



VOL. 2 ISSUE 2

# COUNTY CROSSROADS

Official Newsletter of  
the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors

## Community Improvement and Quality of Life

CHAIR PAUL CANEPA, DISTRICT TWO

Over the past month, the Board of Supervisors has taken intentional action to improve our communities and enhance quality of life in San Joaquin County.

Last year, we adopted new strategic priorities to guide our efforts, including:

- Maintain Fiscal Responsibility
- Reduce Unsheltered Homelessness
- Public Safety/Quality of Life
- Support a Healthy Community

We recognize that community health is tied to our way of life, and as our population grows, we are committed to investing in parks, recreation, and clean public spaces to ensure safe outdoor activities for families.

Additionally, I've asked each Board member to highlight local youth programs to increase awareness of the opportunities available for young people in our county.

We are committed to growing greatness in all forms, and I look forward to working together to achieve this goal.

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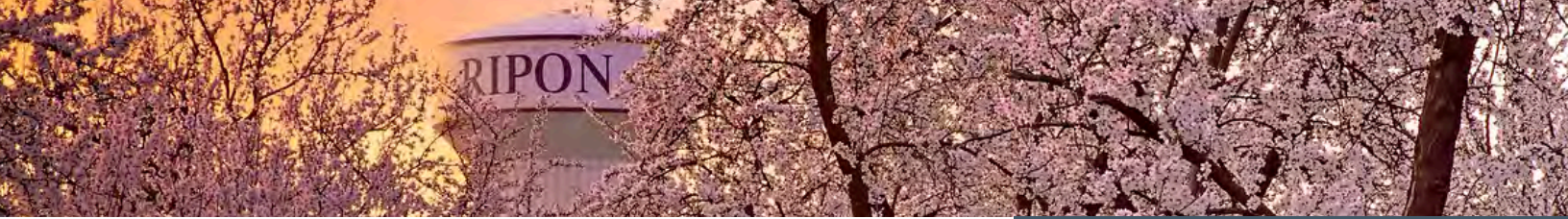
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## News of Note

- [Board Proclaims 175th Anniversary Year and Chooses Commemorative Seal](#)
- [Board Approves \\$1.37 Million in Park and Zoo Upgrades](#)
- [Board Partners with SPCA and APL to Expand Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Services](#)
- [San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Advocates for Voter ID Requirements and Elimination of Same-Day Registration](#)
- [Board Declares National Cancer Prevention Month](#)
- [Board Supports Spark Relief Grants for Small Business Assistance](#)
- [Board Moves to Impose Moratorium on Smoke Shops](#)

## Board Invests in Park & Zoo Upgrades

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors has approved a \$1.37 million increase in the 2024-2025 Parks and Recreation Budget to enhance security, maintenance, and recreational facilities in local parks and Micke Grove Zoo. This investment includes \$1.25 million for security improvements at nine parks affected by vandalism and theft, such as new fencing, lighting, and overnight patrols. Additional funds will support upgrades at Micke Grove Zoo, regional sports complex improvements, and new park maintenance equipment to enhance public safety and accessibility.

Looking ahead, the County plans to invest at least \$7.2 million in 2025-2026 for major improvements, including smart public restrooms, irrigation upgrades, and planning for a South County Regional Park. A 10-Year Master Plan for County Parks and Micke Grove Zoo is also in development to guide long-term growth and enhancements. These investments reaffirm the Board's commitment to providing safe, well-maintained outdoor spaces for the community.





## Honoring Youth Programs - Codestack Academy

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors honored CodeStack Academy for its outstanding contributions to education and workforce development. A program of the San Joaquin County Office of Education, CodeStack Academy equips young adults with hands-on tech skills through project-based learning and real-world experience.

Students master technologies like HTML5, JavaScript, React, SQL Server, and Cloud Services while developing problem-solving, collaboration, and leadership skills. The program culminates in a three-month internship, ensuring graduates gain practical experience and a strong portfolio. CodeStack Academy's commitment to innovation and excellence sets a shining example of the power of education and opportunity.

