

COLLEGE OPERATIONS NEWS

Quarterly Newsletter

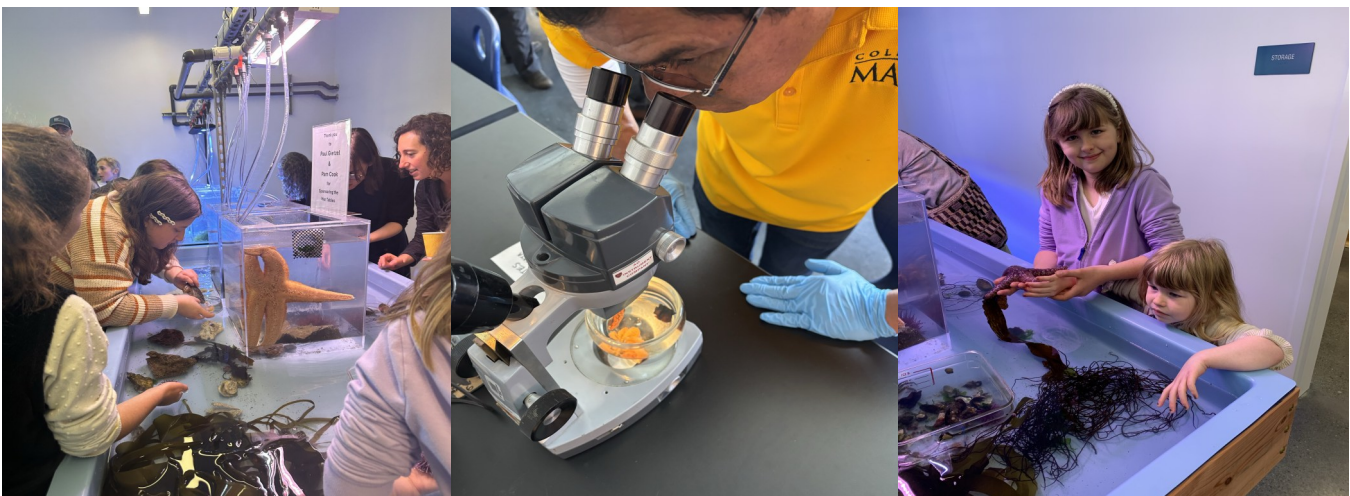
Spring 2025



Bolinas Field Station Grand Opening, Bolinas

Grand Opening of the Bolinas Field Station

We're thrilled to announce the grand opening of the *Bolinas Field Station* on March 29, 2025! Funded by the Measure B Bond, the District, the College of Marin Foundation, and State donations, this remarkable facility is a major step forward in our educational mission. More than just a resource for students, it's a true community treasure—designed to inspire learning, discovery, and connection with the environment. Join us in celebrating this exciting milestone!



Bolinas Field Station Grand Opening, Bolinas

Welcome New Staff

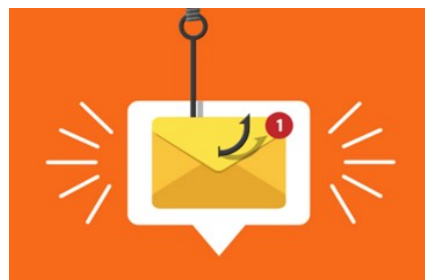


Charles Thorpe IV, Technology Support Specialist II

After a 12-year career in IT, Charles (Chas) was a stay-at-home parent to his 3 kids for 20 years here in Marin. During that time, he worked extensively with local sports groups, most notably as a scheduler for several soccer clubs and, with his wife, as a swim coach at San Rafael High School for 3 years. He returned to his IT roots on the help desk in 2022. Outside of work he spends a good deal of time hiking in the hills with his dogs and working on projects around the house.



Information Technology



Microsoft Email Quarantine

This is a reminder that our Microsoft Quarantine spam filters may catch some legitimate emails. You will frequently receive an email from "quarantine@messaging.microsoft.com" with the following subject line: "Microsoft 365 security: You have messages in quarantine." To release, block the sender, or review the message, open that email and proceed as indicated.

Watch a quick video on the Microsoft Quarantine feature and how to use it. Please note that COM configuration allows users to "release" their own email.

[Managing the user quarantine in Microsoft Defender for Office 365 - YouTube](#)

Learn more about the Microsoft Quarantine
[Quarantine notifications \(end-user spam notifications\) in Microsoft 365 | Microsoft Learn](#)

365 Applications Training: Live and on demand user training

Microsoft offers online live training sessions or watch on demand training videos to learn how to use Microsoft 365 apps to work more efficiently with your team. You will find a course that's right for you. Visit the link below to get your questions answered and interact with Microsoft live moderators.

