



THE BULLDOG

Coast Guard Cutter ALEX HALEY News | Dutch Harbor | GUNEX | Boardings



CWO2 Heather Bove and ENS Andrew Jaeger, Landing Signal Officers, prepare for flight operations.



Air Station Kodiak Lends a Hand to ALEX HALEY At Sea.

In the vast Bering Sea, logistics such as food, parts and supplies have to be carefully coordinated around our few port calls. However, when a part is needed and ALEX HALEY is hundreds of miles away from land, we have to engage our resources. Luckily, our friends back home at Air Station Kodiak have our backs. While patrolling the Maritime Boundary Line, ALEX HALEY and Air Station Kodiak personnel coordinated a successful logistics drop at sea of a vital part for our attached helicopter. Arriving on scene, the C-130 crew flew the line for several hours, enforcing the United States Exclusive Economic Zone alongside ALEX HALEY. Before departing however, the Air Station Kodiak C-130 loadmaster expertly deployed the package contained within a watertight barrel with a parachute. A few grappling hook throws later, ALEX HALEY's deck department brought our needed part on board. A big thank you was given to the C-130 crew of CG1714 and Air Station Kodiak for their assistance.

by OS3 Dale Arnould



Coast Guard Participates in Emergency Towing Drill

The Coast Guard participated in an Emergency Towing System (ETS) drill with the City of Unalaska and various local and state partners near Unalaska Bay, Tuesday.

The crew of Coast Guard Cutter Alex Haley along with a Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew and members of Marine Safety Detachment Dutch Harbor assisted in the drill to help the City of Unalaska prepare for emergencies on the water.

During the drill, the crew of the Dolphin delivered the city's ETS to a vessel who was then towed by the crew of Alex Haley. The participating distressed vessel was then met by local tugs who took the vessel in tow to an emergency buoy where the drill concluded.

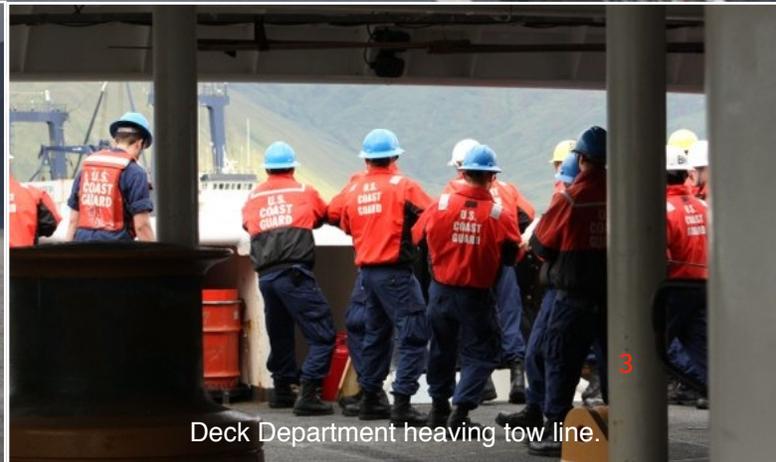
"This was a great opportunity to work with community and industry partners committed to saving Alaskans and the environment," said Cmdr. Stephen White, commanding officer, Coast Guard Cutter Alex Haley. "Today's exercise provided a unique chance to strengthen relationships with organizations we may be working with in the event of an actual emergency. Drills like this are important to gain familiarity with one another and also to understand each other's capabilities."

Other drill participants included Alaska Marine Pilots, Harley Marine, Dunlap Towing and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

