



O.B. MONTESSORI CENTER

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## Protecting the Aeta Community

► *By Carmela Bien, Eleica Snyder, and Joshua Pangan (10 Emerald, 10 Ruby, and 11 Luna)*

The Aeta, or the Agta, are indigenous people who live scattered across central and northern Luzon. Of small stature but strong physique, they are said to be one of the earliest Filipinos, preceding colonial influence and occupation.

The Aeta community in Pampanga—more specifically, in the Clark Freeport Zone—has been there long before the Americans settled in Clark Air Base. They used the vast land for agriculture, and often kept to themselves. That was until 1903,

when the U.S. Military established Fort Stotsenberg, the very first occupation of what is now known as Clark Air Base. The Aetas were soon met with sudden development and industrialization in their area. In 1991, the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo drove hundreds of Aeta families out of their communities and into temporary homes in Pampanga. In time they were able to make good use of the lahar (or mudflow) from the volcanic eruption.

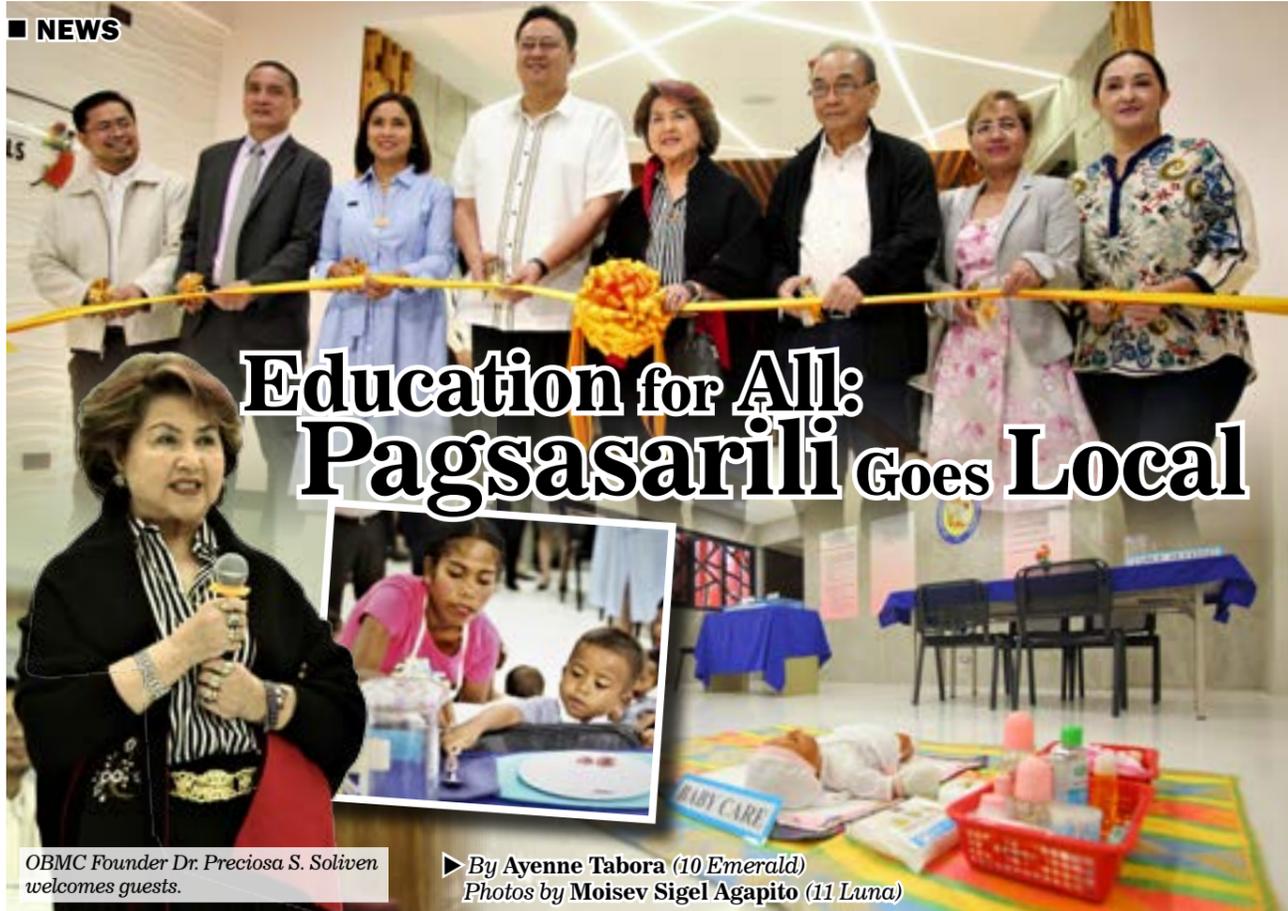


*Artwork by Raco Bangsil  
Photos by Leonardo Alcantara*

The mass industrialization that is ongoing in Clark today offers many opportunities for business and tourism; however, the rich culture of the Aetas is at stake. As the community strives for development and other sources of livelihood, many traditional practices are being forgotten. Responding to this, Clark Development Corporation (CDC) has taken action to help the Aetas cope with the sweeping industrialization of the area. Last July, CDC partnered with OB Montessori Child and

Community Foundation (OBMCCF) in establishing the Aeta Pagsasarili Program. This venture aims to educate the young Aetas and train the adults to become productive members of an evolving society.

The noble advocacy of OBMCCF and CDC, through the construction of the Pagsasarili Family Care Center, will always serve as an inspiration to Filipinos. One's tradition and ways must not be lost to industry, especially a culture as special as the Aeta.



# Education for All: Pagsasarili Goes Local

OBMC Founder Dr. Preciosa S. Soliven welcomes guests.

By Ayenne Tabora (10 Emerald)  
Photos by Moisev Sigel Agapito (11 Luna)



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The Voice of the Mindanao Region

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
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"In each child is a secret teacher," Dr. Preciosa S. Soliven emphasized during the inauguration day of the newest Pagsasarili Family Care Center last July 22, 2019. Spearheaded by OB Montessori Child and Community Foundation (OBMCCF) and Clark Development Corporation (CDC), the newest addition to the growing Montessori community provides free quality education to Indigenous Peoples (IPs), both young and old.



