

NATURES TALES

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LIVING LIFE NATURALLY

We'll Be There!

"I'll be there before the next tear drop falls"....by local area singer Freddy Fender.

Perhaps this is typical of the Rio Grande Valley or only in some isolated spots in the world. However, this lyric is very typical of the Natures Resort family. Do you have joy? A new slab of cement? A new home? An anniversary or birthday date? These things may not cause a tear drop to fall, but WE (your Natures family) WILL BE THERE to celebrate with you.

On the darker side of life, injuries from accidents, mechanical breakdowns, electrical or plumbing problems? WE WILL BE THERE, before the next teardrop falls. Again the skills and talents of our family may help save the day. Not every problem is immediately resolved but still WE WERE THERE.

When I was gone and Misty needed Christmas Lights strung J.P. 'was there' and *poof* the task was accomplished. This is only one of hundreds of things at Natures that constantly demonstrate WE WILL BE THERE.

Going away for a time and your plants need to be taken care of or you need someone to keep an eye on your home So many folks volunteer to care for your plants and home during your absence that it is hard to decide who will do all your dirty work in your absence! And how do you tell the others that they were not chosen to help? Your Family WILL BE THERE in your time of need.

Our Natures Family has had the unfortunate loss of several members of our community as well as a number of medical emergencies. Each time people WERE THERE, jumping right in and tending to the various things that needed to be accomplished

immediately, then continuing to help for the longer term, giving aid as needed. Each and every time our community response for medical emergencies has been outstanding, some with lifesaving skills, others providing emotional support or being ready to jump and run should added materials be needed.

From the minor and miniscule to the larger and more complex problems WE WILL BE THERE, perhaps to no avail, but you can always depend on your Natures family for their support, help, a shoulder to cry on or someone to share your joy.

Perhaps we at Natures are just blessed with an over abundance of folks with many varied skills who are willing to share their time and talents, or perhaps it is just more evident in our smaller community rather than in a larger, metropolitan area. At any rate the 'WE ARE THERE' theme at Natures Resort is so pronounced and evident that it is almost commonplace and therefore not front page noteworthy as being unusual.

In conclusion this WE ARE THERE, or WE WILL BE THERE, idea is so alive and well in Natures that many folk feel the vibration or sense of this warmth as they come near or enter the main gate for their first visit into YOUR HOME, Natures Resort. Several have decided then and there that this truly is to be THEIR HOME and quickly make arrangements to become annual lot holders. This sense of comfort and warmth perhaps is the WE WILL BE THERE spirit covering the park.

From this owner's perspective this is one of the major things that makes Natures Resort such a wonderful place to be and makes ownership a joy and not a huge burden.

Little Bill

Tidbits from Speckles, Natures Proud Cat!

What fun we are having! I LOVE this time of year when we have so many activities to choose from. There's a lot going on and a lot for me to report.



- Brad, 'The WiFi Guy' has been watching and waiting, and at last we have a choice of WiFi suppliers, so he switched us to Twin who recently added towers for our area. We now have much greater bandwidth, and the upload and download speeds are much quicker. (Remember that the WiFi is not intended for streaming which will eat up all the bandwidth no matter how much we have!) Thanks, Brad, for all the time you have devoted to making the WiFi better for all of us. You are an awesome volunteer! (Please be patient with Twin as there may be a few teething problems as they set us up - and please DON'T blame the WiFi Guy!)
- Rebecca gave a very interesting talk on Healthy Eating, and this was followed by a Healthy Eating Pot Luck. The food was delicious which just goes to show that healthy food can also be delicious!
- Have you heard the news? There are so many great cooks here at Natures that Rick & Margie are going to compile a cook book from recipes supplied by our Natures family. If you have a great recipe that you would like to be included in the book, give it to Rick or Margie before April 30th. This is going to be a fund raiser for the Fun Association.
- Rocking to the Rockers, and then cruising to music provided by Ruthi at the Welcome Home Fiesta provided two great evenings of dancing. Many thanks to the hosts and their volunteers for making this possible.

