



USS Wasp, Marines arrive in the Philippines for Balikatan exercise

From USS Wasp Public Affairs

SUBIC BAY, Philippines (NNS) -- The amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1), with embarked Marines from Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force (SPMAGTF) 4, led by 4th Marine Regiment, arrived in Subic Bay, March 30, in preparation for exercise Balikatan.

Balikatan is an exercise between the Republic of the Philippines and the United States, and also features participation from Australia. Balikatan is a Tagalog phrase for "shoulder-to-shoulder," which characterizes the spirit of the exercise and represents the partnership between the U.S. and the Philippines.

"We are excited to visit the Philippines for the first time since Wasp was forward deployed to 7th Fleet," said Capt. Colby Howard, Wasp's commanding officer. "Balikatan is a great opportunity for the Navy, Marine Corps team and our allies from the Republic of the Philippines to learn from one another, and further improve our ability operate together."

During Balikatan 2019, U.S. and Philippine forces will conduct amphibious operations, live-fire training, urban operations, aviation operations, and counterterrorism response. All events will take place in Luzon and Palawan.

This will be the first Exercise Balikatan to incorporate the Wasp with the embarked United States Marines Corps' F-35B Lightning II aircraft. Together they represent an increase in military capability committed to a free and open Indo-Pacific region. Participating in

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P392.5-M Japanese steel firm invests in Subic

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT -- A Japanese steel company is set to invest P392.5 million in this premier free port to produce gear parts for industrial robots and specialty steel products for other companies here and abroad.

Taiyo Subic Philippines Corporation, a subsidiary of Japanese integrated special steel trading firm Taiyo Shoji Co., Ltd., was established here in February and has leased a 6,200-square meter facility at the Subic Techno Park (STP) here.

Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) Chairman and Administrator Wilma T. Eisma said Taiyo Subic has initially subleased a property with Nidec Subic Philippine Corp., another Japanese company at the STP, which manufactures spindle motors for hard disk drives.

"But Taiyo Subic has committed to construct its own factory here within this year at the cost of P142.5 million," Eisma said during a media briefing here on Friday.

"This only goes to show the continuing confidence among Japanese investor-companies in Subic," she added.

The new company has located in Subic to engage in the business of importation and exportation of special steel materials, and manufacturing of parts for use in the automobile industry, industrial machineries, plant machineries, and information technology.

It plans to set up a manufacturing facility that will manufacture and supply specialized gear parts for industrial robots both in the Philippines and abroad.

According to its business plan, Taiyo Subic will import materials from

see JAPANESE STEEL, page 02



SUBIC BAY, Philippines . Sailors aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) man the rails while arriving in Subic Bay for Exercise Balikatan. Exercise Balikatan, in its 35th iteration, is an annual U.S., Philippine military training exercise focused on a variety of missions, including humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, counter-terrorism, and other combined military operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Daniel Barker)

U.S. Trains Philippine Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Justices on Cybercrime



Seated, from left to right: Supreme Court Associate Justices Rosemari Carandang, Andres Reyes Jr., Estela Perlas-Bernabe, Antonio Carpio, Chief Justice Lucas Bersamin, Associate Justices Mariano Del Castillo, Marvic Leonen, Alexander Gesmundo, and Amy Lazaro-Javier. Standing, from left to right: Court Administrator Midas Marquez, U.S. Department of Justice (U.S. DOJ) Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance, and Training (OPDAT) Technical Advisor Felix Camerino, U.S. DOJ Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section (CCIPS) Senior Digital Investigative Analyst Daniel Ogden, CCIPS Cybercrime Lab Director Ovie Carroll, OPDAT Resident Legal Advisor David Bragdon, and OPDAT Legal Specialist Guia Montealto.

Manila — The U.S. Embassy in the Philippines, through the U.S. Department of Justice (U.S. DOJ) Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance, and Training (OPDAT), coordinated with the Supreme Court Sub-Committee on Commercial Courts (SCC) to train nine Supreme Court justices and more than 30 Court of Appeals justices on cybercrime on March 25, 2019.

