



# CotuitCurrents

December 2024



Happy Holidays to All!

The Cotuit Civic Association is thrilled to host the annual Christmas in Cotuit on Saturday, December 7. With activities planned for all ages, there's something special for everyone! Check the schedule at right, or visit our website to plan your day's festivities. If you're driving, please be cautious, as pedestrian traffic will be high with many people enjoying the village's holiday charm.

Beginning right after Thanksgiving, villagers are invited to place ornaments on the village tree. Please avoid hanging ornaments on lighting wires, and remember to retrieve your ornaments by Saturday, January 4, to keep our tree safe and welcoming.

In the spirit of giving, the CSCA is holding a Diapers and Baby Wipes Drive. Drop donations at the Cotuit Fire Station from December 2-7, or bring them to the Cotuit Federated Church's Community Hall during Christmas in Cotuit. Help brighten the season for families in need!

*Cotuit Currents* returns in April 2025. Until then, stay connected with email updates—sign up on our website or use the coupon in this newsletter.

Dave Fravel, Board Member  
[csc@cotuitcivicassociation.org](mailto:csc@cotuitcivicassociation.org)



## Christmas in Cotuit Schedule of Events — Saturday, December 7, 2024

- 10:00-3:00 Historical Society: Bring the kids to paint a wooden ornament for your tree (until noon), and enjoy s'mores and cider around the firepit until 3:00.
- 10:00-3:00 Cotuit Federated Church: the Women's Fellowship Gift Basket sale (until 2:00) and the 23rd annual show and sale of small works by local artists and photographers. Give art for the holidays!
- 10:00-4:00 Artisan Craft Fair at Freedom Hall: artists, pottery, jewelry, wreaths, shell art, soaps, honey, and much more.
- 10:00-4:00 Winter Open House at the Cahoon Museum. Explore amazing exhibits, try your hand at holiday crafts, and enjoy seasonal treats. Admission is free!
- 11:00-3:00 Cotuit Library: Bring the kids to decorate cookies and fill up on hot chocolate, then participate in a scavenger hunt.
- 11:00-1:00 Bring your holiday gift list to the Cotuit Kettleers Store for some Kettleers merch or a personalized paver to be placed in our Walk of Champions.
- 11:00-5:00 Cotuit Fresh Market Main Street Tastings
- 12:00-2:00 Cotuit Fire Station Open House. Stop by for chili and learn more about plans for the new firehouse.
- 3:00-5:00 Hot chocolate, cider, and cookies in Memorial Park, courtesy of Cotuit Fresh Market.
- 3:30-3:45 At the Town Dock: DJ Lisa Z, Pizza by Zoe Pizza of Mashpee, and chowder from the Courtside Café at Kings Grant, courtesy of the Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association.
- 3:45 Santa's arrival by boat at the Town Dock, followed by tree lighting (lights installed by Bartlett Tree), caroling, and visits with Santa in Memorial Park.
- 4:00-5:00 Open House with cookies in the Cotuit Federated Church's Hamilton Hall. Enter from High Street or through the patio doors from Memorial Park.

## Cotuit Fire District

The **Cotuit Fire Department** is pleased to announce progress in the fire station project. The Board of Fire Commissioners approved CHA Consulting to be brought on board as the Owner's Project Manager (OPM). This decision is an essential milestone in the design and engineering of the new station. The OPM's role is to protect the interests of the Cotuit Fire Department and the residents of the Cotuit Fire District by overseeing quality, costs, and schedules, and maintaining transparency and accountability. CHA will work collaboratively with our community to help design and build a new, modern fire station. Be sure to stop by the current station during Christmas in Cotuit!

