



# COAST GUARD CONNECTION

**JULY 2018 EDITION**

*A quarterly newsletter for retired senior leaders from the U.S. Coast Guard providing a focused sampling of current events and service initiatives. The product can be repurposed for a wider audience as necessary. The product is collated and championed by CG-0923.*

**INTRODUCTION:** On June 1st, I had the distinct privilege of assuming the duties of your Commandant! To those who were able to attend, thank you for braving the heat.

I am both humbled and honored by the trust placed in me and excited to lead the extraordinary men and women of America's Coast Guard. We have a talented leadership team and together, we are ready to face the challenges ahead.

Our Coast Guard is strong; we have been a well-led organization and I thank Admiral Zukunft for his tremendous leadership. This change of command is much more a continuity of command; we are on course and our heading will remain steady.

The demand for our Coast Guard services has never been higher and as one of the five Armed Services and the only military component in the Department of Homeland Security, the nation looks to its Coast Guard to be "Semper Paratus." Always Ready to serve and protect the American people and our vital national interests.

Over the next four years, you will hear me talk about the Coast Guard as a "Ready, Relevant, and Responsive" force. This simple paradigm describes the essential and complex work that our mission ready total workforce of active duty, civilian, reserve, and auxiliary does every day to support the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Defense Combatant Commanders, and the nation's maritime interests.

To be "Ready" is to meet the needs of the public we serve. We must recruit, develop, and retain an adaptive and modern workforce focused on executing our broad portfolio of missions. Staying ready also requires modern and capable assets and the fiscal resources to operate in the face of dynamic threats.

Our Coast Guard is "Relevant" probably more so today than ever before, and we will continue to meet the needs of the Nation. We are a highly-adaptive, multi-mission force that easily partners across the maritime domain from law enforcement agencies to commercial maritime interests.

And our Coast Guard will continue to be "Responsive" during crises, whether man-made or triggered by natural disaster, because our people are empowered to be agile, decisive leaders. We will focus on enhancing Service-wide resiliency and preparedness for contingency operations while protecting and defending the Homeland.



We will employ our bias for action to build on past successes and lead our Coast Guard into the future. Thank you for your support and I look forward to our future engagements. Semper Paratus!

Admiral Karl Schultz,  
Commandant United States Coast Guard

<https://www.uscg.mil/alwaysready>

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### Budget (CG-8)

#### Current and Future Status

As previously reported, the Coast Guard received its largest appropriation in Service history when the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Omnibus was enacted in March 2018. The FY 2018 enacted budget provides over \$12 billion and keeps the Service's major recapitalization projects on track while also sustaining frontline operations. Additionally, the Coast Guard continues to execute the \$835 million of supplemental funding appropriated after the 2017 hurricane season. These critical funds enable the Coast Guard to rebuild facilities to resilient standards and address operational readiness after extended hurricane response operations.

With the end of FY 2018 fast approaching, there has been significant Congressional action on our FY 2019 President's Budget, which requests over \$11.4 billion to support critical operations and ongoing acquisition programs. Over the past month, both the House Appropriations Committee (HAC) and Senate Appropriations Committee (SAC) marked up draft versions of their respective Homeland Security appropriations bills. Both markups place the Service in a favorable position as the bills progress through each chamber and into conference later this summer.

Work also continues with the Department of Homeland Security on our FY 2020 budget. The Department is expected to issue a final Resource Allocation Decision (RAD) in July, which will set the baseline for the Coast Guard's FY 2020 budget submission to the Office of Management and Budget in early September 2018.

Finally, the strategic planning process for FY 2021 just kicked off. This initiates the FY 2021 budget build, which will lead to the Coast Guard's FY 2021 Resource Allocation Plan (RAP) submission to the Department in the spring of 2019.