The Supreme Court is in the process of implementing the new Rule on Cybercrime Warrants (RCW), which facilitates the detection, investigation, and prosecution of cybercrime offenses. This training supported the implementation of the RCW and addressed new issues posed by emerging computer-facilitated crimes, including digital security and privacy risks. This is part of an OPDAT partnership with the Philippines to build

government capacity to effectively fight cyber-enabled crimes.

At the training, Ovie Carroll, U.S. DOJ Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section (CCIPS) Cybercrime Laboratory Director, and Daniel Ogden, CCIPS Senior Digital Investigative Analyst, discussed the nuances and evidentiary value of computer data in comparison to traditional evidence, as well as the security risks and benefits inherent in digital devices. They also shared techniques for gathering, preserving, and analyzing digital evidence. Their presentation provided the justices with practical insights to help them apply and enhance the RCW.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Lucas Bersamin explained, "The speed of technological development creates blind spots in matters of personal security and privacy. The briefing on digital security

was truly informative and invaluable for us in the Judiciary."

Court of Appeals Presiding Judge Ramon Barza, who attended the session for appellate justices, said, "The talk gave a refreshing view on the impact of cyber technology on gathering evidence and building up cases, especially for the prosecution."

The U.S. Embassy, through OPDAT, is working with Philippine partners to enhance justice sector capabilities via trainings for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officials, and government agencies on combatting transnational crimes. OPDAT also helped develop instructional videos and a new cybercrime course for criminology schools nationwide. OPDAT will conduct cybercrime training for northern Luzon judges from April 4 to 5 in Baguio City.

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SBMA FIRE OLYMPICS



SBMA Chairman and CEO Wilma T. Eisma joins members of fire brigades from various locator-companies in the Subic Bay Freeport Zone during the Subic Fire Olympics 2019 held at the Subic Bay Gateway Park on March 29. The participants competed in industrial/commercial fire-fighting and rescue scenario competition.



A fire brigade member from Pure Petroleum Corp. unrolls a fire hose during a Subic Fire Olympics 2019 competition held at the Subic Bay Gateway Park on March 29.

JAPANESE STEEL.....from page 01

Taiyo Japan and Daido Steel Co., one of the world's largest specialty steel manufacturers, refine these materials, and thereafter supply precision materials and gear parts to other companies here and abroad.

Specifically, Taiyo Subic will supply speed reducers for Subic Nidec, using the special materials and parts that were developed by Taiyo Japan and Daido Steel.

The firm plans to supply Nidec Subic with 100,000 units of speed reducers per month by March 2020.

The entry of another Japanese manufacturer here heralds a resurgence of Japanese investments in the Subic Bay Freeport, noted Chairman Eisma.

Just this January, Nidec Shimpo, a sister company of Nidec Subic, launched in Subic an entirely new product line for super-silent speed reducers that has not been manufactured elsewhere in the world.

This was followed in March by the opening of a research and product development facility by Japanese technology firm Sanyo Denki Philippines, Inc. also at the Subic Techno Park.

Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines Koji Haneda, who graced the Nidec Shimpo inauguration, said the new projects show "the continuing Japanese investor confidence in the Philippines' business potential."



A rescue team from the Philippine Coastal Storage and Pipeline Corp. carries a "victim" during a rescue scenario in the Subic Fire Olympics 2019 held at the Subic Bay Gateway Park on March 29.

USS WASPS.....from page 01



SUBIC BAY, Philippines. Sailors aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) man the rails while arriving in Subic Bay for Exercise Balikatan. Exercise Balikatan, in its 35th iteration, is an annual U.S., Philippine military training exercise focused on a variety of missions, including humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, counter-terrorism, and other combined military operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Benjamin F. Davella III)

Balikatan demonstrates their ability to quickly forward deploy in support of an ally should a crisis or natural disaster occur.

Balikatan 2019 will also bring together ASEAN members for an International Observers Program. The program aims to promote greater defense cooperation with ASEAN and other key allies and partners; show multinational coordination where the observers can mutually exchange meaningful ideas and best practices; and showcase the joint and combined air, sea and ground operation of the AFP-U.S. armed forces.

