



New Kent City Council President has big week



Credit: KING

Jamie Danielson

by CHRIS DANIELS / King 5 News

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KENT, Wash. - Jamie Danielson seems to be constantly on the move.

"I don't have time NOT to be grounded, I have things I need to be doing pretty much all the time," she said.

The 28-year-old Kent attorney has had one heck of a week, or as she says, "pretty hectic."

Last Tuesday, the Kent City Councilwoman was nominated by her peers to be Council President, and she accepted. The news came just five days after Danielson had one of the

biggest days of her life. She married Matt Perry on New Year's Eve.

Her wedding was officiated by Congressman Adam Smith, her new husband's employer. Matt and Jamie met while working as volunteers on the Obama Campaign.

Perry knows his wife will have her work cut out for her, and he's okay with that.

"I'm really proud of Jamie" says Matt, "She working really hard and doing a good job," he said.

That has meant postponing their honeymoon for a few days while Jamie deals with her duties for her full time job at a local law firm, and with her new responsibilities.

"We have a lot of issues we're facing right now. The safety of our community is number one and that includes funding the projects with our dam and our levy system. I'd also like to see (Kent) more tech savvy, we're looking at doing some things where the council can go paperless," she said.

The city is also going to grow. Voters near Panther Lake voted in November to annex into Kent, and make it the 6th largest city in the state.

Kent's Mayor Suzette Cooke says Jamie's youthful enthusiasm, and perspective will help.

"Jamie is a very sharp individual. She knows how to ask the right questions and listen, and she's not afraid to give her opinion," said Cooke.

Danielson, who is changing her name after the marriage, was appointed by the council last year to fill an empty seat. She ran unopposed in November, and was re-elected for a full term.

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