

Saturday, September 13, 2008 12:33 PM CDT

Thompson for sheriff

RUTH JEYS

CEDAR FALLS --- Why I'm going to vote for Tony Thompson for Black Hawk County sheriff. I have heard Democrat candidate for Sheriff Tony Thompson speak. He is intelligent, articulate and focused in his campaign and in his approach to serving the citizens of Black Hawk County. I have also read his Web site and compared it to that of Mark John (I can't find a venue or calendar indicating where Mark Johnson was speaking). Dismissing years of service as a factor (which Mark Johnson undoubtedly wins), I can see no other pertinent reason to consider voting for this aged veteran. He just recently joined the Waterloo Exchange Club (following his candidacy announcement) and beyond service to the West High school athletics and the church (which I pray everyone serves their church), I see no compelling examples of service to our community's needs.

Tony Thompson has demonstrated 100 times the commitment to our community focus on community service and programs, projects and organizational involvement. It is as if Mark Johnson wants you to elect him "sight unseen" and hope that he will start stepping up to the plate after winning. I am going with the candidate who has continued to prove his involvement, dedication and commitment to our communities.

Sunday, September 14, 2008 6:23 AM CDT

Thompson for sheriff

ROGER H. JEYS

CEDAR FALLS --- Experience matters - says a candidate for Black Hawk County sheriff. I recently observed the NAACP debate between the two, and I would concur that experience matters. Unfortunately for the lad whose campaign slogan this message has become, I don't think he is the one with experience. Tony Thompson has truly impressed me with his knowledge, his forthright answers to some difficult questions, and his obvious passion for the job. He mentioned his service, but did not beat his chest. He talked about intentions but made sure to ask questions and seek input from the audience as he developed them. He demonstrated poise and confidence, a trait that was lacking during the opponent's rebuttal (an issue made clear in the Courier's coverage of this event) regarding jail management. I see Tony Thompson as the total package, and after having served on the local level, the state level and the national level to secure the freedom and safety of the citizens of Black Hawk County, it seems to be a perfect fit to have Tony Thompson as our next sheriff. Please join me in ensuring that he with the most experience is elected in November. That person would be Tony Thompson, Black Hawk County sheriff.

Sunday, September 14, 2008 6:23 AM CDT

Thompson for sheriff

DEAN WISHMEYER

CEDAR FALLS --- I continue to watch as Democrat candidate for sheriff Tony Thompson racks up support from several well-known citizens of Black Hawk County. Former Deere workers, union presidents, public servants and current and previous sheriffs office employees are all indicating their support for this young man. As I educate myself, I see letter upon letter to the editor supporting his efforts and outlining his experience and dedication to this county. I am truly impressed with him, but this is not what motivated me to write this letter.

I have now heard disparaging remarks regarding Tony and his years of service. I recognize the Republican tactic, and am ashamed by it. I recognize that when it is clear that you are defending a lost cause, the last resort in the Republican play book is to demean your opponent in a last ditch effort to gain ground. Shame, shame. Let's keep it about what you can bring (or have already brought), and not about your personal opinions about the other candidate. I recognize that in doing so, there is far less in the Republican arsenal, but perhaps this should have been addressed prior to deciding to run for public office. Please join me at the polls in November and vote in the right one --- Tony Thompson for Black Hawk County Sheriff.