On October 23, the **Cotuit water commissioners** held a public workshop to address rising sodium levels in the town's drinking water. Hans Keijser from the Hyannis Water Department, Bruce Young and John Tibbets from the Massachusetts Rural Water Association, and Mark Nelson, hydrogeologist and West Barnstable water commissioner, were present. Over the past two decades, sodium levels have risen across Barnstable and Cape Cod, mainly due to the use of road salt during winter storms. Cotuit's levels remain lower than some Cape districts but are significant enough to warrant attention for individuals with hypertension. The water department will increase monitoring, including more frequent chloride testing, and work with MWRA to explore a regional solution. To help, consider using de-icing products without sodium, such as calcium or magnesium chloride.

At its October 27 meeting, the **Prudential Committee** discussed the Request for Proposal (RFP) process for the Cotuit Elementary School demo/renovation study. This feasibility study will create cost estimates for several alternative uses of the school building. The RFP was posted on November 4, and completed proposals are due December 4. Evaluations of the proposals will be undertaken by the Prudential Committee in executive session. The target date for completion of the study is February 28, 2025.

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**Historical Society of Santuit & Cotuit**

The Historical Book Club meets at Cotuit Library on Thursday December 5 at 6 p.m., to discuss *The Accidental President: Harry S Truman and the Four Months That Changed the World*, by A.J. Baime.

Check the Christmas in Cotuit schedule for the fun we have planned for December 7. And after Santa has gone home, we invite HSSC members to join us at the Dottridge Homestead for the Members' Holiday Party from 5-7 p.m.

The Dottridge Homestead, Cotuit Museum, Rothwell Ice House, and Gift Shop are open Friday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Gift Shop will be putting different items on sale each week in December. Also, pick up a hand-decorated 12" balsam wreath through December 14.

**Cotuit Library**

Virtual author talks, sponsored by the Friends of the Cotuit Library. Registration required.

- "Unearthed: Exploring the Smithsonian National Gem Collection" with Dr. Jeffrey Post, Wednesday, December 4, 2-3 p.m.
- "On Pulse-Pounding, Family Driven Mysteries: A Conversation with Laura Dave," Wednesday, December 11, 2-3 p.m.

Woods Hole photographer/journalist Mark Chester talks about his latest book, *Roadshow Anthropology*. Friday, December 6, 2-3 p.m. Registration required.

Annual Craft Swap, Saturday, December 14, noon-4 p.m. Drop off craft materials in good condition at the library December 2-13.

Printmaking Workshop (for adults) with Katie McMurray, Thursday, December 19, 4-6 p.m. Registration required.

Gingerbread Building (for kids), Monday, December 23, 1-2:30 p.m. The library will supply materials, but feel free to bring your own supplies. Registration required.

Winter Crafts with the Cahoon, Friday, December 27, 11 a.m.-noon.

Intergenerational Puzzle Race, Monday, December 30, 1-2 p.m. Registration required.

Check out all our December programs and events at [cotuitlibrary.org/events](http://cotuitlibrary.org/events).

**Friends of the Cotuit Library**

Stop by the Friends booth at Freedom Hall during Christmas in Cotuit, where we'll be selling Friendship soup, note cards, and cookbooks to raise funds for the library!

**St. Michael Orthodox Church**

Saturday Vespers, 5 p.m.  
Sunday Orthros, 9 a.m.  
Sunday Liturgy, 10 a.m., immediately followed by potluck coffee hour—bring a dish to share!

Visit [stmichaelcapecod.org/schedule](http://stmichaelcapecod.org/schedule) for a full schedule of services and activities.

**Cotuit Nursery School**

Cotuit Nursery School is accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year. Email [cotuitnurseryschool@yahoo.com](mailto:cotuitnurseryschool@yahoo.com) or call (508) 428-1470 or for more information or to schedule a tour.

**Cape Cod Academy**

Cape Cod Academy is hosting a Tuesday Tour on Tuesday, December 3, at 9 a.m. Cotuit families of students in grades K-12 are invited to visit, tour the campus, and learn about the academic, athletic, and arts opportunities at CCA. Administrators and teachers will discuss the school's unique offerings and personalized approach to learning, and our tuition model that gives families affordable access to high quality education on Cape Cod. If you'd like to set up a tour for another time, call or email the Admissions Office at 508-428-5400 or [admissions@capecodacademy.org](mailto:admissions@capecodacademy.org). Visit [capecodacademy.org](http://capecodacademy.org) to learn more.

