



'Tigua Tails

A Fun Cookie Exchange!

The popular get-together was held on December 7th. Thank you to everyone who brought and shared cookies. To those of you who didn't make it, you missed out on some fabulous treats! We hope to see you at the [Winter Celebration](#) on Feb 22nd.



Check out:

[A Nasty Surprise, Uh...](#)

[Wasn't Our Canal!](#)

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In the RED

The Board of Directors passed the 2020 budget in December. Inflation, increased security costs, and being more proactive toward paying for major expenditures resulted in 2020 expenses exceeding income by about \$21,600. This was in spite of not doing some things the Board would like to do such as making improvements to the landscaping on the cul-de-sacs and continuing the replacement of the Chickee huts.

A review the [budget](#) shows the Board setting aside money to make repairs in the event of a major storm. We were fortunate that erosion and damage was not significant after Hurricane Irma. A recent study done by our maintenance committee and contractor indicated that we should have about \$150K set aside in the event the "big one" hits. In addition, the boat ramp, gates, chickee huts, and landscaping all have finite lives. A portion of the income is going to a re-

placement account to meet these future needs to preclude additional assessments when the replacement of these assets is necessary.

The shortfall has not reached crisis level, yet. The Board is continuing to work toward reducing costs wherever possible and even getting others to cover expenses. For example, Caren had some trees removed by the Florida Keys Electric Co-op instead of having to pay to have it done. Bill has been diligent in evaluating the contractors to ensure we get the most for the money.

The 2020 shortfall will be covered by a limited surplus from 2019 but further action must be taken soon. The Budget and what we will be doing about the projected shortfall will be one of the topics that will be discussed at the Annual Meeting. Please plan to attend as we want to hear what you think.

Annual Meeting & Elections

Come to the PAPOA annual membership meeting at the Florida Sea Base on April 18th. We have had a busy 2019, and we'll go over where the money has gone, the results of the Beach Survey and what we have planned for the future. One topic of discussion will undoubtedly be the 2020 budget (see above). We will also be talking about anything else you might wish to bring up.

Three Board Members are up for reelection. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please let Mari know sooner rather than later. And include a biography.

Watch your mailbox for a ballot and more information.



Sign in at the 2019 Annual Meeting

‘Tigua Tails

From the President...



Port Antigua neighbors. Last year your Board of Directors solicited input from you, via survey, to ascertain your views on our most valuable common area asset, the beach. Over 60% responded and the complete [results](#) are posted on the website. The survey responses clearly showed that 96% of Port Antigua residents use the beach. Additionally, 68% of Port Antigua residents are disturbed by activities occurring in the water and 83% are concerned about beach trespassers.

Of the options proposed in the survey to mitigate the most onerous problems 60% support working with the Village to reduce the number of boats that anchor at the beach. With the 2020 PAPOA annual budget projected to run about a \$20,000.00 deficit, in part due to significant increases in supplemental security at the beach, the Board feels it is time to take the next step to secure the beach for your enjoyment. To that end you will be receiving addi-

tional communications and surveys in an effort to more clearly define the beach congestion mitigation plan the majority will support. All of the options proposed will provide some shallow water anchoring within the 300 foot zone and the entire length of the beach to enable reasonable access to protected areas by boat.

Initial conversations with the Village of Islamorada indicate support for the creation of this new area conditioned upon the majority of Port Antigua residents supporting the effort.

Your Board of directors is committed to working together with all Port Antigua residents to find workable solutions to problems in our community. While there will always be some level of disagreement about the best approach to address an issue working together we can always find a compromise that the majority can support.

Please help us by staying engaged, taking the surveys and letting your Board know what your thoughts and ideas are for improving everyone’s experience at our beautiful beach.

– Dave Webb



Working on the Chickees

Association Officers’ Reports

The Secretary Says... Three Board members and Mari recently attended a Leadership Conference sponsored by the PAPOA attorney’s firm to stay current on HOA laws and upcoming requirements. We learned a lot! —*Caren Brinson*

From The Treasurer... Whew, it’s done! The 2020 Budget that was developed and proposed by the Finance Committee was approved at the December 16th meeting of the Board of Directors.

