

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Robyn Truitt DrivonInterim County Administrator

Beth Gabor Public Information Officer 625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 666-8150 • FAX (530) 668-4029 www.yolocounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 15, 2009

Contact: Beth Gabor, Public Information Officer (530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

Support Facility for Gibson House Historical Museum Complete

(Woodland, CA) – Thanks to funding and a joint partnership between Yolo County and the Woodland Sunrise, Noon and Luna Vista Rotary clubs, construction of a much needed support building for the Gibson House Historical Museum, located at 512 Gibson Road in Woodland, is complete. The new facility includes four permanent toilets, one with handicap access, a modern kitchen to support food service for events, and dressing rooms for brides and grooms.

"The new facility will bridge a significant gap up until now at the Gibson House by providing amenities to support community events, weddings and festivals," said Yolo County Supervisor Matt Rexroad. "For example, the recent Backpacks for Kids event required bringing in portable toilets. This won't be necessary in the future. The new kitchen will also make it easier to provide food at future events."

This community project has used salvaged wood from an old barn removed by the Sunrise Rotary Club in an effort to make the building fit into the Gibson House genre. The support building has a deep porch to provide sun and rain protection, as well as a food service window from the kitchen. The new facility will allow for many additional events not previously possible. The new dressing rooms are expected to encourage Yolo County residents to use the Gibson House facility for weddings, thus reducing travel time for large wedding parties.

"Without the support of the Woodland Sunrise, Noon and Luna Vista Rotary clubs, this building would not have been built," said Yolo County General Services Director Ray Groom. "Their community support and spirit made this project a reality."

"I have visited the site daily and I am excited the project is now complete. It is an excellent example of a successful private-public partnership," said Supervisor Rexroad. "Along with our partners, I especially want to acknowledge Ray Groom who personally worked on his own time to plane the salvaged wood."

The Gibson House Historical Museum, former home of William Byas Gibson is owned by Yolo County and managed by the Yolo County Historical Museum. The Museum houses collections of furnishings and artifacts depicting the various eras from the 1850s to the 1930s. In addition to being a house museum, there are changing exhibits on various subjects related to the history of Yolo County. The outbuildings contain displays of agriculture and everyday life of the same period. The museum and grounds are open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays between 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. pm. For more information visit: http://yolo.net/vme/ychm/.

###

Attached: Picture of Gibson House support facility