<https://adoption.microsoft.com/en-us/user-training/>



Get to Know VP Eresa Puch

Vice President of Finance and Operations Eresa Puch was recently interviewed by Classified Senate President Sally Wong. You can watch the [Classified Know More Podcast](#) here.



Bolinas Field Station Grand Opening, Bolinas

Welcome New Staff



Michael Vega, Locksmith-Carpenter

Michael Vega, COM's new Locksmith-Carpenter is very excited to be a part of the team. He enjoys and spends most if not all his free time with his wife, his little girl Nala (his Frenchie) and on his computer. He enjoys snowboarding when there's an opportunity to do so. He hopes to accomplish a lot for COM. He gave thanks to all who have given him a warm welcome and hopes to create great bonds with everyone at COM.

Maintenance & Operations

Bolinas Field Station

Facilities Planning, Maintenance & Operations, and the Office of Advancement hosted an open house at the new Bolinas Field Station. COM staff have been working for the last several weeks putting the finishing touches on the facility, including constructing aquaria and organizing items within the facility.

Professor Joe Mueller has been hard at work organizing the amazing collection of preserved specimens and placing them on shelving awaiting the arrival of students for their first classes at the facility.

Maintenance and Operations staff have built stands for the aquaria for live specimens. We are receiving assistance from Karl Menard, the aquarist for the UC Davis Bodega Marine laboratory to make sure the water and filtration systems are properly set up.

We hope you can find time to visit this amazing new facility.

Maridel Barr's Retirement

If you have not yet heard, the Maintenance and Operations department is celebrating our long-term Administrative Assistant Maridel Barr. She will be retiring on April 3. Please take a moment to reach out and show her your appreciation for her 14 years of service at College of Marin.



Maridel Barr, Administrative Assistant III



Klaus Christiansen, Director of Facilities Planning, and Keith Rosenthal, Director of Advancement, Bolinas Field Station

Miwok Aquatic and Fitness Center

A Pool Fit for Champions

Miwok's Olympic-sized pool isn't just for casual swims—it has hosted high-level competitions like the 2024 Summer Long Course CA/NV Speedo Sectionals, bringing top-tier athletes to our campus! Miwok hosts multiple swim meet, water polo tournaments and dive competitions.

Sustainable & Stylish

This beautifully designed, eco-friendly property features energy-efficient lighting, water-saving fixtures, and sustainable materials. Planned upgrades like heating electrification and pool covers will support LEED Gold standards, making it a modern model of sustainability.

Open to the Community

Miwok isn't just for students! The center offers lap swimming, fitness classes, and workout facilities for the public, making it a true community hub for health and wellness.

More Than Just a Pool

Besides its stunning aquatics facilities, Miwok has a **state-of-the-art fitness center** with cardio machines, free weights, and space for group classes.

Named with Honor

The center's name, *Miwok*, pays tribute to the **Coast Miwok people**, the original stewards of this land. It's a reminder of the deep history and cultural significance of Marin County.



Miwok Aquatic and Fitness Center, Indian Valley Campus

Community Programs

Community Education

Lifelong learning keeps your mind sharp, sparks creativity, and opens the door to new opportunities. Whether you're exploring a new hobby or sharpening your skills, there's always something new to discover!

Spring Registration is OPEN NOW—classes start March 24th.

Come join us—because learning never stops!

[Community Education Winter-Spring Schedule](#)

And Summer registration begins May 13.

Coming Soon: Community Education & Programs is working on integrating a new registration system, ACTIVE Network, where you can easily:

- Browse and register for classes;
- View classes by campus location;
- Filter classes by category or instructor;
- And much more.

More to come in the next few months.



Special Events

Marin American Indian Alliance
Powwow – March 23, 2025

[3rd Annual Marin Pow Wow 2025 – Pow Wow Calendar](#)



Ellen Shaw and Devendra Shrestha, Accounting Technicians



Natalie Barzegar, Staff Accountant II

Fiscal Services

Thank you to everyone who participated in the **SSB-9 Training**! We hope it provided valuable insights to support your work.

FY25/26 Budget Development Process

We've officially kicked off the FY25/26 Budget Development Process. Please stay tuned for updates, key deadlines, and training opportunities

FY24/25 Interim Audit

The FY24/25 Interim Audit Process is currently underway. We appreciate your cooperation and timely responses to any audit-related requests.

◆ Finance Queries

Need help with finance queries? Reach out to [Tony](#) for support.

◆ Budget Transfers

[Sam](#) is your go-to for all budget transfer questions and assistance.

◆ Requisitions / Purchase Orders

For any questions regarding requisitions or purchase orders, [Santiago](#) is here to help.

◆ Invoice Look-Ups

Contact [Francisco](#) for assistance with locating or reviewing invoices.



