A mother’s heart is a patchwork of love. AUTHOR UNKNOWN

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Reunion of friends

After four long decades, friends BELLARION NAVIA, QUINTIN PAREDES III and JUN OPULENCIA (2nd to 4th from left, respectively) reunite in a recent gathering in Scarborough. With them are CHONA PAREDES and BOOTS OPULENCIA.

Gamma Epsilon post-Lenten recollection

Members of Gamma Epsilon International join founder-brod AMOR GABORNO (centre, with spectacles) after the fraternity/sorority Easter Recollection at the St. Peters Hall in Quezon City on April 21.

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Mogado to keynote PTAC confab

ORK Catholic District School Board Trustee and Markham community leader MARLENE MOGADO will address the 6th Annual Conference on Teacher Certification and Career Building at the May Robinson Recreation Hall in Toronto, May 26.

Mogado serves Markham-Area 2, Wards 4,5,7 and 8 in York Region.

Expected to join Mogado as special guest speakers are KATHY ANSTETT, director of external relations of the Ontario College of Teachers, and NORMA BERNAL, employment counsellor-Skills for Change.

Sitting as open forum panelists are teachers ROSARIO APILADO, MARISSA CIACICO and ANNALYN GALARION (Dufferin-Peel CDSB), MARISSA LARGO (Toronto CDSB), REGINA LOZANO-NUGUID (Peel DSB) and TONY SAN JUAN (Toronto DSB).

The conference is conducted by the Philippine Teachers Association of Canada (PTAC) in cooperation with Kababayan Community Centre Multicultural Services (KCCMS), a 35-year old immigrants settlement and integration service network. FLOR DANDAL is the KCCMS executive director.

PTAC, headed by San Juan, is a six-year old socio-professional group of practicing Filipino Canadian teachers and educators in Ontario.

The conference – themed Career Transformation, Moving Forward – is being offered free to internationally-trained professionals who are newcomer-immigrants, permanent residents, work-permit holders or citizens and are interested in reconnecting and building a career as a teacher or educator in Canada.
Barking rights

from page 13

rier – e.g. Golden Retriever, Labrador; Dachshunds; and Spitz and Primitive Types – e.g. Chow Chow, Siberian Husky.

Other groups are: Scent Hounds – e.g. Beagles; Companion and Toy Dogs – e.g. Chihuahua, French bulldog; and Sight Hounds – e.g. Whippet.

Males and females compete separately within their own breeds.

At the end of the breed competition there are judged the Best of Breed (best dog in breed) and Best of Winners (dog that is the better of the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch).

The Best of Breed winners advance to the Group Competitions. The first places advance to the Best in Show.

Around the ring, you’d see pet owners waiting for their dog’s turn in the limelight.

It really is the show business for dogs.

Dogs have fans pointed at them and just before they are to step into the ring, their handlers and owners would blow dry their hair, put some powder for all the necessary coverage and emphasis of their coats, furry or not.

It is after all a beauty contest.

Temperament, movement and structure. Those would be translated in human beauty contests into – personality, poise or bearing and beauty.

Paul and his wife DONNA entered their Labrador “Carrot” to earn just one point to become a champion dog.

But that one point proved to be very elusive.

If you may it just be a simple fashion show but for these dogs and their owners, breeders and handlers, they have become sporting events with each dog bracing against new competitors, different dogs and different breeds (as well as another judge) in each show.

Some show dogs have seemed to acquire “star status”.

They are used to people looking and pointing their cameras at them.

Off the ring, they just try to relax and don’t bark or howl at strangers.

The Doberman near Carrot was a little temperamental in his cage … but during show time he was every inch poised and well-behaved, “a show dog in his character”.

He was “Best in Show” in the 64th show.

Going through these stages in dog shows transforms the dog from just being a pet to a show dog.

There are no cash rewards, just trophies and those much wanted points, which would earn the dog owner and his dog or bitch their entry to the “Hall of Fame”.

They can claim that in the dog kingdom they are the crème de la crème.

Those would earn them their bragging rights.

Mary’s Fertility Relic Belt

from page 15

The body of Mary had been taken to heaven. Only the cincture, made of camel wool, remained.

St. Thomas took and brought it with him in his mission from Jerusalem to India, and preserved it under the guard of Jacobites.