This year's Balikatan focuses on maritime security and amphibious capabilities, as well as multinational interoperability through military exchanges. Exercises like Balikatan strengthen international partnerships and the participating militaries' abilities to rapidly respond in unison to crises throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

USS Wasp is the flagship for the Wasp Amphibious Ready Group and is currently forward deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations to provide a ready-response force for any type of contingency.

DFA mulls consular office in Subic Bay Freeport



Hundreds of applicants queue for the processing of their passport during the DFA-SBMA Passport on Wheels project at the Harbor Point Ayala Mall on March 29, ample proof that a consular office is needed to serve the public in the Subic Bay Freeport area.

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT —The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) is now considering the establishment of a permanent consular office in this free port to better serve the public in the Subic Bay area and nearby parts of Central Luzon.

DFA Assistant Secretary Neil Frank Ferrer announced this during the agency's passport processing project that was held last week at the Harbor Point Ayala Mall in partnership with the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA).

"This is our commitment—to bring our services closer to the public, closer to you people. We will not be just an ad hoc passporting on wheels. Our intention is to put up a permanent presence here," said Ferrer, who joined the DFA team here to coordinate and look for a possible location for an office.

The DFA official added that with a permanent consular office in Subic, the agency will also be able to provide services like document authentication, assistance to nationals, and delayed registration of birth, marriage or death for Filipinos abroad.

"It will be a complete service, like a mini-DFA," Ferrer said. "We are excited in having that office put up here soon."

In January last year, SBMA Chairman and Administrator Wilma T. Eisma said she has requested the DFA to conduct passport processing here at least twice a year and, later on, to establish full consular services at the Subic Bay Freeport.

Eisma made the request after noting the huge number of passport applicants who queue for processing each time a passport-on-wheels team arrived in Subic.

Ferrer said the DFA has already established 34 consular offices across the country.

Recently, it opened seven new consular offices in Malolos, Bulacan; Ilocos Norte; Isabela; San Pablo, Laguna; Antipolo, Rizal; Tagum City, Davao del Norte; and Clarin, Misamis Occidental, he said.

SBMA deputy administrator for administration Ruel John T. Kabigting, who welcomed the DFA group during the passport processing project, said that he has been receiving positive feedback on passport processing events here.

"Applying for a passport in Subic became very convenient for the people because there is no need for them to travel to the regional office or to Manila. And they are thankful for this project," Kabigting said.

A total of 818 passport applications were processed here in the March 29 project at the Harbor Point, according to the SBMA technical working group for corporate social responsibility (TWG for CSR), which is the prime-mover of the mobile passport processing project.

This was the third passport processing project of the SBMA TWG for CSR that was held in cooperation with the DFA, Harbor Point Ayala Mall, and Converge ICT.

The TWG for CSR consists of about 50 SBMA employee-volunteers who render public service to the public through projects like passport on wheels, fire-arms licensing, and civil registration.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given to the public that an **EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF DECEASED PERSON WITH DEED OF RENUNCIATION AND QUITCLAIM** was made and executed by the lawful heirs and successors of the deceased **RUBEN SANTIAGO, SR. and NATIVIDAD L. SANTIAGO**, who died intestate on OCTOBER 10 and AUGUST 24, 2001 RESPECTIVELY in San Fernando City, Pampanga, Philippines as per Doc no 46, Page No. 11 Book No X Series of 2019 in the notarial registry of Atty. Juanito C. Atienza.

All interested parties, creditors, and persons having money claims against the decedent are hereby required to file their claims with the court appointed executor of their estate.



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At The Lighthouse Marina Resort Earth Hour: Fun Walk/ Run with Family and Pets

The Lighthouse Marina Resort in Subic Bay is an advocate of sustainable tourism and annually celebrates Earth Hour through different initiatives. Last 2018, the hotel conducted a Fun Walk/Run activity with family and pets to help a community without source of electricity by providing solar powered house lamp and street lights through the funds raised.

