

# THE VIBE

VOL 3 ISSUE 4 • 2019

YOUR  
GUIDE TO  
MODERN  
LIVING IN  
THE SOUTH

*Chucho and Mikaela Martinez  
celebrates the season of joy  
with their family*

LIVE

**THE HIGH LIFE**  
LIVING THE BEST LIFE AT  
BRISTOL AT  
PARKWAY PLACE

WORK

**FILIPINO  
HOSPITALITY**  
THE WARMTH OF METRO  
SOUTH'S HOTEL INDUSTRY

PLAY

**CHRISTMAS  
FESTIVITIES**  
A GUIDE ON SPENDING  
YOUR HOLIDAYS IN THE  
GARDEN CITY

The

*Christmas*  
MAGIC



# FILIGREE

*Embracing* Distinction

Actual Photo of Botanika Nature Residences



# MESSAGE FROM THE VIBE TEAM

Christmas is upon us again and so is the end of another decade. At **The Vibe** headquarters, the Christmas issue is easily one of our favorites as it allows us to highlight the best time of the year in Filinvest City. This is also a moment for us to reflect on the year, and how much changes have transpired.

As a township, Filinvest City was abound with new establishments that contribute to its holistic approach of community living, and we can't help but site a few of those developments: Premier buildings Filinvest Axis Towers, Parkway Corporate Center and Griffinstone Alabang opened in response to the ever-increasing demand for more office spaces. This year also marked the commencement of work for the highly anticipated Central Garden which is envisioned to be a major events and convergence space for the public. Also making the list is Festival Mall's ongoing expansion. The biggest mall in Alabang gave us plenty of retail, dining, and entertainment options. Last, but not the least, are the music and arts festivals that keep on getting bigger and better: Wanderland, Festival of Possibilities (Filinvest City's very own signature event), and

the first-ever Hueniverse. Indeed, Filinvest City has ended 2019 with the promise of more progressive and exciting years.

But before we jump in to 2020, let's not forget to enjoy Christmas! Filinvest City always makes it a point to make every year a most meaningful one. The township is turned into a magical village with lights adorning the buildings and streets. The center of activities is at the beautiful Water Park garden of Festival Mall where everyone will find the city's Christmas tree, the stage for the weekend OPM bands, and the best viewing spot for the fireworks. Make sure to visit the different hotels and commercial areas and discover holiday celebration options. We are certain that you will never run out of things to do most especially this season.

As we finally close the pages of 2019, we would like to thank our dear readers for making us part of your reading list. We look forward to bringing you more interesting stories and events that will help enrich your lifestyle.

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

*The Vibe Team*



**PUBLISHER**  
JOSEPHINE GOTIANUN-YAP

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
CATHERINE ILAGAN

**EDITOR-AT-LARGE**  
DON UBALDO

**CREATIVE EDITOR**  
RULA GONGORA

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
MARLA MENDOZA

**FOR ADVERTISING  
INQUIRIES, CALL  
8846-0278  
LOC. 6079**



**FILINVEST CITY**  
Inspiring Possibilities

FILINVESTCITY.COM

## ENUSISITHIN

### 02 THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS

*Celebrating the Holiday Season in the Garden City*

### 04 LIVE: CONDO LIVING

*Living at Bristol at Parkway Place*

### 06 SPECIAL FEATURE

*Filigree: The Gold Standard*

### 08 WORK: IN FOCUS

*Life of a Hotelier:  
Bobby Horrigan of  
Acacia Hotel Manila*

### 09 SPARKLING CITY

*The Winners of the  
Building Decor Contest*

### 10 RESTAURANT ALERT

*New Spots Opening Soon*

### 12 EATS

*Must-Try Restaurants*

### 14 COVER STORY

*Mikaela and Chucho  
Martinez and family*



### 18 CHRISTMAS WONDER

*A Magical Time in  
Filinvest City*

### 22 PLAY

*Holiday Guide on What  
to Do in the Big City*

### 24 COMMUNITY

*Favorite Spots During the  
Holiday Season*

### 26 SEEN & HEARD

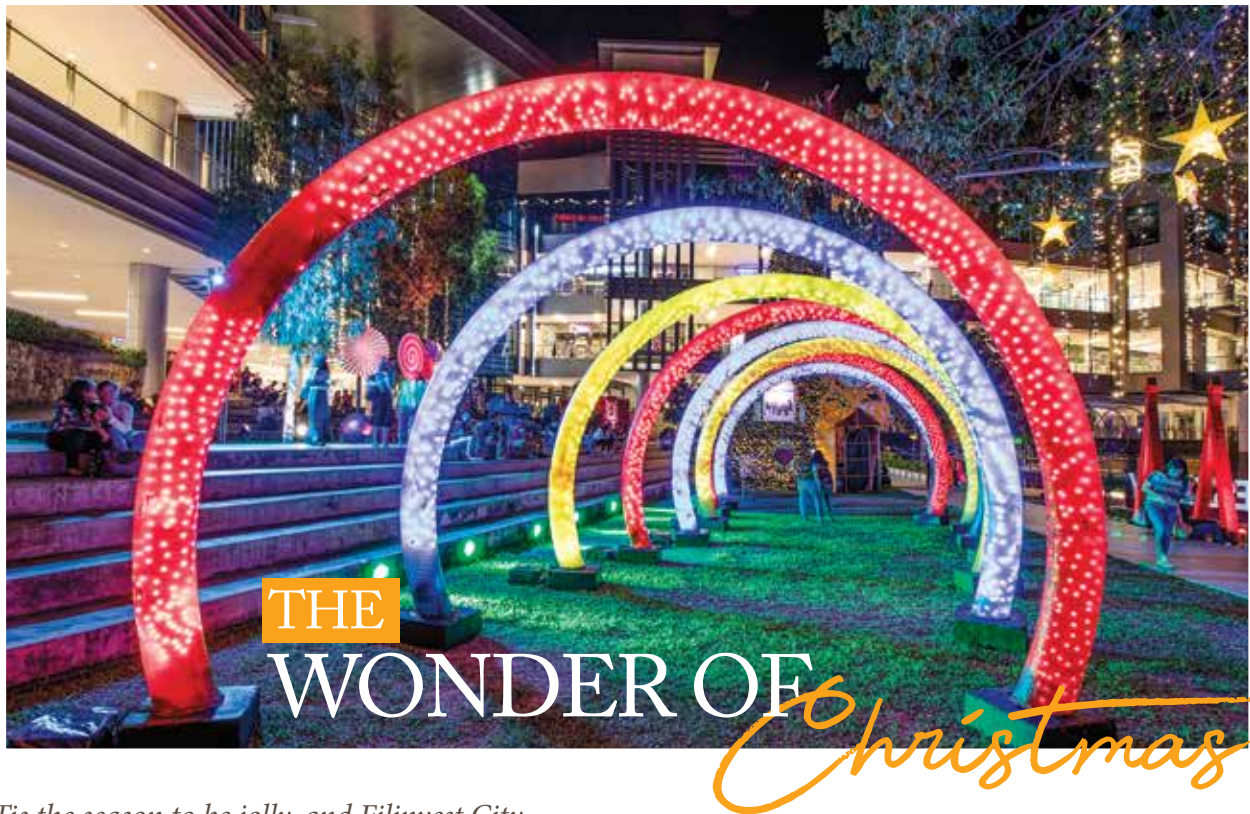
### 28 CITY NEWS



### WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Share with us your comments and suggestions for our upcoming issue.  
Send us a message on Facebook @FilinvestCityOFFICIAL