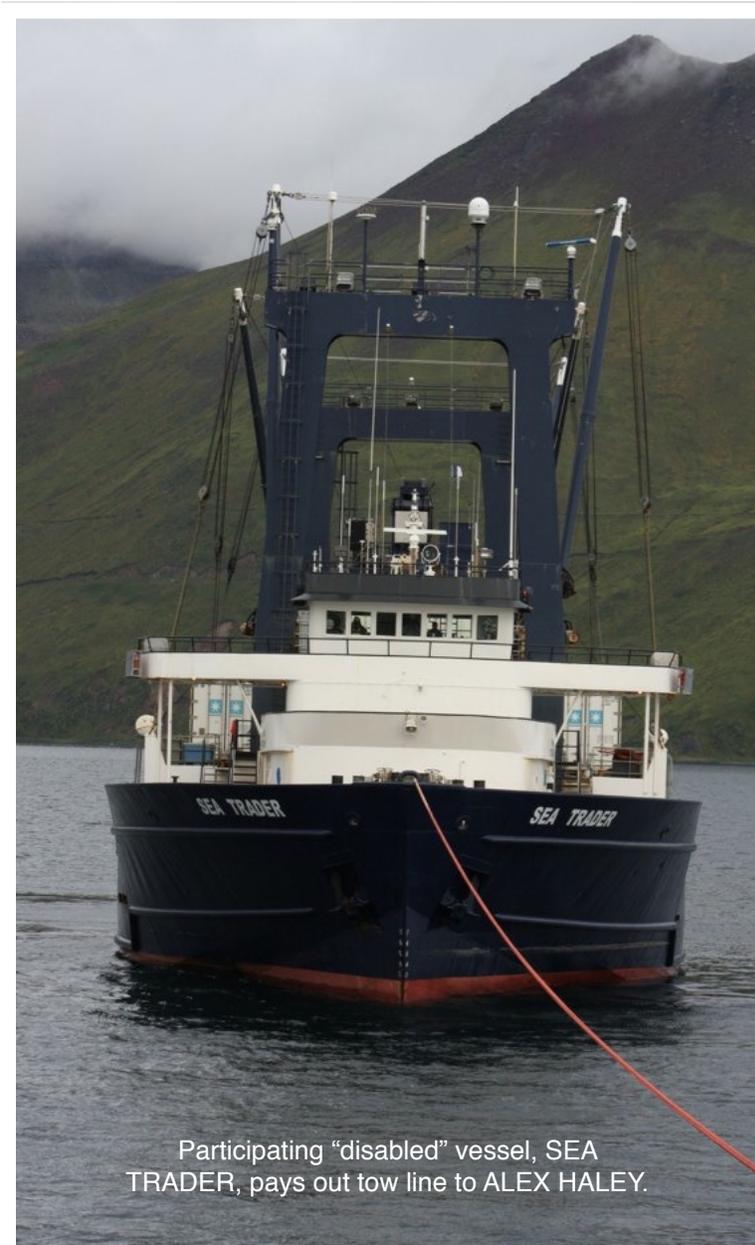
by PA3 Diana Honings



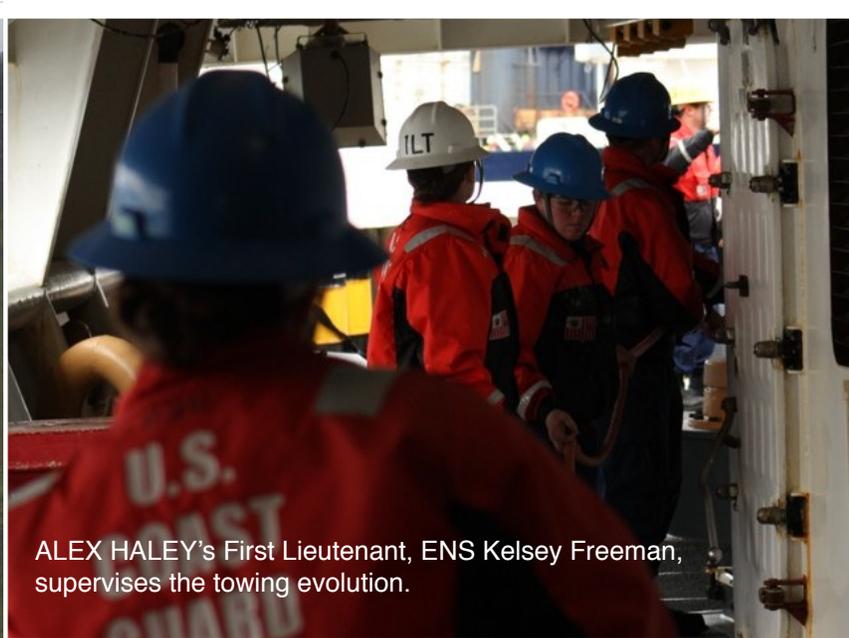
A MH-65 Dolphin lowers the ETS onto the "disabled" vessel.



