

๗๙ 8163 ๗๙ 6147 ๗๙ 6440
 ภูเก็ต ภูเก็ต ภูเก็ต
Rak Mak! Awards
 More winners on page 14!
 Yes, we love Phuket!

New showroom on Bypass road
FAGOR
 Tel: 076-261-695 Fax: 076-261-895 www.fagorthailand.co.th

Simply... the Finest in the Kingdom
BAAN RIM PA
 Royal Thai Cruising
 Resv: 0-7634-0789, 0-7634-1768

The Phuket Gazette

Volume 12 Issue 32 News Desk - Tel: 076-236555

August 6 - 12, 2005

Daily news at www.phuketgazette.net 20 Baht

The Gazette is published in association with

The Nation

IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS: Tsunami 'flushed out Patong Bay'; TTVI to continue working till Dec 26 at least.

Pages 2 & 3

INSIDE STORY: Forecasting a favorable high season.

Pages 4 & 5

AROUND THE ISLAND: A crystal-clear bill of health.

Page 6

AROUND THE REGION: More boats for full moon parties?

Page 8

HILAL TOWN: Kamala's Muslim festival in pictures.

Pages 10 & 11

LIFESTYLE: The face as an artist's canvas.

Page 12

SPA MAGIC: Seductively Six Senses and ever so Evason.

Page 14

FIRST PERSON: Life on the minimum wage.

Page 21

BUSINESS: Yacht charter business foundering; Money Talks.

Page 23

SPORT & LEISURE: Evason Phuket Race Week report; Tee to Green; Tour of Siam cycle race preview.

Pages 24 & 25

PROPERTY: Decor: cutlery; Construction: Andaman Bazaar; Home of the Week: Chalong; The strange case of Bloomin' Bert and the spiders from Ma.

Pages 28 to 31

PLUS

QUEER NEWS 4; AROUND THE NATION 7; HAPPENINGS 9; PHUKET DIARY 10; TRAVEL 15; BOOKS 16; KIDS 17; HOROSCOPES, DOVEN, TSONWDINGS, TOON TOWN 18 & 19; EDITORIAL, LETTERS 20; ISSUES & ANSWERS 21; ON THE MOVE, COMPUTERS 22; WINE, OUTSIDE IN 26; MOTORING 27; CLASSIFIEDS 32-39.

Gov under siege from furious limo drivers

By Athiga Jundee

PHUKET CITY: Some 100 furious limousine drivers blocked Phuket Governor Udomsak Usvarangkura's car, preventing the Governor from leaving Provincial Hall for lunch on July 29.

The drivers arrived at Provincial Hall at 7:30 am, angered by a report in the local newspaper *Siang Tai*, in which the Governor was quoted as threatening to use the army to bring order to the increasingly turbulent transport situation at Phuket International Airport.

The Governor has been trying to force through a policy greatly increasing the number of meter taxis allowed to collect passengers from the airport, and giving the taxis their own ticket desk in the arrivals hall.

The Governor was quoted as saying that if the limousine drivers go on strike in protest, or if meter taxi drivers feel threatened by the limousine drivers, he will bring in the army to keep order or even to provide transport for air passengers.



Gov Udomsak, with loud hailer, pleads with limousine drivers.

Arriving at 8:30 am, the Governor promptly went into meetings with the drivers' leaders, at which he announced that he had heard from the airport authorities that they were pre-

pared to halve the concession fees levied on limousine drivers.

This failed to placate the drivers, however. "We are against the setting-up of a meter taxi counter in the airport termi-

nal - and at every beach on Phuket [as proposed by the Governor] - as this will greatly increase the number of meter taxis," Manod Chusak, who runs the limousine counters at the airport, told Gov Udomsak.

"We don't want the number of meter taxis to increase because that will have a direct effect on our livelihood."

Three hours of discussions, from 8:30 to 11:30, failed to calm the angry mob outside the Provincial Hall and, when the Governor emerged from the building to go for lunch, the crowd blocked his car and security staff had to protect him from drivers who appeared to be about to push him around.

Using a megaphone, the Governor pleaded with the drivers for two hours. He made no concessions but eventually, at 1:30 pm, the drivers went away, vowing to return the following Friday (August 5) at 2 pm, and in greater force, for another round of talks, or confrontation, as the case may be.