*'Tis the season to be jolly, and Filinvest City has come together to launch the most magical experience for the whole family this yuletide holiday. The city is in full bloom with radiant lights and shimmering ornaments sprucing up every corner of the community.*

From its gardens and parks, to its residential neighborhoods and locator buildings, Filinvest City has beautifully transformed into a Magical Christmas Village, with commercial establishments leveling up the wonder and whimsy with their own unique Christmas décor.

Giving visitors and cityzens more reason to celebrate, the city and its different establishments have come up with an exciting line up of activities throughout the whole month, offering more delight and opportunities for friends and families to come together.

At Festival Mall, head to the center of the celebrations, to the Water Garden, where fantastic sculptures, a gigantic 42-foot Christmas tree, and Christmas Village become the perfect stage for the mall's weekly concerts. Find here as well Jolly Old St. Nicholas who's ready to list down your children's wishes and is willing to listen to all your heart's desires. At Westgate, choirs and dancers bring out the true spirit of Christmas with jolly carols and heart-thumping performances. Across the city, at different hotels—from Acacia Hotel Manila to Crimson Hotel Alabang—join the fun at their New Year's Eve countdown parties and activities.

As it wraps up the year that was, reflecting in gratitude on the blessings and milestones it has achieved the past 12 months,



Filinvest City also excites the community with its grand plans for next year and beyond!

The CBD is ready to enter 2020 on a high note with its multiple construction developments in the pipeline such as the completion of Central Park and The Lady of Lourdes Chancel, and the building of more spaces for work (office spaces), live (residential buildings), and play (green grounds and retail spaces). So this Christmas season, let us all be merry and celebrate as the vibrant city of Filinvest promise you that it will only get bigger and better for the coming years!



# FILINVEST CITY TOWNSHIP UPDATES

Filinvest City has cemented its position as the premier Garden CBD of Metro South with commanding land values reaching P545k/sq.m net as of July 2019, representing approximately

**300%**  
**INCREASE IN THE  
LAST TEN YEARS**

Development in Filinvest City has seen an uptick with almost 116 buildings completed or has commenced construction from 2012 to date.

## TRAVEL AND CONNECTIVITY

South Station houses provincial and city buses and vans to bring commuters point to point in various areas of Manila and key provinces. The South Station, together with Spectrum Linear Park, has been equipped with 30 minutes free Wi-Fi daily with bandwidth of up to 100 Mbps.

## MASTER-PLANNED COMMUNITY

AS A PREMIER  
RESIDENTIAL  
AND BUSINESS  
ADDRESS,  
FILINVEST CITY  
WILL SOON BE  
HAVING THESE  
PROJECTS:

- Central Park
- The Lady of Lourdes Chapel
- Creekside Park
- Water Recycling Facility
- Water Treatment Plant
- Active Wellness and Lifestyle Hub

## GREENER CITY

Filinvest City prides itself as the first in the Philippines to be registered in the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)—version 4 under the Neighborhood Development Plan category. There are only two certified projects in the same category located in Japan with Platinum and Italy with Gold.

## RESIDENTIAL

ACTUAL BUILD-UP AS OF  
1ST HALF OF 2019:

**312,000 SQ.M**

- **TOTAL NO. OF UNITS:** 4,300 units  
From Studio to 5-bedroom units
- **RECENTLY COMPLETED:**  
Bristol at Parkway Place,  
Botanika Tower 1, Studio City  
Tower 3
- **SOON TO RISE:** 100,000 sq.m\*  
Approximately 3,000 units by 2021  
(Studio City Tower 4, Studio City Tower  
5, The Levels Burbank Tower, Southkey  
Place Residences, and Dormitel)

## RETAIL

ACTUAL BUILD-UP AS OF  
1ST HALF OF 2019

**542,000 SQ.M**

- **RECENTLY COMPLETED:**  
UNIQLO WESTGATE
- **SOON TO RISE:** 8,400 SQ.M\*

## OFFICES

NORTHGATE AND THE REST OF  
FILINVEST CITY OFFICES

ACTUAL BUILD-UP AS OF  
1ST HALF OF 2019

**690,000 SQ.M**

CURRENT LEASING RATES:

**P750-800/ SQ.M**  
**LEASE RATES**

- **SOON TO RISE:** 180,000 SQ.M\*





## LIVING THE LIFE AT BRISTOL

AFTER GRADUATING FROM COLLEGE AND HEADING TO MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA TO COMPLETE HIS MASTER'S, **ENGINEER PATRICK LEBYLE JR.** FELT THE NEED TO GO BACK HOME TO THE PHILIPPINES TO PURSUE A DIFFERENT KIND OF CALLING—TO BECOME AN ENTREPRENEUR.

