



ALIE SKOWRONSKI TNS

Are you ready for a vacation stop that lets you swim with alligators?



STEVEN SENNE AP

In today's paper

SPORTS: Former Warriors guard Gary Payton II, who went undrafted out of Oregon State in 2016, signs with Blazers. 1B

Tri-City Herald

SUNDAY

Astronaut returns to her hometown of Richland after space stay

BY ANNETTE CARY
acary@tricityherald.com

RICHLAND, WA

Kayla Barron paid forward on Thursday some of the mentoring that helped a young girl in Eastern Washington become a NASA astronaut.

During a Fourth of July holiday visit to family in her hometown of Richland, she took time to speak with Women in Engineering for Washington River Protection Solutions at the Hanford site. Her talk was broadcast to workers across the Hanford nuclear reservation.

She talked about the importance of mentoring and encouragement in her own career.

And she also answered some questions about what life in space is like, from how clothes are washed on the International Space Station — they aren't — to some of the nitty-gritty of turning bodily fluids into water on the space station.

She spent six months aboard the space station, returning in early May.

Her parents raised her to believe that she could do anything she set her mind to if she put forward her best effort, she said.

Her father, Scott Sax, is the recently retired president of the Central Plateau Cleanup Co. at Hanford and her mother, Laurie Sax, coached her in track and cross country at Richland High School.

"Then I had critical mentors along the way," she said.

They started with middle school and high school teachers who encouraged her curiosity, including an advanced placement chemistry teacher who said that as difficult as she was finding the course, she was good at chemistry.

"Math and science are hard for everybody," she said. "Just because it's hard doesn't mean you are not good at it."

Cultural influences start at a young age and seeing people who look like you succeeding in science, math, engineering and technology careers can have a major impact on young women and minorities, helping them see themselves in the same roles, she said.

"I think you have to work really hard in these fields, but they are also super rewarding," Barron said.

Mentors continued to be important as she advanced in her

SEE ASTRONAUT, 10A



BOB BRAWDY bbrawdy@tricityherald.com

James Sexton, owner of JMS Construction, stands in front of a projected artist rendering of an eight-story 55+ rental community building that will be part of the Osprey Pointe development his company is working towards starting on in Pasco.

Work ready to begin this summer at Osprey Pointe development

BY CORY MCCOY
cmccoy@tricityherald.com

After years of planning, the red tape is all but cleared and a major new development in Pasco is getting ready to begin

construction.

James Sexton, owner of JMS Construction, is awaiting approval from the city of Pasco to begin work on the 55-acre Osprey Pointe development along the Columbia River.

Osprey Pointe will spring up

around the land where the Port of Pasco's offices currently sit, stretching from South Gray Avenue to where East Ainsworth Avenue splits off into the industrial area along the waterfront.

The development is a project the Port of Pasco has wanted to

make a reality for more than a decade.

Issues with energy taxes and efficiency standards are holding up construction of the 84,000-square-foot indoor market, which Sexton is trying to work out, so construction will begin on the west side of the development.

He told the Herald that he hopes to begin building 33 homes and a multistory mixed use building by the end of the summer.

After that, he'll finish building out the remaining 30 or so single family homes, then work will start on several eight story

SEE OSPREY POINTE, 10A



ANDREW HARNIK AP

In its first full term together, the Supreme Court's conservative majority ruled on abortion, guns and religion and issued other significant decisions limiting the government's regulatory powers.

'Revolutionary' high court term on abortion, guns and more

BY MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Abortion, guns and religion — a major change in the law in any one of these areas would have made for a fateful Supreme Court term. In its first full term together, the court's conservative majority ruled in all three and issued other sig-

nificant decisions limiting the government's regulatory powers.

And it has signaled no plans to slow down.

With former President Donald Trump's appointees in their 50s, the six-justice conservative majority seems poised to keep control of the court for years to come, if not decades.

SEE HIGH COURT, 10A



Subscribers get 50+ extra pages free in our daily digital eEdition. A one-time activation is the key. Scan the code at left with the camera on your mobile phone or go to tricityherald.com/digitalaccess.

