

The Coast Guard tows a boat into the Harbor Patrol dock after preventing the boat from sinking during an incident July 8.

-- U.S. Coast Guard photo



### Guard, Patrol rescue boat

A husband and wife were rescued and their boat saved from by coordinated efforts of the U.S. Coast Guard and the Channel Islands Harbor Patrol during a July 8 incident.

The Coast Guard received a call at about 8:30 a.m. from the Second Wind, a 32-foot Bayliner out of Ventura Harbor that was traveling a mile offshore of Channel Islands Harbor. The call said the engine room was filling with water and the bilge pumps could not handle the volume of water coming in.

The boat water leak occurred because the muffler and manifold lines had broken off, according to Coast Guard reports. When the hose broke off at the exhaust port opening, water came back into the boat, flooding the compartment and preventing the boat's bilge pump from working.

The Channel Islands Harbor Patrol with Officer Lance Woleslagle and Coast Guard Station Channel Islands were successful in pumping out the boat. The rescue crews used a sealant called TruPlug to stop the inflow of water coming into the engine room through the boat's exhaust hose.

The boat was towed to the Harbor Patrol dock by the Coast Guard with BM.3 Steve Maresh in command. It was cleared by the Coast Guard for passage to Ventura Boat Yard for repairs.

"If the Coast Guard and the Channel Islands Harbor Patrol had arrived any later than they did, and if not for the quick use of the TruPlug to stop the leak together with the dewatering taking place, the boat would have sunk," said Sgt. Dan Smock of the Harbor Patrol.

-- Information from U.S. Coast Guard report

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enough to my precious femininity, the doctor shouted in my ear that I would hear a loud pop and feel a sharp sting, and to please not jump at the sound.

They literally shot something sharp right into the side of my tender appendage. I prayed that they were finished, but no. That first shot took out a little piece of flesh, the biopsy, and then they shot a titanium ring into the same spot ... so they could forever remember where they had ripped out a piece of my flesh.

I finally got some nice words and a little back rub from the technician, and the doctor finally did talk to me. He apologized for taking so long and explained that the elusive shadow was in a place that was difficult to reach.

When I complained about the poorly designed table that broke all the rules of ergonomic design, the young woman informed me that she had REMOVED THE PADDING so they could better reach the area - which she said was "too close to the chest wall."

OK, so I permitted complete strangers to manhandle

a very tender, personal part of my body. I knew there was nothing wrong with my breast, and I was right. It was just a shadow picked up by a very sensitive X-ray machine.

And what do I have to show for it? A titanium ring implanted where no one can see it. If this ever happens

again, I'll ask for another quick mammogram before I let anyone play with my private parts.

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