

## River Course Reopens at Whispering Pines

The Pilot – Wednesday, Sept. 6

After a summer of working on the infrastructure of the club and its two golf courses, the Country Club of Whispering Pines is now back up to full strength at 36 holes. The River Course was closed for enhancement earlier this year as part of upgrades the parent company, GreatLIFE Golf, had for the club in Whispering Pines and Foxfire Golf Club as well. The range of improvements cost \$800,000, according to an email earlier this summer from the owner's ship company. "We're thrilled to share the fantastic upgrades we've recently completed at the renowned Country Club of Whispering Pines, specifically on the Pines Course," the club said in an email. "Our commitment to enhancing your golfing experience led us to undertake a series of improvements that are sure to leave you impressed." The email detailed seven areas of focus on the River Course that were addressed and covered by approximately \$50,000 in spending. The maintenance team at the club was expanded to keep the course in the same condition year round for play at Whispering Pines. Trees were removed from certain portions of the course that either obscured the course's inherent charm," or for "removing those that shaded tees and compromised turf quality." Overgrowth along water sources were cut back as a focus of the maintenance team to maintain a beautiful and environmentally responsible golf course. "This initiative not only enhances the natural aesthetics but also contributes to the overall health of the course's ecosystem," the email said. At the onset of the projects in June, it was announced that \$120,000 was being used for irrigation and equipment needs at Whispering Pines "Our commitment to efficient water management led us to repair irrigation pumps, guaranteeing the lushness of our fairways and greens," the company's email said. GreatLIFE Golf projected to spend \$130,000 for new sod, sprigs, fertilizer, bunkers and tree work on the courses at

Whispering Pines to work in with the plans for more maintenance staff on the River and Pines courses. The bunkers at the Pines Course were updated to help the design follow a “fresh and strategic layout, designed to challenge and delight players of all skill levels.

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SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

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THE PILOT

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Staff Report

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TED FITZGERALD / The Pilot

The sign out front at the Country Club of Whispering Pines, where major revitalization work on the two courses has gone on for the last few months