Deck Department heaving tow line.



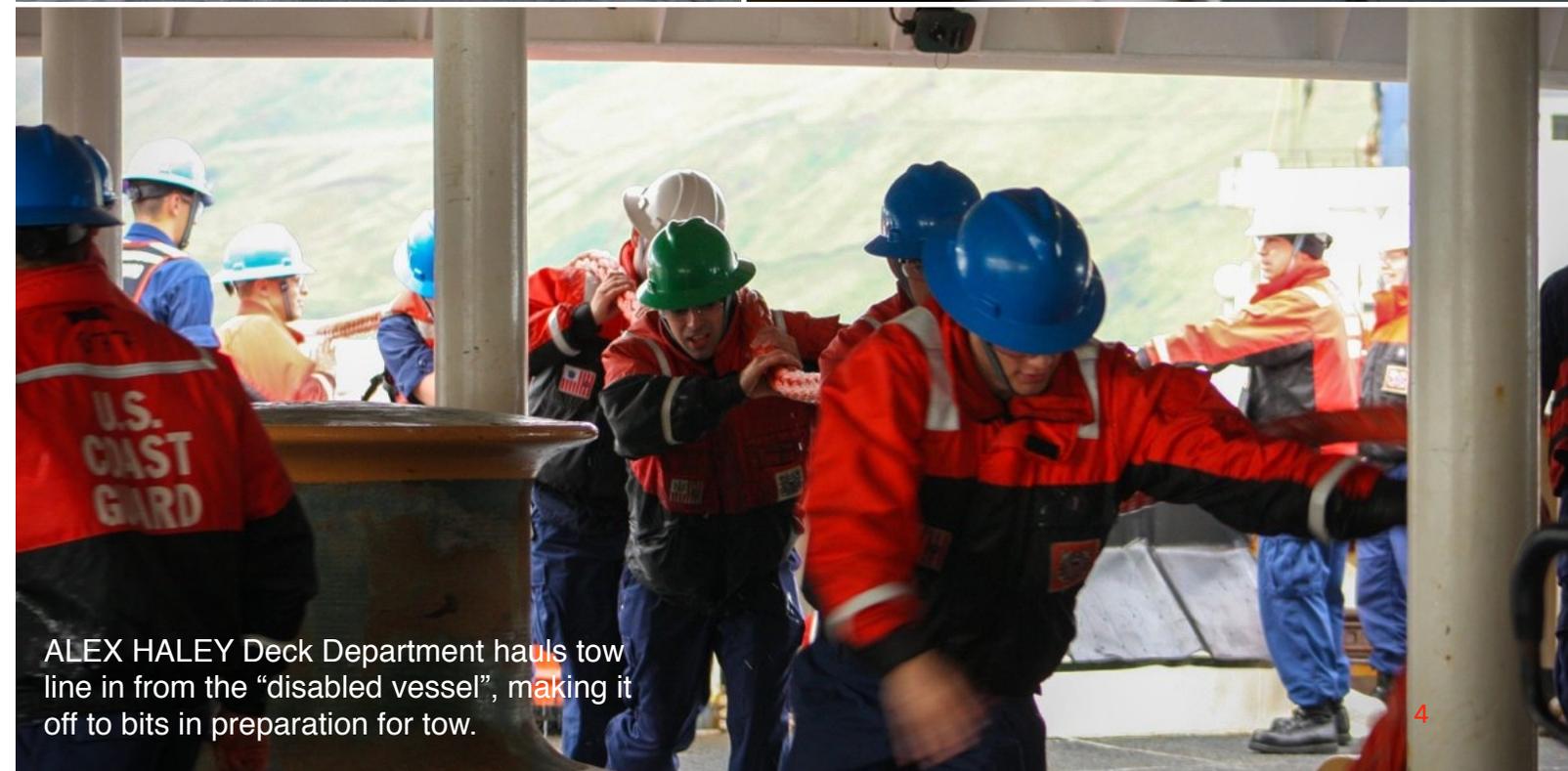
Participating "disabled" vessel, SEA TRADER, pays out tow line to ALEX HALEY.



