



Up, Up and Away!

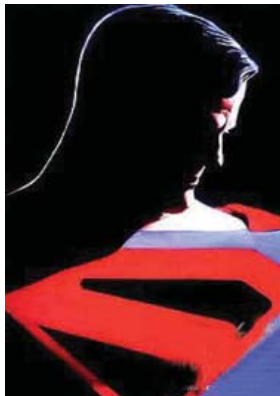
By Kimberly Anne H. Capeding

With reports from Regine Eugenio and Edrian Onayan

Is Superman perfect?

Maybe he is as fierce as a lion and as strong as Samson. He may know how to love, however he does not know how to conquer his fears in love. Just like Julius Manabat, Superman still has phobias and limitations.

Julius also knows how to love, even if he has a heart problem.



Julius Manabat, a Grade Four student at CENTEX-Manila, happened to be a blue baby when he was born. This means that he had a hole in his heart. He underwent a successful heart operation at the Philippine Heart Center last June. The coins, bills, blood, and most especially the prayers shared by numerous giving hearts contributed to the success of his heart surgery. Excluding the medicines he is still taking for maintenance, the hospital bill amounted to more than Php300,000.

Nanay Cely Manabat, mother of Julius, cannot contain her outpouring gratitude by mere words alone. Here is what she said to all those kind souls:

First of all, we thank God for all the graces He is giving our family. We, the family of Christian Julius, would like to thank all the people responsible for the successful open-heart surgery of my son. We will forever be grateful to Mr. Ed of the Burke Foundation, to Mr. Philip Hagedorn of Gift of Life, Rotary-West Makati, and to the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office(PCSO), for sponsoring the whole operation. Also to the Ayala Foundation, Incorporated(AFI) for facilitating the whole process. To Ms. Carol Atacador, Ms. Fe Duldulao, all the parents, teachers and schoolmates of Julius, our sincerest thanks.

Likewise, we would like to express our thanks to Tatay Larry Facilo, Jermaine, and Mr. and Mrs. Sanchez for their blood donation. To all those people who we do not know, thank you for your prayers



Drawing by Aljon Macaraeg of CENTEX-Manila

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and support. And most especially, to the Yupangco Family, we owe a lot to you. Thank you very much and God bless!

Now, here is what our brave little Julius have to say:

I would like to thank God for giving me another life, to the Burke Foundation, the Rotary Club Makati, the PCSO, THE Ayala Foundation, to Ms. Carol, Ms. Duldulao, and most of all to Ms.Y and her family, thank you very much. To all the parents, teachers, and my classmates and schoolmates, thank you for all your prayers and help. Thank you also to all those who donated blood. Thank you to all of you for welcoming me back to school!

Julius was very overwhelmed when his classmates welcomed him back to school. Just this July, everybody saw a big improvement on his physical and emotional health. Everybody observed a big difference in Julius.

Julius had just passed a chapter in his life – a chapter full of misery. Just like Superman, he left his sorrows in the clouds when he soared. He turned his world in a counterclockwise direction and started living a new life. There will still be more chapters to come, there will still be more hardships to face, but Julius will move on. Let us all continue to help Julius persevere.

So, fly, Julius, fly...

Up, up and away!!!



Microsoft Donates to CENTEX

Andrei Mishael Santos



More blessings keep on pouring!

David Dunleavy of Microsoft Corporation and two representatives of Ayala Foundation, Incorporated-USA (AFI-USA) toured Centex –Manila last August 4, and donated one thousand dollars (or approximately Php 50,000). Together with CENTEX principal, Ms. Fe T. Duldulao, and AFI Deputy Director, Ms. Suzanne G. Yupangco, they visited several classes and checked out the library and computer room.

“I’m here to help improve education and send a message to Filipino-Americans abroad that their country needs them,” pointed Mr. Dunleavy. “CENTEX is a garden that plants seeds. If you plant well, you’ll grow well,” he added.

He also described the CENTEX students as intelligent and hard working. “Because of CENTEX, you will have a better future,” he ended the interview with a smile. ■

PGMA Gives Rice to School Kids

Michaela T. Icasas

This June 2006, Kindergarten and Grade One students all over the country started receiving a kilo of rice everyday. This was one of the projects launched by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

The rice has vitamins for brain development, and these students would serve as proof if the rice is effective or not in helping fight malnutrition. The rice is imported from other countries; the country’s distributor added more nutrients explaining why the rice is yellowish in color when cooked.

In one of the interviews conducted by PERSPECTIVES staffers, Christine Sail of grade one said that she is happy to receive the rice. Joshua Meim, another grade one pupil, said that the President helps them save money with this project.

On the other hand, Teacher Irene Abella of Kindergarten suggested that PGMA adds viands too!

PERSPECTIVES staffers also interviewed higher-grade students. Alfred Bautista of Grade Five said that it is unfair that only the little ones get rice. Kim Arthur Sta. Maria, also from Grade Five, mentioned that it is all right not to receive rice because they can provide for themselves. He mentioned that the smaller kids need this support more. ■

CENTEX Batangas Stage

Hershey Gabi



Parents working hand in hand in building the CENTEX Batangas Stage

Through the P T C A collaborative effort, CENTEX Batangas finally erected a stage last August 9. Over the past six years, s c h o o l performances were presented

on level ground. This urged the PTCA to pursue a stage.

“Ako at ang lahat ng PTCA officers ay nagalak dahil meron kaming nagawa para sa mga bata. Salamat po sa mga tulong para sa pagpapatayo ng stage na ito (All PTCA officers and I are glad to have done something that will benefit the children),” said Tatay Hermie Gabi, PTCA president.

