

CORAL SPRINGS FOCUS

SEPT. 5-11, 2011



Going Fore-ward

The Country Club of Coral Springs is going through an overhaul in an attempt to return to its better days. Page 3



Getting Back on Course

Country Club of Coral Springs is making improvements to return to glory

By Cathy Rose

The Country Club of Coral Springs is undergoing a renaissance that is taking the local landmark to new heights and returning the once premiere club to being among the best in Broward County.

New owners, who sought to return the club to its former glory, had good bones to work with.

Founded on Thanksgiving Day 1969, the Country Club of Coral Springs golf course was designed by renowned course architect Edmund Ault. For the first 35 years of its existence, it was the premiere private club in the county, but the years since took their toll.

"We got a reputation for having a golf course that was in really, really bad shape," says Bill Friesing, general manager and director of golf.

All that changed when longtime Coral Springs resident Bernie Moyle bought the place.

"His goal was to bring it back to life," Friesing says.

Toward that end, Moyle has spared no expense driving a renaissance for the country club. Greens that were once more weeds than greens are again lush. Plans for enhancements drawn up in the 1980s by another great of golf course architecture – Arthur



Hills – have been carried out, adding 83 trees and more than 480 bushes and landscaping plants to the grounds.

"During that process, we also did major renovations to the Clubhouse and Mixed Grill," says Friesing, who has spent 25 years in the business and has a Class A PGA rating.

Now, the Mixed Grill has the feel of an upscale sports bar with

six 54-inch flat screen TVs, a spectacular menu and friendly service. Revamped as well are banquet facilities for weddings and other events that can accommodate more than 300 people.

While golf is big at the Country Club of Coral Springs, this place is not just for golfers.

"If you want to come play golf, play golf," Friesing says. "If

you're not a big golfer, come out and have a great lunch or a drink at the Grill."

Tennis buffs and aficionados will find a home here as well. The Country Club has four clay and two hard courts as well as A, B, C and D teams and the services of Shawn Craig, a Level I United States Professional Tennis Association pro, who oversees adult and youth tennis programs

Though the clubhouse, course and tennis courts are open to the public, Friesing said the club is conducting a drive to grow its membership.

Benefits of membership come with tangibles such as unlimited access to the golf course for just a cart fee, access to the tennis courts, lockers, golf bag storage and food, drink and golf and

The Country Club of Coral Springs is a semi-private club, open to members and the public. Amenities include an 18-hole, par-71 course designed by renowned golf course architect Edmund Ault, four clay and two hard-surface tennis courts, a golf and tennis pro shop, Mixed Grill and a five-room banquet and event facility that can accommodate more than 300 people.

For more information about membership, club facilities, food, drink, and golf specials and club events, visit www.ccofcs.com or call 954-752-4500.

tennis pro shop discounts. But Friesing says there are intangibles as well, such as the sense of community, the "Cheers" feeling members get from staff who know their names, their drinks and how to make them feel welcome at their club.

Friesing, who has worked at golf courses all over Florida as well as in New York, said members and visitors alike will find a top drawer experience and unparalleled customer service at the Country Club of Coral Springs.

"It will be like you are at a five-star resort," he says. "We're not going to be as expensive as the Boca Resort, but they're going to get the same service."