



# NATURES TALES

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LIVING LIFE NATURALLY

## ***We are Thankful!***

During November, when we celebrate Thanksgiving Day, we are reminded that there is so much that we need to be thankful for. On November 11th, Veterans' Day, we enjoyed our 11th annual Beer and Brats. At this event, time was taken to honor the many veterans that we have here at Natures. We are grateful and indebted to each one for the service that they gave to our countries, and are honored that we have such a large number of veterans at Natures.

We are also thankful to Ken & Janet and their faithful crew of helpers who started the Beer and Brats event eleven years ago, and have continued to keep the tradition going as the event has grown in popularity.

When we think of this event, it brings to mind all the other events that we have each season, and we are thankful to all the event

coordinators and helpers who make these fun times possible.

We also look at our own circumstances and realize how incredibly fortunate we are to have the things that we have and to be in a place where we are surrounded by good people who have bonded into a huge family unit that cares for each one of us.

This brings to mind that there are many people outside our fenced area who are not as fortunate as we are. In the past we have sponsored a number of Monte Alto families for Christmas, and we will be doing so again this year. We will be helping 7 families with a total

of 32 children up to the age of 14. If you would like to be a part of this annual outreach, you will find all the children listed in the 3 ring binder and can sign up to donate an item on their wish list. Clothes sizes are also listed. In addition to providing Christmas gifts, we will also be stocking these families' shelves with items for a good Christmas meal as well as other non-perishable foods and toiletry items. Boxes will be placed in the clubhouse for your donations and gifts for each family.

We are thankful for the team who organizes this outreach, to each person who contributes, and to Santa who, to the great delight of all the children, helps with the delivery of the gifts.

We have a busy holiday season ahead of us. We're thankful to everyone who helps with all of the holiday activities, and makes this such a happy time at Natures. Our best wishes go to all of our Natures family for a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

## ***Tidbits from Cally, Natures Proud Cat!***

What a busy time we are having with all the weekly activities as well as special events! I hope that I can remember everything!



- The blood mobile visited us for the first of three blood drives during the season. Twenty-one members came to the

clubhouse to donate blood. Four people were deferred and 17 gave life saving blood. Thank you for taking the time to donate. Thank you also to Ken for organizing all the blood drives.

- Last fall we had a HUGE garage sale but our spring garage sale was HUMUNGOUS! Extra tables had to be brought into the clubhouse to accommodate the mountains of donated items, and the garage sale crew were exhausted after spending almost a whole day marking all the merchandise! On the day of the sale there was a line of people waiting to get into the clubhouse! Between the sale in the clubhouse and the sale the following day on Monte Cristo Road, over \$2,000 was made for the Fun Association!



#### *Setting up for the Garage Sale*

- The 11th Annual Beer & Brats was a huge success, in spite of the weather not cooperating! When the rain came the bar moved inside and the party continued! Many thanks to Ken & Janet who have hosted this event since its inception, and to all the bartenders, helpers, cooks and clean-up crew and everyone who brought beer or wine from their home town.

- All kinds of fun sounds came from the clubhouse as D.J. Steve provided music for a dance celebrating Tony's birthday. We also had another dance with Steven May and the Country Knights band. Thanks to the hosts of both of these dances!
- Dave, Lot 57, celebrated his 91st Birthday! Congratulations Dave. We wish you a happy, healthy year ahead, and many more birthdays!
- What a wonderful Thanksgiving meal we had. Dan & Kelley did an amazing job of organizing everything. All their helpers knew exactly what had to be done when, and it seemed that everything flowed effortlessly! The side dishes provided by everyone who came were abundant and delicious, and together with the turkeys, mashed potatoes, stuffing and desserts, it was truly a feast! Many thanks to Dan & Kelley and everyone who helped with the preparation work as well as those who helped with the clean-up afterwards. We are grateful to you all.

That's all from me. I hope everyone has a very happy and purrrrrfect holiday season.



#### ***Weekly Schedule:***

##### **Monday:**

- 8:00 a.m. Golf (outside park)
- 8:30 a.m. Morning Exercise
- 9:30 a.m. Cardio & Weight Training
- 1:00 p.m. Hand & Foot Card Room
- 2:00 p.m. Petanque
- 2:00 p.m. Volley Ball
- 7:00 p.m. Country Club Dance Night

**Tuesday:**

10:30 a.m. Bridge Lessons  
 1:00 p.m. Hand & Foot Card Room  
 2:00 p.m. Petanque  
 2:00 p.m. Volley Ball  
 3:45 p.m. Wii Bowling

**Wednesday:**

8:00 a.m. Golf (outside park)  
 8:30 a.m. Morning Exercise  
 9:30 a.m. Cardio & Weight Training  
 1:00 p.m. Hand & Foot Card Room  
 2:00 p.m. Petanque  
 2:00 p.m. Volley Ball  
 4:00 p.m. Happy Hour at Sandy's  
 6:30 p.m. Mexican Train Card Room

**Thursday:**

11:30 a.m. Veggie Joe  
 1:00 p.m. Hand & Foot Card Room  
 2:00 p.m. Petanque  
 2:00 p.m. Volley Ball

**Friday:**

8:30 a.m. Morning Exercise  
 9:30 a.m. Cardio & Weight Training  
 1:00 p.m. Hand & Foot Card Room  
 1:00 p.m. Crafting in the Corner  
 2:00 p.m. Petanque  
 2:00 p.m. Volley Ball  
 5:00 p.m. Camp Fire  
 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. Bingo Sales  
 7:00 p.m. Bingo

**Saturday:**

10:00 a.m. Texas Hold'em  
 1:00 p.m. Hand & Foot Card Room  
 2:00 p.m. Petanque  
 2:00 p.m. Volley Ball  
 7:00 p.m. Darts

**Sunday:**

1:00 p.m. Hand & Foot Card Room  
 2:00 p.m. Petanque  
 2:00 p.m. Volley Ball

**December Special Events**

**2nd Breakfast** 8 a.m. Please sign up.

**4th Dance** 7 p.m. Los City Boys Band

**5th Craft & Vendor Fair** 9 a.m. This is a great opportunity to buy some unique Christmas gifts.

**7th Fall Barbeque Fundraiser**

**7th Open Mic/Karaoke** 7 p.m. Sing a song, tell a joke, play an instrument, or just come and enjoy

**9th Breakfast** 8.00 a.m. Please sign up

**10th Birthdays & Anniversaries** 6:30 p.m. Join us in the clubhouse for cake & ice cream.

**13th Santa Clause Parade** Decorate your golf cart, bike, wheelbarrow, wagon or even yourself. Anything goes! For those not participating in the parade, grab a chair and your favorite beverage and watch the parade go by. The parade will end at Sandy's for happy hour.

**16th Members Meeting** 9:00 a.m.

**17th Open Mic / Karaoke** 7 p.m.

**18th Dance** 7 p.m. Bottom Line Band

**21st Gift Exchange** 7:00 p.m. Bring a wrapped gift (\$12 - \$15) and get ready for an evening of fun and laughter.

**23rd Breakfast** 8:00 a.m. Please sign up

**24th Wine & Cheese** 7:00 p.m.

**25th Christmas Dinner**

**30th Breakfast** 8:00 a.m. Please sign up

**31st New Year's Eve Dance** 7:00 p.m.  
 Willie Garza Band

**Jan 1 Moose Milk** 11:00 a.m. If you have not had moose milk before, join us and find out

what it is all about. It's a great way to usher in the New Year with your Natures family.