### Acquisitions (CG-9)

#### Third Round of Industry Input Sought on 47-Foot Motor Lifeboat Service Life Extension Program

The Coast Guard released a request for information (RFI) July 12 for the 47-foot motor lifeboat (MLB) service life extension program (SLEP). The RFI includes the latest draft statement of work and specification along with access to the majority of MLB technical data; industry feedback will be used to inform the

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formal solicitation for the contract, which has an estimated value of over \$100 million. The SLEP will extend the MLB's useful life by 20 years. [https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Acquisitions-CG-9/Newsroom/ISVS\\_061118/ISVS\\_071318/](https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Acquisitions-CG-9/Newsroom/ISVS_061118/ISVS_071318/)

## Coast Guard Awards Contract to Procure Small UAS Capability for National Security Cutter

The Coast Guard awarded a contract to Insitu Inc. on June 6th for procurement of small unmanned aircraft system (sUAS) capability for its fleet of national security cutters. Total value of the contract including the seven options years is approximately \$117 million; it employs a contractor-owned contractor-operated strategy as a cost-effective way to expand the surveillance range of NSCs. The contract award is currently under protest. [https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Acquisitions-CG-9/Newsroom/UAS\\_060618/](https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Acquisitions-CG-9/Newsroom/UAS_060618/)

## Coast Guard Celebrates Completion of Service Life Extension Work on Eagle

The Coast Guard marked completion of the service life extension project (SLEP) for the barque Eagle with a ceremony at Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore April 24. Restoration work on the 81-year-old sailing ship included complete hull and mast inspections, hull structure and shell plate removal as well as berthing upgrades, replacement of the propulsion system and rigging and mast overhauls. Work was done over four years so the Eagle could continue its summer training commitments. [https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Acquisitions-CG-9/Newsroom/SLEP\\_042718/](https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Acquisitions-CG-9/Newsroom/SLEP_042718/)



## CYBER-CIO-C4IT Transformation (C3T) CYBER-CIO-C4IT Transformation (C3T)

The Coast Guard has achieved yet another milestone of CYBER-CIO-C4IT Transformation by establishing the Office of Command, Control, Computers, Communications, Cyber, and Intelligence Systems (C5I) Program Management (PMO) as the single point of accountability and responsibility for managing the delivery of C5I capabilities to operational commanders and their crews across the enterprise.

On 9 APRIL, C5I PMO (CG-68) reached Initial Operating Capability (IOC), with the goal of continuing to mature while in alignment with the CYBER-CIO-C4IT Transformation initiatives. It now functions as a single point of accountability responsible for managing the planning, programming, resource management, and governance of the Coast Guard's C5I capabilities. An easy way to describe how CG-68 operates is to compare its role to how CG-41 and CG-45 manages and prioritizes resources within Aeronautical and Naval engineering. Specifically, the C5I PMO will manage all Coast Guard IT, prioritize allocation of resources and ensure execution of priorities by the C4IT Service Center (to be C5I Logistics Center).

## Coast Guard C5I Community

The Coast Guard C5I community includes Headquarters offices and coordinated efforts that prioritize and validate requirements, and subsequently deliver and sustain the C5I capabilities that operators need. This collaboration can be viewed as 'three gears'—requirements management, program management, and mission support—churning together to meet operational capability demands. CYBER-CIO-C4IT Transformation will bring these 'three gears' in alignment to mature management of C5I capabilities for all Coast Guard operations.

## CG-68 Organizational Structure

The C5I PMO is split into two divisions: CG-681 will focus on program and portfolio management, and CG-682 will focus on resource management. Together, these divisions will provide oversight for C5I portfolios and sustainment programs as well as facilitate the IT Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC) process. Having these functions under a single PMO will allow for better planning, programming, budgeting and sustainment of investments and assets.

CG-68 brings transparency and accountability to C5I programs, systems, and services around the Coast Guard. A single PMO is part of the larger C5I community by working closely with CG-761, CG-791, and CG-933 to ensure the management of all IT investments from acquisition through disposal.

As CG-68 continues to moves closer to Full Operational Capability (FOC), processes and services will continue to be developed out of the PMO.



## Human Resources (CG-1)

### TRICARE & You Blog

#### NEW RETIREE DENTAL & VISION PLAN COMING IN 2019

The current TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end on Dec. 31, 2018. Retirees will have the opportunity to enroll in the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) during the 2018 Open Season, which runs from Nov. 12 through Dec. 10, 2018, to receive benefits on Jan. 1, 2019.