Meanwhile, CENTEX pupils expressed gratitude to parents and teachers for providing them a place for their presentations. ■



Kindergarten students performing in the new CENTEX Batangas stage.

Captaaiiin...Barbel!

Andrei Mark Asuncion



“Captain BARBEL NA PO!” Ito ang madalas sabihin ni Mike Enriquez kapag tapos na ang kanilang palabas.

Tayong mga Pilipino, bata man o matanda, ay mahilig sa mga telepantasya tulad ng Captain Barbel at Majika na talaga namang patok sa mga kabataan.

Ginagawa nila itong kani-kanilang superhero. Batman, Superman, Darna, at kung anu-ano pang makukulay na pangalan ang isinasagot ng mga bata kung sila’y tatanungin kung sino ang kanilang superhero. Karaniwan nang pinagbabatayan ang kalakasan, ang kakisigan, maging ang kaguwapuhan ng karakter sa aspetong ito. Kung sino ang angkat sa lahat, sila ang itinuturing na Superhero.

Taliwas naman ito sa aking pananaw. Para sa akin, hindi ang pisikal na katangian ang dapat maging batayan. Ang aking tinitingnan ay kung sino ang mas nakatutulong sa kapwa; kung sino ang mas karapat-dapat pamarisan; kung sino ang dapat gayahin. Masarap magkaroon ng superhero lalo na’t nagiging isa ito sa ating mga nagiging inspirasyon sa buhay. Ang tunay na superhero ay mabait, maalalahanin at mapagmahal.

Parang ating mga magulang!

Inaalagaan nila tayo mula sa ating pagkabata hanggang sa mga panahong ito. Karamay natin sila sa hirap at ginhawa. Nagiging solusyon sa ating mga problema at tumutulong sa ating paglago at pag-unlad.

Mahal ko ang mga magulang ko at para sa akin, sila ang aking SUPERHERO.

Ikaw, sino ang superhero mo? ■



Welcome Mrs. Marasigan!

Micah Bernadette Manalo



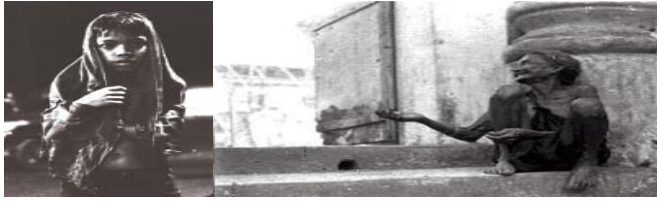
CENTEX Batangas rendered a one and a half hour program to welcome its new principal, Mrs. Matdarenda Marasigan last July 31, 2006. Principal Dang is the third CENTEX school head after its previous school heads retired.

“Mrs. Dang Marasigan is one of the best school heads in the district,” said Mr. Melquiades Bautista Jr. who is the District Supervisor. The supervisor added that it is not easy to choose a principal for CENTEX but with Mrs. Marasigan, the school is in good hands.

Besides Mr. Bautista, Mrs. Antonia P. Dolor, CENTEX former principal; Mrs. Suzanne Yupangco, Deputy Director; Teacher Rose and Teacher Ofel, Curriculum Resource Teachers; and the PTCA officers also joined welcoming Mrs. Dang Marasigan. On the other hand, Mrs. Dang thanked everyone for the program. “From now on, you are all my children,” she concluded. ■



Drawing by Ezekiel Magsanay of CENTEX-Manila



Excellence From A Beggar

By: Micah Bernadette Manalo

One thousand miles of travel,
No one even dared to tell
The true meaning of this word: Excellence

Is it how we solve algebra?
Or how we act in an opera
Maybe in knowing all the species
And memorizing all the cities?

But there's an event I can't forget.
It's when I knew the meaning of excellence.
It's exact. You won't misinterpret.
You'll really want to know it, I will bet!

It's the first thousand miles of my journey
I met a beggar on an alley.
She was asking for a little money
And a few drops of my honey.

My heart offered her food in a bucket
And some pesos from my pocket.
She said thank you and to my heart, it went straight
Then a soft but clear voice from deep within told me,
"That's an excellent job, really!"

Happiness Is the Best Medicine

Hannah Grace Marcelo

Showing joy, comfort, hope... laughing... and loving someone are some signs of happiness. Each person has his or her own way of expressing happiness. Each has his or her own way of making his or herself happy.

We know that we have different reasons why we want to be happy. Do you know that the Philippines ranked 17th in the world happiness survey? But what really is happiness? Are the Filipinos happy with our current economic and political conditions? I may be a twelve-year kid; my view will not probably matter in the world, but I have believed and I continue to believe that yes, Filipinos are a happy people. Our country might be full of problems, but the optimism that we exude cannot be toppled down by whatever hardships and tribulations.

Filipinos are religious by nature. And this love of God, our Supreme Creator, is the perfect display of happiness and optimism. The truest source of happiness comes from the love of God. We couldn't survive and move on without this love. We all have to go back to the source, to the root of all the happiness we are feeling – we all have to go back to God's arms and be filled by His infinite love.

Stripped Street Children

By: Johanna Faith Isla

Children along the street
Dirty, not neat
They take their seat
And beg people for money to eat

At times they feel hungry
They grab other's money
Though they know it's bad
They have to do it just to survive.

Street children, however, help realize
That their life, we should analyze
To you they appeal,
"Take your chances to be lucky
So you'll not feel sorry."



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Love

By: Sandra Rodessa Abrahan

Love is gentle
Love is kind.
Lately, you've been on my mind.

Love is sweet
Love is tender.
Wondering if we could be together.

Love is factual
Love is true.
But you know what?
I think this love is you.

