



# NATURES TALES

www.naturesresorttexas.com  
naturesresort@gmail.com  
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10201 Monte Cristo Road  
Edcouch, TX 78538  
956-262-4014

LIVING LIFE NATURALLY



*Ready to Transport Children to LaFeria and Houston*

## **A Generous Donation**

The Shriners strive to give compassionate, concerned care to every child regardless of how routine or complex their needs may be, and regardless of their ability to pay. The AL AMIN Shrine Transportation Program provides transportation for the patients and their parents from the International Bridge to the Health Care Outreach Clinic at the RGV Shrine Club in La Feria and from the Rio Grande Valley to the Shriners' Hospital for Children in Houston.

Over the years various people at Natures have donated their time to drive the 14 passenger Shriner vans transporting children and parents to La Feria and Houston. A few years ago Art & Terry became involved with Shriners and have become regular drivers. Seeing the great need for transportation for the children they have donated a new van to Shriners to help them with the great work that they are doing. A very generous gift!

## ***Sprucing up for the new season!***

The park has been very quiet which was a good time to work on sprucing things up for the coming season. Tony has been working on pressure washing and sealing the picnic tables in the pull throughs, plus benches around Connie's Fire Pit, the petanque courts and Sandy's. Some of the plants in the pool area have been retired, and others thinned, repotted or cleaned up. The never ending job of painting has also been tackled giving the clubhouse a spruced up look. Broken or worn blinds are being replaced, plus many other small maintenance jobs.

Carolina has also been busy deep cleaning the guest rooms and other facilities to make sure that everything will sparkle for the new season. When you get back you might want to let them know that you appreciate all the hard work that they have put in to make sure that everything is nice for us.

## ***Beer and Brats***

The 12th Annual Beer & Brats, one of the extremely popular events, is scheduled for November 10th. In addition to delicious brats, various beers and wines from all over the United States and Canada are available for tasting. However, it takes everyone's support to make this event a success. If you are able to, please bring your local (or fun type) beer or wine down with you for everyone to sample on November 10th.

## ***The Annual Quilt Show***

It's already time to think about the upcoming season's quilt show at Natures Resort! While you're out and about, look around for that quilt you want to display, and make sure you bring it with you when you come down this winter. The deadline to get the quilts to us will be some time in the middle of December. If you aren't going to be here that soon, you can send a picture and measurements and we'll be sure to save a spot for yours. We're excited to see what you have to show us! Quilts will be hung the first week of January.

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

What a summer we have been having! It's been so hot that most of my friends have been staying indoors, except for when they go to the pool. I've been having long siestas during the day in a shady spot because I don't like the pool.



- Although we usually have a few humming birds at Natures throughout the year, it is always exciting to watch great numbers of them when their migration path takes them right through Natures



- After the hot, dry summer the rain came. And it kept coming. Although there was severe flooding around us, within a couple of hours after each downpour, all the water at Natures had drained away. We are very conscious of the fact that others in the area were not so fortunate. It is so nice to have green grass again!
- And what comes after that rain? Weeds and Mosquitoes! Bill R has been out early almost every morning, and some evening too, fogging the mosquitoes. Thank you Bill for the hours you have put in to keep the mosquitoes under control. We are extremely appreciative of your time and effort.



- We have had two 'Cool Pool Socials' where everyone cooled off in the pool and later enjoyed chocolate fudge brownies and ice cream. A nice way to spend a hot afternoon.
- Labor day was fun. We gathered at the pool for a social time and later enjoyed pizza, salad and dessert in the air conditioned pool hall. Many thanks to Mel & Randy and Donna & George for organizing the event.
- Tony had to cut down a huge mesquite tree because one of the three main branches broke off, damaging the integrity of the other two. We are going to miss its shade at the Friday fire.



I'm so happy that my family is starting to come back. It will be fun to see everyone again. Travel safely!

That's all from me!



### ***'Skin of Years' Study***

Two years ago Natures was approached by Professor Ghi Fremaux and Dr. Jean Scott, both of Texas Tech University, who wanted to do a study examining nudism among senior citizens, which would culminate in a scholarly essay and body of artwork which would give

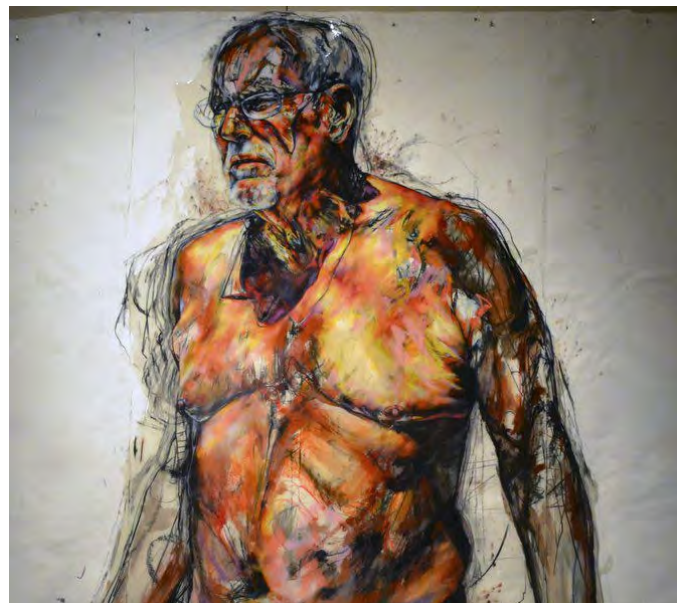
positive voice to the experiences of older people practicing nudism. After ensuring that what they had in mind was in line with our philosophies here at Natures we invited them to spend a week with us so that they could also experience the atmosphere of social nudism while interviewing and photographing us. It was an enlightening week for all participants.

Ghi recently emailed us:

*I'm preparing now to exhibit the artwork at Valdosta State University in Valdosta, GA. It premiered last year in Lubbock, TX, where I reside, and then traveled to Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, TX.*

*As I finalize plans for the Valdosta exhibition, I am overcome with gratitude and reverence as I reflect on the people we worked with at NR. We were shown such tremendous generosity and were provided invaluable insight by each person. I hope very much that I have done some justice to everyone – and to nudism, itself – in the work I have made, and in the way it is presented.*

*I'm preparing one more portrait for the body of artworks, and when it's complete, I'll send a collection of images and information about the artwork and exhibition. I would also love to share some of the viewers' responses to the work, which have often been poignant, self-reflective, and deeply supportive.*



*Barry - by Ghi Fremaux*