

# Sad to see misinfo in anti-SBPF ad

To the Editor:

This letter probably should have been written sooner but I wanted to wait until I wasn't so angry. I then realized I was confusing anger with sadness. I have spent the last three decades as a summer or year-round resident of Sconset and I am sad that so much false information about the Sconset Beach Preservation Fund is flooding our community and taking hold in the court of public opinion. I should admit that I have had questions about the SBPF and the geotube project but am now fully supportive of these efforts. I like to think this comes from keeping an open mind and being willing to educate myself about this project. It is very difficult to counter a paid political advertisement that uses inflammatory photos bearing no resemblance to the finished project. There are no huge pieces of earth-moving equipment permanently located on the Sconset beach as these photos would lead you to believe. If you have any interest and are willing to keep an open mind I urge you to visit the observation site at 87 Baxter Road to see the geotube project and then decide for yourself. If you are so inclined, go down to the beach and see the geotube project up close. Even during storm tides there is plenty of access for a walk along the beach.

I know residents of Squam and Quidnet have valid concerns regarding scouring and down-drift damage to their shoreline and beaches, but so much has been done by the SBPF to address these concerns. There is a sand-mitigation program in place that addresses both the short and long term. The SBPF has committed to replenish the sand in a greater amount than would ordinarily wash away if the geotube project didn't exist. Additionally there is a cash escrow account, on deposit with the town, in an amount sufficient to remove the geotube project if it is proven to cause harm or if the SBPF abandons its sand-mitigation program.

The SBPF and the geotube project have never been about just "saving a few houses," as opposition to the project would like you to believe. It is about so much more than that. It is about a community, our island and a way of life.

KIT MURPHY