

# The Guardian

MSST Galveston TX

7707 Harborside Drive  
Galveston, T.X. 77554

LTJG Hobbs: Editor

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## From the Helm

Greetings, everyone! We've enjoyed numerous successes from a rather busy operational period that started way back for the Major League Baseball game, followed by operations along the Mexico/U.S. border, then ending with 24/7 ops for the USS Texas commissioning in Galveston. Inserted into the midst, the unit conducted a day's worth of training scenarios that included folks from the surrounding area, graduated our first team from Vertical Insertion school at Cape Cod, and completed quarterly close quarters combat training and earned top honors. Along the

way, you may have seen the articles in the Galveston and Houston area newspapers.

During operations in the border region, the team seized 260 lbs of marijuana. The sea story is worthy of an episode of "COPS"! Congrats to the guys! Also, the team got to exercise their law enforcement expertise and caught several illegal immigrants. As always, we are backed by great support from the home front and I'm proud to tell you that we've managed simultaneous operations over a very large geographic area, met or exceeded all expectations, and done it safely! I invite you to

visit the website for updated pictures of the action - please disregard the command page though!

I wish you all well.

Respectfully,

E. A. Leuenberger



### Inside this issue:

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## XO's Area

Greetings. As each addition of the newsletter goes to print, it just gets better and better! We hope you enjoy this—the fifth edition—and share it with everyone you know. I'd like to call your attention to a couple of things in this issue. First, we've got a new Unit Ombudsman, Mrs. Elaine

Lee, who stands ready help in anyway she can. Look for her introduction within. And next, the unit's website has gone through some great changes. It's got new pictures, some new faces, and new graphics. And as my boss would say, "good stuff"! The command invites you, your family, and

your friends to check it out at: <http://www.uscg.mil/lantarea/msst/msstgalveston/Entrance.htm>. As always, we welcome your feedback. Stay safe.

S.M. Garcia

### Get Ready For:

- CFC starts in November
- Captain's Cup in November

# MSST Galveston Headlines the Daily News

GALVESTON, Tx., Aug. 31—Unit members from USCG MSST Galveston participated in a full capabilities exercise as part of standard unit training on the eve of a multi-day operation where the unit would be used as security for the commissioning of the USS Texas. Local reporters and news crews captured the unit at work and practicing real world scenarios in the event of security threats. The exercise consisted of the mock transit and protection of a vessel that included pier side sweeps, protection and roving patrols.

- Story by: LTJG Hobbs

## USS Texas Operations Bravo Zulu

YOUR EFFORTS SERVE AS A FINE EXAMPLE OF SELF-LESS DEVOTION TO

DUTY, SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY, AND SUPPORT OF THE US NAVY. A

HEARTFELT AND HEARTY "BZ" GOES OUT TO ALL MEMBERS OF TEAM COAST GUARD IN THE SECTOR HOUSTON-GALVESTON AOR.

CAPT WILLIAM DIEHL



# GALVESTON COUNTY THE DAILY NEWS

Texas' Oldest Newspaper: Since 1842

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galvnews.com

### INSIDE TODAY

#### Biz Buzz



Readers want to know whether Target still is aiming to open a store...

#### Hurricane John



Monster Category 4 storm Hurricane John deluges Mexican resort towns and is expected to head back out into the Pacific/AT.

#### Official stamp

The U.S. Postal Service will have a special stamp available during the commissioning ceremony for the USS Texas/BI.

#### Honoring past



The La Marque Gougers will pay homage to the '86 state semi-finalist team and former head coach Hugh Mossey, who died in a car accident during the team's first four games/AS.

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#### Weather



Today's Forecast: Mostly sunny, clear High: 90 Low: 78 Details: A10



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Orion (left) and the ISS (right) in this rendering. NASA's new spacecraft Orion docks with the International Space Station above Earth.

## Who will build the next spacecraft?

**NASA: Contractors learn who will win bid to build replacement for shuttle**

By LAURA ELDER  
The Daily News

Who will build the spacecraft to carry astronauts to the moon and Mars? NASA will answer that question at 3 p.m. today when it awards the

initial contract to build the shuttle's successor, Orion. NASA declined to give the value of the contract to be announced today, but estimates range from \$1.5 billion to \$4.2 billion. The contest to build Orion, named for one of the brightest and most familiar constellations, comes down to two teams of aerospace contractors — Lockheed Martin and a team made of Northrop Grumman Corp. and The Boeing Co.