As requested by CDC, OB Montessori Center trained four IPs (Wilma S. Mercado, Janet R. Sibal, Myla P. Sevilla, and Joannaliza T. Vergara) to teach 52 young members of the Aeta community. These children will undergo the OB Pagsasarili system of education using

the Montessori method while their parents will undergo the Mothercraft Literacy Program (that includes personal hygiene, basic childcare, sanitation, health care, and livelihood skills).

According to CDC Chairman Jose "Ping" De Jesus, only six out of 10 Aeta children finish primary education. The statistics decline as they get older, he added. The CDC decided to reach out to OBMC and adapt the OB Pagsasarili program into their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects. The long-term plan of OB Pagsasarili was deemed best suited to the IP children's needs. The government has long overlooked the importance given to the education of the IP youth and their parents. Through this OBMCCF-CDC partnership, the Aeta community will understand the workings of the modern world and the role they play in it.

# Philippine Representatives to the FedEx-JA ITC, Malaysia

By Matthew Gabriel Malit (11 Luna)

National champions Kelly Martin (9 Ruby) and Julia Samson (9 Emerald) of OBMC - Angeles, along with winners from OBMC - Las Piñas, advanced to the 2019 Asia Pacific Finals of the FedEx JAPI International Trade Challenge at Pullman Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from August 18 to 22. National winners, from different Asian countries, paired with a fellow competitor from a different country, presented a business proposal for a medicinal product with the target market, Germany.

Julia Samson (Philippines) and Young Pan (China) cemented their spot in the final six, with their product, the *Healthkeeper*, a smartwatch designed as a preventative medical care device. Samson and her partner proposed a product that aims to curb various heart diseases and other illnesses including Alzheimer's. With



China's Young Pan and Julia Samson Courtesy of FedEx-JAPI International Trade



this device, an individual's body indicators such as nicotine and alcohol levels are also monitored to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

Both Martin and Samson expressed that the World Finals was more arduous in comparison to the National competition. Martin stated, "The international competition was a whole new experience for us." She explained that they encountered difficulties such

as understanding varying cultures and perspectives of the participants and the time constraints imposed during the competition. But Martin and her partner did not give up. "Despite the pressures the International Trade Challenge was, without a doubt, one of my greatest and most rewarding experience," Martin added.