Learn more at <https://codestackacademy.org/home>.

## Discovery Challenge Academy

The Board of Supervisors proudly recognizes the Discovery Challenge Academy (DCA) for empowering at-risk youth. This free, 22-week residential program helps students recover credits, develop life skills, and prepare for a successful future.

Operated by the California National Guard and the San Joaquin County Office of Education, DCA provides a second chance for students to earn their diploma or GED, build confidence, and get back on track toward a brighter future.

By fostering academic improvement, scholarship opportunities, and pathways to continued education, the academy plays a vital role in shaping the future of its students. Their commitment to teamwork, creativity, and leadership serves as an inspiration, demonstrating the power of collaboration and individual initiative in paving the way for success. Learn more at: <https://iamdiscovery.org/>.

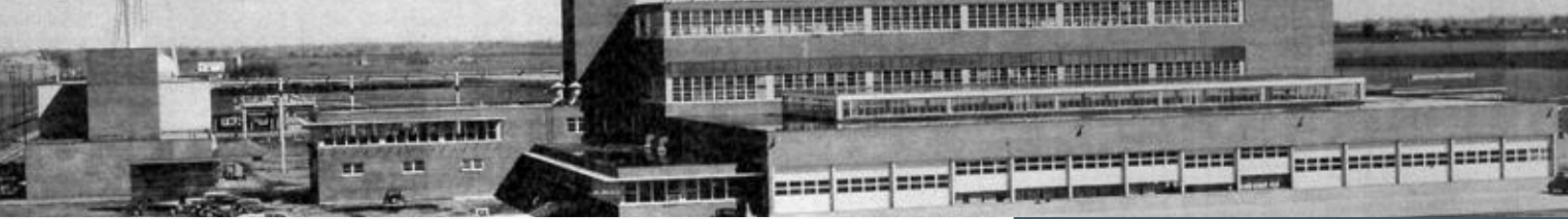
## Highlighting Youth and Education



Students and instructors from Codestack Academy joined us in the Board Chambers to tell us more about their program.



Representatives from SJCCE and the California National Guard were joined by a future graduate of Discovery Challenge Academy to highlight their work with at-risk youth.



## 175th Update

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors recently proclaimed 2025 as the County's 175th anniversary year, celebrating its rich history and pioneering spirit. The County has evolved from a hub for agriculture, trade, and transportation to a thriving center of diversity, industry, and community. As part of this milestone, the Board launched an art competition for 7th to 12th-grade students to design a commemorative logo. The winning design, created by local student A. Vasquez, will serve as the County's official emblem throughout 2025. Inspired by the evolution of San Joaquin County, Vasquez's logo incorporates a clock that symbolizes the county's growth and marks the area code of 209.

San Joaquin County, established in 1850, has a long history of resilience and progress. This celebration also honors the county's legacy of diversity and leadership, as demonstrated by Vice Chair Sonny Dhaliwal, the first known Sikh American member of the Board.

The Board of Supervisors will be coordinating celebratory events with each of the County's eight cities to allow all parts of the County to participate easily. Board members will join their city counterparts at upcoming Council meetings throughout the year. Stay tuned to learn more.

In addition, throughout 2025, a series of special events will be held to engage the community and highlight San Joaquin County's achievements. These events will include historical exhibitions, educational programs, and volunteer opportunities, offering residents a chance to reflect on the County's past while contributing to its future. The Board is committed to ensuring that this anniversary year serves as a reminder of the County's rich legacy and the shared values that continue to drive its progress. The public is invited to participate in these celebrations and help shape the County's next chapter.

(Thank you to the San Joaquin County Historical Museum for their partnership on this project. Photo credits for all of the historical pictures included in the newsletter goes to them.)



Former Board members joined the Board of Supervisors at the 175th anniversary kick-off event, held in the Board Chambers in late January.



Thank you to local elected officials and city partners who came to celebrate with us!

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The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors is on Instagram, Facebook and Threads. Stay connected to upcoming events, news and updates from the Board.

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