



CGC Alert at dock: Two 210-foot medium endurance cutters replaced one (the Resolute) in 1992. The 17th Street Dock in Astoria, Ore., was refurbished for them.

Continued From page 8



very time we leave, it's not only hard for us, it's hard for the friends that we've (made) out here, and they realize it: They're like, 'Aw, I'm going to make a friend with a Coastie. They're usually really cool people, but I'm going to lose them in about three years,'" Travers said. "And maybe they come back and maybe they don't, but you'll have a

friend for life."

In the last 28 years, Van Dusen has uttered his famous catchphrase — "Astoria really likes the Navy, but we love the Coast Guard" — so often during public speeches that it has become a kind of call-and-response routine with the crowd.

The sentiment always goes over well — almost as well as the shout outs the Coasties collect while marching in the Astoria Regatta and Fourth of July parades.

"When you have that type of a community — that is that welcoming and supports you that much — why would you not want to live here?" Travers said. "It's just great."



Petty Officer 3rd Class Jordan Gilbert: An aviation survival technician and Coast Guard Air Station Astoria, prepares for hoist after securing a simulated person-in-need during a cliffside rescue training exercise near Ilwaco, Wash. Several training dummies were placed along the cliffside to be rescued by aviation survival technicians. — U.S. COAST GUARD PHOTO BY PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS JONATHAN KLINGENBERG

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