Orion will replace the shuttle, NASA's primary vehicle for human space exploration, and launch a space exploration program upon which thousands of jobs depend. The contract to be awarded today will create 700 to 1,100 new jobs in an area that economic development officials call Bay Area Houston. The area is made of 10 cities, including Dickinson, Friendswood, Kemah, League City, Nassau Bay and

See ORION/A2

## TRAINING TO KEEP THE WATERS SAFE



ABOVE: The Coast Guard's Maritime Safety and Security Team patrols the Galveston Ship Channel during a training exercise. During the exercise, a variety of maritime threats were simulated on and around the pier at Texas A&M University at Pelican Island.



ABOVE: Coast Guardsmen search the pier at Texas A&M University at Pelican Island during a training exercise. Members of the Maritime Safety and Security Team practiced searching for explosives and other contraband.



TOP: A boat from the Coast Guard's Maritime Safety and Security Team patrols near the pier at Texas A&M University on Pelican Island during a training exercise. ABOVE: Officers aboard a Galveston County Sheriff's Department boat portray trespassers during the exercise. The Coast Guard's Maritime Safety and Security Team intercepted the sheriff's boat as it entered a safety zone.

Photos by KEVIN BARTRAM/The Daily News

## Probation officials warn against cuts in funding

**COUNTY:** Alternatives more costly, they say

By SCOTT E. WILLIAMS  
The Daily News

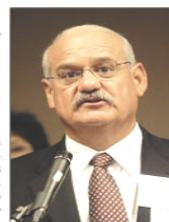
Agencies receiving state funding are computing their budgets for the next year, figuring in a 10 percent decrease in the amount of state money it uses.

The state's legislative budget board called for those cuts earlier this year, and probation departments were not

exempt. Last week, during the group's 2006 legislative conference, members of the Texas Probation Association said cuts to probation agencies could mean higher costs to taxpayers.

"If the funding's not there for treatment, in some cases, judges will have to send more

See PROBATION/A3



CHAD GREENE/The Daily News  
Buddy Silva, president of the Texas Probation Association, speaks during a press conference at the San Luis Hotel.

## Port director, wharves board discuss contract

**GALVESTON:** Future in container business, Cernak says

By GREG BARR  
Correspondent

He helped lead the island to international prominence in the cruise ship industry. He has also seen his share of disappointment and controversy, while at the helm of the negotiations with BP to build



Steve Cernak

port to diversify its revenue stream and to continue to negotiate with the Port.

See CERNAK/

## Are you ready for some football?

Check out The Daily News' football coverage Saturday for scores and highlights from your favorite high school football team.



## Lone dissenter on budget draws ire

**COUNTY:** Commissioners pass a \$159.7 million budget, challenge Republican member to offer more spending cuts

By SENEÉ SEALE  
The Daily News

County commissioners voted 4-1 to approve the proposed 2006-07 budget, then the fireworks began. Commissioner Ken Clark, the lone Republican on the court, voted against the \$159.7 million budget on Wednesday, saying enough had not been done to lower it.

County Judge James Yarborough questioned Clark's motives. "Ken, we start here for three months," Yarborough said. "You've been here, you know what we can and can't do. 'I'd like to vote against the budget, too. I'm up for re-election, too, but there's a job to do here, and the job is more important than politics.'"

Yarborough wasn't the only commissioner

See BUDGET/A2

# SEA, LAND, & NOW AIR!



Congratulations to those members who finished vertical insertion training: LCDR Leuenberger, LTJG Hobbs, GM1 Watts, BM2 Partin, AET2 Maggolino, MK3 Marshall, BM3 Rusk, and GM3 Whitley. Vertical insertion is used by the CG to deploy team members from a helicopter onto a platform!

## Make a World of Difference... Be the Miracle!



By: LTJG Anna Hart

It is always the season to give, but specifically it's the time to give to the Combined Federal Campaign—or CFC. This year MSST Galveston's campaign will kick off in early November.

CFC is a great opportunity for us to support local, national, and international organizations. The types of charities range from children, seniors, community development, medical, and environmental just to name a few. All organizations go through a rigorous screening, so you can trust that your money is being spent to

*really* help needy individuals and important causes.

This campaign shows how a small act of generosity and kindness can make a huge difference. Below you can see how a small donation can affect so many people:

\$5 p/month = 36 hot meals delivered to homebound elderly

\$10 p/month = transportation for 5 individuals w/ disabilities

\$20 p/month = 12 school kids with warm coats.