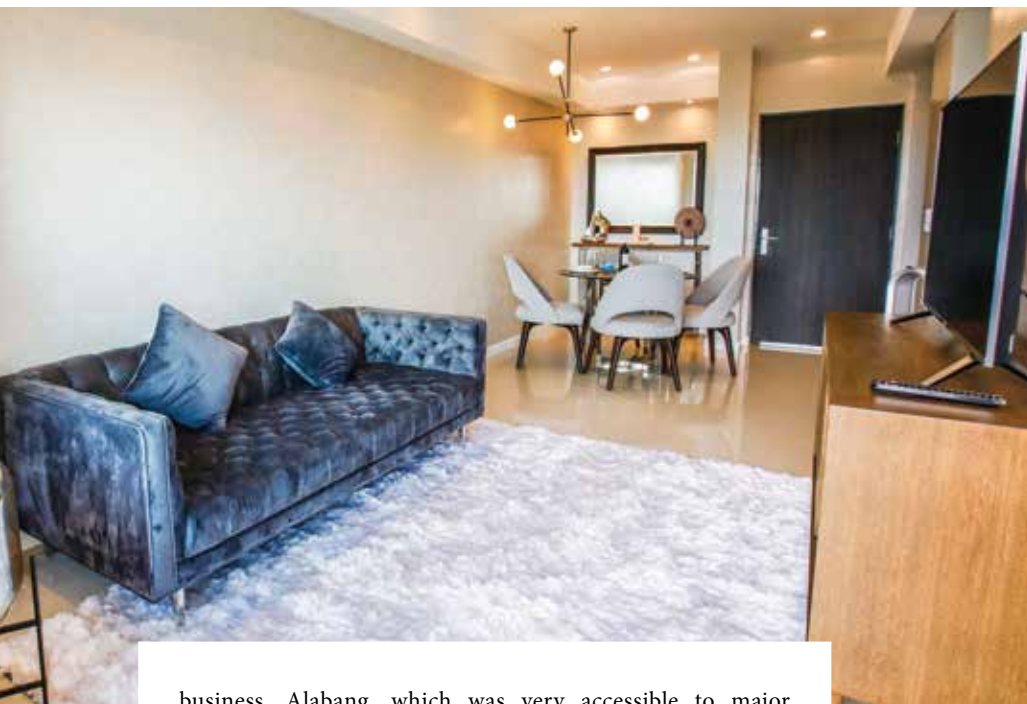
**T**he young professional had stayed in the “Land Down Under” for two years, where he met his business partners. Five minds of the same passion, they had the exciting idea of bringing the concept of new wave café lounges to Manila, recreating the Melbourne experience in the South.

They thought the time was opportune for such an idea as the Alabang foodie community had a healthy appetite and curiosity for new concepts.

For Lebyle, taking the leap into business was easy and going back home and rebuilding a life in the South was even easier. He grew up in Las Piñas City and immediately found his “forever home” at Bristol at Parkway Place located in Filinvest City. It is a one-bedroom unit, which was cozy enough for his needs and big enough for his dreams.

“When I was looking for a place, my number one consideration was location. I wanted something that was very close to my





business. Alabang, which was very accessible to major thoroughfares, had that quiet, family-oriented vibe that I like. There's fresh air, and it's very laid-back here," he nods.

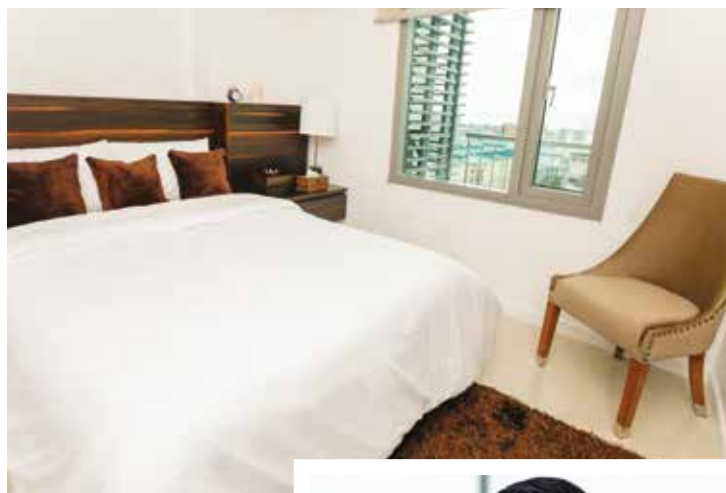
With his restaurant, Southbank Café + Lounge, located at Westgate, it was very important to him that he had a home that made it possible for him to easily head to the restaurant and go to meetings around the city. "And Bristol is perfect, because when you go out, the mall is there, the hospital, Skyway, and SLEX."

With the beautiful sites, generous greenery, and wide avenues, Filinvest City gives Lebyle the feeling of freedom and mobility in the metro suitable for his lifestyle.

"For me, living in a house was not very practical," admits the bachelor. "The upkeep of a house is tedious, and so the condo lifestyle, I found, is a better fit for me and my busy schedule."

"That's what I like about Bristol," he continues. "The space is not too small compared to other condos, and the amenities are top-notch." Bristol boasts complete facilities and an array of amenities one needs to enjoy life in the big city, like an expansive swimming pool, gym with equipment, and of course, 24/7 security.

"Filinvest City really delivers the complete and ideal lifestyle for me. It's laid-back, lots of fresh air, and the accessibility, you won't be able to enjoy anywhere else." And that's all he needs to live the life that he has and wants now.



*"Filinvest City really delivers the complete and ideal lifestyle for me. It's laid-back, lots of fresh air, and the accessibility, you won't be able to enjoy anywhere else."*





# FILIGREE: THE GOLD STANDARD

*By definition, filigree connotes intricate and delicate beauty through the use of fine silvers and gold. It's sophistication wrapped in masterful workmanship. And this sense of artistry is what's imbibed by Filigree, a premier residential developer, which aims to elevate luxury real estate.*

Filigree brings together the definitions of upscale, cosmopolitan living and sustainable, green living, balancing nature and modern comforts to create the ideal home and haven. The brand started building its flagship properties in the South of the metro and will continue to expand in other areas.

In its growing portfolio, Filigree proudly presents four distinct properties in prime locations, namely Botanika Nature Residences (Filinvest City), Bristol at Parkway Place (Filinvest City), The Enclave Alabang (Daang Hari), and The Beaufort (BGC).

The Enclave Alabang's Central Park



The Atrium of Botanika Nature Residences



Botanika Nature Residences

## BOTANIKA NATURE RESIDENCES

As a certified three-star BERDE registered project, Botanika—a low-rise density condominium—has dedicated 70% of its development to gardens and open spaces, and has incorporated smart, green details into its architecture. With its unique atrium design, Botanika camouflages the condominium feel to create a homier yet sweeping, unrestricted living experience for its residents. And delighting its homeowners further, the residential development boasts roof garden terraces, a beautiful central garden, and three residential towers, which house 100 units each, promising exclusivity and much-sought privacy for its residents.





## THE ENCLAVE ALABANG

The Enclave Alabang, along Daang Hari, is a close-knit, exclusive residential address that sits on a 13-hectare prime property. Averaging 350 sq.m for each lot, each home gives you the freedom and space to grow your life as you wish. Enjoy a multi-faceted living experience in a master-planned, modern tropical-inspired sanctuary that accommodates only 218 homes. A stone's throw away from Evia Lifestyle Center, Landers Superstore, MCX, and Festival Mall, The Enclave is perfect for families seeking a home and community where their kids can thrive. Discover intimate comfort with a modern, world-class feel in this posh, exclusive neighborhood.



## BRISTOL AT PARKWAY PLACE

Prominently located at the corner of Corporate Avenue and Parkway Avenue in Filinvest City, also known as the Millionaire's Row, Bristol at Parkway Place is the preferred residence for the driven and passionate who opt for nothing less than the best in life. Living at Bristol places you within easy reach of everything you need: business, leisure, shopping, schools, hospitals, and other essential services. Bristol is a great investment as the demand for living spaces in the area continues to grow. Enjoy living in the future, in the tallest residential building in the city, with unobstructed views, while still enjoying each and every moment of the present.