Francisco Aviles, Accounting Specialist

Work Anniversaries

Let's celebrate the incredible milestones of our colleagues:

- **Natalie Barzegar** – 28 years (January)
- **Devendra Shrestha** – 9 years (February)
- **Francisco Aviles** – 20 years (March)
- **Michelle Greitzer** – 15 years (March)
- **Marilou Fragata** – 18 years (March)

Thank you all for your dedication and service!



Marilou Fragata, Staff Accountant



Michelle Greitzer, Staff Accountant II

Welcome New Staff



Officer Thomas Schneider

Meet our newest College of Marin police officer, Thomas Schneider. Officer Schneider is currently in our intensive Field Training program. Officer Schneider will work side by side with a training officer who will coach, teach and evaluate his progress on his way to becoming a solo patrol officer. Officer Schneider is a graduate of the Basic Police Academy Class #212, at Santa Rosa Junior College, public safety training center. Officer Schneider joins the College of Marin community to fulfill a lifelong dream of serving the public as a police officer. Officer Schneider previously worked in private industry for a nationwide financial services firm. Feel free to say hello to Officer Schneider when you see him on campus!



Officer Thomas Schneider, Office Paul Stewart and children and staff from the Child Study Center

Campus Police and Safety

Campus Police in the College Community

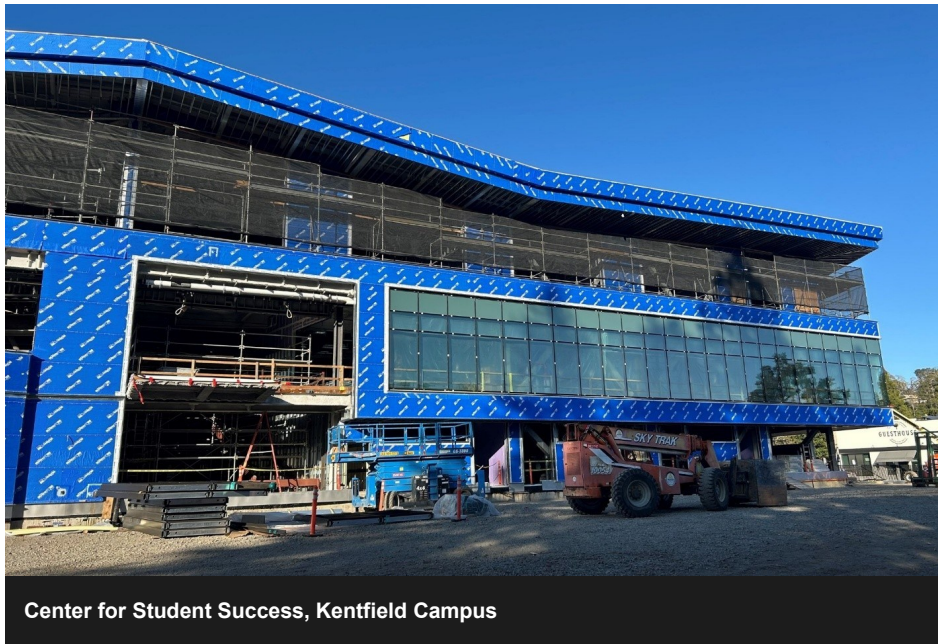
On March 5, Chief Aguilar was invited to speak with Professor Willow Barnosky's ESL Class. Chief Aguilar shared his story as an English learner and first-generation immigrant with the class. Chief Aguilar spoke about his journey of public service, from being an ESL student to becoming a police officer in Marin County and his different stops along the way to become the Chief of Police at College of Marin. In addition, Chief Aguilar spoke about the services the police department provides to the campus community, know your rights when encountering law enforcement and the fact that California police officers will not cooperate with immigration enforcement. At the end of the presentation, students had a chance to ask questions and were invited to contact the Chief with any questions or concerns.

Also on March 5, students from the Child Study Center visited the Police Department. The youngsters met Officer Schneider and his Field-Training Officer, Officer Stewart, and

our Police Service Assistant Jessica Shahi, who gave them a tour of the campus police office. The officers also showed their police vehicle and public safety equipment to the children. At the end, the students received "Junior Officer" stickers as a souvenir of their field trip.



