

Joker's commentary – Hope versus Hate (7.31.2013)

The 2013 Coeur d'Alene city elections boils down to this: Hope versus Hate.

Kiki Miller, Amy Evans, Amber Copeland, Woody McEvers and Steve Widmyer seem to be genuinely nice people. They may have individual flaws, but they don't ooze hate.

While we don't know who the Recall CDA /Reagan Republicans are going to roll out, it's safe to predict they're going to be angry, bitter individuals. Just look at them. They don't inspire a warm fuzzy.

One of their ring leaders epitomizes hatred and rage. Mary Souza is an original hater. She cut her teeth railing against the city and urban renewal for years as a columnist for the Coeur d'Alene Press. Did she ever have a nice thing to say about anybody? I certainly don't remember it.

Now she's aiming to replace Mayor Bloem, who she hates. Bloem is one of the classiest women you'll encounter. Mary is the polar opposite. She specializes in searing rage and foulness towards anybody she disagrees with. I can't imagine a worse ambassador for our city.

You have to wonder what the Recall Group is going to use as their platform since most of the people who voted for McEuen are not running. What are they going to hate? It's hard to imagine that message resonating with the voters. This isn't Hayden, a place filled with old rich people, who are always mad at the world.

Coeur d'Alene isn't a hateful city. Many of us are disgusted with the excesses of urban renewal, the arrogance of city hall and the overly expensive McEuen field, but that doesn't mean we're going to vote for a candidate who offers nothing but hate. Being a hateful person is no way to go through life and it's certainly not a way to govern.