



Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association

President: Jim Dannhauser

October 17 – November 13, 2020

Editor: Theresa Egan

The middle of the Fall season is now upon us. We are aware that many are seeking definitive information regarding the procedures for voting in the forthcoming elections. A good resource is the web site of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at www.mass.gov>**topics**>**voting** You can also obtain information about polling places and hours at <https://townofbarnstable.us/> The front page of the Town website has a large ICON of “**Election Information**”.

Deliberations concerning the future of the Cotuit Elementary School property continue. At the last meeting of the Asset Management Advisory Committee, it was decided to recommend to the Town Manager that the building be torn down. If that were to be the course of action decided upon, it would be a capital project, and would need to be included in the CIP budget for the Town. Expectations are that this would likely not occur for several years, as there are a significant number of capital projects being considered, including those that were deferred earlier this year. There was also a discussion about the property at the meeting of the Commissioners of the Water Department held in September. We encourage you to view the recording of that meeting which can be found at the website of the Fire District.

Remember that all vessels stored on Town property need to be removed by November 14.

Stay safe and well. Jim Dannhauser, President

Cotuit Fire District, MA \$1,510,000 General Obligation Bonds Net 0.443%; Refunding Saves \$161,527

Ray Pirrone, District Treasurer, announced that the District received competitive bids from bond underwriters on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 for a \$1,510,000, 9-year general obligation bond issue. Fidelity Capital Markets was the winning bidder on the Bonds with an average interest rate of 0.443%. The District received a total of 3 bids on the Bonds. Bond proceeds will be used to finance various departmental equipment purchases and refund a portion of the District's April 15, 2010 bond issue. The savings generated by the refinancing will be \$161,527 (after issuance costs) over the next 10 years or approximately \$0.01 reduction in the property tax rate each year.

Prior to the sale S&P Global Ratings, a municipal credit rating agency, assigned a rating of 'AA+' to the Bonds. The rating agency cited the District's extremely strong market value per capita, stable financial position evidenced by very strong reserves, and low overall debt burden as positive credit factors.

The bids for the Bonds were accepted at the offices of the District's Financial Advisor, Hilltop Securities Inc., at 54 Canal Street in Boston, Massachusetts.

The Historical Society of Santuit & Cotuit will hold a *Pies To-Go* event on Wednesday, November 25th – which is the day before Thanksgiving. (Who doesn't need a pie then?) Orders for apple, blueberry, pumpkin and pecan pies will be accepted online beforehand, to be picked up at HSSC drive-through fashion. Watch our website – cotuihistoricalsociety.org – for more information. We'd also welcome a few more volunteer pie-bakers!

We're more than halfway there in our 50/50 raffle in support of our annual scholarship. One hundred tickets are being sold at \$20 apiece. The winner will get half the proceeds -- \$1,000. Great money and great odds! Tickets are on sale at the HSSC gift shop. You may also enter by sending a check made payable to HSSC to P.O. Box 1484, Cotuit, MA 02635. Please include phone number or email address so we can confirm the receipt of your entry.

The Historical Book Club's selection for November is *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong* by James W. Loewen. The group will meet at 7:00, Thursday, November 5th likely via Zoom. Call (508) 428-0461 (the Historical Society) or (508) 428-8141 (Cotuit Library) to confirm. The Zoom meeting number. Zoom number will be sent with the monthly reminder to those on book club's email list.

Cotuit Water Commission
AUTOMATIC IN-GROUND IRRIGATION CONNECTION
MORATORIUM EXTENDED TO MARCH 23, 2021

On September 23rd the **Cotuit Water Commission** voted to extend a moratorium on new connections to the Cotuit drinking water supply for automatic, in-ground irrigation systems for six months **until March 23, 2021**. The purpose of the moratorium is to enable the Commission to review a series of proposals and seek public input on suggestions on how to reduce and discourage the use of the public water system for lawn irrigation. Lawn irrigation represents approximately 50% of our summer pumping and is placing significant stress on our system.

This moratorium does not affect new hook-ups for in-home water distribution (without irrigation systems). It also does not affect existing in-ground irrigation (if it was connected prior to May, 2020). The Commission is concerned that peak summer pumping is exceeding our permit levels and that natural water bodies, especially streams and freshwater wetlands in Cotuit, are being impacted by excessive well drawdown during the peak demand months in the summer. (See attached primer.) Water quality in the distribution system can also be impaired by excessive drawdown near wetlands, such as by manganese and iron infiltration.

Among the items which the Commission is exploring are a permanent ban on new irrigation connections, upgrading and maintaining "smart" irrigation technologies, separate metering, premium pricing, eventual disconnections, and fertigation wells. Residents may opt for installing their own on-site private wells for irrigation, taking the demand of the public drinking water system. Please see our website and Facebook page for more information."