This year, together with Subic Enerzone Corporation and SBMA Ecology with the hopes of giving a more sustainable help to the chosen community, this year's Earth Hour was celebrated with the stronger support and a bigger goal. In line with this year's #Connect2Earth theme of Earth Hour, another Fun Walk/Run with family and pets at Subic Bay Freeport Zone was initiated. The proceeds of the activity will be used to purchase more solar-powered lamps for the chosen community without a source of electricity in Olongapo City.

The marathon was then followed by a short program to increase the awareness of the participants when it comes to environmental challenges that the world is facing nowadays. Hotels, restaurants, and other establishments participated in the Earth Hour movement by turning their lights off for 60 minutes. Candles were lighted as a symbolism of the activity and the crowd was entertained by the Amazing Ultimate Tribe Dancers.

The following sponsors were present during the event: Ms. Iya Oliva from Subic Bay News, Mr. Mars Escobar from Subic Enerzone, Mr. Chico Fernandez from Moonbay Marina and Ms. Krista Claos from Banda Solar. (SubicBayNews photos by Iya G. Oliva)



AROUND CENTRAL LUZON

Zambales celebrates mango industry

IBA, Zambales -- Clad in colorful mango-inspired costumes, street dancers on Sunday took to the streets for the annual province-wide festival that celebrates the local thriving mango industry.

This province is known world-wide for the sweet mango varieties that grow here. In fact, the Sweet Elena carabao mango, which only grows here, was cited in the Guinness Book of World Records (world's sweetest) in 1995.

This paved the way for the yearly festivity known as "Dinamulag Festival," to celebrate the bountiful harvest of other mango varieties known also for their large sizes.

Governor Amor Deloso said the festival aims not only to promote their world-famous produce but to encourage people to visit Zambales.

"Zambales is more than just a mining province, it is a rising tourist site," Deloso said.

In the last two weeks, locals and tourists alike witnessed many activities connected to the festival.

Among these were Zamba Tuklas Talento, I Love Zambales Zumba Session, Ginoong Millennial Zambales, Musikalikan Beach Mardi Gras, Sambaliwanag Float Parade, Environmental Summit, Tanghalang Zambaleño, Padagaw Nin Aytan Zambaleño, Lakbaycycle Tour,

Binibining Zambales 2019, and the Earth Hour Celebration.

"The celebration of the Zambales mango is more than just the mango itself. Truly, the event is a celebration of Zambales and the many things one can do in the province," Omar Deloso, chair of the festival, said.

He said the annual revelry has gotten more exciting with improvements in the staging of the Bb. Zambales and Ginoong Millennials.

Meanwhile, Zambales Vice Gov. Angel Magsaysay said, "Zambales has become one of the popular summer destinations in the country, not only because it is blessed with beautiful beaches, but also because of its sweet kinalabaw (dinamulag) mangoes".

She said the Dinamulag Festival celebration is about creating a legacy, adding that, "What we're doing here today is to inspire our future generations to inspire our people."

Meantime, Rep. Cheryl Deloso-Montalla of Zambales' 2nd district, declared this year's festival a success.

"I have always been proud of the province of Zambales and I always say that our province is the most beautiful province in the country because we are beautifully sandwiched by mountains and sea," Montalla said. (PNA)

Clark passenger arrivals hit 1M plus in Q1

CLARK FREEPORT, Pampanga — Passenger arrivals at the Clark International Airport (CRK) reached more than a million from January to March this year, the airport's highest number in quarterly passenger traffic.

Jaime Melo, president of the Clark International Airport Corp. (CIAC), said the CRK tallied a total of 1,019,671 passengers during the first quarter from both international and domestic flights.

"Six years ago, it was a record number if you hit the one million passenger mark in a year. CRK had 1.3 million and 1.2 million passengers in 2012 and 2013, respectively. Now, we broke that mark in just three months, so far the highest quarterly figure in the airport's 24-year history," Melo said.

Last January, there was a total of 364,171 passengers who traveled via Clark, the highest count of passengers in one month.

"More travelers choose Clark because of congestion in Metro Manila. There are also improvements of terminal facilities here (at CRK) and a more focused and precise operational direction from CIAC management," he said.

