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Silver Dollar City demolished Indian Ridge Resort property

By Tim Church
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Demolition of the abandoned Indian Ridge Resort structures took place following the property's recent acquisition by Silver Dollar City.

The 26 acre Parcel 34, which is located off of Highway 76 in Branson West, has been the subject of a variety of stories over the years; from former property owners being charged with committing bank fraud in federal court to going viral on TikTok last spring.

Demolition of the property's resort remnants, which sits above the Silver Dollar City theme park just to the northwest, began on Wednesday, Oct. 26.

The owners of the 1880s-era theme park confirmed the purchase of the property in a statement to Branson Tri-Lakes News.

"We confirm we have purchased all 836 acres – the first tract is 810 acres, the Indian Ridge property is 26 acres. The land is adjacent to Silver Dollar City controlled land (owned and/or leased)," Silver Dollar City Director of Public Relations and Publicity Lisa Rau shared via email. "We have no announcement regarding this majestic Ozark Mountain Table Rock Lake property."

Rau added there are no other structures on the property.

Earlier this year, SDC confirmed their purchase of 800 acres of land surrounding the failed development. In a statement from January 2022, Rau stated "The land was purchased for strategic purposes."

The initial groundbreaking of the resort began in June 2007 with Jim Shirato and Donald Snider with North Shore Developments, according to Branson Tri-Lakes News archives.

Construction on the 1,000 acre, \$1.6 million dollar project came to a halt in 2009 when the bank who financed the project was taken over by the FDIC. The developers were unable to get the FDIC to continue funding on the project and began looking for other funding. After unsuccessfully finding the funding in 2011, the developers plead guilty in a federal court in Springfield for violating the Missouri Clean Water Act. Shirato was fined \$215,000



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The abandoned Indian Ridge Resort in Branson West has been demolished by new owner, Silver Dollar City.

and Snider was fined \$100,000, according to the Branson Tri-Lakes News archives.

In 2012, the FDIC purchased the more than 800-acre property in July 2012 for \$3.1 million. The FDIC sold it later that year, but when the buyer failed to close, a 25-acre parcel was sold to Jim Jones for \$700,000 in 2014. The remaining property was sold later that year to Ascent Acquisitions for \$1.4 million in July 2014, according to Branson Tri-Lakes News archives.

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Harbor House raises money for survivors of domestic violence

By AJ Fahr
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*Editor Note: The identity of the domestic violence survivor who spoke at the gala has been removed for her and her daughter's safety. She will be referred to as *Hope.*

The Harbor House Domestic Violence Center hosted an event to raise money to help their cause, to provide a safe haven for women and children

who are not safe at their homes due to domestic violence.

An Evening of Hope Gala was held Friday, Oct. 14 at Ledgestone Country Club at Stonebridge. The center hosted a dinner, silent auction, live auction, and entertainment provided by the weekly karaoke singers from the country club, The Ledgestones.



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Harbor House Executive Director Cinda Bauer introduced the guest speaker for the evening.

In the last three years, Harbor House has offered services to more than 635 women and children who are victims of abuse. Harbor House offers shelter, food, clothing, court and medical advocacy, counseling, and life skills training to survivors, but this comes at a cost. It costs approximately \$1,300 a month to shelter each survivor and child.

The silent auction had a wide array of items donated by local businesses and individuals, from massages to art to quilts. The live auction boosted several larger items for attendees to bid on.

The night gave people a chance to meet some of the advocates and workers, who are on call 24/7 to help run the center and keep women safe. Harbor House Center Executive Director Cinda Bauer thanked the advocates who work tirelessly to make Harbor House a safe home when home isn't safe. She thanked those in attendance for being there to support the center and its mission.

"I want to thank everyone for being here tonight. I'm so excited that you have taken the time to come and spend some time with us this evening," Bauer said. "Our facility can house 15 women and up to 15 children at a time. Currently we have 16 women. I know, I can't add. What that should tell you is every single day we turn away five or six women who are in need of someplace to go

and we have no place to put them. We currently have 13 children, ranging from age two to age 13."

Bauer gave some surprising numbers to paint a picture of the work Harbor House does.

"Let me give you some numbers. I think you might find it interesting... the first number is 9,184. Since Jan. 1, 9,184 women and children have slept at Harbor House. 6,000...loads of laundry we do every single year and that means 6,000 Tide Pods and 6,000 dryer sheets. 27,552...meals which are assembled in our kitchen every year. Part of our kitchen is commercial and part of our kitchen is not, our stoves for example are not commercial," Bauer said. "22,284...miles we've driven in the last year. 22,284 miles taking our women to medical advocacy to the grocery store to court advocacy. You know we do advocate for our women in court, whether that be for restraining orders, whether it is for no contact orders, whether that's mom's trying to get their kids back, or to keep their kids. We do those things each and every month. Nine is the last number... nine advocates who work 24 hours a day seven days a week. They don't get holidays off trying to make sure that these girls have the very best life that they can in the circumstances."

Bauer introduced a guest speaker, *Hope, a woman who is currently living at the shelter after her partner was violent toward her and her child.

See **HOUSE** on Page 6A

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