

ed outing, Klutz said.

The other half of the system's cost was financed through the Alternative Energy Property Program of the Executive Office of Energy Resources. Massachusetts is the only state to have such a program, Pollard said.

The project was put out to bid three times and eventually awarded to Systems Management Group Inc. of Taunton.

"And the third level of this is Boston Harbor," Townsend said. "We want the boats truly utilized as water taxis. They are small, fast and versatile, and they can move swiftly in and out of any dock. We don't want anyone thinking of this as an exclusive Spinnaker Island thing. We want it used for all sorts of purposes."

To illustrate the point, after a brunch and the christening, a group

of local musicians and residents rocked the boat to Nantasket Pier, where they all took a spin on the Paragon Park carousel.

"I think the point was made, that it was an awfully convenient way to get around Hull as well," Townsend said.

The *Isaac Allerton* is the second "water limousine" to start operation from Spinnaker Island in the past few months. The boat, which has 30 passenger seats, is roomier and faster

than the *Commodore Hull*, which makes the trip between Spinnaker Island and Boston in 35 minutes. The *Georges Island*, the 400-passenger boat that docks at Pemberton Pier in Hull Village, makes the run in 50 minutes.

The *Commodore Hull*, which seats 16, started running in April. It and the *Isaac Allerton* have been billed as luxury vessels, and the *Isaac Allerton* lives up to the billing. The cabin has comfortable, cushioned seats and

soft carpeting covers the floors. The boat will start running in mid-November, Norman P. James, manager of passenger services for the Nantasket Water Transportation Co., said. The boat service is a joint venture of the Townsend's firm Sandcastle Associates, the Nantasket Water Transportation Co. and the Bay State Spray and Provincetown Steamship Co., which runs the *Georges Island*.

The Townsends and Sandcastle

Maine woman returns to her birthplace at Boston Light

By Nancy Welch
The Patriot Ledger

LITTLE BREWSTER ISLAND — The first person said to have been born at an Atlantic Coast lighthouse returned to her birthplace Saturday.

Georgia Emerson, accompanied by two sisters, her husband and son, set sail at 11 a.m. from Long Wharf in Boston for Boston Light on Little Brewster Island, her home for the first 12 years of her life.

Emerson said the trip may have been her last to the lighthouse, though she hopes not.

"They're getting ready to automate (the lighthouse) and they may not let people go out anymore," said Emerson, who now lives in Boothbay Harbor, Maine.

Born Georgia Norwood in the aftermath of a raging storm April 11, 1932, she was the seventh of nine children born to lightkeeper Ralph Norwood and his wife, Josephine.

Emerson achieved fame as a child when the novel *Storm Child*, a fictitious account of her birth and life on the island, was published in 1937. But when film makers asked her to come to Hollywood to try out for the movie version, the golden-haired 6-year-old steadfastly refused to leave her family and her home. A story in the *Boston Post* said she cried. "I don't want to go to Hollywood. I want to go back to Boston Light."

Saturday was Emerson's first visit to a jury trial.

District court

1985 Chevrolet Celebrity belonging to Robert Pitts of 15 Curtis Avenue, Quincy, in June.

Judge William T. Hogan Jr. also placed Mulrey on probation for two years, ordered him to make restitution for Pitts' out-of-pocket losses and to pay \$25 to the victim and witness assistance fund.

Mulrey also pleaded guilty to a charge of being a disorderly person and innocent to a charge of breaking and entering in the nighttime with intent to commit a crime at Pitts' home. Both charges were put on file.

Ordinarily, Mulrey would have gone to trial initially at Quincy District Court, but he opted for a trial in the district court jury session in Dedham. However, when the case reached Dedham, he waived his right

Quincy

Joseph F. Campbell, 26, of 32 Pearl St., Plymouth, pleaded innocent to charges of unlawful possession of betting slips and driving under the influence of alcohol. Judge Philip Tracy released him on his promise to return to court Nov. 27.

He was arrested by Quincy police Oct. 21.

Dedham

David Mulrey, 18, of 219 Taffrail Road, Quincy, was given a suspended six-month suspended sentence in the Norfolk County House of Correction after being found guilty of larceny of a motor vehicle.

He pleaded guilty to taking a

John F. Vacchino Jr., 28, of Halifax was sentenced to six months in jail after pleading guilty and being found guilty in a district court jury session of store breaks in Stoughton and an attempted break in Weymouth.

He had been found guilty on the charges earlier in separate trials before judges, and he asked for a trial at the jury session in Dedham.

Judge William T. Hogan Jr. ordered that the sentence be served after Vacchino completes a jail term he is serving in an unrelated case.

He was charged with an attempted break-in Jan. 2 at the Coffee Haus, 1227 Washington St., Weymouth. Related charges included malicious destruction of property over \$100 and possession of burglary tools.

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Weymouth schedules another town meeting

WEYMOUTH — Selectmen have scheduled a second special town meeting for Nov. 30 to seek money for new telephone equipment.

Earlier this year, the school department joined with other town departments in a plan to buy \$130,000 worth of new phone equipment. The plan called for paying for the telephones over three years.

But town Executive Administrator Russell J. Connor Jr. said that approach would have cost the town \$30,000 in finance charges. Those charges could be avoided by buying the equipment outright, he said.

If the town uses \$21,700 already appropriated for the school department's telephones, \$58,760 from free cash and \$34,000 in anticipated savings from changing to a new phone system, selectmen will need to ask town meeting for \$15,445, Connor said.

A special town meeting already is scheduled for Nov. 30 to fund labor contracts and act on the proposed trash-to-energy incinerator.

soft carpeting covers the floors.