Editorial: page 20

'Better Social Order' nightspot raids resume

By Anongnat Sartpisut

PHUKET CITY: The province is resuming its late-night inspection tours of entertainment venues and will order 30-day closures for any nightclubs that fail to comply with the government's Better Social Order Policy, Governor Udomsak Usvarangkura announced on July 27.

In June and July, some 10 venues on the island were shut down for 30 days for staying open

and selling alcohol past the closing times specified on their licenses.

The last ordered closure before that was in October 2004, before the tsunami.

Random tests for drug use were also carried out on July 1 in Soi Bangla, Patong, on July 8 in Tambon Srisoonthorn, Talang, and on July 15 in Karon and Nai Harn. Of a total of 460 people tested, 12 tested positive for drug use. Further raids have followed.

Gov Udomsak said many of the inspections were carried out in response to complaints by neighbors that the venues were disturbing them with loud noise late into the night.

"Recently a hotel operator in Patong complained to me that noise coming from [a popular disco] until 5 am was affecting business at three of his hotels nearby. He didn't object to the venue staying open late, but said they should sound-proof the

building so that the noise wouldn't disturb neighbors," he said.

Gov Udomsak said the job of law enforcement naturally fell to the police, but that his officers would also investigate complaints.

"It's not fair for one business to make a profit at the expense of neighbors' suffering," he said, adding that the venues that had been shut down were repeat offenders who had failed to heed warnings.

Santhorn Chudat
 ๒๐/๗๐ ๕๙๙ ๙๙๙/๙๙๙
Gazette Shopper
 The discount card for savvy local residents
 Completely useless outside of Phuket

Can you afford to be without it?

It's **Only 500 Baht!** (plus VAT)

To get YOUR card, email
 shopper@phuketgazette.net
 or call Anna at 076-236555

Tsunami 'flushed out Patong Bay'

By Ananya Hongsa-ngiam

PATONG: When people noticed that right after the tsunami the water in Patong Bay seemed to be the clearest it had been in years, they were not imagining things.

Levels of harmful bacteria in the bay were reduced to nearly zero by the tsunami, researchers from the Pollution Control Department (PCD) learned when sampling the water on January 20.

The announcement came during an educational seminar for primary and secondary school students put on by the PCD's Marine Pollution Sub-Division at the Graceland Resort and Spa in Patong on July 20.

During the seminar, Dr Pornsook Chongprasith, Chief of the Marine Pollution Sub-Division, said that the number of different kinds of harmful bacteria detected in Patong had fallen from about 1,000 before the tsunami to just

two after it.

Dr Pornsook said her office was working hard to raise public awareness, especially among children, about the need to maintain good water quality at beaches. Part of the effort includes increasing the frequency of water quality sampling at selected beaches around the country and assigning each with a rating of one- to five-stars.

The ratings will be based on such factors as the amount of garbage present, heavy metal concentrations, and levels of bacteria and suspended sediment. Before the tsunami, Patong Beach received a three-star rating.

The star ratings would also encourage local administrative bodies to become more actively involved in beach protection, she said.

The monitoring program is being expanded from 14 beaches nationwide in 2002-2004 to double

that number this year. From 2006, 80 beaches will be included in the program, she said.

Sampling will take place six times a year in Patong, twice during the high season and four times in the low season.

Starting in August or November, billboards will be erected in Patong showing water quality sampling results and providing the public with tips on how to protect the beach.

It was not reported whether the beach becoming covered in bright green algae during the last high season had cost Patong a higher star rating.

The algae are known to thrive in water with a high nutrient loading. In the case of Patong the "nutrients" came in the form of large quantities of untreated human waste discharged directly into the bay from Klong Pakbang, at the south end of Patong Beach.

Patong and Kamala revival budgets finally settled

PHUKET: The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) budget for renovation of Patong and Kamala has finally been settled, at 291.4 million baht, a source in the TAT's Bangkok headquarters has revealed.

The source, who asked not to be named, told the *Gazette* that the original plans, proposed in January, foresaw spending of 750 million baht for Patong and 600 million baht for Kamala.

