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Unique connection between Storm Lake author and President Hoover explored

"Twenty million people are starving. Whatever their politics, they shall be fed!" proclaimed Herbert Hoover in his efforts to extend aid to famine-stricken Soviet Russia. Though his domestic policies are often much-maligned, a courageous and little-known chapter in the 31st president's legacy will be explored at the Sioux City Public Museum's upcoming Tuesday Twilight Talk.

The Sioux City Public Museum has received funding from Humanities Iowa, a private, non-profit state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to host a presentation called **Herbert Hoover's Role in Distributing Food in Post WWI and WWII in Europe** by Danuta Zamojska Hutchins at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17 at the Sioux City Public Museum. A cultural resource for Iowans since 1971, Humanities Iowa offers many cultural and historical programs and grants to Iowa's communities.

As a child, Dr. Hutchins of Storm Lake experienced firsthand President Hoover's distribution of food in Poland after WWII. Born in Warsaw, Poland, she lived through the ravages of Nazi occupation, their reprisals for the Warsaw Uprising of 1944 and Poland's fall to communism after its liberation by the Soviet Army. She discusses those experiences and her connection with the Hoover birthplace in West Branch, Iowa in her book "Torn Out Memories."

Dr. Hutchins left Poland in 1962 to study American literature and language at the University of Minnesota. She received her Ph.D. in Modern Languages, Education and Linguistics from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Dr. Hutchins has taught Slavic Languages, Literatures and Cultures at Buena Vista College (now University) at Storm Lake, Iowa, Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana, Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa, and Ohio State University at Columbus, Ohio. She has also taught courses in German Language, Literature and History and Russian Language and Literature at Teikyo-Westmar University and Westmar University at Le Mars, Iowa from which she retired at its closure in 1995. She has authored many papers and book chapters in her field and has written four books of general interest. Her early retirement enabled her to devote full time to her artwork, resulting in several successful group and solo exhibits of paintings, etchings, and sculpture.

Housed in the historic John Peirce Mansion at 2901 Jackson Street, the Sioux City Public Museum offers monthly Tuesday Twilight Talk programs featuring topics of regional historic interest. For more information, call the Sioux City Public Museum at 712-279-6174 or visit www.siouxcitymuseum.org. Admission is free.