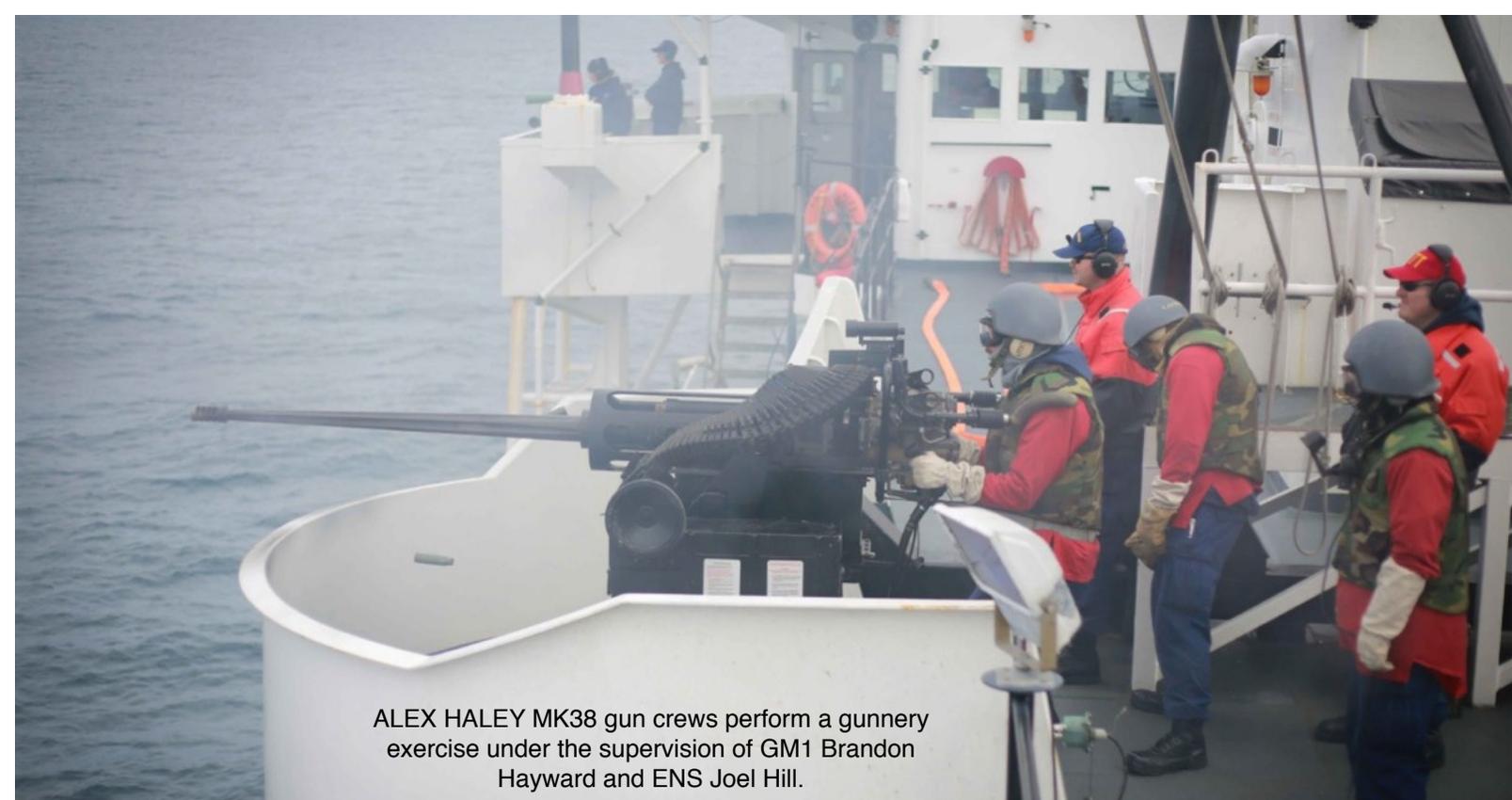
ALEX HALEY's First Lieutenant, ENS Kelsey Freeman, supervises the towing evolution.