Top 6 contender Samson also shared, "The international trade challenge was truly a thrilling experience. It taught me the importance of teamwork and creativity, and it showed me a different view of the business world. Joining this competition was worth it."

# Grade 10 Attend a Meaningful Retreat

By Eleica Snyder and Ayenne Tabora (10 Emerald)

Amid their hectic and busy school life, Grade 10 students were given an opportunity for a temporary respite. They spent August 6 to 7 at the Preziosa Botanic Park & Farm Resort with retreat master Rev. Severo Biton, who engaged them in activities that targeted the cleansing of the soul. This brief escape from the monotonous routine of daily life had only positive effects on the students. They went home tired from the drive, but with a mind as healthy and positive as can be.

One of the highlights of the retreat was the reading of the *Palanca* letters written

by family and friends. These letters were written to encourage or to uplift the spirits of the students amid the challenges they face in their everyday lives. It is important to note that teenage life can be both stressful and confusing.

Significantly, the retreat was an opportunity for the students to reconnect with themselves, with one another, and with others. It was a clear and memorable reminder that despite the hustle and bustle of their busy lives, they can always find encouragement from others and peace within themselves.



Students read Palanca letters from their friends and families.

FEATURES

# Hindi lang Wika... Buhay!

## OBMC - AN celebrates Buwan ng Wika 2019

By Carmela Marie Bien, Jehu Morales, Matthew Gabriel Malit, and Kentaro Punsalan (10 Ruby, 11 Amorsolo, 11 Luna, and 12 Jose)



Claude Tayag



Len Cabili



Alaric Yuson



Gian Javelona

Photos by Moise Sigel Agapito

NEWS



Grade 7 students wowed the audience with their dance. Photos by Alyssa Kayla Dizon



Hosts Alyssa Lagman and Russell Rivera welcome the students and teachers to the event.

Cartoon-themed and every bit exciting, the annual Acquaintance Party took place at Teatro Maximo on July 19. Class officers and student leaders

## ACQUAINTANCE PARTY 2019: HS Students Welcome New Students

By Julia Samson and Trixie Bargamento (9 Emerald and 12 Tinio)

of the Junior High School welcomed the new students of the department. Grade 7 and new students introduced themselves while showcasing their dancing skills with "Everything is Awesome" from the *Lego Movie* and "Immortals" from *Big Hero 6*. Grade 10 student leader Eleica Snyder welcomed the new members of the department with an inspiring speech. Meanwhile, members of the Glee and Dance clubs showcased their talents in stunning and entertaining

performances. The students also participated in a variety of parlor games before they let loose in the traditional free dance. "It was fun. The performances were entertaining and out of the box," Reine Adriano of 7 Ruby said. "My favorite part of the activity was the free dance in the end, especially when the teachers started dancing." Hosted by Grade 10 students Russell Rivera and Alyssa Lagman, this year's Acquaintance Party is one that everyone will remember.

## Vice-Mayor Vega promotes Education Governance Advocacy

By Denise Adriano, Julia Carelle Samson, and Paulo Joshua Pangan (9 Ruby, 9 Emerald, and 11 Luna)

