

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Diverse effort nets funds to keep Weaverville Joss House State Historic Park open

A unique cultural icon will continue to be available to visitors thanks to the diverse and determined efforts by supporters of the Weaverville Joss House State Historic Park. The tiny community of Weaverville marshaled resources and developed a state, national and international outreach to keep the park doors from closing.

"We are so grateful to everyone who helped keep our Temple open for the public to experience and learn about Taoism, our community's history and this unique aspect of California's history" said Paula Masterman, Chairman of the Weaverville Joss House Association. "To be able to keep our Temple open so it can continue to be used for worship by Taoists around the world was a very important aspect of our mission. We are thrilled we accomplished this, thanks to our wonderful donors."

The Joss House is the oldest continuously used Chinese temple in California. The collaborative effort resulted in the Association providing a \$47,000 donation to keep the park operating and on-going efforts to fund future years. The temple is located about 50 miles west of Redding in the center of Weaverville. Several elected officials joined forces to seek assistance in Asian communities in San Francisco, throughout California, the U.S. and even China.

"Supporting the Weaverville Joss House State Historic Park since 1983, The Weaverville Joss House Association gave a tremendous amount of energy to raise the funds necessary to keep the Joss House in continuous operation since 1874. They understand the importance of the collection to the history of Trinity County and worked tirelessly to insure that the Temple of the Forest Beneath the Clouds would stay open for visitors and worshipers," said Cascade Sector Superintendent Heidi Horvitz. "California State Parks also recognizes Assembly Members Fiona Ma and Wes Chesbro, Trinity County Supervisor Judy Morris, the Chinese Historical Society of America, the Trinity County Historical Society and all of the generous donors."

The park will be open in July on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 10-5 with tours on the hour. Please call the park for more information at (530) 623-5286.

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