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CENTERPIECE

Developing: Foxfire and Whispering Pines Under New Ownership

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The signs for Country Club of Whispering Pines and Foxfire Country Club.

TED FITZGERALD / The Pilot

After much speculation around the Moore County golfing community, the Mid Pines Development Group has announced its purchase of The Country Club of Whispering Pines and Foxfire Resort & Golf. The group, which is led by the ownership group behind Pine Needles, Mid Pines and Southern Pines Golf Club, made the deal under the newly-formed Rolling Pines Group. It purchased the Country Club of Whispering Pines for \$1.633 million and its associated time share units for an additional \$411,000 and Foxfire Resort & Golf for \$1.512 million.

This announcement comes on the heels of another recent announcement of a joint venture with Marine & Lawn, a division of AJ Capital Partners, for the hospitality portion of the two historic Southern Pines hotels.

With 72 holes between the two clubs, Whispering Pines opened in 1959 and has two Ellis Maples-designed courses, and Foxfire, opened in 1968, has two Gene Hamm-designed courses.

“We see great opportunities in both properties,” said Kelly Miller, managing partner of the new ownership group, in a news release. “Our goal is to make significant improvements on all four courses and get them on an upward trajectory.

“The Sandhills area is growing, North Carolina is growing, and Raleigh, Sanford and Fort Bragg seem to be getting closer and closer to us. There has been very little new golf built in Moore County in the last 20 years. This is a chance to (add) some polish (to) some classic golf courses from outstanding designers and make them available to the public at a reasonable price.”

This is a developing story.

Frank Daniels

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