



# Cotuit Currents

## Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association

President: Jim Dannhauser

April 16 - May 13, 2022

Editor: Theresa Egan

**The Board of the Cotuit Civic Association** thought that we would launch the year's first issue of the Currents with a brief discussion of Cotuit Fire District governance.

There are three governing bodies for the CFD - the Prudential Committee, the Fire Commissioners and the Water Commissioners. These bodies propose the annual CFD budgets and the Prudential Committee proposes the annual CFD taxes, subject to voter approval. You can see the section on your quarterly taxes identified at COTRES. The current tax rate for CFD is listed as Cotuit FD on your tax bill and is currently \$1.70 per \$1000 of property valuation. We encourage you to take some time to review the decisions that have been occurring in the CFD and how your CFD tax dollars are being spent.

The Board members of the Civic Association rotate coverage of the monthly meetings of these three bodies. This allows us to stay on top of the discussions taking place and the decisions being made. We strongly encourage all villagers to attend, read the minutes of, and/or watch the videos of the monthly meetings. All information on the meetings can be found at <https://www.cotuitfiredistrict.org>

**Prudential Committee** (Fran Parks, Seth Burdick, Mark Lynch) is primarily responsible for approving the budgets and tax rates that are proposed to the voters at the Annual District meeting and for monitoring the revenue and expenses of the CFD during the year. The Prudential Committee is currently working on the next fiscal year's budget including the Fire and Water commissioners' budgets. There are potential increases in those budgets that once finalized will be presented at the annual district meeting. The Prudential Committee has 5-year capital improvement budgets from the Fire Department and Water Departments. All of this was discussed at the March 28 meeting of the Prudential Committee. Minutes of these meetings can be accessed at the Fire District website.

The Prudential Committee has also been working on the Cotuit School acquisition with a subcommittee of volunteer residents and one member from each of the boards. The most recent meeting video can be accessed on the CFD website. (dated 2-24-22 titled *School Committee Meeting*).

**Fire Commissioners** (Rick Pisano, Kevin Conley, Adam Zais) generally oversee the operations of the Cotuit Fire Department. The Fire Commissioners have hired a new Fire Chief, Sean Brown, who started April 4, 2022.

**Water Commissioners** (Tom Hoppensteadt, Mark Robinson, Scott Horsley) generally oversee the operation of the Cotuit Water Department. The commissioners recently facilitated a *Source Water Protection* study using interns from Tufts University and the study results can be found at the CFD website under the Water Commissioner meetings of December 8, 2021. Also, the water commissioners ratified regulations regarding new in-ground irrigation systems and new water rates during 2021.

**The CFD annual district election will be held on Tuesday May 24, 2022 (4:00-8:00 voting at Freedom Hall) and the CFD Annual District meeting will be on Wednesday May 25th, 2022 (7:30 at Freedom Hall).**

**The Historical Society of Santuit & Cotuit (HSSC)** is partnering with *Barnstable Land Trust* to host the *Cotuit Community Beach Cleanup* on Saturday, April 23 from 9:00 - 11:00. Volunteers are invited to HSSC after the cleanup for coffee and refreshments. Call 508-428-0461 to register.

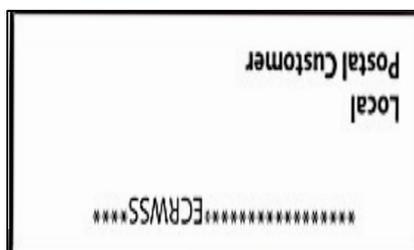
Submit your favorite photographs of Cotuit and you could win free tickets to our *Taste of Cotuit* event in July! Please email high-resolution JPEG files to [info@cotuihistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@cotuihistoricalsociety.org). Selected photographs will be displayed and auctioned off as part of the "Cotuit Collection" at our *Taste of Cotuit* event.

It's time to renew your HSSC membership, donation helps us continue our mission of preservation and education! Visit our website to renew or mail payment to PO Box 1484, Cotuit, MA 02635.

Our museum and gift shop will reopen for the season on Friday, May 27. Our hours are 10 am to 4 pm Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays starting Memorial Day weekend. Be sure to view our 2022 special exhibit celebrating 75 years of the *Cotuit Kettleers!* Become a docent!

If you are interested in learning more about local history, please stop by HSSC on Friday, May 13 at 10:00 for our docent social and training. Bring a friend! No experience necessary; we will train you. Check our website for more information.

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Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association  
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The **Historical Book Club** will meet at 6:00. Thursday, May 5, at **Cotuit Library**. The selection for May is *The Undocumented Americans* by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio. All are welcome.

Interim Chief Michael F. Small of the **Cotuit Fire Department** has announced that following the retirement in December of Chief Paul Rhude, on April 4<sup>th</sup> the Department welcomed Chief Sean Brown as our new Fire Chief. There was an official swearing in ceremony on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Chief Brown is a Barnstable native and brings a wealth of experience to the District. Please stop in and say hello!

The **Cotuit Kettleers** are looking for new host families for players and interns for the 2022 season. The season runs from early June through early August. You would need to provide a room for the player/intern, access to a washer and dryer, and three meals a day. In return, you will receive a stipend to help cover costs as well as lasting friendships with some terrific young men & women who are working to enhance their futures, not only in their chosen careers, but also as people. You can be part of that development! For more information, please contact Mr. Terry Moran at 508-951-0802 or [terrymoran71@comcast.net](mailto:terrymoran71@comcast.net)

**The Cotuit Federated Church** is grateful to the village for your support of our *Building Expansion Project*. We hope to have the construction completed this fall. Easter services are to be held 4/17 Sunrise Service to be held at 5:45AM on Loop Beach and Easter Festival Service at 10:00.