- The group of people who went on the bus trip to The Office Bar for supper and then on to the RGV Viper's game had a wonderful time. Keeping up the tradition, Cassandra won the "Fan of the Game" award. On all four of our trips to see the Vipers, a Natures guest has won this award! Thanks to Ken for arranging this great outing.



Dinner at The Office Bar



Fan of the Game!

- We have had quite a few 'sickies'. Mel and Two Dog Bill both had surgery. They are home again and both are doing well. Barb, PT 1, and Kay, Lot 12, both had a short visit to the hospital and they too are home and healthy again.

- The Bloodmobile was back! There were 21 people who had registered to donate, but unfortunately several donors had to be deferred. In spite of this, 16 units of life-saving blood were donated. Thanks to all who signed up. The blood mobile will be back again on March 3rd. Please sign up!
- Jan, Lot 37, has taken over the task of compiling and uploading the weekly activities sheet onto the Google group. Thank you so much Jan! Also, huge thanks go to Lynne, Lot 53, who has handled this for the past two years. Your faithful, cheerful service has been greatly appreciated.
- Jan & Steve did an awesome job of creating a contact list for those wishing to be on and have a contact list of their friends at Natures. Thank you for turning this thought into a reality!
- It is so nice to see people trying new games like Hand & Foot, Sequence and Left, Right & Center. We appreciate people bringing new ideas and new games for everyone to enjoy.
- Another new house came in! It didn't take Barry & Peg long to decide that they wanted an annual lot, but at this point in time they were not thinking of buying a house - until they went window shopping! Congratulations on your new home!

- Dennis & Francine, Lot 220, have some very artistic ideas. If you haven't already seen it, take a walk past their lot to see their latest creation. The photo below really does not do it justice!



- Good news! We are going to have another Talent Show! Anything goes - singing, dancing, telling jokes, playing an instrument. Don't forget to sign up before February 16th.
- Have you seen the beautiful corn hole boards that Steve, Lot 71, created? They are stored in the shed next to the petanque courts so you can get them out and play Corn Hole whenever you wish. Thanks Steve - They really are a work of art!
- Natures has moved into the modern age thanks to Steve, Lot #300. In the clubhouse Steve has mounted a TV on the west wall that is linked to a computer. The TV constantly scrolls through all the upcoming events as well as the activities calendar. It can also be used for aerobics. The wood cabinet on the south wall has been overhauled (Thanks Leroy!) and moved under the TV. It houses all the equipment so everything looks professional, neat and tidy. Many thanks to Steve and his helpers for this innovative new system.
- Two houses sold here at Natures. Barry & Pat bought the house on Lot #48 and Bill & Tara bought the house on Lot #64. Congratulations to both couples on their new homes!



Barry & Peg and their New House!

- Canada Sue and Laurie and their helpers have hosted a number of delicious food events. Sometimes they are using up leftovers, sometimes they are trying out new recipes and sometimes it is a fund raiser event - but All times the food is delicious and everyone enjoys their cooking.



Sue is Cooking Again!

- Once again Dr. Lin, a Dermatologist, visited Natures and gave a short presentation and mini screening for anyone who had a concern about skin cancer. This was followed by Dr. Gessner, a Chiropractor, who also gave an interesting presentation. Many thanks to the organizers of these events.
- Have you ever taken any books out of the library to read? Have you ever wondered how the library stays in such tip top shape? Willis, Lot 33, is our awesome volunteer who shelves the books and classifies and puts donated books into circulation. Our thanks go to Willis who makes the library a feature of Natures that we can be proud of.
- Although there have been some chilly days, we should focus on the beautiful days we have had. There have been days when almost all the loungers in the pool area are full and the volleyball pool has been so popular that they have to rotate teams! Life is good!

- There has been more building going on at Natures. Bob & Jean have a beautiful addition to their house - a room plus deck plus under cover parking for their car. It has given their house a lovely, unique look. Dan & Laurie have had their house re-sided and have also added a covered area for parking making their house look brand new.
- The Roger Kenaston Band played at the Country Hoedown dance. Although comprised of only three people they almost had 'The Big Band' sound with their double-bass, horns, drums and guitars. Many thanks to Richard & Tinkerbell and their helpers for the great job they did hosting the event.