Please start thinking about how you can make a difference and be a miracle for someone. If you have any questions, please contact LTJG Hart.

"The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all."

## A Movie with the Same Name

Make sure to check out "The Guardian" in theaters September 29th.



**Call 1-800-724-9988**  
**Or visit [afvclub.com](http://afvclub.com)**

# Ship Channel Goes High-tech Against Terror

05 September 2006



By **BILL MURPHY**

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When U.S. diplomats picked up intelligence about a terrorist threat to refineries in Pasadena, Calif., security experts quickly concluded that the target actually was the Houston suburb of the same name. The city in Southern California has no refineries.

The July 2002 tip to the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India, made it clear to local officials and Houston Ship Channel industries that potential attacks on the second-largest conglomeration of petrochemical facilities in the world were not idle fears.

"That threat was a wake-up call," said U.S. Rep. Gene Green, a Democrat whose 29th District includes the Ship Channel. Since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and the 2002 threat, the Department of Homeland Security, Harris County, local police and Ship Channel industries have spent tens of millions of dollars to prevent terrorists from carrying out an attack. Now, with \$31 million in Department of Homeland Security grants awarded in 2005, the county and Port of Houston Authority are taking additional measures to keep terrorists away from Ship Channel facilities. Potential targets include fuel tanks at refineries, storage tanks containing toxic chemicals, bridges and tunnels. Another potential threat: sinking a ship in the channel, an attack that could close the waterway temporarily, cause fuel shortages nationwide and send the prices of crude oil and gasoline upward.



Members of a Coast Guard dive squad based in Galveston prepare to conduct a bomb sweep of a pier during a full-scale drill last week. The Coast Guard patrols oversees all marine operations in the area. **Adam Eggers:** U.S. COAST GUARD

To prevent such attacks, the county and port authority are using the grants to buy high-tech cameras, radar units, infrared imagers, sonar equipment, a bomb-detecting robot and pager-size radiation detection devices. The Harris County Sheriff's Office plans to buy five boats and set up a marine unit that will work with the U.S. Coast Guard to patrol the channel. The Coast Guard now patrols and oversees all marine operations in the area. The Guard conducted anti-terrorism exercises in the Galveston area as recently as last week.

"The Ship Channel is a huge area," said Pat Bellamy, chairman of the Port Strategic Security Council. "The folks targeting that area will never let up. We always will have to be diligent and continue to move forward and make improvements." Details of the threats and security measures were contained in grant applications obtained by the Houston Chronicle. Bellamy said their disclosure would not compromise anti-terrorism efforts. Officials would not say how soon all the new measures will be in place. Security efforts along the 52-mile channel focus on the 25-mile stretch from Morgan's Point to the Turning Basin. The channel area in Harris County includes 43 miles of frontage roads, three highway bridges, the Washburn Tunnel, the Lynchburg Ferry and numerous waterfront industrial sites.

Securing such a vast area is complicated. Much of the \$31 million will go for cameras and gadgetry designed to detect scuba divers, pedestrians and drivers who may intend to carry out an attack, according to the grant applications. About 250 cameras that can pan, tilt and zoom will be installed along the channel, highways and perimeters of industrial sites, supplementing an existing camera system. Also on the purchase list are thermal imagers, which can detect people moving at night, 15-20 radar units and sonar equipment to detect divers and other underwater threats. The monitoring will be mostly automated, with new software programmed to alert security personnel to possible intruders.

The Coast Guard will continue requiring that recreational boats obtain permission before entering industrial parts of the channel, making it easier for the cameras to identify unauthorized vessels. Much of the new equipment will be installed in port and county-owned areas not now under surveillance by channel industry. Many channel facilities have "very robust" security systems of their own, Bellamy said. The region "is developing a network that will let technology be the eyes and ears," said County Commissioner Sylvia Garcia, who represents the precinct that includes the channel. "You can't do it with the Coast Guard and constables and sheriffs alone." The county is seeking an additional \$9.1 million Homeland Security grant this year. It would require the county to put up \$3 million. The Port Authority has applied for a \$4 million grant, said Wade Battles, the authority's managing director. The money would be used in part to buy vehicles to increase patrols of the Washburn Tunnel, Sherman Bridge, Hartman Bridge, Channel Toll Bridge, Lynchburg Ferry and the Bayport Container area. The money also would go for additional cameras and high-tech gear to extend the network of observed areas.



