

MEETING,

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Russell County Judge Executive Randy Marcum, left, and Cumberland County Judge Executive Luke T. King, right, spoke before Monday's meeting. Judge King was instrumental in helping Russell County develop a local civics club and internship program.

Cumberland County Judge Executive Luke T. King, who attended the meeting, was instrumental in helping the local program get started.

"I think having a fiscal court meeting at school in front of the entire student population is brilliant," King said. "It helps to not only give the youth a sense of what goes on

at a meeting, but it also makes all members of the court more approachable to that younger generation."

Judge King not only assisted Russell County, but also had Cumberland County students share aspects of the civics club and internship program.

Marcum said he appreciated Kings' devotion to helping youth.

"He's taken kids to Washington, D.C. and a lot of places," Judge Marcum said.

Judge Marcum encouraged students to "ask questions and make informed decisions."

"You're the ones who will decide how Russell County moves forward," he said.

HOOVER,

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A table in Hoover's home office features items presented to him by Congressman Hal Rogers and FBI Director Kash Patel.

He will more than likely humbly smile and say a soft, "thank you."

Never one to draw attention to himself, or his literal life-saving efforts, he does, however, become animated and excited about one thing in particular...family.

"Let me show you this picture of my grandson, Welby!," he excitedly said while thumbing through his phone.

He speaks fondly of his daughter, Alex, of whom he is "really proud," or his wife, Lisa, "who has done so well...and always accomplishing."

But what about the man who is arguably a law enforcement legend?

"I'm very fortunate... very blessed," he said quietly.

In his office in the basement of his Jamestown home, he is surrounded by pictures, mementos, and honors from an illustrious career.

After a total of approximately 35 years in law enforcement, Hoover is retiring from his most recent position as Chief of Police in Monticello.

"I don't want to fully retire," Hoover candidly admitted. "I have no desire not to work. I have to be doing something productive."

Which leaves him in a quandary.

Now, maybe there's time to pursue some hobbies, which would explain the stacks of vinyl records and displays of classic albums on nearby walls.

But the police scanner traffic still catches his attention, and radio, well, that's pretty much in his blood.

As the son of area media and political icons Welby and Mae Hoover, Joey said he "can't help" but always have an interest in radio, news,

and public service.

The Hoover family is known, loved and respected for their involvement in things like the WJRS Food for Needy Drive (which has provided food for thousands of Russell Countians and Christmastime for many years), promotion and participation in Lakefest, historical severe weather coverage (Between repeated plays of "Music Box Dancer," Welby Hoover stayed on the air almost around-the-clock to alert the area and save lives during the April 1974 tornado outbreak), and numerous humanitarian efforts.

In a life fitting of a book or movie, Joey Hoover has long been involved with public service or things that just added to his legend.

His younger days found him traveling with friends when an auto accident was encountered, and Hoover and friends came to the rescue for victims.

He has worked in emergency medicine, law enforcement, and has always sought to unselfishly help others.

Hoover is regarded as one of the most effective officers to ever initiate and be involved in the D.A.R.E. program, and was instrumental in the epic 4 Sport, 4 Miles, 4 D.A.R.E. event, along with many other events to better the community.

As his tenure as Monticello Police Chief drew to a close, Hoover received an amazing tribute.

Hoover was recognized at a recent law enforcement appreciation luncheon in Manchester.

At that event, the police chief was recognized by famed, Fifth District Congressman Hal Rogers (who is honored in Hoover's office with a vintage campaign sign), and none other than FBI Director Kash Patel,

who was visiting eastern Kentucky.

Rogers presented Hoover with a United States flag flown over the capitol, and a Patel presented the chief with a commemorative "Director's Challenge" coin and certificate.

"That...was really something," Hoover said with a slow nod. "My wife got me a real nice table, and I've got those items on display there. I will keep them there for the rest of my life."

Recent events have led Hoover to look back on his start in law enforcement as a special deputy in Russell County in 1988, then joining the Jamestown Police Department in 1989, and he was named Chief of Police in Jamestown in 1995.

After putting in 16 years with the Jamestown Police Department, Hoover became the Director of State Park Rangers for eight years, and retired in 2013.

Certainly not one to be sedentary, Hoover spent four years as a detective with the Russell County Sheriff's Office (where he had a nearly 100 percent conviction rate for drug cases) before joining Monticello Police as a patrol officer and K9 officer before, and eventually becoming Chief of Police.

Always an innovator, while at Monticello, Hoover began the popular "Chief's Chat" podcast which regaled listeners with interesting lore about law enforcement and situations he has encountered over the years-including episodes featuring Russell County.

As he contemplates retirement, he admits he is not sure what the future holds.

"To say 'retire' just means doing something different," he said.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Architect Design Services

Russell County Extension Office – Russell Springs, Kentucky

The Russell County Extension Office is soliciting Letters of Interest from qualified, experienced architect-led design teams to provide professional design services for a new Extension Office facility, including associated ancillary spaces.

Project Scope

The selected design team will work collaboratively with the Owner and the Owner's Construction Manager (CM) to provide comprehensive professional services throughout the project lifecycle.

Services are anticipated to include, but are not limited to:

- Project programming and conceptual design
- Development of design solutions and construction documents suitable for permitting
- Coordination with Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs)
- Pre-construction services, including constructability reviews and budget coordination
- Assistance to the CM in procuring supporting services such as staked surveys, engineering surveys, and geotechnical surveys
- Construction administration services for the duration of the project

Required Disciplines

The architect-led design team must include, at a minimum, the following disciplines:

- Architectural
- Civil
- Structural
- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Plumbing

Qualifications

Interested firms must demonstrate a **minimum of ten (10) years of experience** providing similar professional design services on comparable projects.

Submission Requirements

Interested firms shall submit a **Letter of Interest** electronically to:

Mr. Jonathan Oaks

Russell County Extension Office

Email: jonathan.oakes@uky.edu

Submission Deadline

Letters of Interest will be accepted until:

April 10, 2026 by 2:00 pm CST

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