Director of Campus Safety and Chief of Police Raul Aguilar



Center for Student Success, Kentfield Campus

Capital Projects

Center for Student Success

We are pleased to share several key milestones and ongoing activities that have contributed to the project's successful progress. Here's an update on the work completed and what is currently underway:

1. **Installation of Windows and Curtain Walls**
2. **Connection of Main Power to Building**
3. **Closing Interior Walls with Drywall Level 1**
4. **Installation of Exterior Scaffolding**
5. **Continued Nonstructural Framing on All Levels**
6. **MEP Rough-In Above Ceiling Level 1**
7. **Installation of Sheathing/Weatherproofing at Exterior of Building**
8. **Installation of Windows, Flashing, and Painting for Site Mock-Up**
9. **Installation of Interior Insulation at All Levels**

As the project progresses, our focus has expanded beyond the physical construction and into the finer details that will shape the building's final environment. Ensuring that the new space is not only functional but also welcoming and efficient for its occupants is of paramount importance. This quarter, we've made significant strides in two critical areas: the selection of furniture and the planning of a seamless transition into the building.

The collaborative efforts with the District Furniture Committee to validate and select furniture have been pivotal in shaping the interior spaces. These discussions have not only focused on aesthetics but also on ensuring that the furnishings meet the diverse needs of those who will use the building daily. In parallel, our team has been diligently developing a move plan and schedule designed to ensure a smooth transition, prioritizing the continued operation of essential services for students while making the building ready for occupation.

Other Approved Projects

During the last quarter, the Board of Trustees made several important decisions future Measure B projects. Among the key actions taken, the board approved a number of allocations aimed at further enhancing our campus facilities and supporting continued growth and development.

Budget Allocations for New Projects

The Board approved the allocation of budget funds to several new, impactful projects that will address critical needs across our campuses:

Performing Arts Fire Curtain Replacement - Fire curtain replacement at the theater stage. Design is through DSA and is currently out to bid. Construction to take place June 2026 with a completion date of August 2026.

PE Complex Renovations – Replacement of existing non-compliant bleachers, removal, repair, and replacement of existing pool deck and plaster and other associated ADA updates. Design is out to bid and construction is expected to begin in June, 2025 with a completion date of June 2026.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services:

College Operations
(415) 884-3100

epuch@marin.edu

Information Technology
(415) 884-3180

pekouetotou@marin.edu

Facilities Planning, Maintenance and Operations
(415) 485-9449

kchristiansen@marin.edu

Community Programs
(628) 234-7316

lafriedman@marin.edu

Facility Rentals
(415) 884-3124

lbacigalupi@marin.edu

Fiscal Services
(415) 884-3160

agclark@marin.edu

Police and Safety
(628) 234-7467

raguilarpulido@marin.edu

Capital Projects
(415) 457-8811 ext. 8128

erhodes@marin.edu

Upcoming Events

COM and Public Events Through June 18*

| Date | Event | Location |
|------------|--|----------------------------|
| April 1 | Baseball Game v. Contra Costa | Baseball Field - Kentfield |
| April 5 | Jim Stopher Solo Piano Recital | James Dunn Theatre |
| April 5 | Baseball Game v. Contra Costa | Baseball Field - Kentfield |
| April 10 | Baseball Game v. Yuba | Baseball Field - Kentfield |
| April 14 | Course Fest | PV Quad |
| April 17 | Baseball Game v. Solano | Baseball Field - Kentfield |
| April 22 | Baseball Game v. Los Medanos | Baseball Field - Kentfield |
| April 23 | Spring Fling Ice Cream Social | AC Quad |
| April 25 | Baseball Game v. Los Medanos | Baseball Field - Kentfield |
| April 28 | President's Town Hall | Zoom |
| May 2 | COM Jazz Ensemble | James Dunn Theatre |
| May 2 - 18 | She Kills Monsters | Studio Theatre |
| May 3 | COM Golden Gate Brass Band | James Dunn Theatre |
| May 8 | EOPS Scholarship Ceremony | Cafeteria |
| May 8 | CNA/HHa Graduation | Jonas Center |
| May 10 | Marin Oratorio w/COM Symphony Orchestra | James Dunn Theatre |
| May 13 | Men and Boys Action Team Mental Health Event | AC 255 |
| May 14 | Umoja Graduation | PA Courtyard |
| May 17 | COM Symphonic Wind Ensemble | James Dunn Theatre |
| May 20 | ESCOM Event | Jonas Center |
| May 20 | College Chorus and COM Vocal Jazz Ensemble | Lefort Recital Hall |
| May 21 | Employee Appreciation Luncheon | PA Courtyard |
| May 21 | COM Advanced Voice Class Recital | Lefort Recital Hall |
| May 22 | COM Beginning Voice Class Recital | Lefort Recital Hall |
| May 22 | Nursing Pinning | James Dunn Theatre |
| May 23 | Commencement | Pieper Field |
| May 26 | Memorial Day | College Closed |
| June 18 | Dental Graduation | Jonas Center |

*We apologize for any events we have inadvertently omitted. This is a list of College of Marin and public events on our campuses submitted to Community Programs. Private events are not listed and may occur any day of the week.