Cotuit Kettleers Do you have a room to rent to a *Cotuit Kettleers Intern* next summer? Just a bedroom is needed...they'll prepare their own meals, do their own laundry and provide their own transportation. These young adults are energetic, dynamic, and diligent college students working toward their career goals. Contact Leah Ridpath kettleersadvertising@gmail.com for more info.

St Michael Orthodox Christian Church: 62 Main Street, Cotuit, 508-420-1113
Live streaming via *YouTube* with schedule as follows: *Saturday Vespers 7:00 pm; Sunday Orthros 8:30 am; Sunday Liturgy 9:30 am.* Information - <https://youtube.com/user/StMichaelCotuit>

The Friends of the Cotuit Library - Raffle tickets are still available for the *Spectacular Fall Raffle*. 1st Prize \$1,000, 2nd Prize \$750 & 3rd Prize \$500. Only 300 tickets printed. Drawing October 30th at noon on the Library patio. Contacts are Cindy 508-420-4871 & Lori 860-841-3096.

Volunteers are needed for Pop-Up **Book Nook** gently-used **Book Sale** to be held Mondays & Thursdays during October & November from 10 am - 2 pm on the Library patio. Contact is Jane 774-487-9058. (We are unable to accept donated books at this time due to COVID restrictions.)

Friendship soup is almost sold out! Several jars remain in the Library lobby. If any residents have the **24 oz.** (pint & 1/2) canning jars to donate back, we can make more available. (There is a national shortage of canning jars!) Drop off recycled 24 oz. jars at the Library.

The Cahoon Museum of American Art has a popular new show, *Salley Mavor: Bedtime Stitches*, an exhibition of 18 sculptural embroidery artworks by award-winning Falmouth artist Salley Mavor. The artwork illustrates the new children's book, *My Bed: Enchanting Ways to Fall Asleep Around the World* which is now a best seller in our Museum Shop. Plan extra time when you come to see the show so that you may browse in the shop!

Three additional exhibitions are on view: *Edward Curtis: Shadow Cather*, *Adria Arch: Interference*, and *Alfred Glover: Garden Grove*. The exhibitions remain on view through December 22nd. The Museum is also hosting a free *Open House* on Sunday, Oct. 25 – registration for this event is required so please visit cahoonmuseum.org, or call 508-428-7581 to register. The *Museum and the Museum Shop* are open Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10:00 to 4:00. Registration is requested for the gift shop however drop-ins are welcome as Gallery space allows.

Cotuit Federated Church is hosting a *Blood Drive for Cape Cod Healthcare*, November 23rd Monday, Registration is required at www.capecodhealth.org/give-blood. Worship Services on Sundays at 10 a.m. continue to stream on Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/cotuitfederatedchurch>.

Cotuit Library - Now open for **EXPANDED BROWSING!** Please join in on our 100,000 *Can Challenge*: Help us raise \$5,000 by redeeming your bottles and cans and donating the money (or the redemption slips!) to the Library. Check out our upcoming events at cotuitlibrary.org/events and cotuitlibrary.org/kids.



MISSION STATEMENT The Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to furnish Cotuit residents with a forum for the discussion of matters of civic concern and to provide a means to address those concerns in ways that will serve the best interests of the Village. The Association seeks to identify the needs and concerns of the Village, to inform residents about matters that affect them, to present the needs and concerns to the Town government, and to attempt to spur action to resolve those matters. The Association also sponsors activities and programs of general interest, in an effort to promote a vital sense of community in the Village of Cotuit.

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS The Association conducts meetings open to the public periodically throughout the year at which matters of general interest are discussed, often with participation of Town representatives. The Association also organizes and presents the annual Fourth of July Parade and the Christmas in Cotuit events. The Association also prepares and distributes a newsletter, Cotuit Currents, which includes information concerning events of other non-profit organizations in the Village.

MEMBERSHIP Membership in the Association is open to all interested parties. Dues and contributions received help to defray the expenses of the Association, including the costs of the Fourth of July Parade, the Christmas in Cotuit events and various public improvement initiatives. You can become a member by downloading the form on this site at "Become a Member," clipping the membership form from the Cotuit Currents newsletter, or sending the information called for on those forms, together with the \$25 annual dues, to P.O. Box 121, Cotuit, MA 02635.

The Cotuit Civic Association Welcomes Your Support

Our mission is to "educate and Communicate" and Christmas in Cotuit

Name _____

Cape Address _____

Off Cape Address _____

email _____ Is this a NEW email ? _____

Yearly Dues \$25.00 _____ Donation \$ _____ Total \$ Enclosed _____

P O Box 121 Cotuit MA 02635

cotuitcivicassociation@gmail.com