*As an upscale developer, Filigree understands that true luxury means owning space that contributes to one's overall wellness. This is why it has intentionally maximized development in prime locations, building responsibly and ensuring the harmony of land, space, and nature. With every Filigree property, delight in cosmopolitan, genteel living where all is within easy reach.*

*For more information visit [www.filigree.com.ph](http://www.filigree.com.ph)*

# LIFE OF A HOTELIER

Bobby Horrigan is a true global citizen, having spent the majority of his life working around the world as a hotelier and consultant. And now, he has found his home for this particular chapter in his life, in the sprawling, inspiring grounds that is Filinvest City.



**H**orrigan, the current general manager of Acacia Hotel Manila, has been working in the industry for almost three decades. He was first exposed in hotel and restaurant management business through his father who was a restaurant owner and who took the family on numerous trips—for business and for leisure.

“When I was 13 years old, my father would bring me around Asia and check in at the best hotels and see what service is all about,” begins Horrigan. “At a young age, I realized that it’s not the ‘hardware’ that makes the hotel great, but the people, the culture, and the ethos of the group.”

After graduating from Les Roche International Management School in Switzerland, at 21, Horrigan dived into the thick of training, joining the pre-opening team of the Grand Hyatt Hong Kong Hotel, where he stayed for six years.

Soon he found himself on Philippine shores working as the managing director for Food Asian Concepts, which handled the food and beverage operations of Pan Pacific Manila. With his foot already in the door, he then had the great opportunity to work in the Raintree Hospitality Group where he stayed on as general manager for Discovery Suites for eight years, then VP and GM of Hotel Operations. He later opened and oversaw the operations of small luxury boutique hotels such as Discovery Country Suites in Tagaytay and Discovery Misibis Bay.

Seeking bigger challenges, he finally moved to Acacia Hotel Manila and has been serving as its general manager since 2011. “Acacia Hotel Manila presents a great opportunity, serving an underserved market that is CALABARZON, making Filinvest City such as great location for this hotel.”

Acacia Hotel Manila is a proudly Filipino-owned 5-star hotel that boasts 261 guestrooms, eight function rooms and restaurants. And through the leadership of Horrigan, it’s enjoying greater success as a premier destination in the South.

Not one to rest on his laurels, that same year, he started his own hotels and resorts management company called Horrigan Hospitality, which offers different levels of service from full management, owner’s representative, and consultancy.

While giving his 100% to his career, Horrigan shares that he tries to put in the same effort in maintaining healthy relationships with his family and God. And living in the beautiful South has helped him achieve that incredible balance.

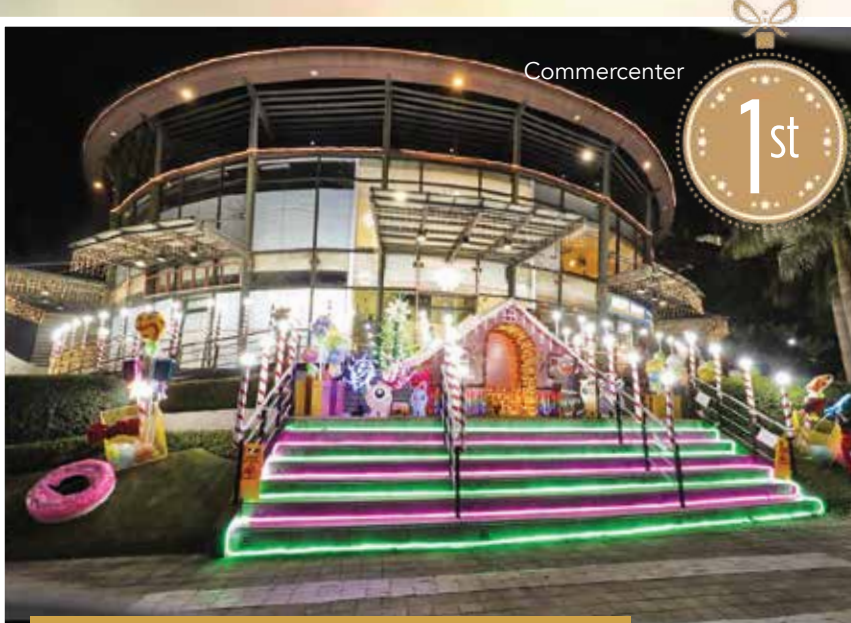
“I lived in Makati, BGC, and Ortigas, and it’s just too crowded, too polluted, too fast paced. Here, down south, it’s more laid-back, more comfortable, with cleaner air, and the people are friendly, because they are not too stressed out,” he observes.

If he wants to seek a corner of calm, all he has to do is take a walk outside and relish the great outdoors and reconnect with nature. And if he wants to sweat out his energy, he just needs to head out to the Palms Country Club, of which has been a loyal member for over 15 years.

He brings his family there often too on the weekends. And if they’re not hitting the pool or the courts, he shares that you’ll often see them hanging around Commercenter, getting their foodie fixes at their favorite restaurants such as Awon, Mona Lisa, Chubby’s and The Farm; or at Westgate for coffee and dessert at Café Breton. He and his son have their own bonding moments, heading over to their favorite barbershop, The Barberian, for their monthly haircuts.

With a happy home life and a fulfilling career tucked neatly in his belt, Horrigan shares the secret to his success. “When it comes to working in the hotel industry, one of my cardinal rules is—the only time you say ‘no’ to a guest is when you tell them ‘no problem!’ he laughs. But in all seriousness, above being a man of service for guests, Horrigan sees himself as a man of service to God, and attributes all his blessings to the One Above. “I believe that above all else, my purpose is to help others by being the best that I can be in the industry. Through what I do, I am able to help others in more meaningful and impactful ways,” he ends.





# THE MAGICAL CHRISTMAS VILLAGE COMES ALIVE

*The city came together to deck their halls with jolly and cheer, leveling up the Christmas vibe this holiday season.*

To tap into the limitless creativity of its locators, Filinvest City hosted the Magical Christmas Village Building Contest, wherein participants had the chance to win up to P300,000, and a trophy.

Coming in at first place, the Commercenter delighted mall-goers with dessert-colored décor, sweet lollipops, and gingerbread houses for its Candyland-themed display. Following in at second place was Asian Hospital & Medical Center, which decided to take inspiration from the enchanted forest with its Magical Christmas Garden. Playing up the elegance and beauty of its locale, Botanika Nature Residences came in at third with its simple yet radiant display of illumined trees, reindeers, and holiday stars.

For the past years, the city has become a go-to destination for the yuletide holiday, thanks to its colorful vibe and exciting festivities for the community, such as concerts, bazaars, and more!