However, those figures were slashed by the central government in early March to 500 million and 300 million respectively.

In April the TAT recommended the budget be hacked again, to 200 million baht for Patong and 100 million for Kamala, and the government approved this budget on May 10.

However, the source said, on June 13 the Budget Bureau trimmed the budgets yet again to 194.7 million baht for Patong and 96.7 million for Kamala.

On August 1, the TAT selected SPA Architect Co to do the design for Patong and Group 3 Design Co for Kamala. They will receive about 3.4 million and 1.7 million baht respectively. The source said it had been hard to find firms willing to work for such small amounts.

The landscaping is due to start at the end of this year.



STILL LOVING PHUKET

As part of the *Gazette's* ongoing 'We Love Phuket' bumper sticker campaign, Scott Flaxman collects his prize of a spa treatment at the Pacific International Phuket Resort & Spa, presented to him by *Gazette* Accounting Officer Rattanaporn 'Pon' Thoonngan.

Beach Queen contest planned

PHUKET: Thai Airways International (THAI) has announced plans to stage annual Beach Queen Thailand beauty pageants in Phuket and Krabi.

The pageants, to be held from July to October, will be open to participation by women from all over the world, aged between 18 and 25.

The number of Thai contestants will be narrowed down to 30 during a contest to be held in Krabi. Meanwhile, contestants from outside Thailand will be chosen through a selection process "carefully conducted through THAI offices worldwide," the airline's President, Kanok Abhiradee, explained.

The final, bringing Thai and

foreign contestants together, will be held on October 1 on Patong Beach.

Contestants will also be involved in other activities such as beach parades, exhibitions and street performances by leading international bands.

The winner will receive US\$10,000 cash (about 400,000 baht), a diamond crown and a first-class round-trip air ticket, with accommodation, from her point of departure to either Phuket or Krabi.

The deadline for applying is August 31. Applications should be made through the website www.chicchannel.com. For more information call Tel: 02-9387877 ext 519.

OBITUARY

Alexandra "Alex" U Gebow

Alexandra "Alex" U Gebow, 56, of Key West, Florida, joined her Father, Robert Weyermann, on July 16, 2005. Alex was born in Aachen, Germany and moved to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, from Rome, Italy, in 1974 after securing employment as an international flight attendant for Pan American World Airways.

Upon leaving Pan Am she became a realtor and owned and operated the Martin Hill Inn in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

She enjoyed many management positions in the hospitality industry in the Caribbean, Houston and St. Petersburg, Florida.

After her most recent marriage, she enjoyed living in Maui, Phuket, South Beach and Key West.

She is survived by her husband, Jerry Phelps of Key West (and former General Manager of the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa), her mother Elisabeth, her brother Armin, and her sister Melitta, all of Germany. In lieu of flowers her husband requests on her behalf that memorial donations be made payable to: c/o "Alex's Kids", Alex Gebow, 13 Kestral Way, Key West, Florida 33040, USA.

Donations will be sent to the Buddhist Temple in Phuket, Thailand, where she adopted and cared for over 80 homeless and unwanted animals by hauling scrap food from hotel kitchens, administering medications and assisting with mass neutering of the animals with visiting vets.

She has always missed her "Kids" since leaving Thailand, and would be happy to know that they will get nutritious food and proper veterinary care.

Skin Tightening and Contouring -without surgery-

with technology cleared by the US FDA
practiced by an American Board Certified Dermatologist

- Botox, Collagen
- Laser Hair Removal
- Mesotherapy

2nd Fl. Central Festival Phuket Tel: 076-209-0213 • Call Center 0 2064-8017
3rd Fl. Emporium Tel: 0 2064-8013-4 • 3rd Fl. Siam Center Tel: 0 2058-199-7

Only a single-treatment session

Raksatt Pet Hospital (Kaorang) Phuket

Well Treated, Well Cared For One-Stop Service

- Treatment (Medicine & Health Care)
- Obstetrics and Orthopedics
- Teeth cleaning and scaling
- X-ray and Laboratory
- Home Service (Pet Ambulance)
- Microchip Center
- In-Patient
- Surgery
- Pet Hotel
- Grooming
- Pet Shop