See a copy by logging on the

Property Owner’s page and scrolling down to the Financials section. Thank you to the committee: Oscar Callejas, Bill Hardy, Jim Granger, Mari Joiner and Dave Webb.

– Rita Klopff

Committee Reports

Maintenance We have replacement signs for the beach, just need to install them.

The new thatch on the TIKIS is EXCELLENT! ENJOY! And we have new charcoal grills; we’re just waiting on final estimate for getting them put in.

Special thanks to resident and all-around good guy Burt Huntington for the effort and initiative to clean gravel at the launch ramp to restore the gate to “functioning” status.

Had to put a new lock on the

dumpster. We all need to be vigilant for the presence of juvenile delinquents and miscreants. Someone CUT the old lock. \$\$ we shouldn’t have had to spend.

Next major project will be to design, get bids, and restore, or replace the structure at the beach gate. — *Bill Hardy, Chair*

Security On 01/11/20, a resident reported juveniles or trespassers drinking alcohol at the beach. Dave, Oscar, and MCSO investigated and found

it was an owner’s daughter and 12 friends, all over 21. A truck parked at the emergency gate entrance to the beach, owned by one of the friends, was checked by MCSO (Deputy Marty) and the driver was told not to park there.

The MCSO is warning residents about SCAMS. See the [website](#) article on Phishing for specifics.

– Oscar Callejas, Chair



Ready for SUMMER!

'Tigua Tails

Recreation .We will have a Winter Celebration on Feb 22 at 4 pm on the beach. See the [flyer](#) on the website. Look for a yard sale in the next months.

Esther Merida, Chair

Association Manager

The Annual election for 2020

will be held on April 18th and three positions are up for reelection. If you want to be on the ballot, plan on being at the February 17th Board of Directors Meeting to declare your candidacy and to be vetted by the current Board. Before the meeting, please send a brief Bio to info@portantigua.net.

Serving takes time and dedication as there are 12 meetings a year, and your attendance is necessary to run the Association efficiently. The current Board Members have been very diligent in their service in 2019.

Mari Joiner, CAM

Recent Sheriff Enforcement

Since Christmas and New Year fell midweek this year, it was a fairly quiet time.

If you are challenged on the Beach by one of your neighbors, just smile and give them your lot number. They are just trying to keep the trespassers off your Beach. Remember, if you see something...call dispatch at 305-852-3211. And take pictures!

Uh, We Don't Live in a Dump!!!

Congratulations to the anglers who caught the half dozen or so very nice size wahoo! Unfortunately, for those who live south of Ponce, the carcasses were dumped in the canal instead of disposed of properly. Sure enough, two days later they were all floating and stinking. Thank you to the Board Member who collected and hauled them out of our canals.

It was a dirty, stinky job that could have been avoided by responsibly and legally discarding the carcasses.

Our canals are a closed system that do not have the currents necessary to carry these carcasses out to "sea." Disposing of garbage in the canals is essentially the same as tossing it in the backyard, or in the neighbors' backyard. Take the carcasses back into

the bay, dump them off Channel 2 bridge, or freeze them for a later trash pick-up. They also make great bait for crab traps.

Unfortunately, in addition to floating after a few days, fresh carcasses attract predators like barracuda, sharks, and saltwater crocs looking for an easy meal. A large croc was just seen on Lower Mat. When the water is warmer, we swim in these canals and would prefer to not share them with such creatures. Please, tell your family, friends, guests and renters to NOT throw fish carcasses or other trash including leaves in the canals. After all, we do not live in a dump!



One of many wahoo carcasses floating in the canals in January



A 13 footer "somewhere" on Lower Mat in January 2020



A new ductile iron pole

Miscellaneous Stuff

Canal Misidentified! The November 6th *Free Press* said our canal was "a hotspot deserving special attention." The hotspot is actually the White Marlin canal. See the [website](#) for info. — *Dave Webb*

Renting Out Your House? Be very careful that you follow ALL the rules. A couple was recently arrested up in Key Largo for not having the proper certificates. See the [website's news](#) page for info.

Seaweed on the Beach is a problem—it stinks, it hurts to walk through it, and it is unsightly. But it does serve a purpose in that it keeps erosion down. If you have to

clear a path through it, please "zig-zag" so the water doesn't channel through it.