The CIAC executive likewise said that revenues have also increased commensurately, a huge improvement from three to five years ago with more airlines signifying to mount flights.

Proposed \$500-M waste-to-energy plant in Bataan

BALANGA CITY, Bataan -- The provincial government announced Friday that a British banker has presented a proposal to build a 100-megawatt (MGW) power plant using solid wastes with funding of USD500 million.

Vice Governor Crisanta Garcia said documentation was already ongoing for the proponent's desire to set up the plant at the Freeport Area of Bataan in Mariveles town.

"It will be the first such technology converting solid wastes to energy in Bataan," she said.

Banker David Wood, also the chief executive officer (CEO) of cocopower and who will fund the project, said it will be under the public-private partnership (PPP) but with almost no cost for the provincial government.

Mar Supnad, a journalist who introduced the investors to provincial officials, said the provincial government will only provide 15 hectares of land as counterpart.

He said that funding is ready and once documentation is finished, the proponents wanted the construction to start this May.

Wood said the project, under

Melo attributed the surge in CRK numbers to the support of the Duterte administration and the leadership of Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade, who, in 2016, led officials in urging local carriers to move some of their operations to Clark.

The airport chief said the current CRK terminal's capacity is at 4.2 million passengers.

"With a monthly average of 340,000 travelers, CIAC will be able to breach the four-million passenger mark by the year's end," he added.

A new terminal building will be operational by 2020 and will be able to accommodate an additional 8 million passengers per year.

CRK's international destinations include Doha and Dubai in the Middle East, South Korea, Osaka, Hong Kong, Macau, Taipei, Singapore and soon, Narita, while negotiations are ongoing for airlines to mount Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur flights, among others.

The airport is also connected to major domestic destinations, among them Cebu, Boracay, Bacolod, Davao, and Palawan.

The average daily passenger volume at the CRK is 11,500, served by a total of 734 weekly flights -- 246 international and 488 domestic. (PNA)

the state of the art Australian technology, will be the first in Bataan and in the Philippines, which will process wastes to energy.

"It is green energy to replace coal. The technology will solve environmental problems," the foreign banker said.

He said that for the first phase of the project of 50-MGW, the operation needs 1,500 tons of garbage a day.

If the garbage supply will not be enough, the company will ask farmers to plant Napier grass as fuel for the plant that will provide additional income for the residents, Supnad said.

"It will have a positive effect on the environment for it will produce clean power," Wood said.

He said there will be no more landfill and there will be close to zero harmful emission and a smokeless fuel.

Edgardo Rivera, CEO of Disruptive Corp. and who will provide the technology and the machinery, said they will strictly comply with the country's Solid Waste Management Act.

They also thanked Governor Albert Garcia and the vice-governor for the accommodation. (PNA)

IN THE NAVY



PHILIPPINE SEA. F-35B Lightning II aircraft assigned to Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 121 and MV-22 Ospreys tilt-rotor aircraft assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 268 are secured to the flight deck of the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1). Wasp, flagship of Wasp Amphibious Ready Group, is operating in the Indo-Pacific region to enhance interoperability with partners and serve as a lethal ready-response force for any type of contingency. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Daniel Barker)



SUBIC BAY, Philippines. Sailors aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) man the rails while arriving in Subic Bay for Exercise Balikatan. Exercise Balikatan, in its 35th iteration, is an annual U.S., Philippine military training exercise focused on a variety of missions, including humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, counter-terrorism, and other combined military operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Daniel Barker.)