Residents and guests have come to love and expect this every Christmas season, most especially the lighting up of the different streets and parks like Corporate Avenue, Filinvest Avenue, Commerce Avenue, and AZ Road.

More than ushering in magic and wonder in this season of giving, the CBD's city-wide campaign successfully brings together the community, nurturing a sense of pride for their home in the South.



(L-R): Engr. Jove Gaspar from LGU; Architect Luis Lava, VP for Estate Management of Filinvest Alabang Inc.; Denise Lagayan, AVP for Marketing of Festival Supermall Inc.; Evangeline Herrera, AVP for HR Operations Filinvest Alabang Inc.



# NEW RESTAURANT ALERT!

FILINVEST CITY IS FAST-BECOMING KNOWN AS THE “FOODIE CAPITAL OF THE SOUTH,” WHAT WITH ITS EXCITING CULINARY FINDS AND CONCEPTS THAT CONTINUALLY EXCITE THE FOODIE COMMUNITY. THIS COMING YEAR, DISCOVER NEW DINING DESTINATIONS TO TANTALIZE THE TASTE BUDS AND TO SATIATE YOUR EVERY CRAVING. GET READY TO FEAST!



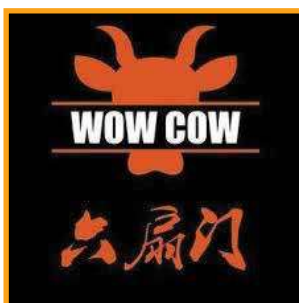
## SOON TO OPEN

Popeye's is back! Established in New Orleans in 1972, Popeye's and its renowned southern fried chicken, biscuits, and fries are ready to take on the growing foodie community in the South. Try out its classic fried chicken with a side of Cajun rice, mashed potatoes or creamy crab soup. But if you're looking for a bolder bite, its spicy chicken delivers that perfect kick of heat. Of course, don't forget to order its array of biscuits, which come in honey, white chocolate, and hazelnut.

**Location: Festival Mall**

## SOON TO OPEN

This December, to help you warm up in this cooler weather, Wowcow opens its doors to serve 100% beef, 100% fresh, and 100% delicious hot pot. Allow the soothing flavors of the broth to thoroughly warm your tummies—as well as your hearts. Choose from an array of sliced meat, fresh herbs, and other toppings to create a bowl that's good for the soul. Enjoy pure, beefy goodness with every spoonful.



**Location: Festival Mall**



## NOW OPEN

After winning over the hungry diners in the Taft community, Angrydobo—helmed by celebrity duo, Judy Ann Santos and Ryan Agoncillo—is ready for its next challenge of satiating the appetites of the Southerners.

Built entirely on the concept of *adobo*, the menu is primed for the Filipino palate, offering an array of rice toppings, which—yes, you guessed it!—play with the idea of *adobo*. Try short ribs, tofu, classic pork belly, or chicken thighs served with a heaping side of *kangkong*, *gising gising*, or *laing*. These are all of course paired with Angrydobo's signature *adobo* glaze, sauce, or vinegar dip. While the *adobo* is, of course, the star of the menu, you'll find other picks that make their way into the spotlight like their sweet desserts—the dark Chocolate Champiscle (72% Davao dark chocolate *chamorado* in a crunchy dark chocolate shell with *tuyo* powder), and the Chocnut Sans Rival (layers of choco peanut meringue, Chocnut butter cream, and crumbled Chocnut).

**Location: Westgate**





### SOON TO OPEN

Ready to serve big families, Tongyang Plus brings its memorable buffet to Festival Mall. Savor a variety of Filipino, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean dishes with over a hundred items included in the lavish spread.

Tasty appetizers include Japanese specialties such as *sushi*, *sashimi*, and *maki*, Chinese *siomai* and shrimp dumplings, and authentic Korean *kimchi*. For its meat selection, enjoy imported US Beef, Yaki-Tori Chicken BBQ, pork neck and belly, imported seafood balls and more. For hotpot, offerings start with a choice of soup base—chicken, *sinigang*, spicy sate, vegetarian, *kimchi*, and Taiwan Mala. Enjoy meatier, more flavorful bites with a buffet that has everything to make your shabu-shabu meal memorable.

**Location: Festival Mall**



### SOON TO OPEN

## PIZZA TELEFONO

Dial up Pizza Telefono when you're craving for a slice. Whether you're looking for a heavy *merienda* or a post-celebration meal, Pizza Telefono lets you load up on great picks such as premium hand-tossed pizzas, fried chicken, baked rolls and an array of pastas. Enjoy classic favorites such as pepperoni and four cheese pizzas. But if you're looking for a more exciting bite, Pizza Telefono also offers Thai Chicken Pizza, Artichokes & Bacon Pizza and the Pacific Clam, for those who love seafood. When dining or ordering here, try as well its famous Chicago Pizza Pot Pie. Turn "hungry" to "happy"!

**Location: Westgate**



**Jim's Recipe (Festival Mall):**  
Cheese Sponge Cake

## SWEET GIFT

*Thinking of what to bring for your Christmas parties at home? You can never go wrong with something sweet like these delicious cakes!*



**Alba (Westgate):**  
Chocolate Tower



**Nono's (Festival Mall):**  
Sylvia's Strawberry Shortcake



**Kumori (Festival Mall):**  
Banana Charlotte



# EATS

## FEASTS + FUNFARE

WHILE THE NOCHE BUENA FEAST WILL ALWAYS REIGN KING DURING THE HOLIDAYS, FOR THOSE OTHER GATHERINGS OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME, CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH PLATES AND PLATTERS AT THESE NEW, EXCITING DINING DESTINATIONS.



### FIREHOUSE PIZZA

The Upper Crust of Italian Fare

Firehouse Pizza, the latest addition to Crimson Hotel Alabang's excellent dining options, puts its own twist to the iconic pizzerias of New York through the masterful palates and skills by executive chef Del Adora, executive pastry chef Benjamin Bourgeois and the rest of the team.

When here, order from a savory selection of signature pizzas, each made on a delicious sourdough base and loaded with top-quality ingredients like authentic Italian cheeses, fresh produce, and excellent meats. Try the refined flavors of its Signature Firehouse pizza, which pairs prosciutto and arugula with piquant peppers and the rich-tasting Times Square pizza with its mix of sausage, eggs, and artichokes. All these pies are baked to perfection in the open fire oven, custom-built for Firehouse in order to ensure its crispy and smoky consistency.

More than a pizza joint, Firehouse also offers a delectable selection of starters and salads, as well as fresh ice cream for those with a sweet tooth. Crafted cocktails expertly prepared at the bar are also available for those looking for a nightcap with friends after a hectic day.

