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Let the Children Live! Gala Will Aid Efforts to Help Colombian Youth

www.lamorindaweekly.com

By Sophie Braccini



Let the Children Live! founder Father Peter Walters with two of the hundreds of children he and his group serve. Photo provided

Margaret

Walters

Orinda and her friend Margaret

two driving forces of the Let The

19 at the Hacienda de las Flores

in Moraga. Walters describes the

mission of Let the Children Live!

(Viven Los Niños) 501C-3 orga-

educate the children most at risk

in Medellin, Colombia. A house

that was purchased there in 1994

are fed, they get homework help,

here are defining moments in life, when chance meets destiny and forever alters someone's Scheving from Lafayette are the future.

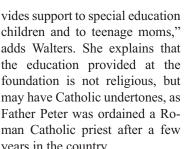
In 1982 Peter Walters was Children Live! Gala that will take traveling on the cheap like place from 7 to 10 p.m. on Nov. many students. At some point he found himself in Colombia, completely out of money for the two weeks he had to wait until his return flight to his native nization as helping to protect and England. Street children who were begging for bread understood his situation and "adopted" him until he left. The young is a day center for the children man, who was to be ordained when they are not in school. In an Anglican priest, was forever Colombia, some kids go to school changed by these two weeks, and in the morning, others in the afhas since devoted his life to the ternoon. In the center they are

welfare of Colombian children. kept away from the streets, the Father Peter, as he is now drug dealing and the gangs, they known, has a family in Lamorinda, a brother, sister-in-law and English instruction, participation nieces. With friends, they have in a very successful choir, and organized a gala around the time other activities. The foundation's Father Peter will be with them for second building is a residential Thanksgiving. The community is home for children who have no invited to hear to stories and par- other option. ticipate in good deeds.

children and to teenage moms," adds Walters. She explains that the education provided at the foundation is not religious, but may have Catholic undertones, as Father Peter was ordained a Roman Catholic priest after a few years in the country.

adds Walters. "He and his group do what has to be done in a pragmatic way." Over the years many children have been given a better

"There will be many different ways to donate for the cause," says Walters, "People can buy a \$15 card that will feed a child in the day program for a week, they can purchase a \$12 backto-school kit, or contribute to the uniforms and shoes the children need to go to school." She adds that the list of needs is very long, such as the construction of an elevator for the special-ed children or the acquisition of a piano for the music program.



"He is absolutely not dogmatic,"

The gala will be a free event to come, listen to the music by the Bentley choir, to enjoy dancing — swing dancing instruction will be offered — to sip Captain's Vineyards wine, to taste the food offered by Lamorinda Catering (Roos Pal), and hopefully to contribute to the cause of the Columbian children.

During the evening of Nov. 19, Father Peter will make a presentation about his program and will respond to questions. More information about the foundation can be found online at http:// letthechildrenlive.us/. People can R.S.V.P. at mscheving@yahoo.



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College Bound

What's Your Major? Be Ready to Answer

"The foundation also pro-

By Elizabeth LaScala

seniors cruise through colschool coursework and grades, cate Your Major."

Although know exactly what they want strategies: to study in college, many, even most, 17-year-olds are uncertain. I ask you, did you know exactly like to take as you explore the when you were 17?

appeals to them on the list of college major options is "undeclared." There are at least two not the best selection to make.

Limited Availability. Students may not realize that "undeclared" is considered a major, and as such there is a limited number of seats to offer an incoming class. In addition, if a student weighs in as "undecided," some colleges may use one of their most rigorous majors to assess the strength of a student's application.

the major you did and why do in their college careers. you want to study that subject at our college?" One popular east sources available to think about coast college asks applicants what major you would like to the following questions: "What pursue in college. For example, academic areas seem to fit your interests or goals most comfortably? Why do these areas appeal to you?" You can list up to three dp/145730774X edition) can subjects and you have 100 words help you answer questions like: to respond. A cinch, right? Not if What's the major for me? Where you do not have a well-thought- can I study it? What can I do with out response.

Many of my clients are uncertain about what major they

tions come up when students aplege applications, completing ply to colleges, we prepare well basic contact information, high before the application cycle begins by exploring areas of intertest scores and activities without est. But what should the many sea hitch. But these same students niors do who are grappling with often cringe when asked "Indi- the question and have not pre- all. This guide also shows what pared for it? For them, I recomsome students mend two fairly straight-forward in a major: a certificate, associ-

1.) Take a different approach to thinking about a major. For the adults reading this article, Is there a class you would really what you wanted to do in life freshman curriculum at a college? There are many introduc-For many students, the easi- tory courses to choose from -Roest and often the first choice that mantic Poetry through the Ages (English department); Bringing Out Your Inner Picasso! (art department), Making Important major reasons why that is often Business Decisions (business department) and The Physics of Sports (physics department). Read the course descriptions and choose one that really appeals to you. Then choose that department as your major. This approach allows you to test an academic direction early enough in your college career to change course, and also gives you some foundation upon which to answer College Essays. For many those pesky essay questions. At students the question of what the overwhelming majority of major to select arises when they colleges, changing your major is are writing essays for colleges. as easy as completing a simple Many colleges ask students ques- form and 80 percent of students tions like "Why did you select change their major at least once

> 2.) Explore the many re-"The Book of Majors 2017" (www.amazon.com/Book-Majors-2017-College-Board/ it after graduation?

"The Book of Majors" is revised every year, and is the most wish to pursue in college. Since comprehensive guide to college

housands of high school I know these types of essay ques- majors that I have found on the market. It offers in-depth descriptions of 200 of the most popular majors, and the 2017 edition covers every college major identified by the U.S. Department of Education — over 1,200 majors in degree levels each college offers ate degree, bachelor's, master's or doctorate. The guide also features insights from the professors themselves on how each major is taught, what preparation students will need for a particular major, and other majors to consider that share some commonalities. There is updated information on career options and employment prospects.

Applying to college includes careful planning, organization, research and lots of self-assessment. The process from start to finish involves many challenges that can and should be viewed as opportunities to mature, thus laying the foundation for success in college and beyond.



Elizabeth LaScala, PhD, brings decades of admissions expertise to personally guide each student through applying to wellmatched colleges, making each step more manageable and less stressful. She has placed hundreds of students in the most prestigious colleges and universities in the U.S. Reach her at (925) 385-0562 (office) or (925) 330-8801 (mobile), or online at www.doingcollege.com Elizabeth@doingcollege.com.







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