The USS Texas, a newly commissioned Virginia Class USN submarine, transits the Galveston ship channel as an MSST Galveston small boat keeps a watchful eye.

-Photo By: Carlos Rios



## 1940



Past....Safeguarding the ports of the United States from sabotage is an important duty of the Coast Guard. Here at the gateway to a busy embarkation port Coast Guard shore patrolmen and Army military police both stand guard, checking credentials of all seeking entrance.

## 2006



Present....Members of MSST Galveston man an entry control point or ECP to safeguard a designated security perimeter during an exercise.

## 1944



Past....Assorted uniform types of female

## 2006



Present....MSST Galveston members.

## 1944



Past....An LCVP approaching Omaha Beach, is drenched in smoke that resulted when a German bullet hit a smoke grenade being carried by one of the soldiers.

## 2006



Present....An RB-H flies through the water on its way to a mission.

# Halloween Safety

From MSTC Shawn Lootens

Halloween is a cherished tradition but the excitement of the night can cause children to forget to be careful. There is no real "trick" to making Halloween a real treat for the entire family. The major dangers are not from witches or spirits but rather from falls and pedestrian/car crashes. Many communities officially designate a "Beggars' Night" and assign specific hours for trick-or-treat activities.

Both children and adults need to think about safety on this annual day of make-believe.

**Motorists.** The National Safety Council urges motorists to be especially alert on Halloween.

Watch for children darting out from between parked cars.

Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.

Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.

At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.

**Parents.** Before children start out on their "trick or treat" rounds, parents should:

Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will be supervising the outing for children under age 12.

Plan and discuss the route trick-or-treaters intend to follow. Know the names of older children's companions.

Instruct your children to travel only in familiar areas and along an established route.

Teach your children to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well-lit and **never** to enter a stranger's home.

Establish a return time.

Tell your youngsters not to eat any treat until they return home.

Review all appropriate trick-or-treat

safety precautions, including pedestrian/traffic safety rules.

Pin a slip of paper with the child's name, address and phone number inside a pocket in case the youngster gets separated from the group.

## Costume Design:

Only fire-retardant materials should be used for costumes.

Costumes should be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath.

Costumes should not be so long that they are a tripping hazard. (Falls are the leading cause of unintentional injuries on Halloween.)

If children are allowed out after dark, outfits should be made with light colored materials. Strips of retroreflective tape should be used to make children visible.

## Face Design:

Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Use facial make-up instead.

When buying special Halloween makeup, check for packages containing ingredients that are labeled "Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives," "Laboratory Tested," Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics," or "Non-Toxic." Follow manufacturer's instruction for application.

If masks are worn, they should have nose and mouth openings and large eye holes.

## Accessories:

Knives, swords and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Do not allow children to carry sharp objects.

Bags or sacks carried by youngsters should be light-colored or trimmed with retro-reflective tape if children are allowed out after dark.

Carrying flashlights will help children see better and be seen more clearly.

**On the way:** Children should understand and follow these rules:

Do not enter homes or apartments without adult supervision.

Walk, do not run, from house to house. Do not cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.

Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.

Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.

**Treats:** To ensure a safe trick-or-treat outing, parents are urged to:

Give children an early meal before going out.

Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten.

Wash fruit and slice into small pieces.

When in doubt, throw it out.

Reprinted with permission of the National Safety Council. See <http://www.nsc.org> for more safety facts.



## E-Campus News By: ENS Blanton

Do you ever have questions about Tuition Assistance? Or ever wonder how you can get extra money for you or your family to finish that education you are always talking about? Coast Guard e-Campus News has the answers to most of your questions. This new publication is updated regularly and is designed to keep you informed on education and advancement related issues. It not only provides you with Coast Guard related material, but is also leads you to programs offering scholarships, grants, and loans that you and your dependents are eligible for.



<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgi/tuition/sgl.html>

All you have to do is go to the Coast Guard Institute website and click on CG e-Campus News. Not only does it talk about educational opportunities, but it also answers questions about the SAT/ACT, CLEP Tests, Diploma Mills, and many other questions you may have.

Also, check out the Scholarships, grants, and loans section on the Institute website [www.uscg.mil/hq/cgi/tuition/sgl.html](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgi/tuition/sgl.html) for direct links to different scholarships available to you and your dependents.

## Looking for fun ways to stay in shape? By: LTJG Whiteside

Looking for fun ways to stay in shape? Houston has multiple sports leagues and competitions for any age, gender, or skill level. Joining a team provides motivation and allows you to meet new people, not to mention that you'll have fun at the same time. The following are a few links to some great websites:

<http://www.sportsmonkey.com/> - Houston's premier sports league provider.