CUSTOMER SERVICE
800-750-4967

We're committed to providing the essential journalism you need. Find the content important to you inside.



LEGENDS CASINO • HOTEL
TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON

RANDOM rewards

★ **JULY 4TH** ★

ONE CASH PRIZE WINNER EVERY HOUR FROM 12PM-9PM!

MUST BE ACTIVELY GAMING ON A SLOT MACHINE WITH YOUR REWARDS CARD TO BE ELIGIBLE.

Uvalde schools' police chief leaves City Council

Associated Press

UVALDE, TEXAS

The Uvalde school district's police chief has stepped down from his position in the City Council just weeks after being sworn in following allegations that he erred in his response to the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School that left 19 students and two teachers dead.

Chief Pete Arredondo told the Uvalde Leader-News on Friday that he has decided to step down for the good of the city administration. He was elected to the District 3 council position on May 7 and was sworn in — in a closed-door ceremony — on May 31, just a week after the massacre.

"After much consideration, I regret to inform those who voted for me that I have decided to step

down as a member of the city council for District 3. The mayor, the city council, and the city staff must continue to move forward without distractions. I feel this is the best decision for Uvalde," Arredondo said.

Arredondo, who has been on administrative leave from his school district position since June 22, has declined repeated requests for comment from The Associated Press. His attorney,

George Hyde, did not immediately respond to emailed requests for comment Saturday.

On June 21, the City Council voted unanimously to deny Arredondo a leave of absence from appearing at public meetings. Relatives of the shooting victims had pleaded with city leaders to fire him.

Representatives of the Uvalde mayor, Don McLaughlin, have not responded to requests for comment Saturday.

Col. Steven McCraw, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, told a state Senate hearing last month that Arredondo — the on-site commander —

made "terrible decisions" as the massacre unfolded on May 24, and that the police response was an "abject failure."

Three minutes after 18-year-old Salvador Ramos entered the school, sufficient armed law enforcement were on scene to stop the gunman, McCraw testified. Yet police officers armed with rifles stood and waited in a school hallway for more than an hour while the gunman carried out the massacre. The classroom door could not be locked from the inside, but there is no indication officers tried to open the door while the gunman was inside, McCraw said.

McCraw has said parents begged police outside the school to move in and students inside the classroom repeatedly pleaded with 911 operators for help while more than a dozen officers waited in a hallway. Officers from other agencies urged Arredondo to let them move in because children were in danger.

"The only thing stopping a hallway of dedicated officers from entering room 111 and 112 was the on-scene commander who decided to place the lives of officers before the lives of children," McCraw said.

FROM PAGE 1A

HIGH COURT

"This has been a revolutionary term in so many respects," said Tara Leigh Grove, a law professor at the University of Texas. "The court has massively changed constitutional law in really big ways."

Its remaining opinions issued, the court began its summer recess Thursday, and the justices will next return to the courtroom in October.

Overturing *Roe v. Wade* and ending a nearly half-century guarantee of abortion rights had the most immediate impact, shutting down or severely restricting abortions in roughly a dozen states within days of the decision.

In expanding gun rights and finding religious discrimination in two cases, the justices also made it

harder to sustain gun control laws and lowered barriers to religion in public life.

Setting important new limits on regulatory authority, they reined in the government's ability to fight climate change and blocked a Biden administration effort to get workers at large companies vaccinated against COVID-19.

The remarkable week at the end of June in which the guns, abortion, religion and environmental cases were decided at least partially obscured other notable events, some of them troubling.

New Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson was sworn in Thursday as the first Black woman on the court. She replaced the retiring Justice Stephen Breyer,

who served nearly 28 years, a switch that won't change the balance between liberals and conservatives on the court.

In early May, the court had to deal with the unprecedented leak of a draft opinion in the abortion case. Chief Justice John Roberts almost immediately ordered an investigation, about which the court has been mum ever since. Soon after, workers encircled the court with 8-foot-high fencing in response to security concerns. In June, police made a late-night arrest of an armed man near Justice Brett Kavanaugh's Maryland home, and charged him with attempted murder of the justice.

