

Training for the Unspeakable

by Vincent Pica Flotilla Commander, 18-06 (1SR) United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

any of us speak about the "next 9/11" as Lbeing inevitable. We have to be perfect every day. "They" have to be lucky just once. As part of being perfect every day, U.S. Coast Guard Forces - activeduty, reservists and auxiliarists train in a near-continuous rotation. Back on July 22, 2006, under the coordinated efforts of Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) Dennis Casey -- then Commanding Officer (CO) of Station Shinnecock -- and Auxiliary Division Captain (DCP) Jim Cornell, USCG auxiliarists from across division 18 "took over" Station Shinnecock. (Division 18 is the east end of Long Island from William Floyd Parkway to Montauk.) The scenario: an event of national significance has occurred in New York City and all active-duty and reservists are directed to NYC to serve as part of the armed forces addressing that event. From there, it went something like this...

At zero-900 (9 a.m.), CWO/CO Casey called DCP Cornell and told him that such an event had occurred. He and his men and women had been directed by National Authority to sortie to NYC ASAP. Through DCP Cornell, the "butchers, bakers and candlestick makers" that comprise the civilian component of the USCG, the so-called Minutemen of the 21st Century, as USCG Captain Boynton calls them, were requested to take over the orderly running of StaShinn for the duration.

Within minutes, DCP Cornell was calling the four flotilla commanders that comprise Division

18: Flotilla 18-02 Easthampton/-Montauk, 18-03 Riverhead, 18-06 Moriches and 18-08 Southold. Directives were to secure what resources were available - people and boats - and get back to the DCP for assignments. Within a short period of time, auxiliarists were underway with boats being deployed to Moriches Bay, Shinnecock Bay and the Peconics to stand in for the patrols normally conducted by the regulars. Other members were sortied to StaShinn to man the USCG Communications Center. Even the kitchen was manned by auxiliarists, since armadas also travel on their stom-

To add to the realism, USCG vessels "acted" as if they were under distress and auxiliary vessels had to take them in tow. If you recall the weather that day, only the ducks were happy - and that was if they were out of the 20-knot winds! Further, the regulars threw "Oscar," their life-sized, realweight dummy into Shinnecock Bay, and signalled man overboard. Auxiliarists had to run search-patterns to find Oscar and "rescue"

Was it fun? Absolutely. Was it sobering to think about what we were training for? Absolutely. Is it necessary? 1000% absolutely. "They" have to be lucky just once. We have to be perfect every day. If you are interested in being part of this team, email me USCGAUX2006@aol.com or go direct to MaryJo Cruickshank, who is charge of new members matters, at FSO-PS@emcg.us and we will help you "get in this thing..."

Tidal Time Offsets USCG Potunk Mastic Smith Pt Station Point Beach Bridge from Moriches Inlet: +45 min +4.5 hrs +4.5 hrs High Tide Low Tide +5 hrs +5 hrs+4 hrs +2 hrs

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Thursday, September 21

<u>Disney 101</u>

Join Rebecca Kopcienski for a program on the always changing Walt Disney Resort in Florida. Learn how to stay in the best places, avoid the longest lines and get the most for your money in the Happiest Place on Earth. Register now for this free program. Brookhaven Free Library, 273 Beaver Dam Rd., Brookhaven. 631.286.1923 www.suffolk.lib.ny.us/-libraries/broo

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Comedy Night at The Firehouse

Starring Carl Yard, Stan Hayes, Billy BINGO, Tom "the Coach" Whiteley, Rick Morgan and Friends. Dinner and show, beer, wine, soda, dessert & coffee. Door Prizes and raffles. \$30 per person. Mature audiences only! For tickets call 878-0089. Hosted by the Center Moriches Fire House Engine #3, 301 Main Street, Center Moriches.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Hands-on Science Exhibit

Sunday Science at Long Island Science Center. Make giant bubbles, learn about gravity and solve a mystery. All hands-on! Science exhibits for the whole family. Marine life: See who lives in a pineapple under the sea and discover the habitats of real sea creatures. Create a paper aquarium no water needed. 11am - 4pm, Admission \$5 children, \$2 adults. 11 West Main St, Riverhead, 631.208.8000 www.lisciencecenter.org

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Habitat for Humanity Golf Classic Mill Pond Golf Club in Medford and the Hamlet Will Creek in Mt. Sinai. Honoring Crystal Bay Shores, Avalon Bay Communities, Emanon Equities, LI Home Builders Care and Ornstein Leyton Company. For information regarding this and other events, please visit www.hfhsuffolk.org, email hfhsuffolk.org or call 631-942-4966 x-105. Made possible by The Astoria Federal Saving Bank.

