

***A Berry Picker (who is in the know) offers these observations re: the Post Falls mayor and council campaigns and Nov. 4 elections:***

- I think Clay will be a shoo-in with two opponents. If Steve DeGon had been his only opponent it might have been more of a race if for no other reason than there are always people who vote for anyone but the incumbent.
- Ron Jacobson and Keith Hutcheson for Seat 2 will be an interesting race. Keith has some experience as a candidate and came within about 50 votes of Linda Wilhelm in a three-way race two years ago. Ron was originally appointed and has never been challenged in three previous elections. If Keith gets out and works the neighborhoods he could take it.
- Joe Bodman and Betty Ann Henderson for Seat 4 will be the marquee race because of her husband, Frank Henderson, a seasoned and successful politician. Betty Ann has a network of name recognition that goes far beyond just GOP circles as she's been active in a number of charitable organizations for years. She will work harder than any other candidate. Joe has no notable contributions in a dozen years on the council to tout and memorably boasted that he didn't spend a dime or do any campaigning at all when he challenged Rocky for Sheriff last year. That won't work for him this time around for a council seat.
- Linda Wilhelm should retain her Seat 6 easily but the relatively unknown Bob Flowers has tipped his hat with his signs that started appearing in Post Falls this week. The tag line is No Conflict of Interest. So the forums should provide some spirited debate. Linda does a good job on the council but has a lot in common with Deanna Goodlander. Both are lifelong residents and both are perceived as standoffish with the public.