vermejo Park; the 360,000-acre Armendaris Ranch, and the 156,000-acre Ladder Ranch. Other great reads include:

- The Land Report 2015 Gear Guide
- The 2015 Wellington Land Report
- The sale of Little Bokeelia Island
- Clemson University's innovative
  Timberlands Legacy Program

Read all of these and more HERE.



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## **AG DEPARTMENT INCENTIVIZES** RANCHERS, FARMERS, TIMBER OWNERS.

In an effort to bolster declining honey bee populations nationwide, the USDA has set aside \$4 million for a publicprivate conservation strategy. In the warm-weather months, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin welcome some 70 percent of the country's commercially managed honey bees. But according to studies, pathogens, parasites, and pesticides were responsible for one-third of the bees perishing. To stem the crisis, the USDA began offering owners of farmland, ranches, and forests financial incentives to plant bee-friendly cover crops, wildflowers, and native grasses. Such flora helps supply the bees with enough food to boost their odds of surviving frigid temperatures. Read more **HERE**.



# **COURT CASE**

### **WIRE FRAUD**

#### SEVEN-YEAR SENTENCES FOR BOGUS

**HAY SCAM.** A Texas couple who fled the country with their seven children following indictment in an agricultural fraud scheme has begun serving 87-month sentence in

federal lockup. The court also ordered 44-year-old Donald Winberg and his wife, Karlien, 33, to pay more than \$1.5 million in restitution to victims of their scam. The story gained international notoriety after the Winbergs disappeared one year ago while awaiting trial in Denver. Prosecutors say the family bought a boat in Galveston, which they promptly ran aground; dramatic footage of the rescue of their young children riveted viewers. The Winbergs, who had given false names to authorities, proceeded to sail a second boat to the Bahamas. Several months later, a Louisiana couple recognized them from news reports and tipped off police. In April 2015 — a year after their initial arrest both Winbergs pleaded guilty to wire fraud. In a series of emails stretching back to 2010, the duo claimed to own property in Idaho and Texas where they grew hay, straw, corn, potatoes, and other crops. They assured would-be victims that they successfully shipped thousands of tons of agricultural products a year and proceeded to request payment in advance. The Winbergs never made a single delivery. Learn more HERE.









**CUTTING HORSE** 

#### **BLOODSTOCK**

KING RANCH PURCHASES THE **BOON FROM ALICE WALTON.** King Ranch announced the purchase of THE BOON from Alice Walton and her Rocking W Ranch at the

ranch's dispersal sale. THE BOON is a seventh-generation descendant of OLD SORREL, King Ranch's Foundation stallion and the cornerstone of its breeding program. He is also a grandson of PEPPY SAN BADGER, a King Ranch stallion that single-handedly changed the sport of cutting. "THE BOON is my favorite horse I have ever raised. THE BOON has a heart as big as Texas. There is no place I would rather see him than the world-famous King Ranch," said Alice Walton. "King Ranch is pleased to add a sire with such an outstanding pedigree to our Quarter Horse breeding program as we continue the legacy of breeding the best possible horses into the 21st century," said King Ranch President and CEO Robert Underbrink. THE BOON will be standing at Brazos Valley Stallion Station for the 2016 breeding season. Read more about THE BOON HERE:



Jesse Lennox on board THE BOON.

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### **RECORD SALE**

#### SUN VALLEY AUCTION MAKES

**HISTORY.** The sale of a 71.3-acre estate near Idaho's Sun Valley ski resort set records in mid-September. Six bidders reportedly vied for the

property, which was owned by former Lehman Brothers CEO Dick Fuld. With an opening bid of \$20 million reported by Concierge Auctions, Big Wood River Estate wrested the top spot from a \$19.25 million property in Jackson Hole as the most expensive home ever sold at auction. Once listed at \$59.5 million, it boasts a trio of timber- and rock-clad residences including an 11-bedroom main home. A private trout-fishing stream plus 2,100 feet of riverfront land in the shadow of Bald Mountain add to the property's allure. The chairman and CEO of Lehman Brothers until its bankruptcy in 2008, Fuld said he decided to sell Big Wood River Estate because he and his family rarely used it. Fuld also owns nearly 100 acres elsewhere in the upscale resort town. Read more HERE.

