This is KPTZ FM 91.9 in Port Townsend, Washington. I'm Nhatt Nichols, bringing special election news and commentary on Wednesday, November 4, 2026. And I'm in the studio today with Jefferson County Beacon editor Rachel Nutting. Hi, Rachael. Hello.

So you were up late last night, like I was, probably looking at the election results, what happened?

Rachael: Right now, everything has flipped pretty blue throughout the entire country. Texas is blue for the first time since 2000. They have its first Democratic governor since 1996. But yeah, so Democrats have won the House, the Senate, and governorship, the majority across the board. Currently, seven Senate seats were flipped, and so Dems are currently holding 54 seats.

Nhatt: That is exciting stuff. So let's go ahead and bring focus into our beautiful little county. What's going on here?

Rachael: All of our unopposed candidates are obviously doing very well. So Angie is Angie Scalf, who is running against Stephen Neiman, who is our Republican candidate.

Angie is clearly ahead. We only have 60% of votes counted. Angie is our county commissioner for District Three. For our PUD District Number One, we have Keith Kistler, ahead of Michael Britton, but the one interesting thing too is our local measures that we have.

We had the school district in 402, so that's on the west end. That's Quillia. That is approved so far, and so it's really exciting because the west end gets ignored in Jefferson County. So it's really nice to see that voters approve any sort of. you know. tax increases to help that school. I'm happy about that.

The fire protection district number one prop one so far is showing rejected, but only has five votes.

Nhatt: Okay, I feel like they're not really counting all the votes for that.

Rachael: They haven't counted all the votes for that. Yeah, or a lot of people just left it blank because they didn't understand on the ballot. So those are our county results that we have right now.

Nhatt: Okay, and so we can jump out a little bit and be like, we've got some district races that need to be called too, right?

Rachael Nutting: Yes, and so for our district six general, Emily Randall has been called. She has won over Teresa Fox, our Republican candidate.

Nhatt: and Emily's recumbent.

Rachael: Yes, and then our District 24 position one we have Adam Birnbaum.

Nhatt: Great, and he was called.

Rachael: Yes, and then our District 24 position two is still going, but Kaylee Keen is ahead of Kelbon.

Nhatt: And that one there wasn't a recumbent for it, so this is brand new.

Rachael: It's brand new, yeah. So that's what we have for our districts.

Nhatt: Okay. Well, what about those three pesky initiatives? Now, if you haven't had the chance to read the wonderful letter from the editor that Rachel wrote a couple of months ago, maybe a month ago, about these initiatives, it's really worth going back and looking at it because they're kind of an interesting series of things from Let's Go Washington.

Rachael: Yeah, so Let's Go Washington was founded in 2022, and the name of the organization, the group Let's Go Washington, is kind of a slight towards Joe Biden. It's ridiculous. So it was founded by Brian Haywood, who is a hedge fund manager. He was the one that funded and initiated all three of the initiatives on the ballot.

Nhatt: Great. And so, where have we ended up with those initiatives?

Rachael: So far, the millionaire tax, as we're calling it, is heavily being opposed. It's still 58%.

Nhatt: Just to be clear, this is the repealing and prohibiting the income tax, the millionaire tax. It appears that's going to stay in place.

Rachael: Yes. Our next one is to establish parental rights. Essentially, this one too was trying to repeal back to 2024 when the state. recognized that they had made a little bit of mistakes that endangered children and their personal privacy and safety, because, let's face it, not every child has s safe home. Yeah, that is being opposed at 52 percent, and again, all of our votes that have been counted are at 60% right now, so this is still ongoing. 638, which is requiring school sports participation based on biological sex. This one heavily targets trans kids. Right now, Washington State looks like it's in favor by 56.8%.

Nhatt: Thank you so much for coming into the studio and chatting with me about election-related stuff.

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