It was not clear how the Orthodox monks got the relic. They had it in possession and protection for nearly 200 years.

This explains that in every picture of Mary’s assumption to heaven, she is depicted holding a piece of cloth apparently shown about to be given to a man.

Catholics, Orthodox Christians and Copts are among the religious denominations that believe in God’s miracles in association with objects used by holy people in earthly life.

Russia’s demographic crisis may, comparatively, be way petty than the Philippines’ bubbling population problem.

Catholic, Orthodox Christians and Copts are among the religious denominations that believe in God’s miracles in association with objects used by holy people in earthly life.
Who ran to help me when I fell, and would some pretty story tell,  
Or kiss the place to make it well? My mother. ANN TAYLOR

Senior parishioners of the Prince of Peace Church show their global representation with a parade of international costumes, as they prepare to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the church's May 1987 consecration. Toronto archdiocese auxiliary bishop VINCENT NGUYEN will lead anniversary activities with a Thanksgiving Mass on May 20 at 4:30 p.m. at the church. Anniversary team GERRY CRUZ, ROLSTON WONG and THELMA ANTAZO and members of their committees have also set a formal dinner in Scarborough after the Mass. A family picnic for parishioners is slated at the nearby Goldhawk Park on June 9. PR

Neil McNeil HS hoopsters capture TDCAA crown

Neil McNeil High School's junior basketball team capped the season by becoming TDCAA B champions in a thrilling come-from-behind overtime victory against Archbishop Romero CSS. The boys displayed true heart in several exciting TDCAA playoff games. A semi-final three point at the buzzer set the stage for the Feb. 16 final at Seneca College. ANGELO SUNDARARAJAH led with an impressive 33-point performance. Team coaches are O'KEEFE and CIOFFI. PR

Pinoy Fiesta, Tradeshow

Raising P1M for poor Filipinos

FOR a year-old Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation (PCCF), raising over P800,000 to help victims of Typhoon Sendong, build houses for the poor, assist kidney patients, and come to the aid of needy children could only be described as a great and worthy feat.

This PCCF public relations officer GLORIA RAFANAN said, adding "we did this together, your support enabled us to help our kababayans".

"We had fun and helped at the same time!" Rafanan, in a press release, said the nobly-aimed fun would once more be a community endeavour on June 9, when PCCF would stage its 2nd Pinoy Fiesta and Trade Show at Hall D of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre's south building.

This year, Philippine television's much-vaunted royal couple MARIAN RIVERA and DINGDONG DANTES will topbill the Pinoy Fiesta's all-day entertainment fare.

Sharing the stage with the couple are THE ANGELOS, dubbed as the Il Divo of Asia; and "the best of the best of our local artists" and the internationally acclaimed Philippine Heritage Band.

In the centre's premises, the Philippine Chamber of Commerce Toronto (PCCT) will set up a trade show that features over 200 vendors and exhibitors. "They will amaze you of Philippine ingenuity and entrepreneur-ship" said Rafanan.

"All these for only $15 each. Children 10 and under are free."

Attendees to the fiesta and trade show could also watch the Pacquiao-Bradley boxing match on big screen, for an extra $10, Rafanan added.
WHEN people rise from the comfort of paid seats and start making noise and grooving bods to the beat and rhythm. WHEN people receive sheer pleasure from the sound they hear, the stagescape and movement they see, the quality entertainment they feel. WHEN performers pour their hearts out and spread the love in song and music. WHEN people whistle or hum familiar tunes as soon as the curtains fall. WHEN people go home talking about what just happened. WHEN ALL OF THESE ARE, then the May 4 show of Philippine concert duo POPS FERNANDEZ and MARTIN NIEVERA is one for coolness and awesomeness. Martin summed it all when he told libreto: The Toronto audience is great! Of the seven roadshows we did in North America, the Pops-Martin Toronto gig is the best!

The concert also reassured further musical partnerships between two buddies who used to make Filipinos swoon to the tune of Pera Lab and Panaginip of the famous band Hotdog that introduced Manila Sound in the ’70s. Both original Hotdog members, LORRIE ILUSTRE and MON TORRALBA shared the stage with POPS FERNANDEZ and MARTIN NIEVERA, together with the band, backup singers CHYRELL SAMSON, RODNEY RONQUILLO and DON TORRES, the front acts, the production crew and all those who made the concert one that would always be remembered.