Thank You to our Property Owners for the safety, health and aesthetics in helping to keep your community streets clear of carts and cans. Village Ordinance, [Section 46-40](#), states containers are to be out by 7:00 AM on the scheduled pick up day but no earlier than the day before pick up. Containers have to be back from the curb by 8:PM on the collection day. Go to the website. for more [info](#).

House Numbers are important. It is the [law](#). Also, getting packages and mail de-

livered is one benefit, but not close to the benefit of having EMS show up at the right house when they are needed.

FKEC has been active in the neighborhood, lately. Crews have been trimming foliage to be sure the wires are safe and a new [ductile iron pole](#) appeared on Madeira. The iron poles will be placed at the end of the transmission lines, but there are no plans for additional ones in P.A., yet. FKEC crews will be checking the leaning poles of Ponce during February to be sure they are structurally sound. Those that aren't will be replaced.



Post Irma Leaning Poles of Ponce



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Visit the website!
portantigua.net



The Queen Holds Court



A Sign Doesn't Always Mean
Exactly What It Says

This newsletter is published by The Port Antigua Property Owners' Association for the private use of its membership. Please direct any comments or inputs to newsletter@portantigua.net. Photos are especially appreciated. For regular PAPOA business, email Mari at info@portantigua.net.

A Favorite Recipe:

Tuna Casserole

A great way to prepare that tuna you caught! Takes about an hour and is great as left overs.

Serves 4.

8 ounces egg noodles (linguini noodles work well)	1/2 cup finely chopped celery
8 ounces blackfin tuna	1 (10 1/4 oz) can cream of celery soup
1/2 cup mayonnaise	3/4 cup evaporated milk
4 ounces mushrooms, drained (optional)	1/2 small onion, finely chopped
1 teaspoon black pepper	1/4 t Chipotle Powder (optional)
1 cup grated cheddar cheese, divided	2T melted butter and 1/2 c panko

Cook tuna in about 4 cups boiling water for 5 minutes, drain, then ice down to cool

Cook egg noodles to al dente in boiling salted water; drain well.

Preheat oven to 325°F.

Mix all ingredients together in a large casserole dish, reserving 1/2 cup of cheese.

Sprinkle reserved cheese over the top.

Mix melted butter and panko, and put that on top of the cheese (optional)

Bake for 30 minutes.

Serve hot.

Fishing Report

The winds have been a bit high for a good part of the past couple of months. For those nice days, the Queens are back

if you want to deep drop!

Meanwhile, on the reefs, the current has been hit or miss. The yellowtail action has been

a bit slow as they have been deep and it take some effort to get the baits down to them.

The FILLS – and Holidays

After the Labor Day weekend, enforcement activity by the Village at the Fills has been limited, and while the “portapotties” have disappeared, the unsightly orange and white barricades and no parking signs remain. The portable sign that says the boat ramp lot is restricted to vehicles with trailers is still there. However according to the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, when the boat ramp area is not full of boats and trailers, the deputies do not take enforcement action as there is plenty of room. They do enforce the NO PARKING areas along the Fills to help stop erosion. The Village is currently work-

ing out a schedule for upcoming holidays and plans to have staff on hand to control access at the boat ramp during peak times. They will limit the parking in that lot to vehicles with trailers.

Thanks to Captain Bryan and Mr. Linhardt of the MCSO for input.

Golf Carts & The Village & Port Antigua

At the December Council Meeting, attended by President Dave and Board Members Esther and Caren, implementing Port Antigua's unique golf cart privilege Village-wide was discussed. Some of the problems that we have faced regarding the operation of the carts, e.g. under-aged, unlicensed drivers,

Around the Islands

overloading, and even “street skiing,” were brought up. It is unclear how this will affect Port Antigua; there may be additional restrictions imposed on carts, increased enforcement of the regulations, or nothing.

Be sure you are familiar with and obey the Village requirements for the use of golf carts on our streets. They may be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the website's “About” page.

LMKA Disbanding? There will be a meeting of the Lower Matecumbe Keys Assn on March 2 at Sea Base to talk about it. See Sue Miller's email [here](#).