Open Daily 9 am to midnight
14/4 Mae Luan Rd, Amphur Muang, Phuket.
Tel: 076-211549 Tel/Fax: 076-211606

www.pktanimalhospital.com
E-mail: info@pktanimalhospital.com

Raksatt Dog Spa & Salon

The First Dog Spa in Phuket

- Pet Shop (Pet Food and Accessories)
- Grooming & Bathing
- Dog Spa
- Pet Hotel
- Pet Clinic
- Fashion Color Hair
- Highlight

Open daily 10 am - 10 pm
At Car Park (P2) Central Festival Phuket
Tel: 076-209244-5

www.phuketdogspa.com
E-mail: info@pktanimalhospital.com

ANDAMAN Lighting Systems

Are you in the dark about lighting?

andamanlighting.com
Tel: 076 254 826 Fax: 076 254 827

IT Life Co., Ltd.

The Best way for your life

Full range of hardware, accessories & supplies.
Built to order, maintenance & network solution services.

Near the Land Rover Phuket showroom
Tel: 076-236657-8 Fax: 076-236659
Email: itlife@samarts.com
www.phuketgazette.net/itlife

Tennis ace Armritraj in Phuket on UN mission



Vijay Amritraj in Phuket on August 2.

PHUKET: World-renowned Indian tennis player Vijay Amritraj arrived in Phuket on August 2 to tour tsunami-hit areas in the region as part of his role as a United Nation Messenger of Peace.

Mr Amritraj, well-known as a commentator on Grand Slam tennis events on the ESPN Star Sports network since retiring from professional tennis, was appointed as one of only nine UN Messengers of Peace by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in February 2001. The only other sports personality to have received the honor is Muhammad Ali.

He was due to arrive in Thailand on the night of August 1 for a series of meetings with regional UN officials in Bangkok. From there he was due to fly to Phuket, meeting with Phuket Governor Udomsak Uswarangkura on August 2.

The following day he was expected to be taken to see the tsunami warning system towers in Patong, Karon and Kamala.

He was also due to visit Baan Kamala School and other rebuilding projects in that community, before returning to Bangkok on August 4, then flying on to Sri Lanka and his native India.

Villagers slam officials for not helping since tsunami

MAI KHAO: Villagers in Moo 5 got a chance recently to face officials who they felt had let them down since the tsunami.

The opportunity came after they sent a letter to Parliament accusing Phuket Governor Udomsak Uswarangkura and the Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*) of dereliction of duty.

Some 50 people – including a contin-

gent from Koh Sireh with similar complaints – attended a resultant meeting on July 25, chaired by Interior Ministry Official Inspector Siriwat Srirakool.

The letter of complaint that prompted the hearing specified four areas in which officials had allegedly failed in their duties:

- Failure of Phuket Provincial Hall and the *OrBorTor* Mai Khao to coordinate pro-

cessing of aid requests from small businesses;

- Failure of the Phuket Area Education Office to deliver promised grants to students at Laem Tokkae;

- Failure of the Treasury Department's Ratchaphatsadu Land (state land) Office to allow Moo 5 residents to rent from the state parcels of land on which they had been living for at least 10 years;

- Failure of *OrBorTor* Mai Khao to provide fresh water to seaside areas where wells had become contaminated with salt-water.

Addressing the issue of aid payments, Boonchai Somjai, Chief of the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Office, said bluntly, "It is possible that the names of some people went missing during the application process."

"Unfortunately, it's now past the deadline for applications, so we will just have to learn from this experience so that we don't make similar mistakes next time."

On the issue of student grants, a representative of the Phuket Area Education Office said these would be made available from August 10.

On land use rights at Mai Khao, representatives from the Ratchaphatsadu Land Office said they had received about 100 complaints about use of land in the Tah Chat Chai area, where the Office now leases out small parcels of state-owned land for use by those who had previously been encroaching on it.

The officials said that they were unable to lease parcels which had already been rented out to other tenants.

On water supply, *OrBorTor* Mai Khao Deputy President Wirat Makaew said his office intends to pipe water to the affected areas, but that he could not provide an expected completion date because his office still lacks a budget to carry out the work.

