

SHELTON-MASON COUNTY Journal

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FINAL ROLL

Clockwise from left, Shelton High School senior bowlers Abby Slone, Alyssia Paz, Dreann Merriman and Morgan Holling embrace after wrapping up their participation in the WIAA 3A state bowling championship Saturday at Narrows Plaza Bowl in University Place. The Highclimbers finished sixth at the state competition for the second consecutive year. See more on pages B-1, B-4 and B-5. Journal photo by Justin Johnson

Fiess is new member of city council

By Gordon Weeks
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Megan Fiess, workforce division project manager for the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce and a Shelton resident for 15 years, was selected Tuesday to fill a vacant seat on the Shelton City Council.

Fiess was one of six candidates who applied for the seat that opened up last month with the resignation of Mayor Bob Rogers.

All six candidates were interviewed at a special meeting that lasted almost four hours Tuesday at the Shelton Civic Center.

Fiess will be sworn in at the council's regular meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

"I'm excited, stunned and ready to get to work," Fiess said in a brief interview with the *Shelton-Mason County Journal*.

Council members interviewed Fiess, George Blush, Dean Jewett, Trenton Powers, Tanya M. Strozyk-Frazier and Marilyn Vogler for 30 minutes each be-



Shelton City Manager Jeff Niten talks with Megan Fiess on Tuesday evening after she was selected to fill a vacant seat on the Shelton City Council. Journal photo by Gordon Weeks

fore heading behind closed doors for an executive session; they emerged 30 minutes later to vote. The winning candidate needed four votes from the six council members, and Fiess won on the third ballot.

Fiess replaces Rogers, who was mayor for a year and a half. He resigned last month to spend more time with his family following a traffic accident that injured his son. At the Jan. 7 regular meet-

ing, the council voted 4-2 to make Kevin Dorcy the city's mayor.

Fiess describes her day job in Thurston County as providing strategic planning, organizational development, professional development of workforce navigators and capacity building.

The Elma native earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business management from Western

see COUNCIL, page A-24



8 53263 00111 2

INSIDE TODAY

League of Women Voters to celebrate 100th birthday

Page A-2

Shelton nonprofit receives \$600,000 grant

Page A-8

Rep. Kilmer pushes Wild Olympic Act toward vote

Page A-15

2020 SPECIAL ELECTION

4 school levies passing

North Mason School District levy failing with 45% of vote

By Gordon Weeks
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Replacement school levies on Tuesday's special election ballot are passing in the Shelton, Grapeview and Pioneer school districts by comfortable margins, while the Mary M. Knight School District levy is ahead by a mere nine votes.

On the first ballot count released at 8 p.m. Tuesday by the Mason County Auditor's Office, North Mason School District's levy is failing with 45% of the vote. The levies need a simple majority of 50% plus one vote to pass.

A second tally was to be released Wednesday afternoon, after the *Shelton-Mason County Journal* went to press. The Mason County Canvassing Board will review the ballots Feb. 20, and certify election results Feb. 21.

On the initial count, the Shelton School District's levy has 2,235 "yes" votes, and 1,981 votes

see LEVIES, page A-20



On Monday, Olympic Middle School art teacher Cindy Hall watches fifth-grade students Leticia Velazquez-Patricio, left, and Alaura Kampen create cherry blossom trees by blowing paint through a straw. They later added blossoms. The Shelton School District's art program was aided by the passage of Tuesday's replacement levy with 53% of the vote. Journal photo by Gordon Weeks