I would like to remind my Natures family that I don't just write this column. As you can see from the photo below I also work hard to keep critters out of your homes.



(Note from the Editor: Please don't feed Speckles. Her meowing does not mean that she needs to be fed. She is just a very vocal cat! There is always someone monitoring her food to make sure that she does not go hungry.)

That's all from me! Have a purrrrrrrrrfect March.



February Special Events:

- 1st:** Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Sign-up
2nd: Superbowl Party. Join the fun in the clubhouse.
4th: Med Check. This is the most economical way to get blood work done.
5th: Killer Bees Hockey. Tickets necessary. See Ken, Lot 56.
6th: Karaoke 7:00 p.m. in the clubhouse. Come and sing, or just listen and enjoy the music.
8th: Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Sign-up
9th: Join us in the clubhouse for cake and ice cream as we celebrate the February birthdays and anniversaries. 6:30 p.m.
10th: Gordy & Debbie Show at 7:00 p.m.
12th: Breakfast 8:00 p.m. Sign-up
14th: 7:00 p.m. Valentine Dance (Julia will be taking photos)
15th: Members Meeting 9:00 a.m. If you are at Natures, you are a member and are encouraged to attend this important meeting. Two new Board Members to be voted in.
15th: Valentine Video 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
16th: Deadline for Talent Show.

14th to 24th Fun in the Sun

- 14th:** 9:00 a.m. Petanque
15th: 1:00 p.m. Raft Races
7:00 p.m. Darts
16th: 1:00 p.m. Water Volleyball
17th: 2:00 p.m. Ladder Golf
7:00 p.m. Euchre
18th: 9:00 a.m. Cornhole
2:30 p.m. Wii Bowling
7:00 p.m. Billiards
19th: 8:00 a.m. Golf @ Los Lagos Golf Course
20th: 9:00 a.m. Pickleball
1:00 p.m. Shuffleboard
7:00 p.m. Mexican Train
21st: 9:00 a.m. Horseshoes
2:00 p.m. Mexican Train
6:00 p.m. FITS Bingo
(regular Bingo to follow)
22nd: 9:00 a.m. Texas Hold'em
1.00 p.m. Noodle Derby
23rd: 10:00 a.m. Golf Cart Races
(Daytona 500)
24th: 4:00 p.m. Awards and Happy Hour

Weekly Activities:

- Always check the Bulletin Board and Impromptu boards for any changes.
- Aerobics:** 8:30 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Clubhouse
- Bible Study:** 10 a.m. Monday
Card Room
- Bicycle Ride:** 9 a.m. Thursday
Meet outside the clubhouse. See Bulletin Board for details.
- Bingo:** Clubhouse Friday
6:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Sales
7:00 p.m. Bingo starts
- Breakfast:**
8:00 a.m. 1st, 2nd and 4th Saturday
7:45 a.m. Every other Wednesday
Clubhouse
- Bridge Lessons:** 12:30 p.m. Monday
- Campfire:** 5:00 p.m. Friday Fire Pit
Bring a drink and the makings for cooking hot dogs on the fire
- Cards:** 7:00 p.m. Every night.
- Dance Class:** Tuesday Clubhouse
7:00 p.m. Line Dancing
7:45 p.m. Partner & Group Dances
8:15 p.m. Couples Two-Step Lessons
8:45 p.m. Couples Country Waltz
9:15 - 10 p.m. Music by Request
- Darts:** 7:00 p.m. Saturday
Billiard Room
- Dominoes:** 6:45 p.m. Thursday
Card Room (Mexican Train)
- Euchre:** 7:00 p.m. Monday
Card Room
- Karaoke:** 7:00 p.m. 1st Thursday and 3rd Sunday of each month
- Men's Breakfast Out:** 8:00 p.m. Every other Tuesday
- Petanque:** 2:00 p.m. Every day.
- Social Hour:** - 4 p.m. Wednesday Sandy's
Bring your own refreshments.
- Water Aerobics:** 1:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
Main Pool
- Water Volley Ball:** 2:00 p.m. Every day
Volley Ball Pool
- Wii Bowling:** 3:45 p.m. Tuesday