REHEARSALS

(Above) Musical director LORRIE ILUSTRE (4th from right) jams with the band from Toronto that got the scores in one take and helped him with the roadshow in Atlantic City preceding the Toronto gig. (Middle) Back-up singers DON TORRES, RODNEY RONQUILLO and CHYRELL SAMSON (bottom) with Lorrie and JOE OCAMPO.
I’ll Be There For You

INTRO: E - E/D - A/C# (2X)

VERSE 1:
E
B/D#
There are times
C#m
E/B
AM7(9)
When I just want to look at your face
F#m7  B7sus  -  B
With the stars in the night
E
B/D#
There are times
C#m
E/B  AM7(9)
When I just want to feel your embrace
Cdim
In a cold night

REFRAIN:
C#m
E/F#
I just can’t believe
F#  B  A  -  G#m
That you are mine now

CHORUS:
A/B  E  G#m  AM7(9)
You were just a dream that I once knew
E  G#m
A  -  E  -  G#m
I never thought I would be right for you
F#m7  -  A/B

VERSE 2:
E  B/D#
All those years
C#m
E/B  AM7(9)
I long to hold you in my arms
F#m  A/B  B
I’ve been dreamin’ of you
E  B/D#
Every night
C#m
E/B  AM7(9)
I’ve been watching all the stars that fall down
F#m7
A/B  Cdim
Wishing you will be mine

(Repeat Refrain)

(Repeat Chorus) E7  -  D/E  -  A/E  -  E
CM7
Bm
Time and again
Em  A  Am  C/D  G
There are these changes that we cannot end
C  G  D  F#/9
Em  A  D  G  C(add9)
As sure as time keeps goin’ on and on
Am  C/D  B7  E
My love for you will be forevermore

E  B/D#/C#m/E/B-A/add9)- A/B  -  B
E-B/D#/C#m/E-B-A(add9)-F#m7-A/B-Cdim

(Repeat Refrain)

(Repeat Chorus except last line)

G#m7  C#m  F#m-B-A
As endless as forever
G#m7  C#m  A#m7b5  B/A
Our love will stay together
G#m7  C#m  F#m  A#m  D9  G#m7
You’re all I need to be  with forever... more
C#m  F#m  B  A
As endless as forever
G#m7  E/D  A#m7b5  B/A
Our love will stay together
G#m7  C#m  F#m  A/B (pause)
You’re all I need to be with forever... more
E7/D-A/E-C#-E

VERSE 2:
F  D
I’ll be there for you
C
When there’s no one beside you
G/B  B/D#
I’ll be there to guide you
B7sus  B7  Em
Catch you each time you fall
Am  D-Dsus-D
When the stars won’t shine anymore
G  CM7
I’ll be there

VERSE 3:
G
When the world is unknown
CM7
And your dreams, they need more time
F  D
I’ll be there for you
G
If the rules they keep breaking
CM7
And the future is fading
F  D
I’ll be there for you
C
The rainbow will end
G/B
In the palm of your hand
B7sus  B7  Em
Don’t ever let it go
Am  Dsus D
When the stars won’t shine anymore
G  CM7
I’ll be there

REFRAIN:
F  C  C  G
Who knows where will I go
F  C  G
What will tomorrow bring
Em  Bm  C  G/B
But we have each other, just hold on tight
F
We can take to the skies
Dsus D (hold) G-CM7.
And fly

VERSE 3:
F  D-G-CM7
I’ll be there for you
F  D
I’ll be there for you
G
The rainbow will end
G/B
In the palm of your hand
B7sus  B7  Em
Don’t ever let it go
Am  Dsus D
When the stars won’t shine anymore
G  Em
I’ll be there
Kung ikaw hidlawon depicts SoCot's historical, cultural roots

A zarzuela depicting the journey of Panay Island settlers from the Visayas to the fertile valleys of South Cotabato in Mindanao, the Philippines will take centrestage in October through a landmark local theatre production.

Wikipedia describes a zarzuela as a Spanish lyric-dramatic genre that alternates between spoken and sung scenes, the latter incorporating operatic and popular song, and dance.

