

News Press Release

from



July 16, 2014

Members of Five Blount County Tea Party Groups Endorse Local Democrat Candidate over "RINO" Incumbent County Commissioner



The grassroots, citizen movement, often known as the TEA Party, is concerned with issues, and NOT with political parties. A situation has presented itself in Blount County that proves this point.

On one hand, we have an Incumbent Republican County Commissioner, who is a typical career politician. Gary Farmer is a county government employee, a member of a government sector union, routinely reads a State Law Required "*Conflict of Interest*" statement just before he votes for his own employee benefits as well as having a long history of voting for tax increases, debt increases, and budget deficits. This a position the TEA Party clearly does not support.



On the other hand, Blount County has a Conservative Democrat challenger, Neal Hutchens. He is a Fiscal Conservative Democrat as was his father and grandfather. Mr. Hutchens is strongly opposed to these tax increases, debt increases, and budget deficits. Neal Hutchens is not a member of the union, does not have a conflict of interest created by being a government employee, and is not seeking a 20 year political career. This is a position the TEA Party does support.

For these reasons, the leaders and individual members of Five Blount County TEA Party Groups (*Blount County Tax Revolt, Blount County Defenders The Smoky Mountain Tea Party Patriots, Citizens for Better Government, and Citizens for Blount County's Future*) have chosen to endorse and actively support Democrat Neal Hutchens over the Republican Incumbent.

For an interview, you may contact:

Mary Cook of *Blount County Defenders* at (865) 603-1250, Samuel Duck of *Blount County Tax Revolt* at (865)300-7267, & Retiring Commissioner Jim Folts at jimfolts@gmail.com