

Falter Museum Nearing Reality in Falls City

(KTNC)-- It's been a dream for several years to find a location in Falls City for a museum to showcase the work of John Philip Falter. That dream is now nearly a reality.

Falter grew up in Falls City, graduating from Falls City High School in 1928. He went on to win acclaim as a prominent artist and illustrator, including painting 129 covers for the Saturday Evening Post – including three featuring Falls City.

Dobey Falter Haws has been leading the fundraising effort to locate the Falter Museum in the former Richardson County Bank building at the corner of 17th and Stone Street. She says they have met their construction funding goal and hope to get bids to renovate the building in July and open the museum on November 28 – the date of Falls City's Christmas window opening.

The museum will contain some original Falter works, all of his "Saturday Evening Post" covers, and Falter's studio from his Philadelphia home. The studio has been housed at the Nebraska State Historical Society in Lincoln and is being loaned to the Falls City museum.

As the committee continues to raise money to renovate the building and operate the museum, Haws says they are giving people a chance to adopt a Falter "Saturday Evening Post" cover. The cost to adopt a framed print, which will all be displayed at the museum, is \$200. The three Post covers featuring Falls City will be auctioned to the highest bidder, with bids starting at \$200.

The silent auction will take place at a couple events, one on July 18 and the other on August 1. The winning bids will be announced on August 2.

Many people have donated money and time to the Falter Museum. Haws says the Richardson Foundation has provided a lot of support, including a recent construction loan to help them reach their fundraising goal.

Questions about the museum, including anyone who would like to donate Falter artwork for display, can be e-mailed to Dobey Falter Haws at dobey.haws@gmail.com.

Donations can be mailed to: Falter Museum, P.O. Box 234, Falls City, Nebraska 68355.

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