Those covered under TRDP who wish to keep coverage will be required to sign up for FEDVIP, which is the same program used by civil service members.

The new dental plan will offer coverage options from 10 insurers, with each providing at least two different levels of coverage: standard and high. The high level typically offers a greater range of services and lower co-pay amounts than the standard version, but comes with a higher monthly cost.

Under both the current TRDP and the upcoming FEDVIP, monthly premiums are based on location. The premiums for both TRDP and FEDVIP are similar, so users may not experience a price jump, depending on the plan they choose.

Like the FEDVIP dental program, you will be able to choose from a greater number of eye care providers than are currently a part of the Tricare networks, and tailor your coverage to fit your individual needs.

#### FEDVIP COVERAGE

In general, the coverage offered under FEDVIP's dental plans is comparable to the dental coverage offered under TRDP. FEDVIP dental plans include:

- Covered in-network preventative services
- No deductibles when using in-network dentists
- No waiting periods for major services such as crowns, bridges, dentures, and implants
- Orthodontic coverage

#### NEW VISION INSURANCE PLAN

Retirees and active-duty family members will be able to enroll in the FEDVIP vision insurance program.

Vision coverage is currently not part of the TRICARE program. While beneficiaries now receive one free standard eye exam each year or every other year, depending on their plan and whether they are diabetic, exams for contacts are not covered, nor are glasses or contacts themselves.

But under the FEDVIP vision program, you will not only have a covered eye exam but, depending on your choice of coverage, you may be able to get glasses, contacts or both for free or a very deep discount. TRICARE will continue its current eye exam coverage system for those who do not enroll in the new vision plan.

Currently, there are four different insurers available in the FEDVIP vision program. Monthly family premiums range from \$19 to \$43.

Like the FEDVIP dental program, you will be able to choose from a greater number of eye care providers than are currently a part of the Tricare networks, and tailor your coverage to fit your individual needs.

#### ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

If you are currently enrolled in TRDP, you will have to enroll in a FEDVIP dental plan during open season or you will lose your dental insurance in 2019.

If you want to enroll in the FEDVIP vision plan, you must also do it during open season. This year's open season runs from Nov. 12, 2018, through Dec. 10, 2018. You can make changes to your insurance each year during open season or when you experience a qualifying life event such as a job change, move or birth of a child.

If you plan on getting major dental work done, doing your homework now can potentially save you a lot of money. The new plan may be a lot cheaper than the current one, or vice versa.

Also, if you have kids who need braces, some insurance plans under FEDVIP require you to be enrolled for 12 months before insurance will pay for orthodontic care.

Check out the BENEFEDS/Tricare website for details on switching over or enrolling in the new plans. You can also check out the Office of Personnel Management's Dental & Vision insurance page for plan costs and coverage.

## Governmental & Public Affairs (CG-092)

### Congressional Affairs (CG-0921)

The Coast Guard continues to monitor its 2018 Authorization Act (CGAA), versions of which have been introduced in or are before the Senate after clearing the House. Additionally, the Coast Guard continues to work closely with DHS and several different authorizing committees in both the House and Senate in pursuit of specific authority to better address the threat posed by unmanned aircraft systems. Finally on July 24, 2018, the newly reported Deputy Commandant for Operations, VADM Abel and the Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, VADM McAllister testified before the House Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation subcommittee on Coast Guard acquisitions and missions."

### Public Affairs (CG-0922)

#### Washington Post

'Bravery in battle': Coast Guard ship named for slain Iraq War hero ▶ [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/virginia-politics/bravery-in-battle-new-coast-guard-ship-named-for-iraq-war-hero-who-gave-his-life/2018/07/25/0b4ebe80-8f7a-11e8-b769-e3fff17f0689\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.1e6c219ba0a3](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/virginia-politics/bravery-in-battle-new-coast-guard-ship-named-for-iraq-war-hero-who-gave-his-life/2018/07/25/0b4ebe80-8f7a-11e8-b769-e3fff17f0689_story.html?utm_term=.1e6c219ba0a3)