**Location:** *Crimson Hotel*







## HANAMICHI

### Taste of Japan



Experience and savor the refined and delicate taste of premium and traditional Japanese cuisine in Hanamichi. The newly opened restaurant serves full lunch and dinner sets, featuring fresh ingredients flown in weekly from Japan, and especially prepared by two Japanese chefs. Sets include choices of wagyu, chicken, and seafood courses served with a variety of appetizers and sides by Chef Honggo, along with freshly grated wasabi. One must not miss out on trying the Grilled Wagyu Scallops and Assorted Vegetable Set, Kaisen Nabe Seafood Sukiyaki, Unagu (Eel Box) Set, and the Oshizushi a.k.a Batera—a special type of *sushi* that is pressed in traditional Japanese Batera Box.

**Location:** Westgate



## SOUTHBANK CAFÉ + LOUNGE

### A New Wave of Dining

Southbank has found its perfect home, where else but in the flourishing food community in Alabang. Partners Patrick Lebyle Jr., Wendy Esteban, Stevie Ang, and lead chef Martin Espiritu first came up with the concept for Southbank after finding the time ripe to introduce the new wave of cafes and lounges, inspired by the Melbourne scene. Southbank is the perfect actualization of this very vision, offering a cozy corner for relaxed get-togethers and bonding.

For those early morning rendezvous, try the Smashed Avo Toast, which offers a heaping of smashed avocado, feta cheese, edamame, and sous-vide egg served atop a sourdough slice. The Eggs Benedict, the open-faced muffin topped with BBQ pulled pork, egg and rich hollandaise sauce become the ideal complement.

When grazing is preferred, the Potato Croquettes and Shashuka (stewed tomatoes, baked eggs, ricotta) with crostini make for the perfect *pica-pica*. For a heftier fix, the Tiger Prawn Risotto with its satisfying cheesy grains and bits of mushroom and tomato, and the Salmon Aburi Bowl, with toasted salmon, *furikake* spices, seaweed and flying fish eggs, are great for sharing. And let the merriment continue into the wee hours with gins and tonics in hand. A must-try when at Southbank is its gin+cocktail program, where you can sample delicious, original concoctions like the Dear John. You'll be leaving the establishment in high spirits

**Location:** Westgate









# HOME FOR THE *Holidays*

FOR THE MULTI-HYPHENATE (ENTREPRENEUR, INFLUENCER, AND MODEL), MIKAELA LAGDAMEO-MARTINEZ AND HER FAMILY, THE SOUTH HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION AND COMFORT. AND NOW IT BECOMES THE CENTER OF WHIMSY AND WONDER, AS THE CITY COMES ALIVE WITH THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS.

**F**ilinvest City is a radiant CBD, noted for its wide, open spaces, expansive gardens and parks, and generous sunshine. But as beautiful as it is during the day with its emerald, tree-lined avenues, and array of blooms, it is equally gorgeous when dusk breaks, especially now with the streets twinkling bright with Christmas décor and ornaments.

## THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

“Christmas is, no doubt, our favorite time of the year,” nod Mikaela and her husband Chucho Martinez, parents to Noelle (15), Tyler (11), and Maxen (3). “We’re very family-oriented, so the yuletide season is easily one of the holidays that we look forward to,” begins Chucho.

The Martinezes are a proud, close-knit family who enjoys spending time not only together, but with their extended clan. “For the holidays, we don’t usually travel and fly out like others do. We don’t go with the flow, because if you go out, there’s so many people. The airports are packed, and that ruins everything. So we prefer to spend the holidays at home, visiting family and hosting small get-togethers,” he adds.

Aside from hopping from one family’s home to the next, making sure to visit all relatives, Christmas becomes a meaningful celebration—eating feasts, opening gifts at midnight, and upholding family traditions.

For the Martinezes, they usually spend Christmas Eve with Chucho’s family, who lives conveniently within the same neighborhood. “And then we just walk over to our place and host my side of the family for Noche Buena,” smiles Mikaela. “Christmas Day, on the other hand, we spend time with my dad’s side and my *Lola* usually holds a raffle. So we all have fun and look forward to that!” Indeed, there’s no dull moment at home as every corner of the house is filled with family, love, and laughter.

For the sociable couple, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day may be the most hectic days of the season, but their social calendars are already filling up as early as November. And their secret to surviving the holidays? “It’s really all about time management!” laughs Mikaela.

## THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

Beyond the merrymaking, the gifts, the parties, Mikaela as a mom always makes sure to share with her children the meaning



and solemnity of the holidays. “Christmas for me is about recognizing just how good God has been to us throughout the year, so we celebrate Him. Christmas is about giving, and so shopping for presents, wrapping them individually, and giving them to our loved ones makes me so happy,” she nods. “Gifts are actually my language of love.”

And, of course, the family can’t imagine celebrating the holidays anywhere else, because “there’s something truly special about this place,” says Mikaela. From the chilly December breeze, the beautiful lights that decorate the city, to the homey community, and slew of activities that brings the CBD to life during the holidays. “If you live in the south, you would totally understand why we love it here!” shares Mikaela.

### A LIFE FULFILLED

For the family, the South offers everything to live a full and satisfying life. “I do everything here—grocery, Pilates at OneLife Studio in Westgate, get-togethers with my girlfriends, movies, swimming at the club, my kid’s birthday parties, school. All you need is within reach, and I can’t imagine moving back north!” she says.



### “IF YOU LIVE IN THE SOUTH, YOU WOULD TOTALLY UNDERSTAND WHY WE LOVE IT HERE!”

Chucho, who hails from farther south, from the province of Dumaguete, agrees. “(Filinvest City) really feels like home. We feel at home. Though a homebody by nature, Chucho is easily enticed to explore the South, especially as an avid golf player. He regularly heads off to Southwoods, Greenfields, and the Santa Elena golf courses, which are a short drive away from the CBD.

Of course, this spells good times for the brood as well, as Alabang is a convenient access point to the famous beaches of Punta Fuego, Nasugbu, and Calatagan. “But even within the area where we live, there’s so many places to see and activities to do, so there’s never a lack of things to do together as a family,” Chucho adds.

As the power couple reflect on that year that was, their hearts brim with hope and gratitude. They’ve, indeed, been blessed—with health, family, and a happy home life—and so there’s nothing more that they can wish for except for another exceptional and memorable holiday at home.







# LIGHT UP THE WONDER



*The proud “Garden City of Metro South,” Filinvest City, ushers in the season of whimsy and wonder with exciting displays, events and performances, and activities spread all throughout the city for families to enjoy. Make exciting, new memories together now!*





Until December 31, the CBD leads its annual holiday celebration, aptly titled, “Light Up the Wonder,” at the Water Garden of Festival Mall, which has been beautifully transformed into a Christmas Wonderland. With a 42-foot-tall, decked out Christmas tree, colorful, life-sized Christmas village, and an array of yuletide sculptures, set against radiant lights, every corner of the mall becomes the perfect backdrop for your next Instagram-worthy holiday pic—and the children are free to play with the displays, too!

