CONTRA COSTA TIMES

Restaurant to raise money for burn victim

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A Walnut Creek restaurant plans to host a fundraiser next week to help Julian Zaragoza, a 5-year-old Richmond burn victim, and his family. Walnut Creek resident Dina Ramaha and Tony Dudum, owner of 1515 Restaurant & Lounge in Walnut Creek, have organized a dinner and auction for next Wednesday to help with the family's ongoing medical costs, according to a statement from the office of Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia.

Local restaurants will donate food and supplies, according to Gioia. Raffle prizes and auction items will include San Francisco Giants tickets, a week in Palm Desert, gift certificates and personal training at Club Sport.

Julian suffered severe burns over 70 percent of his body when his family's Christmas tree caught fire in December. The blaze killed Julian's twin brother, Francisco, and destroyed the family's North Richmond home.

Over the past six months The Times has chronicled Julian's recovery from. In May, Julian left the burn center at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose and joined his family in a new home in south Richmond.
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If You Go
A dinner and raffle to benefit burn victim Julian Zaragoza will begin at 6:30 p.m. next Wednesday at 1515 Restaurant & Lounge, 1515 North Main St., Walnut Creek. For more information, call Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia's office at 510-374-3231.

How To Help
Anyone wishing to donate to the Argueta Rodriguez Fund can bring checks to any Mechanics Bank branch or mail them to Mechanics Bank, 3170 Hilltop Mall Road, Richmond, CA 94806. For more information, call Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia's office at 510-374-3231.