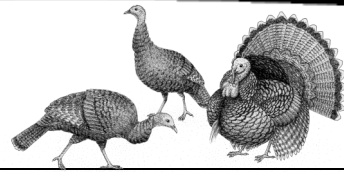




CotuitCurrents

November 2025



At the October meeting of the Civic Association Board, the following members were elected officers for the 2025-2026 term: Natalie Spence, Treasurer, and Phil Odenice, Secretary. The positions of President and Vice President will continue to rotate.

We extend heartfelt thanks to two board members who resigned during the past year. Mark Stranberg was instrumental in so many improvements for our Fourth of July Parade and Christmas in Cotuit events (thank Mark for the flyover at the 2024 Parade), and in our membership drives. He forged a relationship with Cape Cod Tech's graphic design program, and those students now design many of our event signs. DJ Long served on the board for two years and regularly helped with CSCA events. Now the good news... Please join us in welcoming two new board members, Carol Stento and David Robinson, who we know will make great additions to the board.

Governance 101

Cotuit is governed under two separate municipalities: the Town of Barnstable and the Cotuit Fire District. The Town provides such services as police, K-12 schools, Department of Public Works, senior services, conservation, recreation, and libraries. The Fire District provides our Fire Department, Water Department, Freedom Hall, Cotuit School property, and financial oversight.

Your taxes support both. The next time you look at your real estate tax bill, notice two lines in the Summary section: The TAXRES amount goes to the Town, but the COTRES (Cotuit resident) amount is returned to the CFD, where it shows up in the CFD's annual budget, which we vote on every year at the Annual District Meeting in May.

For more information on our governance structure, visit cotuitcivicasociation.org/governance.

Carol Zais, President
csca@cotuitcivicasociation.org

Cotuit Fire District

The **Cotuit Fire Department** reports that as part of the initial phase of the upcoming construction work for the new Cotuit Fire Station, demolition will begin at 56 High Street in the second week of November. Fencing has already been installed at the Cotuit Water Tower on West Street. This area will *not* be under construction, however; the fencing is intended for securing construction trailers and material and for the safety of residents, workers, and the general public. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the Fire Department at (508) 428-2210.

The **Prudential Committee** continues to make progress toward demolishing the Cotuit School building and returning the site to nature. Massachusetts law requires a project manager for a demolition and remediation project of this size, and on October 3, the Committee received five responses to its Request for Services seeking a Project Manager to oversee the process. The Committee will now review the responses, interview the top candidates, and select a manager in the near future.

The **Cotuit Water Department** reminds owners of seasonal properties, outdoor showers, and in-ground irrigation systems to be sure to properly winterize all unused systems before freezing temperatures arrive. A deep freeze will burst improperly drained pipes, and the thaw that is sure to follow can lead to significant property damage and high water bills. Check with a licensed plumber or irrigation service company to be sure your system is properly drained. For a season shutoff and meter removal to ensure the service line doesn't freeze, contact the Water Department at 508-428-2687. If you do experience a water leak, call the department at 508-292-8755 right away. Field operators are on call 24/7 to help you.

Cotuit Fire District commissioners usually meet monthly as follows: Fire Commissioners on the second Tuesday; Water Commissioners on the third Wednesday, and the Prudential Committee on the last Monday. The meeting time, location details, and agenda are usually posted a day or two in advance on the CFD website: cotuitfiredistrict.org.

Historical Society of Santuit & Cotuit

On Thursday, November 6, the Historical Book Club discusses *When Women Ran Fifth Avenue: Glamour and Power and the Dawn of American Fashion*, by Julie Salow. Cotuit Library, 6 p.m.

On Black Friday, November 28, stop in to the gift shop for 15% off all items in the store, excluding consignment and holiday-themed items. A wreath sale begins the same day and runs through the weekend.

The Museum, Homestead, and Gift Shop are open Friday through Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cotuit Nursery School

Cotuit Nursery School is accepting registrations for the 2025-2026 school year, offering a half-day program Monday-Thursday for students aged 2.9 to 5. Two- and three-day options are available. Email cotuitnurseryschool@yahoo.com, or call 508-428-1470 for more information.

Cotuit Federated Church

Can We Talk...about Media Literacy? On Sunday, November 2, at 11:30 a.m. in Hamilton Hall, Dr. A.J. Ballou leads a conversation about media literacy, an essential skill in the quest to make sense of current events, especially in our present era of media saturation, when misinformation and half-truths fill our news, podcasts, and social media feeds. This session will discuss how to find credible news sources, how to analyze coverage of current events, how to separate evidence from opinion, what digital tools can help combat misinformation, and how to communicate your own ideas clearly.

Dr. Ballou is an educator and historian who taught high school and college history, government, and civics for more than 20 years. (And yes, Pastor Angie's husband.)

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Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association
Box 121, Cotuit, MA 02635

Cotuit Library

Registration is required for listed events unless otherwise noted. For more information and to register for events, visit cotuitlibrary.libcal.com.

Connect with Color offers an opportunity for adults to relax and enjoy coloring, drinks, and socializing. Thursday, November 6, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Registration not required.

Movies with Melissa: *Superman*, Wednesday, November 12, 2-4 p.m.

On Thursday, November 20, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Cape artist and educator Suzanne Altman will discuss the works of Winslow Homer and his time as a correspondent during the Civil War. You'll be well-versed when you visit the Winslow Homer show at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. The show, which focuses on Homer's watercolors, runs from November 2 through January 19. The MFA houses the largest collection of his watercolors in the world.