Kavanaugh is one of three Trump appointees along with Justices Neil Gorsuch and Amy Coney Barrett who fortified the right side of the court. Greg Garre, who served as

President George W. Bush's top Supreme Court lawyer, said when the court began its term in October "the biggest question was not so much which direction the court was headed in, but how fast it was going. The term answers that question pretty resoundingly, which is fast."

The speed also revealed that the chief justice no longer has the control over the court he held when he was one of five, not six, conservatives, Garre said.

Roberts, who favors a more incremental approach that might bolster perceptions of the court as a nonpolitical institution, broke most notably with the other conservatives in the abortion case, writing that it was unnecessary to overturn *Roe*, which he called a "serious jolt" to the legal system. On the other hand, he was part of every other ideologically divided majority.

FROM PAGE 1A

OSPREY POINTE

mixed use buildings with commercial space on the ground floor and seven floors of residential above.

One of the buildings he's most excited for is a senior living community, which will have a third story outdoor space, 18 holes of golf on the roof and other amenities.

He wants to create residential spaces that offer features such as rooftop living, ensuring each of the 1,036 homes, condos and apartments are dynamic and exciting.

He recently presented infrastructure and preliminary building plans for the entire development to the Port of Pasco, and is now just waiting on permit approvals to begin work.

"The big delay has been getting the entire plan done," Sexton said. "This is a 10 to 12 year project."

Sexton said traditionally developers will present plans for the phases they're going to work on in the immediate future, but for this project the city wanted infrastructure plans for the entire development.

Osprey Pointe will feature a park along the waterfront, with additional mixed use buildings looking out over the river. The waterfront area will also feature a splash park.

Sexton said the plan is for less of a traditional playground type splash pad, and something more in line with geyser fountain installations with no standing water. It will be about the size of a hockey field, and in winter barriers will be put up to let the pad freeze over for ice hockey games.

The waterfront park will connect directly with the 23-mile long Sacagawea Heritage Trail.

Two creative use buildings will be constructed near the Port of Pasco office. They'll be three stories, mixed use and can be bought or rented by professionals who want to live and work nearby.

Sexton also said he's in the process of identifying brands to partner with for a 150-room hotel, as well as a grocery store. He's also had several restaurants express interest in the development.

All of the multi-story buildings will feature underground parking. The

earth moved to build them will be repurposed to create an amphitheater on the eastern end of the development, just past the market.

The amphitheater stage will back into a 6,032 seat event center with a 40-foot by 80-foot stage that can be used for concerts, operas, plays and other events. Sexton said they're going to use removable seating on the ground level so that events can utilize the entire floor space.

The amphitheater seating will come in around 3.5 to 4 acres of seating and 7.5 to 8 acres of grassy area. The seating capacity is planned to clock in at around 35,000, making it larger than The Gorge Amphitheater in George, Wash.

Sexton said he's considering building a temporary stage in the interim, because he's eager to give the community a new space for events.

His hope for Osprey Pointe is to create a space that embodies the "work, play, live" lifestyle.

"Hopefully more play than just work and live," Sexton said.

INDOOR MARKET

The indoor market planned for Osprey Pointe is still on the table. In fact, the building has already been ordered and has been sitting in a storage yard for more than a year.

The 84,000-square-foot market will be three stories, with 120 vendor stalls on the ground level and event or banquet space and offices above. His vision for the market is to create a space like Pybus Public Market in Wenatchee.

The main hold up with the market is a question of energy efficiency and gas taxes. Sexton is trying to get the market classified as a mall in order to reduce the gas tax burden, and ensure it remains affordable, but he said the regulations for doing so are restrictive.

He's also planning on running solar panels along the roof, totaling 65-feet wide and 150-feet long.

Sexton said that once they work out the energy efficiency tax issues, they'll circle back around and get the market built.



ROBERT MARKOWITZ Courtesy NASA

Kayla Barron, a NASA astronaut from Richland, WA, participates in spacewalk training at the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, in 2018.

FROM PAGE 1A

ASTRONAUT

professional career, she said.