Juanito Butch Ferrer Jr., South Cotabato Culture and Arts Foundation Inc. (SCCAFI) president, said the three-act musical-drama on the island of Bantayan in the northern tip of Cebu province, the Philippines will turn into reality.

“This is our first major production. We deemed it proper to dig into our historical and cultural roots and bring it to life for our older folk to reminisce and for the younger generation to embrace,” Ferrer said.

The zarzuela is in Kinaray-a, a dialect spoken mainly in Antique province, parts of Iloilo, the south of Capiz, all in the Visayas, and certain villages in Mindanao. The dialect traces its roots to Panay Island in Western Visayas.

School building. Kung ikaw hidlawon was written by composer Fortunata Maggipoc-Leedsma, who is credited as the composer of popular Hiligaynon (Ilonggo) folk song Dandansoy.

However, the song’s origin and authorship have been claimed by others, among them an Iloilo poet and some Leyte residents.

“The zarzuela’s storyline centres on the exodus of settlers from (Western) Visayas to the Koronadal Valley area. The drama underscores that experience is described in its running title Kung ikaw hidlawon, which is part of the lyrics of Dandansoy,” Ferrer said.

The October showdate is planned as a grand showcase to gather balikbayans or returning South Cotabato residents who are based abroad, he said.

In last month’s launch, a public audition was conducted for the 30-member cast.

Ferrer said the cast would all be from South Cotabato, “talents who have the passion and willing to be trained for theatre arts.”

He said the workshops would also be facilitated and conducted by a local pool of theatre talents.

Jim Raborar, SCCAFI theatre committee chair, said they are seeking funding for the production, which had a base budget of P100,000.

Raborar said the National Commission for Culture and the Arts initially signified support for the project, “incentivizing us to pursue the project and revive our community theatre group here.”

Cesar Sulit Jr., South Cotabato senior tourism officer, said the province fully supported the production, and has set aside funds for SCCAFI through its annual budget.

“We’ll also back them up in marketing the production for sponsorships,” Sulit said.

Spanish gov’t to help preserve Chavacano

Felino Santos

SPANISH Ambassador to Manila Jorge Domecq has assured his government’s commitment to support initiatives to preserve the Spanish derivative language called Chavacano, spoken by most people in Zamboanga City, in Mindanao, the Philippines.

Domecq, who keynoted the recent 75th Dia de la Ciudad de Zamboanga (Zamboanga City Day), said: “Chavacano, I think, is a unique language, a very rich language which is not that known by so many people. I think it ought to be protected and preserved.”

Asked how Chavacano compared with Spanish, Domecq said he was very impressed.

“I was very moved when I heard people speak the Chavacano. To come to a city on the other side of the world and to hear a language which is the sister of your own language, it’s fantastic!”

The Spanish Embassy in Manila has organized activities aimed at preserving Chavacano, as it considered the publication of books in Chavacano, in partnership with other organizations.

Lately, the Instituto Cervantes, a Spanish non-government organization teaching the Spanish language across the world, showed a cycle of Chavacano films.

Domecq noted that a conference would be organized in July, together with the Chavacano association at La Salle University.

Relatedly, Spanish First Secretary Antonio Garcia suggested that Chavacano be declared an intangible heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The Spanish government is also advocating for the preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. It is embodied in an international treaty, the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by UNESCO in 1972.

Spanish government committed to helping Chavacano

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**MAY 2012**

**Business at the Filipinos Making Waves Festival -- at the YDS on August 18 -- helps push awareness on Philippine history and tradition and develops North Americans of Filipino roots. Photo: libero**

R U in 4 gr8 business @ YDS?

From back page

“Those who believed in the cutting edge of FMWF as a trading venue and promotions vehicle for products and services never raised doubts on profitability and return on investments,” said Teresa.

Like most of the homegrown talents who have performed for thousands of Tornitongons at the FMWF, these businesspersons have become YDS mainstays.

Sally, a businessperson engaged in real estate and general services, said she has found the festival an ideal match to her tightly-budgeted advertising and marketing thrusts.

“With so many potential buyers and consumers, coming and going in and around YDS all day long, what can go wrong businesswise?” said Ray and partner Shui, who both manage a start-up garments and bling-bling enterprise.

