

San Marcos Daily RECORD

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Kissing Tree Golf Course construction underway

Brookfield Residential Properties Inc., a leading North American land developer and homebuilder, has announced the building of Kissing Tree Golf Course, which according to the National Golf Foundation is the first new public, 18-hole golf course to be built in Texas in the past five years.

The course is under construction and is anticipating a Winter 2017 opening. Kissing Tree, Brookfield Residential's first baby boomer-centric new home community, will also be the first of its kind in San Marcos.

Troon, the leader in golf course management, has been selected to manage Kissing Tree Golf Course, as well as the food and beverage operations in the clubhouse. Troon is the largest third-party manager of golf and club operations in the world, offering its customary level of quality typically available only at luxury golf courses. The Kissing Tree clubhouse will offer an all-American food menu.

Brookfield Residential selected golf course architect, Gary Stephenson, to design the course. Stephenson, a Texas resident himself, has developed a style of golf design and land planning that works with the natural character of the land's footprint at the beginning of the Texas Hill Country.

"We have assembled an exceptionally qualified team to design and manage the course, and we're excited to have construction underway," Dirk Gosda, senior vice president at Brookfield Residential Texas, said. "We're confident this course will be another great way for residents and visitors to experience the natural Texas Hill Coun-

try at Kissing Tree."

Kissing Tree Golf Course is currently working toward certification as a Signature Program facility with Audubon International. Audubon International is an environmental and conservation assistance program created to help landowners adhere to comprehensive sustainable resource management principles. To meet Audubon

standards, the course will use natural fertilizers and be watered with potable and reclaimed water. The course will serve as an extension of the natural landscape, blending grades on the edges and bringing the slopes and contours of the landscape into the fairways.

"The scenic Texas Hill Country provides the perfect location for a serene and one-of-a-kind golf course," Gosda said. "The course design highlights the features of the property while also providing an excellent golfing experience for our players. I'm looking forward to the first rounds to be played here."

Each hole at the Kissing Tree Golf Course will have an avenue of play with varied angles that allows golfers of any skill level to enjoy the game and feel challenged. In addition to the traditional 18 holes, Kissing Tree Golf Course will have a long and short game practice facility.

"We enjoy seeing the continued growth of golf in the state of Texas, especially in the booming Hill Country in between San Antonio and Austin." Greg Nathan, chief business officer of the National Golf Foundation (NGF), said. "The rolling San Marcos landscape will be a great backdrop for players to experience."

Kissing Tree is a member of the NGF, a non-profit founded in 1936 and the most trusted provider of golf market research and insights dedicated to supporting all the people, companies, facilities and associations that earn their living in golf. The NGF maintains the definitive database of every golf course in the world.

At full build-out, Kissing Tree development plans include roughly 3,200 homes. Homes will range from approximately 1,400 to 3,400 square feet and prices will range from approximately \$250,000 to \$500,000. Kissing Tree Golf Course will serve as the centerpiece of the Kissing Tree residential community. In addition to the golf course, the community will also include an 18-hole

putting course and state-of-the-art golf clubhouse, as well as a collection of indoor and outdoor amenities at the community's social focal point, called The Mix. Hundreds of acres will be reserved for parks, trails and green space.

The Temporary Sales and Design Center at Kissing Tree is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m., along with the Model Home Park, including eight homes, which provides visitors with a "Taste of Kissing Tree." Taco tours run every Sunday from noon to 2 p.m.

For more information, visit KissingTree.com or in-person at the Kissing Tree Temporary Sales and Design Center, or call 512-539-3700.

• Submitted by Brookfield Residential