<http://www.gcva.net/indexnext.htm> - Gulf Coast Volleyball Association

<http://www.bigleaguedreams.com/> - League City's Big League Dreams softball complex. They also have volleyball and indoor soccer leagues.

<http://www.citysportstx.com/> - Great guide to running, biking, and other outdoor events.

<http://www.houstonclimbing.com/> - Houston's rock-climbing club

<http://www.indoorclimbing.com/texas.html> - Indoor rock climbing around Houston

Sports not your thing? Houston has many parks where you can go to relax:

Armand Bayou Nature Center - <http://www.abnc.org/>, <http://www.armandbayou.org/>

Brazos Bend State Park - [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/parkguide/rgn\\_gc\\_008.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/parkguide/rgn_gc_008.phtml)

Texas State Park Guide - <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/parkguide/>

State Parks, State Historic Sites, and State Natural Areas within 60 miles of downtown Houston - <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/parkinfor/maps/60mile/houston/>

Parks in Katy - <http://www.katytexas.com/katyparks.cfm>

Harris County Parks - <http://www.co.harris.tx.us/parks/park.asp>

Galveston County Parks - [http://www.galvestonparks-seniors.org/locations/ls\\_overview.asp](http://www.galvestonparks-seniors.org/locations/ls_overview.asp)

Texas Parks - <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/>



Anaerobic fitness defines how tolerant your muscles are to intense activity like sprinting. Good anaerobic fitness helps you recover quicker and play at high pace throughout an entire soccer game. To improve your anaerobic fitness you can run intervals, do weight training or work on any type of exercise which puts strain on your muscles in intervals alternating in intensity.



MSST Galveston TX

## Ombudsman Corner By: Elaine Lee

As being appointed the new Ombudsman for the MSST 91104 unit, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Elaine Lee. I am the wife of GM3 Terrence (Terry) Lee. I am also the mother of three children: Samantha (7), Gunner (5), and Tyler (23 months). I have been a Coast Guard wife for 9 months now, and a marine wife for 7 years prior to. I have many other family members that are prior military. So, I have an idea as to how the military works.

I am originally from Virginia. I lived there all my life before marrying. Since then, I have lived in Washington, California, back to Virginia, and now Texas. It has been quite a journey.

Not only am I a homemaker, but I am also a college student. I am currently attending Lee College, taking my pre-requisites for the Registered Nurse program. When stationed in California, I graduated (May 2005) with an Associated in Arts in General Liberal Arts and Science, Associates in Science in Medical Assistant with a certificate, and a certificate in Medical Transcription.

I love to be around and work with people. That is why I have chosen to work in the medical field as well as be your Ombudsman. I am looking forward to working with the command and helping and serving their families in any way that I can.

I am available at any time for you; however, I am in classes on Tuesday and Thursday from 12noon to 3:00pm therefore you will reach my voicemail at those times. I will call you back. Feel free to call me at **409-392-0951**. You can also reach me by email at **gladtoobeme@verizon.net**.

Elaine Lee

### A Note From the Editor:

I am interested to hear from family members if you have any information that other Coast Guard members would benefit from. Please feel free to e-mail me :

James.A.Hobbs@uscg.mil

We are on the web!

<http://www.uscg.mil/lantarea/msst/msstgalveston/Entrance.htm>



## SENIOR CHIEF'S JIBBER JABBER Senior Chief Krumpe

### ATTENTION!

Do you have dependent children in a child care facility (daycare)? Is this something you have been considering? You'll want to read this:

The United States Coast Guard and General Services Administration (GSA) have partnered to provide affordable child care for Coast Guard members. The Memorandum of Agreement was created to assist Active Duty members and Reservists (serving on active duty for 180 days or longer) in locating and accessing State Licensed Center based or Home Based child care facilities at discounted rates. Child care information and referral service is available through GSA for those Coast Guard members who need to identify and locate eligible child care providers. Financial subsidy up to \$4,500 PER CHILD, PER YEAR is available to qualifying personnel for child care services received at state-licensed commer-

cial (non-military, non-GSA, non-federal) facilities nationwide. The subsidy will be paid directly to the child care provider on behalf of the Coast Guard member. MSST Galveston has the needed details and information, including the necessary forms, for enrollment. Discuss it with your spouse to determine whether or not this program will fit your needs.

