



NEWS RELEASE

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Foundation Offices Named for Community Leader

WEST BRANCH, IOWA – March 7, 2022 – The Hoover Presidential Foundation has outgrown their long-time office space in the Yellow House located across from the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. When the opportunity presented itself for the Foundation to purchase the vacant US Bank building at 127 W. Main Street, they took it.

Instead of referring to the new property as ‘the old US Bank building,’ the Hoover Presidential Foundation board of trustees have named it, ‘The Rummells Center,’ in honor of L.C. Rummells, a long-time supporter of the Hoover Presidential Foundation and the West Branch community in general. L.C. Rummells was instrumental in acquiring land for Hoover Park and was a long-time key member of the Foundation board. He was also the president of the West Branch State Bank who originally built the bank at that location. “We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for ‘The Rummells Center’ and honoring the Rummells family in this way, and very grateful for their support,” Fleagle said.

There is ample room at the new location. “We’ve invited the West Branch Community Development Group to move their executive director into our building,” Fleagle added. “They have full access to the conference center for their events and some additional storage areas in the basement.” Fleagle said he’s happy to be in a position where we can provide that space in support of the West Branch community.

“We’re glad we can support local non-profits with meeting space. The West Branch Lions Club meets here from time to time, as well as other groups,” Fleagle said. “By the end of the month we’ll have completed installation of an elevator to ensure the conference center space in the basement is accessible to everyone.”

Funding for the property and renovations is not part of the Timeless Values | Modern Experience capital campaign. The foundation was able to purchase the property from U.S. Bank who included a generous in-kind gift as part of the deal. The foundation also used proceeds from the sale of two rental properties they’ve been holding. Long-range plans had included the eventual demolition of the rentals so the space, including the adjacent Hoover-Ball court property, could be used to build a new Foundation home. “With the US Bank building deal, the rental properties are no longer needed, as it’s much more fiscally responsible to take over this property,” Fleagle said.

About the Foundation

The Hoover Presidential Foundation promotes and supports the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, National Historic Site, and other programs that enhance the understanding of Herbert Hoover as president and humanitarian.

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