

## **NATURES TALES**

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### ***New Owners – New Attitudes – and now a new pride in Natures!***

Our permanent residents have launched a full scale effort to tame the annual sites of those who spend only the winters here. What an enormous job they have undertaken! With the summer heat and plentiful rains the weeds and grass turned flowerbeds into jungles, and every area that the ZTR mower was unable to reach quickly become an eyesore with waist high growth. But the sound of push mowers and weed whackers can be heard as various people tackle these areas. It is not unusual to see people clipping, snipping and trimming as they all work together to make Natures, their home, a place that they can be proud of. We thank everyone who has taken it upon themselves to spruce up Natures. You've done a wonderful job, and we are extremely grateful for all of the hard work, effort and energy that you have expended. Many of our annual site holders will be extremely grateful too when they return and find that their site has already been cleaned up.

In addition to this, some incredible work is being done in the Memorial Garden. At times it looked as though Shirley was going to be buried under a mountain of alo vera. She has cut, trimmed, weeded, moved rocks, mulched, mulched some more and re-designed. It is a work in progress, but it looks more beautiful each day.

The war on the ants continues. When they see the red golf cart doing its rounds they run for their lives, but they know they are doomed!

Thank you to ALL our terrific helpers and volunteers. YOU make Natures the special place that it is.

### ***Exciting News about Sandpipers***

We have had some extremely productive meetings at both Natures and Sandpipers with Sandpipers' owners and managers. The result of these meetings is that Natures and Sandpipers are working together to arrange visits and activities between the two resorts.

Sandpipers Activities Association and Natures Fun Association will organize dances, tournaments and other functions which will be attended by both clubs. This development has opened up a whole new avenue of possibilities for us which we think is extremely exciting.

### ***Our New Staff Member at Natures***

She is tiny, petite and extremely shy, but has a loud voice and talks a lot! She marched into Natures without an appointment and talked herself into a job. Her name is Speckles, although some call her Tippy because she looks as though her feet and tail were tipped into black paint. Yes, Speckles is our Proud New Natures Cat and her job is to hunt and get rid of any creepy crawlies that we don't want around the park.

Speckles has been to the vet and is up to date on all her shots. She will shortly be visiting the vet again to be spayed so that we don't have more kitties in the park.

We realize that not everyone wants a cat visiting their lot so if Speckles visits you and you don't want her around, spray her with a squirt bottle or hose. She is a smart kitty and will quickly get the message that she is not welcome on that lot. If you DO like cats by all means make friends with her and if she will let you, pet her (she is VERY timid due to being previously abused) but please, Please, PLEASE don't feed her!! If she is fed by everyone she will become a fat, lazy cat, she won't do her job, and we will have to fire her! She is thin now, so we are feeding her extra to help her gain some weight. Once she is at a healthy weight we will reduce her food, but will continue feeding her, so she will always have enough to eat – but will still want to hunt. If she meows at you, please know that she is not starving – she is just VERY vocal!

A big welcome to Speckles, our Proud Natures Resort cat.

### ***From the Mail Room***

Letter to Natures Fun Association (All members of Natures are members of the Fun Association)

*"Rich and I would like to thank everyone for their donations during the past year. Rich had his yard sale in May and sold all of the stuff that had been gathered. That day he sold over \$900.00 worth of items and had already collected over \$300.00 in*

*donations from previous sales and donations. All money was given to the Church of Acts Food Bank in Elsa.*

*Without your support this money would never have gotten to this need group. I believe the total was \$1,272.00. Thanks again to all of you.*

*Rich and Sharon"*

### **The Exercise Room**

Some of us like to relax and enjoy, while others think that working out in a gym is the next best thing to sliced bread. Then there are some who are totally intimidated by the equipment found in gyms as well as the pin-up poster people using it. For everyone who does not fit into the "relax and enjoy" category there are three bits of good news for you.

The first part of the good news is that Pam has gone through the equipment in the exercise room and eliminated anything that was not in good working condition.

The second part is that Pam & Tony and Pat and Chuck have donated a fancy weight bench to the exercise room. We extend a huge Thank You to them for their generosity.

The third part is that Pam is willing to give anyone who is interested an orientation session on how to use the weight bench and the other equipment so that you can use it safely and effectively.

If you're interested in toning up, maintaining or really working out, head for the exercise room on the south east corner of the pool, sign in, and grunt, groan and sweat to your hearts content.

Personally I love exercise – I can sit and watch it for hours!

### **Tidbits from Speckles**

Misty thinks that I'm only good for catching unwanted critters, but I'm smarter than that. I can hear and I can write, so I can share the local gossip with you!

- I saw a brand new Park Model being delivered to **Al and Jean - #13**. It looks really great with its large screened in porch.
- I heard **Peg and Jim - #50** say they are making Natures their permanent home. It must be true because there has been all kinds of activity at

their house. First a new golf cart, then a roof for the golf cart, then an addition to the house. It looks great!

- Sometimes it's hard to keep track of everyone but these people visited us for a short time. **Bill & Marilyn - #6, Ken - #56, George & Bev - #66, Burley & Myrt - #77, Joe & Gail - #108.**
- I heard that there are two new Annual Site holders **Gordon & Carolyn - #12** and **Larry & Lupe - #14.**
- **Ron and Cathy** are spending almost a month with us on **#201**. (They like me!)
- All these people are back, and I think they are staying until spring. **Pat & Chuck - #17, Dixie - #35, Tony & Pam - #67, Mike & Karen - #73, Jim & Donna - #74, Alan & Joann - #100, Tom & Sharon - #112** and **Dennis & Donna - #114,**

### **It's That Time!**

The excitement of a new season can be felt in the air. Our Winter Texans are starting to return to Natures and the Fun Association will soon be meeting to organize all kinds of activities, so get out your social calendars and fill in these important dates:

**October 31, 2007** Halloween hosted by Chuck and Charlotte

**November 10, 2007** Fall Festival hosted by Ken and Janet. This promises to be a fun evening that everyone can enjoy sampling wine and beer from various parts of the country. **Please bring your favorite local brew from your hometown to share with everyone** and make this a memorable evening.

**November 22, 2007** Thanksgiving.

Don't forget the daily or weekly activities like the Soup Suppers, petanque, cards, dominoes, water aerobics, line dance lessons, bike rides, etc. etc. that are listed on the bulletin board.

### **October Birthdays and Anniversaries**

5 <sup>th</sup>	Jerry & Jane	24 <sup>th</sup>	Richard & Connie
5 <sup>th</sup>	Nancy H	25 <sup>th</sup>	Dave P
14 <sup>th</sup>	Joan V	Art S	
16 <sup>th</sup>	Rene B	30 <sup>th</sup>	Jim P
18 <sup>th</sup>	Chuck & Pat	31 <sup>st</sup>	Robin B