**Barnstable Land Trust**

The days might seem shorter now, but there is nothing like a long walk on a BLT trail to remind you of nature's beauty. To bring nature inside, consider the gift of a handcrafted glass leaf ornament made by local glassblower Michael Magyar at [blt.org/ornaments](http://blt.org/ornaments). On January 1, don't miss the 4th annual First Day Hikes Cape Cod, when hundreds of people join conservation groups across the Cape for free programs to help you start the new year on the right foot. You can also explore programs across the Cape year-round with the new Conservation Community Calendar. Check it out at [blt.org/events](http://blt.org/events). The BLT team wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season, and thank you for being a Force for Nature!

**Cotuit Center for the Arts**

Celebrate the season with a month full of joy, music, and art at Cotuit Center for the Arts! Through December 23, explore the *Member, Student, and Faculty Exhibition* and find unique gifts at the *Small Works=Big Joy Holiday Shop Art Exhibit*. Enjoy festive performances, from *Bandstand: A Rock 'N Roll Musical Review to Dreamsville* in the

**TOWN NEWS**

This month's **Town Council** meetings are December 5 and 19, at 6 p.m. in the Hearing Room at Barnstable Town Hall or via Zoom. Visit [townofbarnstable.us/towncouncil](http://townofbarnstable.us/towncouncil) for Zoom links.

**Seth Burdick**, Town Councilor for Precinct 7, can be reached at 774-228-0308 or at [seth.burdick@town.barnstable.ma.us](mailto:seth.burdick@town.barnstable.ma.us).

**STATE NEWS**

State Representative **Kip Diggs** will hold office hours at the Cotuit Library on Monday, December 23—and every 4th Monday—from 10 a.m to noon.

Black Box Theater. Don't miss the *Decoupage Oyster Shell Fundraiser* on December 6, *Ukulele Fest* on December 8, and beloved folk artist *Tom Rush*, December 9-11. Gather for the *Cape Cod CAN Holiday Show* on December 15, a benefit performance of *A Charlie Brown Christmas Album* on December 16, and the *Suede Holiday Show* on December 17. Join a holiday singalong at *Wine & Music Wednesday* on December 18, the timeless *A Christmas Carol* on December 23, and *Scamps NYE Comedy Show* on December 31! More on these events, classes, and workshops at [cotuit.org](http://cotuit.org).

**Cahoon Museum of American Art**

Pop-Up Card Workshop, Thursday, December 5, 1-3 p.m. Surprise and delight friends and family with homemade cards using a simple pop-up technique. \$20.

Winter Open House, Saturday, December 7, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. A day of free admission, holiday treats, and special crafts.

Altered Book Workshop, Wednesday, December 11, 1-4 p.m. Upcycle an old book and turn it into a work of art. \$55.

Art-tastic Holiday Party, Thursday, December 12, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Holiday cooking demonstrations, live music, food, prizes, crafts and more. \$35. Free for kids 12 and under.

Winter Crafternoon, Saturday, December 14, noon-4 p.m. Engage in fun and simple craft projects for all ages. Included with admission.

Paint Afternoon: Martha Cahoon's Skating Scene, Wednesday, December 18, 1-4 p.m. \$55.

Director's Talk: The work of Varujan Boghosian with Executive Director Sarah Johnson, PhD, Thursday, December 19, 2-3 p.m. Included with admission. ■

Cotuit Currents is a publication of the Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association Email: [cotuitcurrents@gmail.com](mailto:cotuitcurrents@gmail.com) Editor: Jennifer Smith

**The Cotuit Civic Association welcomes your support**

Our mission is to inform and communicate; sponsors of the July 4th Parade and Christmas in Cotuit

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