TTVI to continue work until Dec 26

2010 bodies identified; another 1,767 still to go

By Anongnat Sartpisut

PHUKET: Seven months since the tsunami disaster, the number of bodies identified by the multinational Thai Tsunami Victim Identification (TTVI) center has passed the 2,000 mark, with the remains of 2,010 tsunami victims now successfully returned to relatives.

Pol Maj Gen Udom Raksiltham, a medical doctor and Deputy Commander of the TTVI Information Management Center (IMC) in Chalong, said on July 27 that a total of 3,777 bodies from the six affected provinces initially required identification by the TTVI.

Of the 2,010 bodies already returned to relatives, 1,639 were of foreigners and 371 of Thais.

The IMC reported that about two thirds of the bodies were identified through dental records; other matches came from fingerprints (28.2%), DNA matching (5.5%) and other physical evidence (1.1%).

As the work continues, 1,767 bodies still await identifica-

tion. Of these, most are thought to be Thais or Burmese workers; only 207 are believed to be those of non-Burmese foreigners, Gen Udom said.

"We got a lot of information from foreigners, but less from Thais," he said, adding that thus far there have been no reported cases of the wrong remains being returned to relatives.

The TTVI expects DNA samples taken from bone marrow and sent for analysis abroad to play an increasingly important role in the continuing work.

Thus far the TTVI has sent 3,241 DNA samples abroad for analysis: 1,311 to the International Commission of Missing Persons in Bosnia; 1,060 to the Beijing Genomic Center in China; 610 to the National Board of Forensic Medicine in Sweden; and 260 to agencies in other countries.

Analysis results in 1,882 of these cases have been returned to the center.

A total of 2,307 personal items were recovered with bodies. Of these, 315 have been returned to relatives and

the remainder are being kept at the Thalang Police Station, where they have been cleaned, photographed and stored as evidence.

Gen Udom said DNA samples had already been extracted from all the remaining unidentified bodies, and the TTVI was only awaiting matching DNA data, or other physical evidence from relatives, in order to identify the dead.

The identification effort will continue until December 26, the first anniversary of the tsunami, at which time the TTVI will re-evaluate the situation, he said.

Thai forensic staff would continue to learn from the expertise of foreign experts until the identification process is completed, he added.

Some 120 foreigners from 20 different countries are still working hard in the effort.

These include experts from New Zealand, Canada and Norway, countries which no longer have outstanding missing victims, yet which continue to help.

Premium healthcare from BUPA

From only 50 baht per day, BUPA Platinum gives you access to the best quality healthcare and covers you for healthcare costs of up to 2 million baht worldwide.

BUPA Health Insurance
Phuket
156/15 Phangnga Rd. T. Taladyai A. Muang, Phuket, 83000.
Tel: 076 355 815-7
Fax: 076 355 814
e-mail: phuket@bupa.co.th

62/18-19 Vichitsongkrom Road, Muang, Phuket, 83000. (Next to Toka showroom)
Tel: 66 (0) 76 234 882
66 (0) 1 635 7468
Fax: 66 (0) 76 234 883
E-mail: mchomedesign@hotmail.com
www.mchomedesign.com

- Curtains
- Wallpaper
- Sunscreens
- Slim Blinds
- Bed covers & cushions (made to order)
- Carpets
- Vertical Blinds
- Wooden / Bamboo Blinds
- Rollscreen Door / Window (mosquito)
- We provide cleaning services.

145 Phangnga Road, Muang District, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076-225444, 212985 Fax: 076-211686
www.numchaoceantransport.com email: info@numchaoceantransport.com

Experts in logistics and a provider of first-class services in the Andaman Sea – including to Phuket and nearby islands – we offer a one-stop service for all your needs: offshore operations; a full range of tugboats; fresh drinking water; tanker supply vessels; ships' chandler; garbage and waste-oil disposal; salvage; boat-building and sandblasting. We also supply various grades of construction hardware at the best rates in Phuket. Our service area extends from Phuket to the provinces of Ranong, Trang, Krabi, Phang Nga and Satun. We also sail and supply to Hedah, Penang and Lumut in Malaysia.