SN Brenden Kiley and SN Michael Mackie observe CG23141 pass the tow line.



ALEX HALEY Deck Department hauls tow line in from the "disabled vessel", making it off to bits in preparation for tow.



ALEX HALEY MK38 gun crews perform a gunnery exercise under the supervision of GM1 Brandon Hayward and ENS Joel Hill.



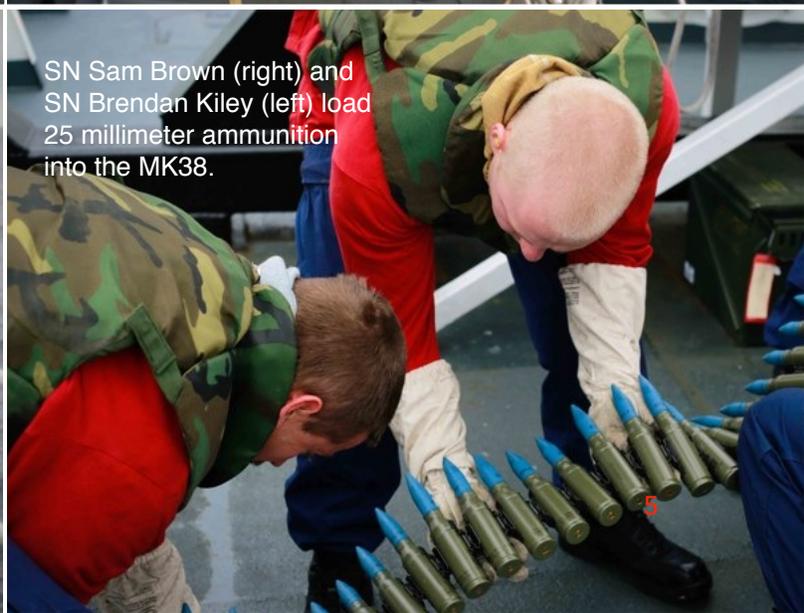
SN Brendan Kiley straps himself into the MK38, 25 millimeter.



FN Ramon Brea fires the .50 caliber MG.



SN Tyler Marine fires the .50 caliber MG.

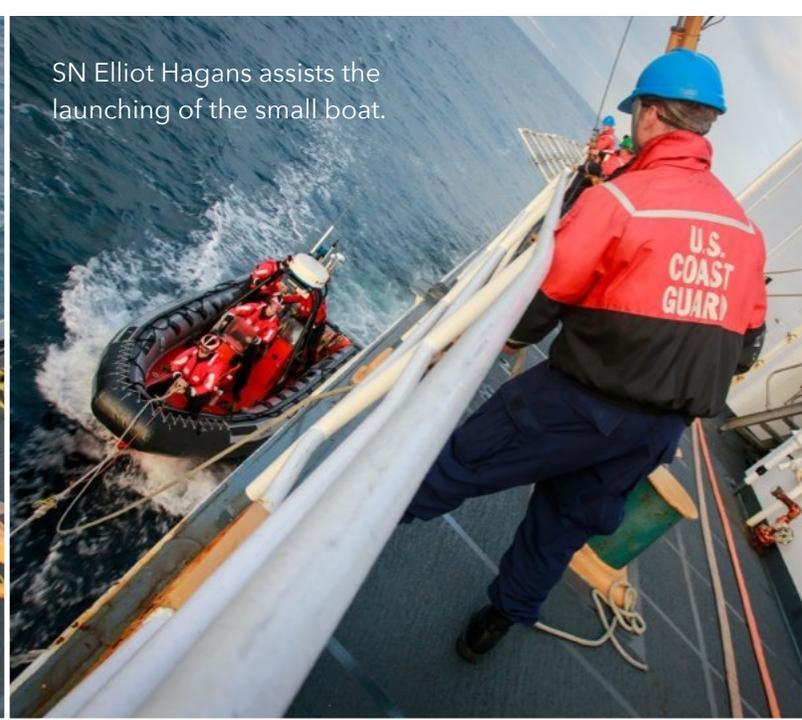


SN Sam Brown (right) and SN Brendan Kiley (left) load 25 millimeter ammunition into the MK38.