Delighting the young ones, have your kids sit on Santa’s lap and whisper their wishes into his ear as he brightens up the afternoon every Sunday.

In addition to the decorations and displays, visitors and residents are welcome to enjoy the musical experiences every Saturday, helping create wonderful yuletide memories with your friends and family.

Catch Paolo Sandejas and Hale on December 7, Jensen Gomez and Unique on December 14, Quorista





and I Belong to the Zoo on December 21, and The Cosmic Misfits and This Band on December 28. The shows start at 6PM, on the dot, with a spectacular fireworks display capping off the stellar entertainment. So do hang around!

But beyond Festival Mall, the city, too, becomes a charming Christmas destination, with its tree-lined avenues, gardens and parks, and offices shining bright with their own unique holiday decors.

Draft your lists and don't forget to check them twice before you head out to the different shopping malls across the city. And with the CBD's easy accessibility, cheerful, positive vibe, and soothing, cool southern breeze, shopping for Christmas becomes a happy experience.

"Every year, we aim to make Filinvest City the ultimate go-to destination in the south," says Filinvest Alabang Inc. Vice President for townships, Don Ubaldo. "For this year, we made sure to go bigger and brighter, highlighting our newest attraction, the Water Garden at Festival Mall where you can create new holiday timeless memories with your family and friends." It is indeed a very wonderful season!









# Christmas at Filinvest City

## Westgate

Enjoy the Holiday Harmonies this season at the Activity Park while dining al fresco.



## Commercenter

'Tis the season to eat together at our favorite restaurants and watch holiday flicks.



## Filinvest Tent

Christmas shopping all in one place at your favorite Christmas bazaars.



## Festival Mall

Get the family together for the South's very own Christmas Village with live music, festive lights and fireworks!



## Crimson Hotel

Staycation to witness the New Year's countdown.



Never run out of things to do this holiday season at the Garden City of the South.





# MY FIRST LOVE



FOR ONLY

₱ 4,999

PER MONTH



Exercise and  
Recovery



Body  
Simulator



Sleeping  
Accelerator



Work  
Decompression



Shoulder and  
Neck Massage



Lumbar  
Spine Massage

## THE MOST AWAITED **PROGRAM** IS HERE!

### WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT RENT - TO - OWN?



Positive Living offers the most affordable and advanced massage chair ideally for home use through the Rent-To-Own Program. This recently-launched program will let you have your own massage chair at home, My First Love. This program is guaranteed to deliver the best value that you truly deserve.

A golden opportunity finally made possible by Rent-To-Own program because here at Positive Living, we are the solution for a happier lifestyle in everyone's home.

## *Inquire Now!*

# A FESTIVE TIME IN THE CITY

Get to know what the community loves to do in the area during the holidays!



**ALEX FORTUNADO**  
Student

I love going to Festival mall because I like going to Kidzooona, shopping in Landmark, and riding the carousel. I go there with my cousins and the whole family.



**KHRIZEL ASIS-MANALANG**  
Hotelier and Creative Entrepreneur

I used to work in Filinvest City for almost five years and have grown to love it for its laid-back vibe. Now that I am married with a child, I appreciate more the convenience of having everything in one area. Festival Mall is where we would dine, eat, and simply enjoy the day. We also attend Victory here. Everything is just so convenient. Christmas is extra special because of the lights and fireworks.

**ABI PACO**  
Financial Advisor & Events Host

As a runner myself, the safety of my training ground is of paramount importance. Fortunately, I feel extremely safe to run and train in the streets of Filinvest City whether early in the morning or late at night. Thus, the city has become one of my favorite running playgrounds. Additionally, the several awesome restaurants in Westgate are a special treat for my post-run. The Christmas lights every year is something I look forward too as well as it makes it even more enjoyable to run.



**VANESSA MORALES-BALQUIEDRA**

School Owner and Pre-School Teacher

Filinvest City is complete. It's definitely a one-stop shop for my husband and I. We love the new restaurants, the variety of shops and supermarkets too. Now that it's Christmas, Filinvest City makes our whole family happy with the decorations and lights that make this season even more special.







### **IELY AND MIKA MADDELA** **Students**

We like to shop at Festival Mall. Since it got bigger we now have more store options to go to. We also like that there are plenty of milk tea places to choose from. We also enjoy Starbucks at Westgate Center and the clean cinemas at Commercenter.



### **CHESCA ILANO-TAMAYO** **Student**

During Christmas time, I would spend my time in Festival Mall where my family, friends, and I usually are. We would visit the arcade and ride the rollercoaster nonstop. I also love the wide variety of food Festi has!



### **JUSTINE ADRIENNE X. SANTOS** **Student**

I really enjoy watching movies at Commercenter with my family or friends. The theaters are not too big, clean, and have comfortable seats. The food kiosks carry my favorite snacks such as popcorn, french fries, and milk tea. When I watch a movie with my family, we normally grab a bite to eat first around the nearby restaurants located in the same vicinity. Dad always says that it's better to watch in Commercenter because it's easy to find parking.

### **LAWRENCE AND ANDREA G. YABES** **Students**

Festival Mall is our most favorite place in Filinvest. It is huge, well-lit, colorful, clean, and best of all a family-friendly mall.







## CRAWLTOBER FESTIVAL

Organized by the Manila 4X4 Scale RC Group, the Crawltober Festival, held last October 27-28, brought together over 30 RC enthusiasts from all over Metro Manila and the nearby provinces in the south for a fun-fueled day of races, mini cars and big adventure! The two-day event was held at the “Palms Trail,” around the Pacific Rim area in Filinvest City, and allowed enthusiasts to show off their customized RCs, while taking part in exciting, all-terrain challenges around the metro.



## AVON RUN

Last October 19, as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Avon Philippines held the first-ever Pink Light Night Run and Walk to raise awareness on the disease and the importance of making breast self-exams a habit for early detection. The run and walk event, which was held around the CBD and which culminated at the Filinvest City Event Grounds, was the highlight of Avon’s annual Pink Light Project. Among those who participated in run and walkathon were brand ambassadors Marian Rivera, Jennylyn Mercado, Daniel Matsunaga, and Bettina Carlos.



## HUENIVERSE MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Filinvest City Events Grounds welcomed hundreds of festival-goers at the HUEiverse Music Festival, held September 28, 2019. The country’s hottest, homegrown DJs like Ron Poe, Jennifer Lee, Katsy Lee, and Tom Taus hit the stage and delivered some sick beats. They also shared the stage with international artist like DJ Borgeous, who headlined the event. Other musical genres and Filipino talent took the spotlight with performances by Autotelic, Agsunta, Bitá and the Botflies, The Ransom Chiquerrele, and Almo\$, the group behind the hit song *Dalagang Filipina*. Proceeds from the event went to benefit the HUEiverse Foundation for the elderly.



