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Special Features > Treasure > Divas for a Difference: Focusing on Treasure Valley nonprofits

## Divas for Difference: Golf classic to benefit MSTI

Plus, Peddle Past Poverty with Catholic Charities of Idaho.

- Idaho Statesman  
Published: 05/25/10

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### ELSEWHERE

- Divas's website
- DivasforaDifference on Boise State Radio
- Read more columns by the Divas

In life, Brian Olson was a devoted father, community citizen, and 15-year HP employee. His death in November 2000 from complications of colon cancer was a tragedy that continues to touch many people.

After Brian's death, a volunteer committee comprised of HP employees established the Brian Olson Memorial Golf Classic with the goal of raising awareness of colon cancer. Through their efforts in his honor, Brian's legacy has become a life-saving one for people throughout Idaho.

Now in its 10th year, the Brian Olson Memorial Golf Classic has raised more than \$300,000 for St. Luke's Mountain State Tumor Institute (MSTI) and its colon cancer screening programs.

In Idaho alone, thousands of men and women are diagnosed with colorectal cancer every year. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in Idaho. Yet when caught early, colorectal cancer is very treatable.

Funds raised through the golf tournament have allowed St. Luke's to distribute more than 15,000 free home screening kits at more than 200 community events and to implement a statewide television, print and radio campaigns on the importance of early detection in colon cancer screening.

The easy-to-use free home screening tests detect hidden blood in the stool, an early warning sign of colorectal cancer and other conditions such as ulcers, polyps, colitis and diverticulitis.

The tournament also has funded the distribution of colonoscopy certificates to encourage those without financial means to undergo the procedure. Colorectal screening through colonoscopy can even prevent cancer by removing precancerous polyps.

The golf tournament will be Friday, June 4, at the BanBury Golf Course in Eagle. The entry fee is \$110 per person or \$400 per foursome.

For more information on the event , call Doug Cole at (208) 841-4300 or visit [www.stlukesonline.org/boise/ways\\_to\\_give/special\\_events/brian\\_olson.php](http://www.stlukesonline.org/boise/ways_to_give/special_events/brian_olson.php)

For more information on colon cancer, including early warning signs, visit [www.stlukesonline.org/specialties\\_and\\_services/Cancer\\_Care/about\\_cancer/colorectal.php](http://www.stlukesonline.org/specialties_and_services/Cancer_Care/about_cancer/colorectal.php)

#### CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF IDAHO - PEDDLE PAST POVERTY

More than 142,200 people seek help each year from Idaho's food banks. Idaho's children annually drop out of school at double-digit rates. Far too many of our neighbors seek their medical care in emergency rooms each year after an illness has become a crisis because they cannot afford health care.

These statistics lend shape to the challenges that 12.5 percent of Idahoans face.

Catholic Charities of Idaho provides crisis management services such as rural food distribution, literacy classes, and financial literacy support to help hundreds of families across Idaho to improve their future.

You can support Catholic Charities and learn more about poverty issues in Idaho at Peddle Past Poverty June 3 through 5. Each day will feature different events, including the Grocery Grab at 10:30 a.m. June 4 at Albertsons at Vista and Overland, where members of the Boise State University football and basketball teams will compete to grab the most groceries and provide a generous donation to Catholic Charities. You can also participate in a poverty simulation to understand the challenges some of our most disadvantaged neighbors face.

On Sunday, June 5, bring the whole family for a bike ride starting at 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary's School parking lot and ending at St. John's Cathedral, or ride in the Tikes on Trikes at St. Mary's School parking lot starting at 8:30 a.m.

To participate in the family bike ride, you can collect individual pledges or pay a \$20 registration fee. For more information or to register for the bike ride, visit [www.ccidaho.org](http://www.ccidaho.org) or e-mail Julie Marcum-Hart at [jmarcum-hart@ccidaho.org](mailto:jmarcum-hart@ccidaho.org).

#### OTHER EVENTS

® **Project PATCH - Annual Match for Patch Golf Tournament:** Wednesday; [www.projectpatch.org](http://www.projectpatch.org) or 375-8965.

® **Boise Rescue Mission - Liberty Quartet Concert:** Thursday; [www.boiserm.org](http://www.boiserm.org) or 343-2389.

® **St. Luke's Children's Hospital - Kid for a Night:** Friday, June 4; [www.stlukesonline.org](http://www.stlukesonline.org) or 381-2123.

® **Saint Alphonsus - Capitol Classic Race:** Saturday, June 5; [www.saintalphonsus.org](http://www.saintalphonsus.org)

® **Barry Reed "Bear" Memorial Dinner Ride benefiting St. Luke's MSTI:** Sunday, June 6; [www.bearride.com](http://www.bearride.com) or 703-4815.