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West Branch museum to showcase 'hidden work' of Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist

Dec. 17, 2013 | Comments



Jay "Ding" Darling, Circa 1930, National Conservation Training Center Archives, Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

Written by Katherine Klingseis Des Moines Register

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An eastern Iowa museum will showcase the "hidden work" of a Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist this spring, according to a news release.

The Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum in West Branch will present "The Hidden Works of Jay N. 'Ding' Darling" from Jan. 25 to March 23. The exhibit will include Darling's cartoons, family and personal objects, sketches and original printing plates from the Des Moines Register.

Some of Darling's work uncovered by filmmaker Samuel Koltinsky will also be on display. Koltinsky found this work when he was conducting research for a documentary on Darling, the release stated.

Darling worked as a political cartoonist at The Des Moines Register and Sioux City

Journal. He won the Pulitzer Prize in 1924 and 1943.

As a supporter of the conservation movement, Darling was a part of the efforts that led to the creation of the national wildlife refuge system and other conservation projects and regulations.

Officials ask visitors to refrain from taking photos at the exhibit because many of the items have never before been on display, the release stated.

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The exhibit has been dedicated to Kip Koss, who recently died. Koss was Darling's only grandson and oldest living relative, the release said.

The museum is located in West Branch, 10 miles east of Iowa City. Its hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

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