Tuesday September 26

Talking With Your Kids

Educational workshop focusing on teaching parents how to communicate with their children about drugs and alcohol. Topics include: alcohol, tobacco, marijuana over-the-counter drugs, inhalants, ketamine, cocaine, ecstasy, GHB, Heroin, LSD and Methamphetamine. Presented by the YMCA William Recreation Center, 15 Herkimer Street,

Mastic, from 7 to 8 p.m. For more information, call (631) 281-6114.

Wednesday, September 27

Alzheimer's Awareness

Gerontology Professionals of Long Island present "Giving Up The Car Keys," with Dan Berger, Ed.D, psychologist, who specializes in the geriatric population, and Darlene Jyringi, MPS, Program Director, Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Center. Hosted by St. Joseph's College, O'Connor Hall, Shea Conference Room, 155 W. Roe Blvd., Patchogue, 631.447.3253. 6:30 p.m. No fee. Complimentary buffet dinner. Reserve by Friday, September 22. Call Geri Eisner, President, at 631.399.0716 or email sosforseniors@aol.com.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

A Year of Magical Thinking

Book Discussion at Center Moriches Library, 234 Main Street, at 7 p.m. Joan Didion's novel "A Year of Magical Thinking" (2005) about the grieving process. Discussion moderator Tom Stock. For info call 631.878.0940.

Upcoming:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Breast Cancer Fundraiser

Five-mile non-competitive walk at Jones Beach State Park, Parking lots 4 and 5, to raise awareness and proceeds for the fight against breast cancer. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the event is scheduled to start at 11 a.m. If you would like to "Make Strides Against Breast Cancer," call 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org/strides-

October 3rd, 6th, 10th and 13th - 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

"Saving People from the Sea and the Sea from People" Public Education Course Schedule for Boaters Safety Classes. Center Moriches High School, 311 Frowein Road, Center Moriches, NY 11934

ABC Course -- 7 lessons --

2 hours each night -- \$50.

Pre-registration and prepayment required, one week in advance prior to course start date

ONGOING:

Domestic Violence Workshops

Professional training and community workshops on general domestic violence awareness, recognizing the signs of relationship abuse and the effects of domestic violence on children are available. If you are interested in scheduling Floyd Project. All workshops will be a presentation or workshop, please held in the Atrium room at the Mastic contact Suzanne Staub, Community Educator, at 631.666.7181.

Moriches Inlet, Long Island, New York - September 2006

Day	High	High						High	Phase	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
		Low				Low							
Wed 20		00:06	/	06:22	/	12:10	/	18:32		06:36	18:51	04:40	18:13
Thu 21		00:44	/	07:00	/	12:52	/	19:09		06:37	18:50	05:41	18:32
Fri 22		01:20	/	07:36	/	13:33	/	19:43	New Moon	06:38	18:48	06:41	18:50
Sat 23		01:54	/	08:10	/	14:12	/	20:17		06:39	18:46	07:41	19:09
Sun 24		02:26	/	08:42	/	14:50	/	20:49		06:40	18:44	08:41	19:29
Mon 25		02:56	/	09:12	/	15:26	/	21:21		06:41	18:43	09:44	19:53
Tue 26		03:25	/	09:44	/	16:02	/	21:56		06:42	18:41	10:48	20:21
Wed 27		03:52	/	12:19	/	16:39	/	22:38		06:43	18:39	11:54	20:55
Thu 28		04:23	/	11:03	/	17:224	/	23:32		06:44	18:38	12:59	21:39
Fri 29		05:03	/	11:59	/	18:28	/			06:45	18:36	14:01	22:34
Sat 30		06:05	/	13:01	/	19:46	/	00:34*	First	06:46	18:34	14:55	23:29
									Quarter				