**Nation Defense Magazine**

New Coast Guard Leader Focusing on Readiness ▶ <http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/articles/2018/7/23/new-coast-guard-leader-focusing-on-readiness>

**The Hill**

Coast Guard icebreakers not optional as China and Russia surge in Arctic ▶ <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/politics/398661-coast-guard-icebreakers-not-optional-as-china-and-russia-surge>

**Military Times**

This World War 2 Hero is the only Coast Guard Member with a Medal of Honor ▶ <https://www.military.com/holidays/coast-guard-birthday/world-war-ii-hero-only-coast-guard-member-medal-honor.html>

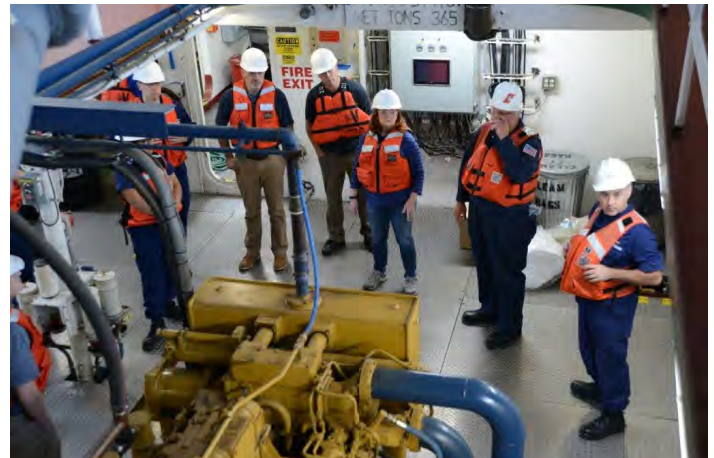
**CBS Evening News**

Rescue crew recalls dramatic moment they found survivors of Alaska plane crash ▶ <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/rescue-crew-recalls-dramatic-moment-they-found-survivors-of-alaska-plane-crash/>

**External Relations and Heritage (CG-0923)**

**The Standing Board for the Naming of Cutters and Shore Facilities**

The Coast Guard is recapitalizing its cutter fleet, continuing a process now entering its second decade. Each new cutter requires a name, and the Naming Board is soliciting nominations for worthy names of these new cutters. The Board is seeking submissions from Coast Guard stakeholders, including active, reserve, auxiliary, civilian, retired, family members, commercial maritime industry, and port partners. The critical guideline for a strong candidate is that “the actions of the individual must reflect Honor, Respect, Devotion to Duty, and must be in keeping with the highest traditions of the Coast Guard. The individual must be considered a distinguished Coast Guard person or someone who had a great influence on Coast Guard history. The individual must be deceased with sufficient time lapsed to ensure that the name will withstand the “test of time.” Candidates should have distinguished themselves and brought great credit upon the service by their actions. Others may have served as important leaders or as significant role models, pathbreakers or trailblazers for those who might otherwise be underrepresented. Names may come from across the spectrum of Coast Guard history, including from the junior ranks and less well known figures in Coast Guard history who have made important contributions to the service. Ideal submissions should resonate with today’s Coast Guard personnel and should represent the diversity of the service and its rich heritage. Please submit nominations to Mr. Joshua Buck at [Joshua.M.Buck@uscg.mil](mailto:Joshua.M.Buck@uscg.mil). Nominations must include the individual’s name and a brief narrative summary of why he or she would merit this honor. Please limit the summary to one page.