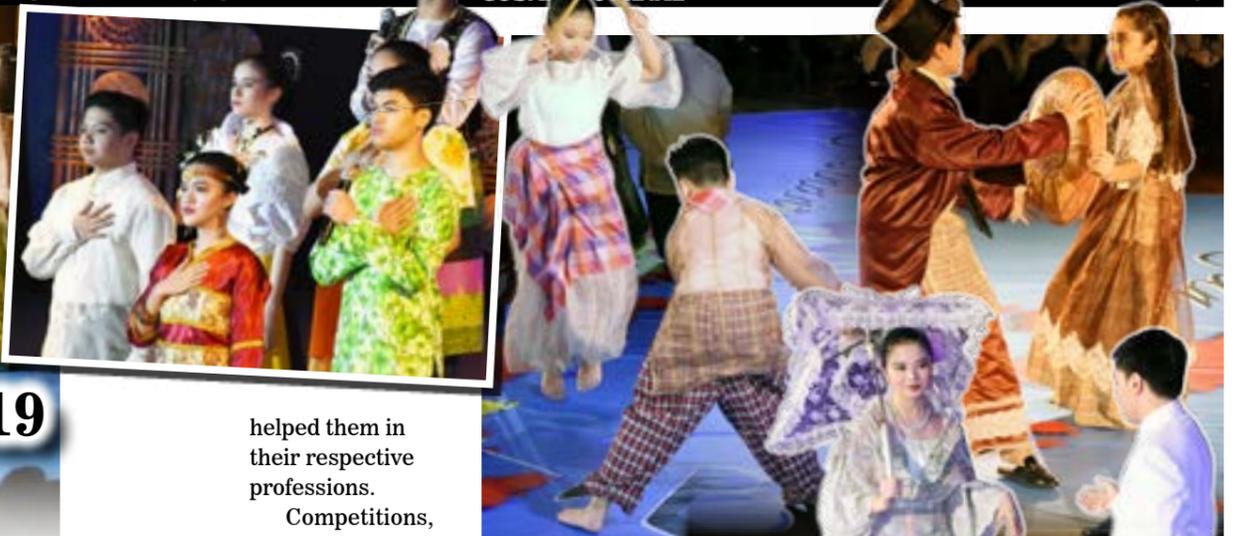
"If not for education, I wouldn't be here." These were the words of Angeles City Vice-Mayor Vicky Vega during her visit to OB Montessori Center - Angeles last July 25. This school visit was part of her "Education Governance," which she considers an important program in her 8-point Legislative Agenda. By creating education-centered programs for students, teachers, and parents, the importance of education for the betterment and progress of the city and the country is promoted. Vice-Mayor Vega has been creating programs geared toward the development of a child in becoming a learned individual by addressing the factors that affect him: self and environment. Her plans include the "Read Along Program" and "Mobile

Library," which focus on honing the reading skills of public school primary students and providing reading materials for all students and schools in need. She has also set up the "Educational Assistance Program" through which she is financially supporting less-privileged students and their families. Furthermore, her "Sulong Kaalaman" program focuses on guiding students, as well as training teachers to be more effective and efficient. The "Parent's Academy," meanwhile, aims to educate the parents on how important their roles are for their children. She also raised that private school students, being more

privileged, should realize their greater responsibility as citizens of this country. Through her programs and projects, Vice-Mayor Vega, who owes her success to education, continues to give back to the people of Angeles by advocating education as the instrument for progress in the society.



The Angeles Campus Journal Team interviews Vice-Mayor Vicky Vega. Photo by Moise Sigel Agapito



helped them in their respective professions. Competitions, such as *Pagbuo ng Poster*, *Pagsulat ng Tula*, *Pagsulat ng Sanaysay*, *Dagliang Talumpati*, and the *OPM Idol* for both Junior and Senior High School were also conducted throughout the month. *Buwan ng Wika* has always been a testament to the brilliance of the Filipino people.

the Philippines and then we do it as a living map so that students will get an idea of exactly how rich the culture is and how rich the languages are." The students also enjoyed a 'Flip Top' performance executed by student rapper Francis Matthew Adriano and the participation of the Marching Band, Rondalla and Anklung ensembles. Another activity for this year's *Buwan ng Wika* celebration was the series of talks: *Apat na Kwento ng Makabuluhan at Malikhaing Filipino*. Students from Grades 9 to 12 went to OBMC Greenhills on August 20 to listen to four speakers: Len Cabili, Claude Tayag, Alaric Yuson, and Gian Javelona. The speakers discussed how the Filipino language and culture