Teresa said festival trading and business inquiries may be made at fmwestival@gmail.com or visit and send information to www.filipinos-makingwaves.com.

We love our country too

From page 1

So, why take the issue to the streets when it’s not going to matter anyway? There are other ways to resolve the impasse, like multilateral talks involving the two countries and other ASEAN nations, with compact interests in the South China Sea.

It’s just a matter of persuading China to take this route instead of individual countries, or one-on-one country talks.

There are precedents to this type of multilateral negotiations between conflicting territorial sovereignty claims.

Second, the protest organizers do not have a clear understanding of the legal issues surrounding the dispute.

Perhaps, they have a grasp on the issue of territorial sovereignty, but only have a faint appreciation of the basis of the Philippines’ claim.

To most of them, including the few who were convinced to attend the protest, it was enough that the Philippines is geographically closer to the Scarborough Shoal than China. It was a result of the Palmas Case to reinforce its claim.

This argument was used before by the United States against the Netherlands in the Island of Palmas Case to reinforce its claim that the island was more contiguous to the Netherlands, as part of the territory and sovereignty of the Philippines defined under the Treaty of Paris.

This was used before by the United States against Spain to the U.S. under the Treaty of Paris, and even submitted that the island was more contiguous to the Philippines.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration in 1928 decided in favour of the Netherlands, ruling that to establish sovereignty, discovery must be followed by a continuous and peaceful display of authority or some degree of effective occupation.

Sovereignty over islands is established by legal relations rather than physical proximity.

A Toronto protester interviewed and caught on video said the intrusion of the Chinese military into Scarborough Shoal was completely illegal, the reason why they were demonstrating.

Sounding like he truly understood the legal issues involved, he argued that the shoal and all the islands in the South China Sea belong to the Philippines as they were delineated in the Treaty of Paris for the sale of the Philippines by Spain to the United States in 1898.

The reference to the Treaty of Paris was unfortunate and misleading. The maps provided by the Philippines to support its claim did not include the Scarborough Shoal, or Huangyan Island to the Chinese, as part of the territory and sovereignty of the Philippines defined under the Treaty of Paris.

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Thus, when people did not show up in great numbers, it was ridiculous and rather insensitive of the protest organizers to call them cowards and to mock their patriotism.

As if the only people were patriotic that day were those who attended.

Did the organizers expect people would be driving by to honk or get out of cars to join those marching on the street?

What if they couldn’t leave work or they were too far away? So, these people were unpatriotic and did not love their country as much as those who attended the protest?

What if they did not believe or agree with the protest? Were they not entitled to their opinion, too? Unpatriotic individuals have no right to disagree now?

Lastly, the protest was being used not to inform the community of nations about China’s bullying tactics, but apparently for a different ulterior motive.

It is becoming clearer that the United States’ government would like to restructure its military strength in Asia and the Pacific, so the USP4GG protests are being used to drum up the necessity for the U.S. to reiterate its presence in the region by drawing attention to China’s aggression.

The Philippine government under Aquino is by all means complicit in this scheme, since its cooperation is tied up to assistance from the U.S.

It may be speculated that the Aquino government could have promised some of the USP4GG leaders with one or two senatorial spots in the administration’s ticket in the 2013 elections.

A clear lesson from the uneventful May 11 protest is: The patriotism of expat Filipinos abroad or even at home cannot be measured simply by their attendance or absence in political protest. Love of country is more than an on-the-spot outburst of bravado or a token one-hour act of patriotism.

It is instilled and nurtured through a deeper understanding of the real causes people are committed to support.

And to die for.
You don’t really understand human nature unless you know why a child on a merry-go-round will wave at his parents every time around - and why his parents will always wave back. WILLIAM TAMMEUS

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SIMPLY GREAT FOR BUSINESS.

“This is what the Filipinos Making Waves Festival (FMWF) has been offering mainstream and community businesses at the YDS for four years now,” says FMWF official TERESA TORRALBA.

In six years since Teresa and MON TORRALBA put up the festival, at least 700 traders and sponsors have taken advantage of the huge business windows the FMWF had opened.

“Today, those who believed in the cutting edge of FMWF as a trading venue for products and services never raised doubts on profitability and return on investments,” Teresa said.

To page 38, please