1994

BUZZARDS BAY LIGHT TOWER TO COME DOWN

The Buzzards Bay Lighthouse Tower will soon come down according to Coast Guard officials.

Located in a busy shipping route between Boston and New York City it is located on the southern approach to the Cape Cod Canal. The tower sits at the bay's entrance 4 miles southwest of Cuttyhawk Island in the Elizabeth Islands chain.

The tower was constructed in 1962 with a estimated 30 year life span.

The Coast Guard says the crumbling tower would cost three to four hundred thousand dollars to repair. Currently the tower's legs are to week and unstable to hold the landing of a helicopter, the boat landing has been washed away in a storm, and the weather station atop the tower is not working.

Coast Guard officials have stated that a new tower will have to be built on the sight to protect shipping in this hazardous area. When all this will take place is still uncertain.

CANADA TO DE-STAFF WEST COAST LIGHTS?

In perhaps its second attempt in the past 2 years the Canadian Coast Guard is considering de-staffing its British Columbia Lighthouses.

The Coast Guard tried in 1992 to remove keepers from 14 of its West Coast Lighthouses. However, public outcry and British Columbia members of Canadian Parliament blocked the plan.

Since then only one lighthouse at Sands Head in Richmond, a suburb of Vancouver lost its keeper and this was because the Guard deemed the structure unsafe to live in.

The new report states, " OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO REMOVE ALL LIGHTKEEPERS FROM LOW TO MEDIUM IMPACT LIGHTHOUSES...OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS."

Jim Abram the keeper at Cape Mudge Light and head of a the British Columbia Lightkeepers Union said he was shocked at the Guards new attack at lightkeepers. He said "Lightkeepers cannot be replaced by automated lights and fog signals because they provide a vital safety function for coastal mariners. Records for 30 of the 36 British Columbia light stations show keepers came to the aid of the public 32,042 times between 1987 and 1991 including the saving of many lives"

The Coast Guards new plan calls for the de-staffing of at least thirteen lighthouses as soon as possible including Active Pass Light which is along the British Columbia Ferry route through the Gulf Islands and the Cape Mudge Light between Vancouver Island and the mainland.

NEW SUB TO SPORT LIGHTHOUSE

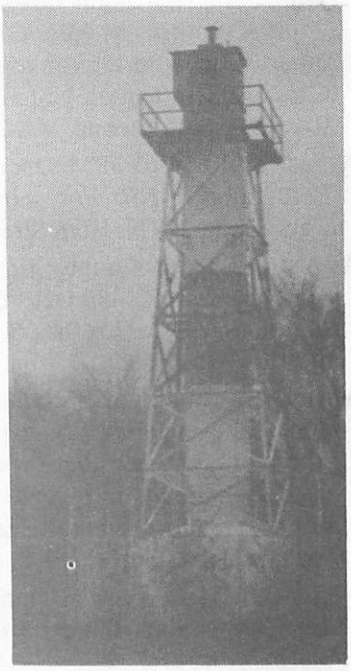
AUGUSTA, ME The official logo of the new nuclear Trident-class submarine U.S.S. Maine features a lighthouse.

The shield like logo features a cruising submarine, a Maine lighthouse and a harbor entrance in the background. The words on the shield proclaims the U.S.S. Maine's motto: "Leadership, Peace, Vigilance."

Nearly every aspect of the design is symbolic. There are 23 stars, because Maine was the 23 state, and there are 16 lines for Maine's 16 counties and the U.S.S. Maine is the 16th submarine in its class.

The new logo was designed by Don Bassett, graphic artist at the Maine State Museum.

GROUP TO SAVE CONOVER RANGE LIGHT



A committee of the New Jersey Chapter of the US Lighthouse Society has been formed to rescue the Chapel Hill Front Range Light which is also known as Conover Beacon.

The tower located in Leonardo, New Jersey is still owned by the Coast Guard and a local township owns the land surrounding the tower.

Although the tower is owned by the Coast Guard nothing has been done in many years to maintain the structure. Rust has caused major deterioration, vandals have ripped away pieces of ironwork, bonfires have been built at the base of the tower and there is graffiti on the tower.

The best plan the committee has come up with is to move the tower to State marina property a few blocks away, and then restore it. State officials have been respective to this idea, provided the chapter assumes all costs for the move and restoration.