The boat will start running in mid-November, Norman P. James, manager of passenger services for the Nantasket Water Transportation Co., said. The boat service is a joint venture of the Townsend's firm Sandcastle Associates, the Nantasket Water Transportation Co. and the Bay State Spray and Provincetown Steamship Co., which runs the *Georges Island*.

The Townsends and Sandcastle

to the 271-year-old lighthouse — the oldest in the nation — since the early 1970s. It was the first visit her sister, Fay Achor, of Boothbay Harbor, has made since the family moved to Maine's Ram Island Light in early 1945.

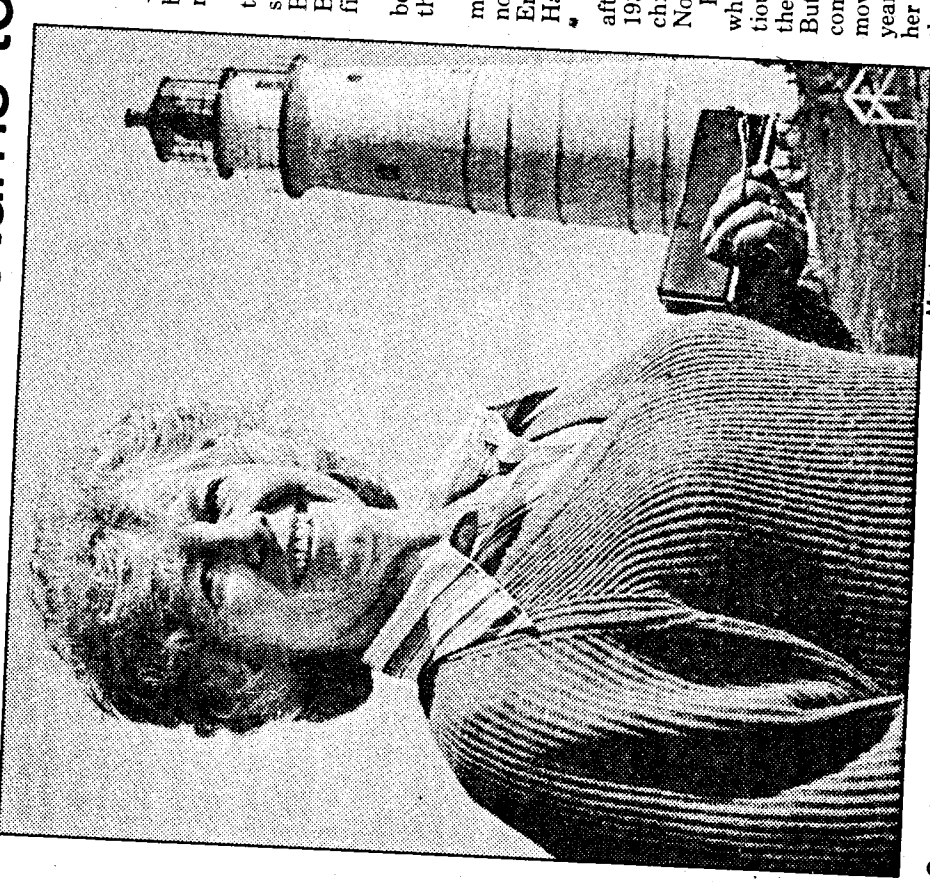
Emerson said she was saddened by the changes she saw during her four-hour visit. Their first house is gone. The Coast Guard members who man the light live in the Norwoods' second house. The ocean has eroded the coastline, and the cannon that was there when Emerson was a child has been moved to a Connecticut museum. But the biggest change is the silence.

"That's the sad thing about automating these lighthouses," she said. "With nobody there, no children, they're really going to be quiet — quiet like a cemetery."

But she said she was glad to learn that the current lightkeepers enjoy their jobs, although one, a Texan, admitted he wasn't looking forward to the winter.

Emerson lived year round at Boston Light, 1 1/2 miles from Point Allerton in Hull, until she was old enough to attend Hull Village School. Then she lived in Hull with her mother and siblings during the school year, visiting her father during school breaks. When summer came, they returned to the island.

"The minute school closed, we were on the boat to go out for the



Georgia Emerson stands near the 90-foot-high Boston Light on Little Brewster Island, where she was born in 1932.

Mary Lee/The Patriot Ledger

built in Louisiana and designed for use in the Gulf of Mexico.

"They were used to bring men back and forth to the oil rigs," he said. "We have just retrofitted them and rehabilitated them."

On board for the *Isaac Allerton*'s maiden voyage was William Arthur III, an 11th-generation descendant of the boat's namesake. Allerton discovered Hull in 1621 with an Indian guide, Squanto. James said he found Arthur through the Mayflower Society.

summer," Emerson said.

During the first years there, she said, three families lived at Boston Light. Then, when the Coast Guard replaced the Lighthouse Service, hers was the only family to remain.

But Emerson said she wasn't lonely. "You see, there were nine of us," explained her sister, Priscilla Reece of Hingham. Emerson added, "We went fishing and swimming and rowing and crabbing and sailing..."

Emerson, whose husband was in the Air Force, said she's lived in at least a dozen places since Boston Light. None have felt like home.

"We all still feel like that's home," she said.

A Coast Guard spokesman said Sunday that while no date has been set, the lighthouse will probably be the last in the United States to be automated. But Emerson said one of the lightkeepers on duty Saturday told her there's a chance the light won't be automated.

"We hope it isn't, but we'll have to see what they do in the future," she said. "We have sown hopes that each trip isn't going to be our last."