

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025
VOL 1 - ISS 3

THE RICKMAN REPORT

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 5



Dear Neighbors,

This month has been filled with impactful moments across District 5 — from celebrating community milestones and youth achievements to advocating for sound, common-sense policies at the state level. I had the honor of meeting with students, recognizing our hardworking County employees, and participating in events that highlight the strength, diversity, and unity of our communities in Tracy, Mountain House, Ripon, and Escalon.

As your Supervisor, I remain committed to representing your voice on the Board of Supervisors. Whether we're opposing burdensome rate increases, supporting public safety and mental health investments, or championing local innovation, transparency, accountability, and progress remain at the heart of all of our work.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving you. Together, we're building a stronger, healthier, and more connected San Joaquin County.

Sincerely,
Robert Rickman

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\$137 Million Investment in Behavioral Health: Be Well San Joaquin

The Board of Supervisors has approved an unprecedented \$137 million investment into behavioral health services through the “Be Well San Joaquin” initiative. This historic funding will transform how our county addresses mental health and substance use disorders by increasing capacity, expanding access, and strengthening care for all residents. Learn more about this initiative at www.sjgov.org.

Whistleblower Hotline Launched

In our ongoing efforts to strengthen public trust, the County has launched a new Whistleblower Hotline. This service allows employees and members of the public to anonymously report suspected fraud, waste, or abuse of county resources. Transparency and accountability are top priorities, and this tool helps ensure your government works for you. Read more about it [here](#).

OneVoice Advocacy Trip to Washington, DC

As part of my role on the San Joaquin Council of Governments, I traveled to DC this month to advocate for additional federal funding for key infrastructure projects throughout San Joaquin County. Meeting with administration officials is an important way to ensure that San Joaquin County gets our fair share of resources.



I was pleased to recognize Mountain House Resident, retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Brian Lucid, and thank him for his service to our Nation and continued service to his community. We owe our Veterans a debt we can never repay, but we can always remember, honor, and say thank you.



It was an honor to attend the dedication of the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument - those who have lost a loved one in service to our nation. Today, and every day, we stand with our Gold Star Families in gratitude and solemn remembrance.



I spoke to students at George Kelly Elementary School's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) career day. As a member of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, I talked about how STEM is helping clean our air.

Supervisor Rickman is on the Governing Board and urges you to visit the District's website for air quality updates and incentive programs for businesses, agriculture, and households.



Visit MySanJoaquin
Use the non-emergency reporting system to report issues such as illegal dumping, potholes, inoperative traffic signals.

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SJCARES

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Response Team

sjcares@sjgov.org



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www.sjgov.org

View past or upcoming
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STANDING STRONG ON LEGISLATIVE ISSUES



Opposed: PG&E General Rate Case Increase

The County has submitted a formal letter opposing PG&E's proposed rate increase. Rising energy costs place an undue burden on our families and businesses, and we are fighting to keep utility bills affordable.

Tracy Courthouse Funding Deferred

While we expressed strong support for keeping the Tracy Courthouse funding, the Governor's most recent Budget proposal has delayed it to a future fiscal year. We will continue to advocate for this vital infrastructure.

Support: SB 712 – Classic Car Smog Check Exemption

We're supporting SB 712, which passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee. This bill provides exemptions for collector motor vehicles from smog checks—a win for car enthusiasts and preservationists alike.

Oppose: AB 470 – Carrier of Last Resort Mandate

The County has registered opposition to AB 470, which could threaten rural phone service by undermining traditional carrier obligations. The bill has moved forward from the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Support: AB 286 - Electric Rate Reduction

We are supporting AB 286 to lower costs for San Joaquin County rate payers. I was able to meet with Assemblymember Gallagher to express our support. The bill is currently in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.



TRACY

Youth of the Year Awards – Boys & Girls Clubs of Tracy

Congratulations to this year's Youth of the Year finalists and winners! These young leaders showcased their passion, resilience, and eloquence through speeches reflecting the Club's impact.

Tracy Renewable Energy Tour

I enjoyed touring this innovative facility and discussing hydrogen and data center innovations, reaffirming our district's role in driving California's clean energy future.

Love Tracy Community Clean-Up

Volunteers rolled up their sleeves to beautify neighborhoods—another shining example of Tracy pride and service.

Tracy Cemetery Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony

On Memorial Day, we remembered the men and women who gave everything in their service to this great nation and honoring their lives and legacies. Memorial Day ceremony began at Tracy Cemetery (American Legion Post 172) then the War Memorial, and ended with lunch at the Tracy Senior Center.



RIPON

American Legion Post 190 Memorial Day Ceremony

We were honored to pay homage to our fallen heroes alongside Ripon veterans and community members. The ceremony, organized by the Ripon American Legion Post 190, took place at the Ripon Cemetery.

Legion Hall Reopening

Congratulations on the reopening of the historic Clinton McCausland Post 190 Hall, ensuring this beloved gathering space is preserved for future generations. It was an honor to help secure funding for this project.

Supporting the Ripon Chamber of Commerce

I take pride in supporting the Ripon Chamber of Commerce with some of my discretionary district funds. This funding enabled them to acquire an event cart, which will be utilized during the Almond Blossom Festival and other wonderful events in Ripon.



ON THE MOVE WITH DISTRICT 5

MAY 2025

ISSUE #3

ESCALON

Escalon Fire Appreciation Dinner & Memorial Day Ceremony

We honored the bravery and service of Escalon's first responders and fallen heroes during these deeply meaningful events.

Non-Profit of the Year

We were able to celebrate the Escalon American Legion Post 263 as the Escalon Chamber of Commerce Non-Profit of the Year. We appreciate all they do for our veterans and the community.

Escalon Office Hours

Board Aide Maria Valenzuela holds office hours for Supervisor Rickman each week in Escalon to meet with constituents and take their concerns and requests for assistance. You can see her at Escalon City Hall on Thursdays from 11 am to 1 pm.



Supporting our farmers and students at the San Joaquin California Farm Bureau Federation's Annual Meeting and Scholarship Dinner.

MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Annual Bike Rodeo with CHP

Kids learned vital bike safety skills thanks to this fun, educational partnership with the CHP and Mountain House Police Services.

\$18,000 Grant for Royal Kings Youth Sports Club

We presented a check to support new uniforms, helping our young athletes play with pride and unity.



Mountain House Rotary

Thank you Rotary Club of Mountain House for the invitation to be the guest speaker and give an update on the great things happening in San Joaquin County. It was great to see everyone and talk about issues that concern us all.

Pistahan Celebration & Flores de Mayo

We are looking forward to a beautiful showcase of Filipino culture, food, and family spirit at Wicklund Park on Saturday, May 31st. Hope to see you there.