

...We've got to make sure we have a conservative voice in the Senate," Zachary said as he called for "all hands on deck to make sure she is the next Senator from Tennessee."

"I am coming as a force for conservative, positive change," Blackburn avowed. "We will never have a state income tax in Tennessee." She said that since 2002, thanks in part to her efforts, Tennesseans can deduct sales tax from their federal income tax, resulting in substantial savings on tax payments.

"Tennesseans want a conservative in the U. S. Senate who will stand with the president and vote 'yes' for federal court judges," Blackburn said.

"The Democrats say there is a blue wave sweeping the country," Blackburn said, "When it reaches Tennessee it will crash against the red wall."

Referring to past elections victories, she said, "We won because people were with us and our policies were right."

"I need your help so we can win this race," Blackburn concluded, asking her supporters to knock on doors and make telephone calls.

When asked by The Focus why she wanted to run for the Senate, Blackburn said that the



PHOTO BY PETE GAWDA.

***Marsha Blackburn, flanked by Lieutenant Governor Randy McNally, Charlie Severance and state Representative Jason Zachary, cuts the ribbon to open her Knoxville headquarters last Saturday.***

Senate is currently so nonproductive that it is a disservice to taxpayers. She said that member of the House repealed Obamacare but the Senate failed to act. She said the House sent 600 bills to the Senate that the Senate did not act on. She said the people want the Senate to be more productive. Blackburn pledged to reduce the size and scope of the federal government and to cut spending.

Blackburn is a native of Mississippi and a graduate of Mississippi State University. She worked her way through college by selling books for the Southwestern Company, eventually becoming a sales manager for that

company. She moved on to serve as Director of Retail Fashion and Special Events for the Castner Knott company. Later Blackburn founded Marketing Strategies, which focuses on the retail marketplace.

Blackburn began her elected service in 1998 as a Tennessee State Senator. In 2002 she was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Tennessee's 7th Congressional District where she currently holds a seat on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Blackburn and her husband Chuck live in Williamson County and have two grown children and two grandsons.

center, with many residents asking questions about what the Community Mediation Center does and how the mediation process works.

The actual mediation process will begin at a later date and anyone can sign up for those sessions at the O'Connor meeting.

Email invitations for the Monday mediation orientation were sent to various Parkridge homeowners.

"Since we met on June 27 the Community Mediation Center has come up with a strategy for mediation," Sharp notified homeowners.

Opponents of the historic overlay are concerned about restrictions on repairing non-historic homes, the expense involved and possible gentrification as a result of property value