

County News

A revved-up country club

No quiet putting greens or politely clapping crowds for this country club. The centerpiece of a new development is a track for hot cars.

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Beginnings of course for high-performance cars at Racers Ranch

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Think *Fast and Furious* with the genteel air of high-dollar golf.

Developers of Racers Ranch, a new country club/development on Hiram Road off of Interstate 20, hope to attract the high-octane crowd that enjoys fast cars and country air.

The centerpiece of the development is a world-class road course, not a racetrack the developers are quick to say. It will offer residents and club members a chance to open up their fast cars in a safe environment without the worry of state troopers.

"It's an incredible country club for car enthusiasts," partner Bill Georgas said Tuesday at the official groundbreaking.

It also will offer the regular country-club amenities of swimming pool and spa along with an equestrian facility.

Residents will not buy home sites, but membership in the ranch that includes a five-acre lot. The cost is \$275,000 and the sites are 10 percent sold, Mr. Georgas said. Drivers also will be able to buy memberships in the club for \$25,000.

While the centerpiece is the road course, the development will offer 1,300 acres of prairies and trees for hiking and horseback riding.

"Yes, it's about a country club, but it's about preserving the land," Mr. Georgas said. "It's a piece of protected land, a 1,300 acre ranch within an hour of Dallas. In five years, there won't be 1,300 acres like this an hour from Dallas."

Some neighbors have said they are concerned about traffic and noise, but developers said it shouldn't be a problem. The course is in the middle of the 1,600 development and there will be no major races.

However, car clubs may stage events at the course under strict guidelines.

"Remember, the folks using the road course have high-performance sports cars," spokesman Mike Gullatt said. "The last thing they want to do is replace expensive parts to the car."