Lowering the CG23141.



SN Elliot Hagans assists the launching of the small boat.



MK2 Jon Broemeling assists a boarding team member into the small boat.

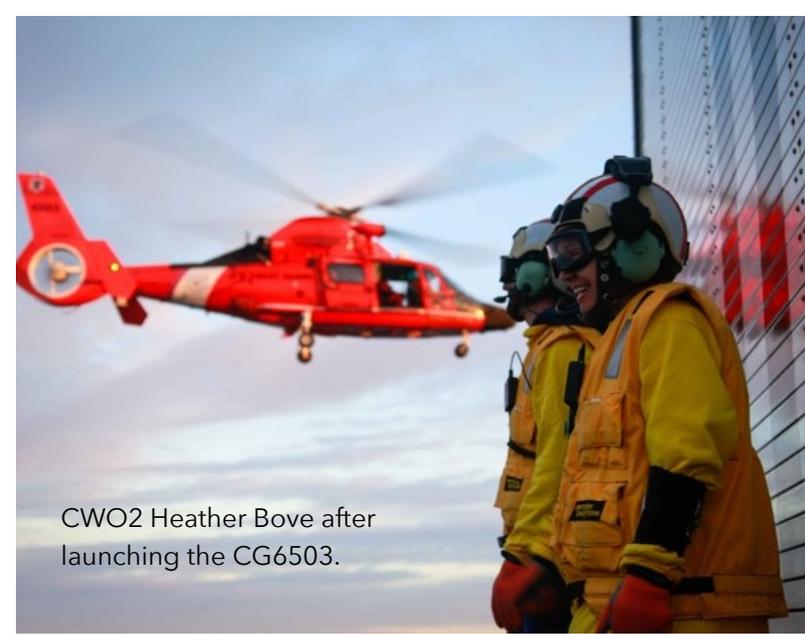


BM3 Ryan Baruether talks to the cutter from the small boat.



ALEX HALEY's small boat is launched for an early morning boarding outside of the illuminated port of Dutch Harbor, Alaska.





CWO2 Heather Bove after launching the CG6503.



FN Ryan Scott and FN Ben Potvin fuel the helo.



FN Ramon Brea, ENS Kristin Euchler, and MK3 Robert Nogueira, Helicopter Fire Team



DCC Spencer Wilson, On Scene Leader



Landing Signal Officers and Tie Down Crews stand by for flight operations.

Meet Our Corpsman

For every Coast Guard Cutter deployment, no matter the mission or location, there is always a single, unsung hero. Corpsmen are the glue of our fleet. They stitch us up in the heavy seas of the Bering, they coordinate MEDEVACs for injured fisherman, they make sure we go to the dentist. Aboard Medium Endurance Cutters we are only allotted one, and we appreciate her every day.

Palomita Castillo joined the Coast Guard in 2004 from Los Angeles, California. After attending the Health Services Technician A School, she served at the clinics of the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Maryland and also at Training Center Cape May, New Jersey. HS1 Castillo came to Kodiak in 2011 to serve at the Rockmore-King Clinic, supporting members of BASE Kodiak, COMSTA Kodiak, USCGC's ALEX HALEY, SPAR, and MUNRO, as well as several other support units. In 2012, she was selected to deploy to the North Slope Borough in support of Operation Arctic Shield. Accompanied by physicians and veterinarians from several different agencies, HS1 assisted in spaying and neutering the boroughs large dog and cat population, as well immunizing them against rabies.