And for kids:

Fun Friday Storytime on November 7, 14, and 21, 10-10:45 a.m.

Music & Movement Mondays on November 3, 10, 17, and 25, 10-10:45 a.m.

Building Blocks Party on Thursdays, November 6, 13, and 20, 4-5 p.m. For kids 6+.

Craft & A Movie: *Winnie the Pooh: Seasons of Giving*, Saturday, November 22, 2-3 p.m. Kids can watch the movie, snack, and make decorations for their Thanksgiving table.

Friends of the Cotuit Library

On Saturday, November 8, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., the Friends are hosting a mobile knife- and tool-sharpening fundraiser on-site at the library. Competitive Edge Sharpening will put a professional edge on your dull kitchen knives, scissors, garden tools, axes, paper cutters, grooming tools, and more.

On Wednesday, November 19, 12-1:30 p.m., join bestselling author Jacquelyn Mitchard, whose debut novel *The Deep End of the Ocean* became a major motion picture. Mitchard will reflect on her remarkable writing career, the power of storytelling, and how she crafts enduring characters. A brief Q&A will follow. Light refreshments served. To register, visit cotuitlibrary.libcal.com/event/14047794. FOCL members can use code MITCHARD5 for \$5 off.

St. Michael Orthodox Church

Saturday Vespers, 5 p.m.; Sunday Orthros, 9 a.m.; Sunday Liturgy, 10 a.m., followed by potluck coffee hour. For information on all church services, groups, and activities, visit stmichaelcapecod.org/schedule.

Cotuit Center for the Arts

On November 1, don your best book-inspired costume for the Art & Souls Masquerade Ball XXIV: Literary Spooking, a spirited night of music, dancing, and creativity.

From November 6–23, enjoy *Same Time, Next Year*, a witty, heartfelt comedy about love and life's changes, staged in the Sigel Black Box Theater.

The gallery presents Black and White and Red All Over (November 22–December 21), a striking juried exhibit exploring bold visual storytelling.

This holiday season, don't miss *Newsies* (November 25–December 21), the beloved Broadway hit full of energy, humor, and show-stopping choreography.

And from November 28–December 23, shop local at Small Works = Big Joy, our annual holiday art sale featuring affordable, gift-ready treasures.

Visit cotuit.org/shows-events for more information and to purchase tickets.

TOWN AND STATE NEWS

This month's **Town Council** meetings are on November 6 and 20 at 6 p.m. in the Hearing Room at Barnstable Town Hall or via Zoom. Visit townofbarnstable.us/towncouncil for Zoom links.

Seth Burdick, Town Councilor for Precinct 7, holds office hours on the second Wednesday of the month from 4-5 p.m. at the Cotuit Library. This month, that's November 12. Seth can also be reached at seth.burdick@town.barnstable.ma.us or 774-228-0308.

State Representative **Kip Diggs** will hold office hours at the Cotuit Library on Monday, November 24, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Use the **My Barnstable app** to access information, receive notifications, report problems, and stay up to date with the latest town news. Scan the QR code at right to download the app for iOS or Android.



Cape Cod Academy

On Thursday, November 13 at 6 p.m., parents of high school students are invited to join us for an informational evening. Visit classrooms, meet the faculty, hear about our innovative curriculum, and learn how the school's personalized approach to learning prepares students for success—academically, socially, and beyond. If you aren't able to make it on that date, contact the Admissions Office at 508-428-5400 or admissions@capecodacademy.org to arrange a private tour at your convenience. Learn more at capecodacademy.org.

Barnstable Land Trust

The chill in the air this month is a perfect time to walk, talk, and learn with BLT. Go Bog Stomping at Crocker Neck with Cotuit local Gil Newton, take a winter birding walk or an interactive art/science/nature walk, or join a beach cleanup.

And don't forget to do some early holiday shopping by purchasing a BLT custom glass leaf, hand-blown by Sandwich artist Michael Magyar, at blt.org/shop. Wondering what else BLT has been up to? Check out the online version of BLT's 2025 Annual Report at blt.org/newsletters, which includes more about our active land projects in Cotuit and beyond.

Cahoon Museum of American Art

Gelliprinting Workshop: Beyond the Basics—Transfers and Botanicals, Wednesday, November 12, 1-4 p.m. Learn how to select the right images, refine your paint application, and optimize print timing with the right paper to enhance your results. \$60/\$50 members.

The Music of Pressing Editions, Saturday, November 15, 2-3 p.m. Student playlist curator Max Walker McGloin delves into the stories behind the artists who created the powerful album "Songs of Free Men," featured in the museum's Learning Center. Included with museum admission.

Curator's Talk: Ralph and Martha's Fall Harvest, Thursday, November 20, 2-3 p.m. Celebrate the season through the whimsical world of Ralph and Martha Cahoon. Learn more about the lives and legacy of these beloved Cape Cod artists, and take home a delightful piece of history with a copy of Ralph Cahoon's very own *Cape Cod Turkey* recipe! Included with museum admission. ■

The Cotuit Civic Association welcomes your support

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

Name _____

Mailing address _____

Cotuit street address _____

Email _____

2025 dues (\$25) \$_____ Donation \$_____ Total enclosed \$_____

PO Box 121 Cotuit, MA 02635

csca@cotuitcivicasociation.org