You can learn more about construction progress on our website: [address.... https://www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org/building-expansion/](https://www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org/building-expansion/)

**The Cahoon Museum** will be holding its open reception by the Museum to view *Action/Abstraction Redefined* and meet IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts curator, Manuela Well-Off-Man. Enjoy lively conversation, wine and cheese, and activities, Friday, April 22, 4:30-6:00. Education Program *Curator's Talk* with Manuela Well-Off-Man, Saturday, April 23, 2:00. Free with Museum admission; registration requested.

Join us for a special conversation with *Manuela Well-Off-Man*, art historian and curator at the IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts. *Well-Off-Man* has made contemporary native art her focus, even when native art was not a part of mainstream museum shows. Learn more about native artists, her work building a stunning contemporary collection at the MoCNA, and the artwork.

Education Program: *Thursday Gallery Tour* is offered on the first Thursday of the month. This docent-led tour spotlights something special about the museum's historic house and current exhibitions. Thursday, May 5, 10:30, free with admission.

**Cahoon Spring Open House:** Celebrate Mom! Sunday, May 8, 10:00 - 4:00 The museum will be open free all day for Mother's Day. Enjoy the current exhibition, the *Streetside* art sculpture, shopping in the museum store, and getting creative with fun, family activities.

Opening Reception for *Action/Abstraction: Redefined* Stop by the Museum to view *Action/Abstraction Redefined* and meet IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts curator, Manuela Well-Off-Man. Enjoy lively conversation, wine and cheese, and activities. Friday, April 22, 4:30-6:00. Free admission

The **Friends of the Cotuit Library** are hosting their next *Luncheon & Speaker Program* at the Library on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Featuring *Butterfly Gardening* with guest speaker *Mary P. Barry*, a local master gardener. Registration is required as seating is limited: contact Kathy at [kotzkathy@yahoo.com](mailto:kotzkathy@yahoo.com) or call 631-905-

9925. Members \$12, non-members \$15. Refreshments at 11:30 and lunch at noon followed by the presentation. Prize drawing this month is a framed painting by local artist *Nancy Minnigerode*. Don't miss out as the event promises to be a fun, as well as educational. Check their website for more details - [www.cotuitlibrary.org/friends-events-calendar.html](http://www.cotuitlibrary.org/friends-events-calendar.html)

*Save Memorial Day, Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>* for the annual *Plant & Bake sale*. The *Friends* are reaching out to the community for help with their *Plant and Bake Sale* fundraiser. If you are thinning perennials, separating bulbs, propagating house plants, or starting seedlings, could you donate items for the sale? The *Friends* are seeking potted or hanging plants, small shrubs, grasses, herbs, or bulbs. If you love baking, can you donate wrapped and labeled goodies for the sale? Homemade bars, muffins, and cookies, (packaged by half-dozen or dozen), fudge, cakes and fruit pies are most welcome. Check the website above for more details.

**Barnstable Land Trust** invites the Cotuit community to get outside! April 22 - *Words in the Wild* launch; In celebration of Earth Day, BLT has partnered with 4 local poets (including Cotuit resident Diane Hanna) to launch this new initiative where poetry and the environment come together naturally. Look for the plaques at Eagle Pond Sanctuary, Ropes Field, Fuller Farm, and Pogorelc Sanctuary (BLT's Offices).

April 23 - *Cotuit Community Beach Cleanup* (partnership with The Historical Society of Santuit and Cotuit)

April 29 - *Bird Walk* with Cotuit's Tommy Burgess

April 30 - **Getting the Vegetable Garden Started** at Fuller Farm (partnership with Resilient Roots)

May 1 - *Bird Photography Walk* with Nancy Orbe on a BLT trail as part of Cape Cod ArtWeek (partnership with Cape Cod Art Center)

May 1 - *Planting Dahlias and Dahlia Swap* at Fuller Farm (partnership with Resilient Roots)

May 6 - *Bird Walk* with Cotuit's Tommy Burgess

May 7 - *Mother's Day Weekend Walk* at Lowell Park Woodlands Trail with Cotuit's Gil Newton

**Cape Cod Academy** students will be performing *Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.*, a stage musical about a mermaid who dreams of the world above the sea. Performances will take place in Cape Cod Academy's auditorium in Osterville on Friday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 23 at 2:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$10.00 for general admission and \$5.00 for students and senior citizens. Tickets can be purchased at the door

**Cotuit Library's** spring programming is blooming! Celebrate *Earth Day* with a variety of engaging family-friendly programs including *Upcycle!* on April 19, *One Person's Trash...* on April 21, and *Animal Ambassadors* on April 22. Preregistration is requested- email [librarian@cotuitlibrary.org](mailto:librarian@cotuitlibrary.org). On May 4, we welcome *Nelson Ritschel*, professor of humanities from *Massachusetts Maritime Academy*,

for an evening lecture on the classic and new masters of Detective Literature.

Spend a Saturday having fun that is out of this world with *MAY the Force!* a celebration of *Star Wars* for kids on May 14. Want to make new friends? *Our Knitting and Mystery Club* and *Cribbage* group are always welcoming new members! Check out [www.cotuitlibrary.org/events](http://www.cotuitlibrary.org/events) for more information on all of our great programs!

**The Cotuit Garden Club** will be having their annual plant sale on Saturday May 7 th., in front of the Coop from 8am to 12 noon. Sales from the sale will benefit a Barnstable High School student. May 18th, the Garden Club will be having their annual picnic on the Historical Society grounds. Members will be working on getting the gardens cleaned and ready for summer after which we will all enjoy a wonderful luncheon. Any questions please call Joanne Miller. 508-524-1817.

### The Cotuit Civic Association Welcomes Your Support

Our mission is to "educate and communicate"; Sponsors of the *July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade & Christmas in Cotuit*

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

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