After transferring to us on ALEX HALEY, she quickly integrated herself into the crew. Onboard the cutter, she is responsible for many aspects of the crew's well-being. From habitability and galley inspections to testing the cutter's water supply daily for impurities, she ensures we

are operating in the best possible environment. She is a Victim Advocate, a Safety Board member, and participates in every Morale Committee meeting. HS1 is also responsible for teaching newly reported personnel basic first aid, a valuable class held regularly that instructs members on how to combat various medical casualties that can occur from simple work mishaps to battle dressing during a wartime engagement.

Off the cutter, she keeps herself busy as the Vice President of the Enlisted Association - Kodiak Chapter as well as regularly volunteering with the Wounded Warrior Project, an initiative that sends injured veterans around America to enjoy activities not usually available to them. For two years, HS1 has hosted several veterans taking them charter fishing, river fishing, hiking, and out to dinner. While not volunteering, HS1 Castillo can be regularly found fishing around Kodiak Island. An avid fisherman, she recently placed second in the Kodiak Association of Charter Boat Operators' annual King Salmon

Derby landing a 47.4 pound beauty of a fish. Underway this patrol, she is currently holding first place in our contest with a 47.7 pound halibut.

HS1 Castillo is a welcome addition to the crew. Her career, dedication to the unit and community and all around positive attitude is an inspiration to us all. Thank you HS1 for everything you have done and will continue to do.



HS1 PALOMITA CASTILLO



HS1 Castillo poses with her 47.4 pound King Salmon caught in Kalsin Bay.



Currently holding First Place aboard the cutter, HS1 holds up her 47.7 pound halibut.

ALEX HALEY Visits Dutch Harbor

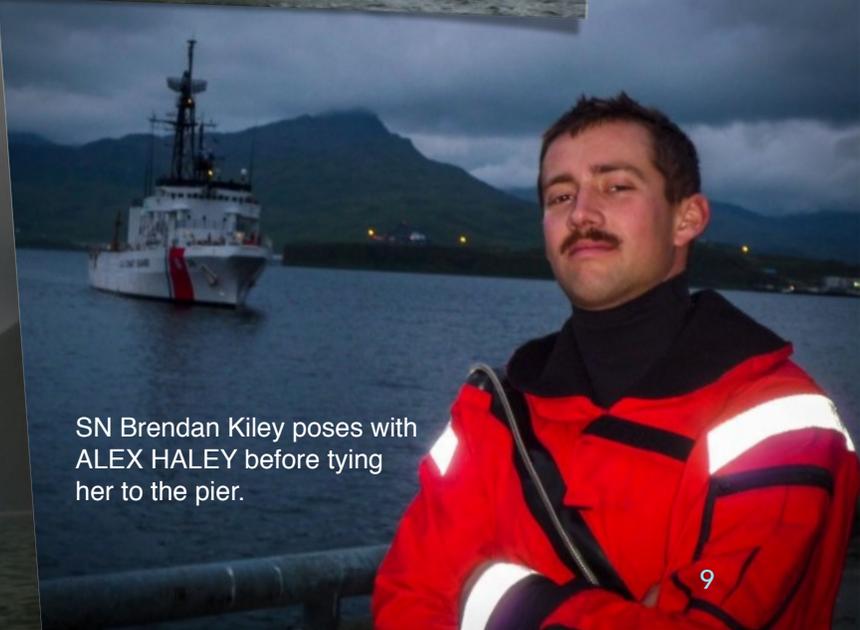
Our home away from home, while on patrol that is, Dutch Harbor welcomes us again to her port. Our stay was both productive and relaxing. The crew enjoyed Unalaska's newest pub, the Norwegian Rat, for its broad beer selection and outstanding food, to include the Thor burger, with 1/3 pound of angus beef, pulled pork, and onion rings trapped within the best buns on the island. Great food, shipmates, and Sunday football allowed us to recharge ourselves for our last two weeks underway. Let's hope they're short ones. See you soon...



ALEX HALEY in Unalaska Bay.



ALEX HALEY in Unalaska Bay beneath a rainbow.



SN Brendan Kiley poses with ALEX HALEY before tying her to the pier.