BARRON'S SUBMARINE, SPACE MENTORS

She earned a bachelor's degree in systems engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2010 and then a master's degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Cambridge, England, in 2011 as a Gates Cambridge Scholar.

The transition from academics to making real world decisions in leadership roles, starting with being responsible for people's lives as a Navy submarine warfare officer, was challenging, she said.

She remembered being in the officer's study aboard a nuclear submarine late at night with schematics and technical manuals spread out as she dug deep into understanding the electrical system, when her captain walked in and questioned what she was doing.

He was not impressed. His standard to qualify her to be in charge of operating the submarine was "three-minute safe," he said.

That's how long she needed to be in charge if there were a problem such

as a primary coolant leak before the engineer could be awakened and take charge, he said.

"That was the challenge and leadership I needed to stop hiding behind these books," she said.

She started out operating the submarine at night "three-minute safe," and progressed to "30-minute safe" and more because she had leadership that pushed her and allowed her to be "three-minute safe" on her first shift, she said.

Aboard the International Space Station, the two experienced NASA astronauts also were generous in creating opportunities for rookies Barron and Raja Chari, both on their first space flights.

They were assigned to spacewalks, at the expense of opportunities for the more experienced astronauts, Barron said.

Astronauts Tom Marshburn and Mark Vande Hei "were like pushing the babies out the nest," she said.

Barron already misses being at the International Space Station, she said Thursday.

But there are challenges ahead for her.

NASA PLANS MISSION TO MOON

NASA is preparing to return humans to the Moon, including sending the first woman and the first person of color there.

Plans call for a space station orbiting the Moon, sending out landers to the surface, and the establishment of a base camp there.

It will mean new technical challenges for astronauts, such as learning how to fly the landers onto the moon, Barron said.

"And of course we are all going to have to become geology buffs for lunar missions," she said.

"We've had some basic geology training that has been really exciting," she said. "But we're going to do significant training to understand the regions we are going to and really get the most out of the limited time we have to explore and collect samples."

Bringing Barron to Hanford was important to show "the sky is no longer the limit," said Brittney Atterbury, a mechanical engineer at the tank farms. "It doesn't matter if you are a female engineer or minority — there is no reason to hold you back."

Barron plans to return in the fall to visit with Tri-Cities students.

ASTRONAUT LIFE ON SPACE STATION

If they are like Hanford engineers and other workers, here's some of what they may want to know:

● How do you wash clothes aboard the space station?

You don't, Barron said. After they are worn for awhile they are thrown away and new clothes arrive in shipments to the space station.

● How big is the space station?

About the size of a six-bedroom house, Barron said.

● How is the food? Surprisingly good for dehydrated food and packages similar to military MREs — meals ready to eat — that are heated up, Barron said. But they can get repetitive.

Astronauts looked forward to shipments that included fresh fruit, vegetables and cheese. When one arrived on Christmas Eve, it was "like Santa coming," she said.

● What's a workday like?

She generally had her days scheduled in five-minute increments from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. weekdays and half of Saturday on the research mission.

When astronauts got ahead of their own schedule, they'd see if other astronauts needed help. Each astronaut worked on 200 research projects during their stay.

● How many times did she drink the same water?

Water is recovered from urine and from reclaiming moisture in the air, such as sweat from working out.

"Today's coffee is tomorrow's coffee," one of her co-astronauts would say.

"Kind of gross if you think about it," she said. Now about 90% of water they put into their body is reclaimed, but astronauts worked on research on the space station to improve that percentage as missions to the Moon and Mars are planned.

Annette Cary:
509-416-6136,
@HanfordNews

Closed Monday, July 4th
in observance of
Independence Day

CLASSIFIED AND OBITUARY DEADLINES

CLASSIFIED ADS

PUBLICATION DEADLINE	
Monday, July 4th	Friday, July 1st at 11:00 AM
Tuesday, July 5th	Friday, July 1st at 4:15 PM

OBITUARIES

PUBLICATION DEADLINE	
Monday, July 4th	Sunday, July 3rd at 11:00 AM
Tuesday, July 5th	Sunday, July 3rd at 11:00 AM

Tri-City Herald