

# Waterfront Times

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## Boat club raising funds for kids with cancer



Jose Barraza, 2, is a leukemia patient, who is being helped by the Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation. He is pictured with his mom, Vanessa Gonzalez.

BY MARIA MERZEAU  
For the Waterfront Times

For 20 years the Lauderdale Small Boat Club has been helping charities around Broward County.

Now they are raising funds for the Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation, which provides financial

assistance for needy kids dealing with cancer. The club is hosting a Nov. 6 charity dinner for the foundation.

The dinner takes place 5 p.m. at the Lauderdale Small Boat Club facilities at 1740 SW 42nd St. in Fort Lauderdale. The cost of the charity dinner is \$15 and includes a silent auction, raffles and a bake sale.

The boating club expects about 200 businesses to participate in several events and fundraisers they're hosting to support the cancer foundation.

"We are very happy with the local marine business support," said Edward James Schinski, the club's vice commodore. "Every dollar counts."

The club expects about 300 people to attend the upcoming charity event. They hold several charity events throughout the year in order to reach their year-end goal.

Schinski said the club raised \$23,000 for their chosen 2009 charity, Abi's Place, a school for children with disabilities.

"We hope to surpass last year's number," he said.

Other fundraisers to benefit the Jessica June include a marine flea market on Saturday, Oct. 16-17 and

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## Small Boat Club seeking donations for kids' cancer foundation

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a cocktail party on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at The Wasie Villa in Fort Lauderdale.

Boating and fishing equipment will dominate the marine flea market. Raffles will take place and food will be available.

The Wasie Foundation is assisting the club by sponsoring the cocktail party to benefit Jessica June. Tickets cost \$20.

The club picked Jessica June from the Internet because it preferred helping children in Broward County, said Connie Wadsworth, charity committee chairperson.

"They are part of the neighborhood, and we can see how the contributions help the children."

For over 20 years, the club has chosen a different charity to help each year including Goodwill and the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"This year we adopted the Jessica Jones Foundation. Next year we'll adopt somebody else," Wadsworth said.

The 62-year-old private boat club provides service to small boat owners along with dockage and haul-out facilities in Fort Lauderdale. The club currently has about 450 members.

The Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation started in 2004, providing financial assistance to over 880 children and their family members in Broward, Miami Dade and Palm Beach Counties.

The founder, Sandra Muvdi, started the non-profit foun-

ation in memory of her only child, Jessica June Eiler Muvdi, who died of cancer.

"We are very touched that the Lauderdale Small Boat Club members chose to participate in the children cancer foundation to benefit local families that are in crisis during pediatric cancer," Muvdi said.

"... It's hard to handle the need, which is much more than what we are able to do to help these families. So, if we get outside support funding, it's really much appreciated because we only can do so much."

### Up close

For more information on the Lauderdale Small Boat Club visit [www.l-s-b-c.com](http://www.l-s-b-c.com).

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For more information on the Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation visit [www.jjccf.org](http://www.jjccf.org). 954-593-5603.