If you are interested in making a donation or you are willing to help, write to, Conover Preservation Committee, NJ-USHLS, P.O. Box 4228, Brick, NJ 08723.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 28, Big Sable Lighthouse open to the public 10AM to 4PM, for more details, write P.O. Box 673, Ludington, Mich. or call 616-843-8155

July 29-31 Lifesaving Drills, honor roll dedication, harbor illumination, concerts, crafts, model boat races, pancake breakfast, ice cream parlors, fish fry and more at the Hull Lifesaving Museum in Hull, Mass. For more info call 617-925-LIFE

July 30 & 31 Chesapeake Chapter USLHS Lighthouse Cruise from Reedsville Cost $80. per person which does not include motel of your choice. The two separate trips will include the following lights.. Great Wicomino River, Windmill Point, Stringray Point, Wolf Trap, New Point Compfort, Thimble Shoal, Old Point Comfort, Middle Ground Light, and many others. For more info or to make reservation contact Chesapeake Chapter USLHS, Herb Entwistle , 211 Ross DR. SW, Vienna, VA 22180.

August 6 10AM to 4PM Open House at New Jersey's East Point Light. For more information write to Dave Ewan 210 N. High Street Millville, NJ 08332.

August 6-7 Door County Maritime Museum Festival, For more info contact Door County Maritime Museum at P.O. Box 246, Sturgeon Bay, Wisc. 54235 or call 414-743-5958.

August 13 Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association, Lake Superior Conference, Includes Marquette Harbor Lighthouse Big Bay Lighthouse, Presque Isle Park Pier Light, meal and other programs, $35.00. For more info contact GLLKA P.O. Box 580, Allen Park, Mich. 48101.

August 13, Marblehead Lighthouse open for tour this day only, contact Ottawa County Historical Society, Marblehead, OH.

August 24, 10th anniversary lighthouse cruise. Celebrate the 10th anniversary of the lease signing for Rondout Lighthouse aboard the Rip Van Winkle. Light supper, champagne, music and more. Cost $30.00, reservations required, Contact Hudson River Maritime Museum, One Rondout Landing, Kingston, NY 12401.

August 20 Annual Open House at the Valcoor Lighthouse on Lake Champlain. For more info contact Clinton County Historical Association 48 Court Street Plattsburgh, NY 12901 or call them at 919-561-0340. Storm date is August 21, This lighthouse only opens to the public for one day only once a year.

August 27 Lighting of Block Island SE Light in Rhode Island. This is now a confirmed date, if going to Block Island, be sure to make reservations as the entire island is expected to be booked as well as ferry reservations are recommended.

Sept. 3 Big Sable Light, Ludington, Mich. open for tours 10AM to 4PM

Sept. 9-12 Great Lakes Door County Lighthouse Tour, includes over 14 lighthouses, maritime museum and WW II sub, for more info contact U S Lighthouse Society at 244 Kearny Street, 5th floor, San Francisco, CA 94108.

Sept. 10 Marblehead Lighthouse open this day only for tours, for more info contact Ottawa County Historical Society, Marblehead, OH

Sept.15 - 26 Lighthouse tour to Greece, for more info write to U. S. Lighthouse Society, 244 Kearny St. 5th floor, San Francisco, CA. 94108.

Sept. 24-25 Bus Trip to Antique Boat Museum in Clayton, NY. One of the countries leading antique boat museums, includes dinner and cruise lunch $189. single occupancy and $159, double occupancy. Reservations required from Hudson River Maritime Museum, One Roundout Landing, Kingston, NY 12401.

Oct. 15 Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Lake Ontario conference featuring Tibbetts Point Lighthouse and other attractions, $35.00 For more info contact GLLKA P.O. Box 580, Allen Park, Mich. 48101.

November 10 Edmond Fitzgerald Memorial Lighting of Minnesota's Split Rock Lighthouse

December 3 & 4 Candlelight Tours of The Rondout Lighthouse. A boat ride to see Santa at the beautifully decorated lighthouse $5.00 per person from the Hudson River Maritime Museum, One Rondout Way, Kingston, NY 12401

We will continue to add events to the calendar of events as they are sent to us. If you know of an event that should be included, please contact us at once.

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