YOKOSUKA, Japan. The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Stethem (DDG 63) is moored at Fleet Activities (FLEACT) Yokosuka, April 4, 2019. FLEACT Yokosuka provides, maintains, and operates base facilities and services in support of the U.S. 7th Fleet's forward-deployed naval forces, 71 tenant commands, and more than 27,000 military and civilian personnel. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Tyler R. Fraser)



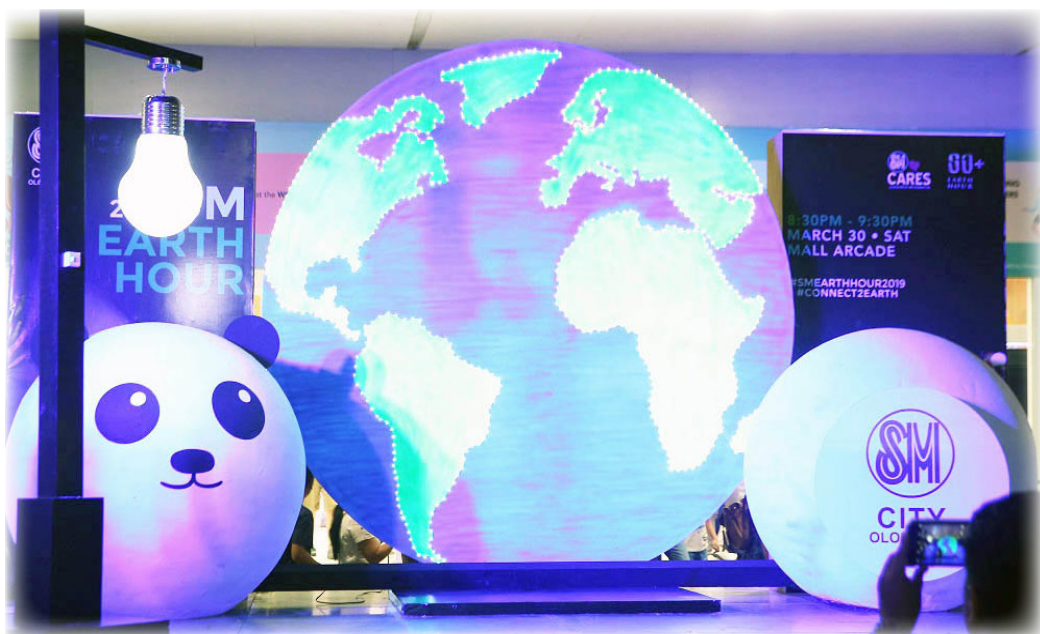
PEARL HARBOR. Sailors man the rails aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Zumwalt (DDG 1000) as the ship pulls into Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Zumwalt-class destroyers provide the Navy with agile military advantages at sea and with ground forces ashore. (U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Holly L. Herline)



SM JOINS EARTH HOUR 2019



SM City Olongapo mall manager Mark Herrera (L) leads the Earth Hour celebration with City Tourism head Fifi Legaspi, JCI President Jason Gavina, Boy Scouts of the Philippines representative and the newly crowned winners of Munting Mutya ng Olongapo.



Earth Hour 2019 centerpiece of SM City Olongapo is made of reused tarpaulin painted with glowing paint depicting planet Earth and is further enhanced by outlining the map with energy efficient fairy lights.

Through the initiative of SM City Olongapo, the observance of Earth Hour was conducted in partnership with the local government of Olongapo and the different establishments inside the mall.

SM aims to inspire everyone that Earth Hour is not just about an hour of lights off, it's what everyone can do to the community, to the world and to the planet. The mall's participation includes switching off 100% of mall's lighted logos, 50% of Mall interior lights and perimeter lights including tenants lightings while remain open to loyal patrons.

The switching off of lights happened at exactly 8:30pm with the presence of SM Olongapo Mall Manager Mark Herrera, Olongapo City Tourism head Fifi Legaspi, JCI local president Jason Gavina, Boy Scouts of the Philippines Olongapo chapter, the 2019 Munt-

ing Mutya winners, parents, tenants, mall agencies and SM employees.

Herrera highlighted in his speech the environmental programs of SM Supermalls that focus on efficient business and environmental stewardship, the "Trash to Cash Recycling Market" every 1st Friday and Saturday of the month, Green Retail Agenda and Green Film Festival.

The company has taken measures to prioritize the efficient management of its resources and religiously tracks its use of energy and water, as well as its waste and emissions. SM implements mitigation measures to ensure that these aspects are managed at optimal levels.

SM hopes to significantly contribute to the total reduction in consumable energy and thus, impact to the overall goal of Earth Hour. (SMOL)