OB Montessori Center - Angeles celebrated this year's *Buwan ng Wika* with a grand spectacle inside Teatro Maximo on August 16 that left students, teachers, and guests in awe. This year's theme, *Hindi lang Wika... Buhay!* sent a strong message that there is more to it than celebrating just the language. It is, more importantly, the celebration of our lives as Filipinos. Directed by esteemed playwright, director, and Palanca awardee Floy Quintos, the Filipino culture across the country was depicted in a 'living,' massive map of the Philippines. Sprawled on

the theater's floor, select students and teachers in traditional costumes danced and sang to music from different provinces. The theme song of the show was written by Floy Quintos and the music was arranged by Krina Cayabyab, an original for OBMC. The performance was choreographed by the Ramon Obusan Folkloric Group, whose founder was a National Artist awardee for preserving authentic Filipino culture through dance and costumes. Director Quintos explained the origin behind his opus: "The whole archipelago [the Philippines] is full of languages; it's very interesting to see. So I said why don't we do it this way... if we can have a big map of



# Meet the new Poetic Teacher, Mr. John Venturero

► *By Ayenne Tabora and Jose Enrique Siongco (10 Emerald and 11 Luna)*

OB Montessori Center - Angeles is fortunate to have another intelligent and talented member in its faculty. Mr. John Romeo L. Venturero, a graduate of UP Diliman with a Bachelor of Arts degree in *Malikhaing Pagsulat sa Filipino*,

joined OBMC teaching Senior High School Filipino and English subjects.

A gifted writer, Mr. Venturero was able to snag the highly-coveted Carlos Palanca Award for *Tula Para sa mga Bata* with his poem, "*Si Iking Pasaway*."

## TEACHER PROFILES

His poetry redefines *pasaway* as an act of discovering and trying things regardless of the social norms and values of the elders. His passion for writing and desire to reach a wider audience, especially the children, inspired him to join the competition. Keeping his younger siblings in mind, he was able to write his poem with a loving heart instead of a competitive spirit.

Mr. Venturero's literary works include poems of different genres and theatrical plays. He said that like any other artist, he still and will always strive to be better because he knows there is much room for improvement.

Mr. Venturero aims to contribute more not only toward the academe but also to Philippine literature and society. To the future and aspiring writers, he says, "Writing is a skill: read as much as you can and never stop writing."

## FEATURES

### Alumni Watch



**Danie Lois B. Bautista**  
*Cum Laude*  
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy  
University of Santo Tomas  
OBMC - Angeles,  
Sandigan Batch 2015



**Ma. Jazmine Alyssa C. Cabais**  
*Cum Laude*  
Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy  
University of Santo Tomas  
OBMC - Angeles,  
Sandigan Batch 2015



**Seanne Veniene C. Esguerra**  
*Magna Cum Laude (University-wide)*  
SGV & Co. Academic Excellence Award (Department-wide)  
Bachelor of Science in Applied Economics (Major in Financial Economics)  
Bachelor of Science in Accountancy  
De La Salle University Manila  
OBMC - Angeles, Batch 2014



**Inah Vanessa L. Teamchai**  
*Magna Cum Laude*  
Outstanding Medical Technology Intern Awardee  
Santo Tomas Scholarship Recipient  
Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology  
University of Santo Tomas  
OBMC - Angeles,  
Sandigan Batch 2015

## LITERARY

### Ako ay Pilipino

► *By Juancho Gabriel Galang (4 Jupiter)*

Ako ay Pilipino sa dugo at salita  
Sa itsura ng mukha  
Tayo man ay magkakaiba  
Mundo natin ay iisa

Ipaglalaban ko ang ating bansa  
Kahit giyera man ay lalaban ako para sa kanya  
Dahil mahal ko  
Ang ating bansa

Ako ay Pilipino  
Dahil kumakain ako ng pagkain natin dito  
Kagaya kapag fiesta, bibingka at puto  
Kapag Pasko

Ako ay Pilipino  
Dahil nagsusuo ako  
Ng pambansang kasuotan ng mga Pilipino  
At maganda itong tingnan kapag may dugo kang tunay na Pilipino



## NEWS

# OBMC trains Yayas and Guardians the 'Montessori Way'

► *By Jehu Morales, Kobe Canivel, and Ysabel Mutuc (11 Luna and 12 Jose)*

What better way to create a consistently healthy, moral, and value-driven environment at school and home? To build not only a strong teacher-to-student bond, but a strong yaya-to-child bond as well? There is only one way to do this, and that is the 'Montessori Way'.

