Yakima is the farm center of the state. Prices are going up dramatically for farm land. Small farms will be required for those wanting to farm, because they will not be able to afford anything larger. At this price a ten acre parcel will cost a potential farmer $53,000.00 in Yakima, where prices are much lower than in urbanized areas, such as Clark County. Start up costs such as equipment, animals, etc. would add to the cost to start a farm, and would easily be over $100,000.00. A homesite would also need to be added, if the farmer wants to live on the land. One would have to be very financially well off or file for federal assistance, if one wants to farm in today’s market. The federal government would need to be convinced that whatever will be produced will make good money, otherwise the farm would not qualify. Long term commercial significance is important to the federal government, as well as the state.

These statistics indicate that 2.5 and 5 acre farms are more financially feasible as start-up farms in Clark County.

----- Forwarded Message ----- From: Washington Farm Bureau <tdavis@wsfb.com>
To: cnidental@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 5:32 PM
Subject: WFB Newswatch

Value of farmland in Washington continues to rise
25 edition of The Columbian: YAKIMA - The value of farmland continues to rise in Washington, largely because farm prices numbers.

The average sale price for irrigated, high-quality and vacant farmland rose 37 percent to an estimated $5,302 per acre.

The Yakima Herald-Republic reported that existing farms push the price even higher. Statewide, the average price of farmland already climbed from $8,500 to $9,000 an acre between 2012 and 2013.

The story goes to Farmers National Co., a real estate and farm management firm based in Omaha, Neb. Read the rest of the story here.

PUD: Wanapum water level may be near normal by year’s end
25 edition of the Yakima Herald-Republic: EPHRATA, Wash. - Operators at the Wanapum Dam announced Tuesday the...
enough of a 65-foot long crack to restore the river to nearly normal levels by year's end.

was discovered in the dam's spillway in late February, the Grant County Public Utility District drew water levels behind the 26 feet to reduce pressure on the fractured area. The move stabilized the dam, but left boat ramps and fish ladders higher behind the dam has been closed to the public for safety reasons and to protect archeological sites.

The full story here.

McMorris-Rodgers: Export-Import Bank needs reform

which provides funds for the purchase of American goods by foreign buyers, is important for thousands of jobs in trade-dependent districts.

So be sure the taxpayers are protected.

I've suggested this is corporate welfare," the Eastern Washington Republican told The Spokesman-Review. "I'm asking readers to be sure they're being protected.

The story, click here.

‘Get a warrant’ to search cellphones, Justices say
5 edition of The Seattle Times: In an emphatic defense of privacy in the digital age, a unanimous Supreme Court ruled Wisconsin may not search the cellphones of people they arrest without first getting search warrants.

Unlike anything else police may find on someone they arrest, Chief Justice John Roberts wrote for the court. They are "no longer the personal equivalent of a physical search."

Inconvenience," he said, but ubiquitous, increasingly powerful computers that contain vast quantities of personal, sensitive information. The rest of the story here.

Senate GOP leader rips Inslee
23 edition of The News Tribune: Budget writers reached a bipartisan agreement on both the two-year operating budget in December, the 7th year of the current biennium, and it appears the gloves are already coming off. This time, he said, the new biennial budget will not be so generous, but would still provide for some flexibility for the next biennial budget in December.

Mongering. The scenario (for cuts) really doesn't exist with the four-year balanced budget and revenue forecast," Senate Majority Leader Mark Schoesler of Ritzville said late last week. "But it's great fear mongering by the governor. He tells us Lean management should take care of all of this" problem with budget shortfalls.

The rest of the story.

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