

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Great American Smokeout is today

ST. GEORGE — Intermountain Healthcare's Southwest Region is celebrating the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout today by encouraging everyone in southwest Utah to make the pledge to be tobacco-free.

The occasion is a great chance to remind employees and the community that all Intermountain facilities in southwest Utah are 100 percent tobacco-free.

As a fun way to encourage everyone to make the pledge to go tobacco-free, Intermountain is giving the chance to win a \$5 Subway gift card.

To enter, write a tobacco-free pledge on the Facebook wall of the Intermountain hospital nearest to you.

The links are www.facebook.com/dixieregional; www.facebook.com/valleyviewMC; or www.facebook.com/garfieldmemorial.

Winners will be announced on Nov. 28. To learn about resources that can help quitting smoking, please visit www.tobaccofreeutah.org.

Chili cook-off set after Thanksgiving

MESQUITE — If turkey becomes a least favorite food after Thanksgiving, the first annual High Desert Robinson Regional and Mojave Desert Regional chili cook-offs at the CasaBlanca Resort Nov. 25 and 26 are sure to be ideal alternatives.

With a strong field of about 40 entries expected from Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Texas and Idaho, the smell of chili will fill the air. The International Chili Society-sanctioned double header is the first event of its kind at the CasaBlanca.

Those attending the event can participate in the Peoples Choice portion.

For \$5, visitors will have the opportunity to sample the chili while raising funds for the Lancaster, Calif., Children's Literacy Project.

Information about the High Desert and Mojave Desert Regional double header is available at www.chilicookoff.com, www.mesquitechili.com or by calling Michele Yegge Evans at (888) 711-4653, ext. 14.

Event raises funds for cancer research

MESQUITE — The third annual Bunco or Bust tournament to benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation hosted last month at the CasaBlanca Resort generated an \$8,000 donation for breast cancer research.

The largest ever Bunco event at the CasaBlanca attracted about 372 entries from Nevada, Colorado, Minnesota, California and Utah who not only participated in the wildly popular dice game, but also bid for a long list of prizes in a silent auction.

Sponsored by the CasaBlanca Resort and spearheaded by employees of the resort hotel, the loud and colorful event became a prime example of adults having fun while also generating big money for breast cancer research.

In the past three years, the CasaBlanca has been home to several bunco events, generating nearly \$20,000 for breast cancer research.

Other beneficiaries have included Goody Two Shoes, the Make A Wish Foundation and the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women.

Information about future bunco events is

available by contacting Michele Evans at (888) 711-4653, ext. 14; Bernadette Anthony at (888) 711-4653, ext. 18; or by visiting the special events section of www.casablancaresort.com.

Run for prizes in Mesquite Marathon

MESQUITE — A giant bonus prize fund of \$5,000 provided by the Mesquite Resort Association is attracting huge interest for the third annual Mesquite Tri-State Marathon scheduled through three states Saturday.

The marathon is expected to draw over 400 runners in one of Mesquite's most colorful events. The race includes a wide variety of terrain including long stretches and hilly areas, creating a challenging layout.

The marathon begins at 7 a.m. on Highway 91 in Utah. From there, the runners head south to Old Mill Road before crossing Mesquite Boulevard to Riverside Road. From there, the runners will turn on to Smokey Lane, cross Pulsipher Road and finally reach the finish line inside the CasaBlanca Event center.

The Mesquite Police Department will monitor the event. Business owners and the drivers of automobiles should be cautious of the event, which is expected to last about six hours.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the marathon runs should email race organizer Debra Bowling at mesquitemarathon@live.com. Information can also be found at www.mesquitemarathon.com or by calling Mesquite Gaming Sporting Event Manager Christian Adderson at (888) 711-4653, ext. 51.

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