OBMC - Angeles hosted its annual Yaya-Guardian Workshop from August 5 to 16, 2019. According to Casa Academic Coordinator Ms. Mendoza, this allowed the *yayas* and guardians the opportunity to enhance their personality, English language skills, and

their practical skills (good grooming, waste segregation, and gardening), so they can be effective caregivers of their wards.

Aside from the academic learning, they were also given hands-on experience with the applied lessons.

The participants were introduced to the different Casa materials such as the Pouring Juice, Movable Alphabet Box, Decimal Box, and Puzzle



Photos by Moise Sigel Agapito

Map of the World, to name a few. Time was also spent practicing the various grace and etiquette

lesson, practical exercises of teaching their ward how to carry household objects like trays, pitchers, brooms, and dustpans; as well as the using the seven steps rule of sitting down and standing up just as we do in

school. By doing so, the guardians will be able to create a home environment that

complements the school environment. The crucial aspect of the workshop is making the participants understand the Montessori way of doing things so that they can use it at home. Thus, creating a consistent environment for the children. We must not forget that the role of the *yaya* or guardian is also very crucial in the growth and development of the child.

### Envisioning the Past

Procedures done quite grand,  
In generations far down the line.  
Trickling down one's hand,  
As if it were fine wine.

Temporarily living in the past;  
Traveling back to our history.  
The activities that would last;  
Occurring for more than a century.

### Filipino Dishes

Who doesn't love Filipino dishes?  
From the sour sinigang to the exquisite fishes  
Different types of delicacies  
Which will bind a lot of communities

Peculiar sounding foods  
But just a taste will make you want to get all the goods  
Within a blink of an eye,  
You'd be wanting more as if it were a good pie

► *By Trixie Bargamento (12 Tinio)*

Everything that we are,  
All comes from a certain start.  
How we have come so far,  
Prevents us from straying apart.

By the time the future comes,  
Its past is what is known as our present.  
One hopes in amidst of local hums,  
That our tradition does not lessen.

► *By Denise Roxanne Adriano (9 Ruby)*

This will make your taste buds scream  
Once you taste the kare-kare and dirty ice cream

Philippines is such a different place,  
They have amazing taste  
You might feel unsure  
But let me be the first to tell you:  
Tasting these dishes is a dream come true

### Magagandang Asal

► *By Luisa Monique Katigbak (6 Mercury)*

Ang magandang asal na turo ng aming mga magulang,  
Ay hango sa mga ninunong nagturo ng paggalang.

Ang pagsambit ng po at opo sa nakatatanda,  
Ay isang paraan ng paggalang na itinakda.

Ang pagmamano ay isa ring paraan  
Ng pagbibigay respeto na hango sa nakaraan.

Ang pagbigkas ng salamat ay simpleng pagpapahalaga,  
Sa maliit o malaking bagay na ibinahagi ng iba

Kaya mga kabataan lahat ng ito ay tandaan,  
Upang mabuting asal ay mapalaganap  
Sa susunod na henerasyon ay maging ganap.



▣ FEATURES

# DISASTER RESILIENCE DO'S AND DON'TS

Infographics by Raco Kian Bangsil (12 Jose) and Moisev Sigel Agapito (11 Luna)



## OBMC Says Safety First: Earthquake and Fire Drill 2019

► By Paulo Joshua Pangan, Christopher Kobe Canivel, and Isabelle Libunao  
(11 Luna and 12 Jose)

When OB Montessori Center - Angeles conducted its earthquake and fire drill, the Angeles City Fire Department, led by Senior Fire Officer 4 Hernani B. Gloriani, was kind enough to participate in teaching students the proper way on how to react during such calamities. He gave the students proper tips

and protocols to be followed during earthquakes and fires.

Officer Gloriani taught how the 'brigade,' which is composed of class officers or teachers, is responsible for the safety of their classmates or students. Additionally, Officer Gloriani, who was impressed with how the school

conducted its drill, also stated that if the "big one" were to happen, OBMC - Angeles will surely be able to withstand the seismic movements.

Students should always keep themselves knowledgeable and alert on survival the protocols, in case such disasters happen.