**Washington Homeland Security Roundtable—Coast Guard Industry Academy (WHSR-CGIA)**

The WHSR-CGIA recently returned from the Pacific Northwest, the third trip in a yearlong program for U.S. companies in the homeland security industry to learn about the Coast Guard directly through interactions with senior leadership, no-holds barred tours, and intimate sessions with the tactical level operators of our service assets. The trip began in Portland, Ore., where the group got down and dirty with Marine Safety Unit Portland and learned how USCG MSUs inspect barges and boats. They also had the opportunity to don immersion suits and learn basic water survival skills. A briefing by Rear Admiral David G. Throop, Thirteenth District Commander, rounded out the day’s activities. The remainder of the trip was spent in Kodiak, Alaska, where the group had the opportunity to tour the Coast Guard’s largest base. From communication stations with antennas that regularly fail because of weather and wildlife to servicing aids to navigation so remote that the only access is via helicopter, the group learned the unique challenges the Coast Guard faces in the Final Frontier. WHSR-CGIA participants got an abbreviated lesson at the North Pacific Regional Fisheries Training Center, where they learned how the Coast Guard is working with fisheries to ensure sustainable fishing rules are monitored and enforced; spent time on the Fast Response Cutter John McCormick and buoy tender Spar; and toured the Coast Guard Fire Station in Kodiak, one of only a handful of Coast Guard-run and operated fire departments. Rear Admiral Matthew Bell, Seventeenth District Commander shared his thoughts on the polar region and Alaska in general. The group next will go to New London, Conn., and Cape May, N.J., to learn how the Coast Guard trains its personnel to be ready, relevant, and responsive in a 21st century military service.

**Senior Education and Fellowship Program’s (SEFP) Service Strategic Priorities Training (SSPT)**

Senior Education and Fellowship Program oversee 27 senior officers assigned to one-year programs across eight think tanks, four academic fellowships, and 10 Department of Defense war



colleges. SEFP participants represent the Coast Guard when interacting with key stakeholders in the Coast Guard’s future, as well as academic elite, civilian, and military leaders worldwide. On Monday, 23 July 2018, the Commandant, Vice Commandant, five Flag Officers and three Senior Executive Service members briefed 48 SEFP participants, Congressional and other CG liaisons, detached duty external personnel, and numerous office chiefs from throughout USCG Headquarters. This all-day Service Strategic Priorities Training ensured that those representing the Coast Guard in high impact engagements are prepared and possess the most current state of affairs, strategic priorities, and senior leadership’s perspective on Coast Guard challenges. This training ensures an opportunity to provide a ready, relevant, and responsive Coast Guard presence to a diverse portfolio of externally facing assignments.

**Spirit of Hope Award**

The Spirit of Hope Award is named in honor of Bob Hope and is presented for outstanding service to the United States of America. It is awarded to men and women of the United States Armed Forces, entertainers, and other distinguished Americans and organizations whose patriotism and service reflect that of Mr. Hope. This year, the U.S. Coast Guard has selected the Boys & Girls Clubs of America to receive the 2018 Spirit of Hope Award.

During the past 12 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America has been an integral component of the Coast Guard Morale, Well-Being, and Recreation program in delivering world class programs to Coast Guard children and young adults. Its commitment to taking care of youth, whether on military installations or in the local community and its contributions to the readiness, retention, and resiliency of the Coast Guard family makes the

military duty station seem like home to the mobile military community, and these actions epitomize the efforts and contributions of Bob Hope. The Boys & Girls Clubs of America has been an unwavering partner in providing for the quality of life for Coast Guard youth. They have been there when we needed them in this effort, whether in providing programming support or through countless hours in training youth. This “can do” spirit epitomizes the values of Mr. Hope.

**Coast Guard City Program**

The Coast Guard City program recognizes communities that support the Coast Guard across the nation. A city, municipality, or county earns the distinction of being named a “Coast Guard City” by making special efforts to acknowledge the professional work of the Coast Guard women and men assigned to their areas. Coast Guard Cities regularly reach out to Coast Guard personnel and their families and make them feel at home at their “home away from home.” These cities’ efforts illustrate a longstanding and enduring relationship with an emphasis on considerations the community has made for the members of the Coast Guard family.

New York City was officially designated as the 25th Coast Guard City, during a ceremony at City Hall with Mayor Bill de Blasio and then-Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Paul Zukunft. “Today’s designation deepens our historic partnership with the City of New York and is a testament to the critical role the Coast Guard plays in helping to keep the city safe, secure, and resilient,” said Zukunft at the ceremony. This relationship is demonstrated through the joint efforts of the Coast Guard and city agencies during a recent helicopter accident on the East River in March 2018, New York City’s and the Coast Guard’s response to Hurricane Sandy in October 2012, and historical moments like the evacuation of more than 500,000 people from Lower Manhattan following the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. The Coast Guard is always ready – alongside NYPD, FDNY, and the Department of Emergency Management – to safeguard the City.