## CRIMSON HOTEL KICKS OFF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Crimson Hotel Filinvest City added sparkle to the season with the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony, held last November 7. The shimmering tree was decked out in brilliant lights and delicate tinsel, with creative installations made out of recycled plastic, paper, metal, and wood by upcycling artist Jevie Pagpaguitan aptly featured beside it.

To add more meaning to the season of giving, Crimson Hotel also launched its expanded CSR program for the year 2020, dubbed the CARE program, which stands for “Crimson Action Reaching Everyone.” The program aims to direct volunteer efforts and initiatives to support the community in Metro South. Its partner for community social action is Gawad Kalinga, Stagezero by Project Pink Support Group for healthcare and awareness, and ABS-CBN Bantay Kalikasan and Green Antz for environment and sustainability. A portion of the proceeds from Crimson Hotel’s festive promotions will aid in sustaining these causes.





# HAUNTED MANILA

**ELEVEN THOUSAND CELEBRATE  
6 DAYS OF HALLOWEEN AT**

Over eleven thousand people revelled at Haunted Manila Festival, a 6-night Halloween celebration from October 26 to 31 at the Filinvest City Events Grounds. Young, old, barkadas, and families enjoyed the week-long celebration that highlighted Filipino music, film, adventure, and excited shrieks of terror.

On October 26, Haunted Manila kicked off with the country's biggest zombie run, Outbreak Manila. Four thousand ran to save their lives in a zombie-infested 5-kilometer course. The zombies were after their brains and life flags, as the objective of the run was to finish the race with at least one of three life flags intact.

Everyone then celebrated their survival from the apocalypse with a Zombie DJ Party.

Other attractions included Breakout Philippines' Haunted Escape Rooms and Scavenger Haunt that put problem-solving skills to the test under the creepy stares of stuff our nightmares are made of. During downtime, horror classics were shown at Pelikulangim, an open air cinema featuring Pinoy horror movies. And since screaming makes one hungry, visitors enjoyed an array of delicious food choices at the Gayuma Food Bazaar.

The festival capped off with the Santelmo Halloween Music Party on October 31 that featured 14 of the country's favorite OPM bands! Over four thousand danced past midnight to the music of UDD, December Avenue, I Belong to the Zoo,

Callalily, Unique, Autotelic, SUD, The Ransom Collective, Cheat, FERN, One Click Straight, Nathan & Mercury, Any Name's Okay, and Aegis!

Haunted Manila Festival was made possible by our official TV partner FOX, co-presented by SIP Purified Water; its official venue partner Filinvest City, official alcohol partner Bacardi; brought to you by Eye Mo and Jack & Jill Cream-O; sponsored by Gino's Brick Oven Pizza, Cello's Doughnuts, Havaianas, Mentos, and Jollibee; hotel partners Azumi Boutique Hotel, The Bellevue Manila, and B Hotel Alabang; mall partner Festival Mall, movie partner Regal Entertainment, with special thanks to Linya Linya.





## FILINVEST ALABANG INC. AND MITSUBISHI CORP. PARTNER TO BUILD ANOTHER MIXED-USE COMPLEX

In another testament of Metro South's growing significance as a rising economic capital, Filinvest Alabang, Inc. (FAI), a subsidiary of Filinvest Development Corp., entered a joint-venture agreement with Mitsubishi Corp., a global integrated business enterprise that develops and operates businesses in various industries.

The agreement paves the way for the development and construction of a multi-tower, mixed-use complex on almost 17,000 sq.m of land at the heart of the city.

This new project will feature grade A office spaces, complemented with impressive retail concepts, bringing together the vision of the live-play-work lifestyle the city has always promised.

This new mixed-use development will be situated across the newly expanded Festival Mall, adjacent to the premier residential strip of Parkway Avenue, and will also have direct access to the much-anticipated Central Park, another crown jewel development.

An estimated P15 billion has been earmarked for the project, and it is anticipated to add approximately 183,000 sq.m of mixed-use GLA to the booming central business district.

"We are very pleased to enter into an agreement with Mitsubishi Corp., and we are optimistic that our synergy will bring forth another first-of-its-kind development that will complement the growth and vision of Filinvest City," says Catherine Ilagan, FAI president.



From left to right: Catherine Ilagan, President and Chief Operating Officer of Filinvest Alabang Inc.; Josephine Gotianun-Yap, Chief Executive Officer of Filinvest Alabang Inc.; Kenichi Kumemoto, Head of Urban Development Division, Mitsubishi Corporation Manila Branch; Masahiro Nagaoka, General Manager for Asia Real Estate Development of Mitsubishi Corporation



From left to right: Catherine Ilagan, President and Chief Operating Officer of Filinvest Alabang Inc.; Josephine Gotianun-Yap, Chief Executive Officer of Filinvest Alabang Inc.; Kenichi Kumemoto, Head of Urban Development Division, Mitsubishi Corporation Manila Branch; Masahiro Nagaoka, General Manager for Asia Real Estate Development of Mitsubishi Corporation; standing are the management team for FAI and Mitsubishi together with external counsels

## FILINVEST CITY: OFFICIAL VENUE PARTNER OF 2019 SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES



We win as one! Filinvest City proudly becomes one of the official venue partners of this year's of the 2019 Southeast Asian Games, hosting one of the sports competitions at the Spectrum Midway Avenue. The Obstacle Course Racing will feature six events, namely two events each for 100 meters with 10 obstacles, 400 meters with 12 obstacles, and 5 km with 20 obstacles. Filinvest City—represented by assistant managers, Bryan Bautista and Abi Atienza—participated in the sponsors' pledge signing ceremony in Clark, Pampanga, and were joined by PHISGOC Chief Operating Officer Ramon Suzara and House Speaker and Philippine SEA Games Organizing Committee chair Alan Peter Cayetano.





INVEST  
IN YOUR OWN  
PREMIUM  
CORPORATE  
ADDRESS



PARKWAY  
CORPORATE CENTER  
FILINVEST CITY

NOW READY FOR OCCUPANCY  
[PARKWAYCORPORATE.COM](http://PARKWAYCORPORATE.COM)





# LIGHT UP THE *Wonder*

AT  **FILINVEST CITY**

Experience a magical Christmas with our nightly Lights Show

**NOV. 15 - DEC. 31**  
**WATER GARDEN, FESTIVAL MALL**



**FILINVESTCITYOFFICIAL**

**WWW.FILINVESTCITY.COM**