**United States Coast Guard Band Tour 2018 - District Five**

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) Band held their 2018 District Five Tour May 30 through June 10, performing on various stages in Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Throughout the tour, the band travelled over 1,700 miles, reached an estimated live audience of 5,025 people, and had 36 unique social media posts, reaching 92,064 people. During the concerts, audience members heard about the missions of the USCG from active duty members, local Congressmen and Mayors. The band is now planning their FY19 tour of District Nine, which is currently scheduled from July 28- August 12 of next year.

The United States Coast Guard Band is the premier band representing the United States Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security. Based at the US Coast Guard Academy in





New London, Connecticut, the Coast Guard Band frequently appears in Washington, DC, at presidential and cabinet level functions on formal and informal occasions. The 55-member ensemble has performed at some of the most prestigious venues in the nation, including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Lincoln Center, and Carnegie Hall. Their mission is to preserve the honor the heritage, traditions, and history of our nation and the Coast Guard. For more information about the USCG Band, please visit <https://www.uscg.mil/Community/Coast-Guard-Band/history/>.

**Coast Guard Art Program Acceptance Ceremony**

On July 12, 2018, 28 new works of art were accepted into the Coast Guard Art Program (COGAP) during a ceremony at the Salmagundi Club in New York City. These pieces, which comprised one of the largest collections COGAP has received, reflect a wide range of Coast Guard activity: from search and rescue missions and our response to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Harvey, to the rigors of surf boat operations and illegal drug interdictions. The range of the United States Coast Guards’ responsibilities is also mirrored in works depicting Arctic exploration, patrols, aids to navigation and the often grueling training Coast Guard service members undergo to make them Semper Paratus—Always Ready.

During this event, a jury convened to select the recipient of the George Gray Award for Artistic Excellence, the COGAP’s Best in Show award. The jurors were RDML Bert, Director of Coast Guard Governmental and Public Affairs; Robert Pillsbury, Salmagundi Club president; and Nicholas Dawes, an expert auctioneer, a teacher at Parsons School of Design in New York City, and an appraiser on PBS’s acclaimed “Antique Roadshow.” This year’s winner of the George Gray Award was Leendert van der Pool’s work “Partnership,” which depicts a training exercise between the crew of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Spar and the crew of the Canadian Coast Guard ship Sir Wilfred Laurier.

COGAP artists volunteer their time and talents to create these masterpieces that they donate free of charge to the Coast Guard. These works of art allow us to advance the Coast Guard’s goal to connect people to our service through the compelling medium of art. Today, COGAP comprises nearly 2,000 works and includes an active membership of over 60 artists.

COGAP art is available for download and print via the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service at <https://www.dvid-shub.net/>. For more information on COGAP, please visit <https://www.uscg.mil/Community/Art-Program/>.

**The National Coast Guard Museum**

The first federal appropriation, received in support of the preservation of Coast Guard artifacts and the design of interior exhibits at the National Museum, is being executed in an innovative contract that ties together services for conservation and preservation of priceless artifacts along with exhibit design in preparation for the Museum. The Coast Guard recently awarded the contract to Southeastern Archaeological Research, INC. (SEARCH). On 20 July the Coast Guard hosted their interior exhibit design team including members of the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Historian’s Office, and contractor maritime historians and designers for the official kick-off of the exhibit design. This team of experts will work to develop the inaugural exhibits at the National Museum. These exhibits will create a unique visitor experience to share the stories, missions, and heritage of the Coast Guard on a national platform.

Concurrent to this, the National Coast Guard Museum Association (NCGMA), the partner non-profit who will build the National Museum has finalized the required Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the site of the future Museum in New London, CT. The SEA has been prepared for public comment and is soon to be released for public review.

The National Coast Guard Museum is slated to open May 2022 and will be a beacon on the Thames River in New London, CT for the nation and the world to experience the remarkable history and heritage of the US Coast Guard and its predecessor agencies. ■