Gourmet Sandwiches made to order

Khun Woody's Bakery

Patong - Opposite Andaman Beach Suites
Open 8.00 am to 6.00 pm. Closed Sunday. 076 340 066

Queer News

The morning after

NAKHON PATHOM: The 47-year-old host of a wedding ceremony in Nakhon Chaisri District currently stands accused of twice raping a 98-year-old neighbor while drunk.

A report of the alleged rape was made on July 18 by Nakhon Chaisri District Police Deputy Superintendent Surapoj Phisuttiwong, who identified the alleged rapist as Udon Som-in, a native of Ubol Ratchathani Province.

Udon was living in Nakhon Chaisri, earning a living as a collector and retail vendor of jasmine flowers, which he sold in bulk to local garland makers. He had arranged a wedding ceremony and reception for his 21-year-old son Wisun to a girl identified only as "Daeng".

The party began in the early evening of July 16, and proud father Udon celebrated by drinking whisky with his guests – drinking so much, in fact, that the rest of the evening was impossible to recall when he awoke the following day.

On July 17, a neighbor identified only as "Nok" appeared at the Nakhon Chaisri Police Station with her 98-year-old mother to file a criminal complaint against Udon on charges of "raping a woman who is not your wife".

Nok, 57, went on to explain that, at about 10:30 pm, her neighbor Udon had left the party and went into his home, where Nok's 98-year-old mother, a guest at the party, was sleeping under a mosquito net with Nok's four-year-old niece. Udon then allegedly picked up the old lady, carried her out to a stand of banana trees 15 meters behind the house, and raped her twice.

After the assault, the victim somehow found the strength to stand and tried to make her way back to the house. But she lost her balance and fell into a drainage ditch, from where she called for help. Fortunately, she was rescued by neighbors. Dazed, she went back into the house and fell asleep without telling her neighbors about what had transpired.

"The next morning," said Nok, "my mother told me what had happened. At first I didn't believe her. She is very old, has a poor memory and talks nonsense much of the time – in fact nobody can make sense of anything she says except me. So I kept asking her to repeat what had happened and it was the same every time: 'Udon carried me out behind the house and raped me – twice.'"

As for Udon, after his arrest he told police he was so drunk he couldn't remember anything. That being the case, he decided the most prudent course of action was to deny everything.

Faced with conflicting testimony from two less-than-solid witnesses, police sent the victim to Nakhon Chaisri Hospital to check for signs of rape. Doctors found semen and at last report were testing it to see whether it had come from Udon.

Meanwhile, newlywed Daeng declared her marriage to Wisun null and void after Wisun went to the police station to look after his father. According to a local custom, marriage can be considered final only after the bride and groom have spent at least two days and two nights together in the same room.

Source: Kom Chad Luek

Tourism leaders

Kata is a part of the island that relies heavily on Scandinavia as a source of hotel guests.

Pamuke Archariyachai, Managing Director of the Kata Group of Hotels, told the *Gazette* that he is certain that the coming high season will be a good one in Kata because there is still strong interest in Phuket from the Nordic countries.

"I am in constant contact with travel agents there, and from what I have been told Scandinavians still regard Phuket as the best value-for-money destination. They say we have more and better services, and a wider range of attractions than any other destination. For this reason, they tell me that, starting in November, arrivals in Phuket should be about 70% to 80% of what they were at the start of the high season last year," he said.

K. Pamuke noted that travel agents who used to book tours to Khao Lak are now looking to Phuket, Pattaya and Koh Chang, in Trat Province, as alternative destinations.

"I think we have passed the worst of it, so things can only get better – provided that nothing else bad happens that will keep tourists away."

A source at Laguna Phuket, who asked not to be named, said occupancy there was "high" in July, though he would not give precise figures. He pointed out, however, that many of the bookings had resulted from low-season discounts and other special promotions, which inevitably decrease profit margins.

He said Laguna has set a target occupancy rate of 70% overall for the next high season and has seen a gradual but steady increase in the number of guests,

With about three months to go to until November 1 – the official start of the tourist high season – can tourist arrival numbers return to pre-tsunami levels? The *Gazette's* Sangkhae Leelanapaporn and Anongnat Sartpisut asked some leading figures in the industry what is happening in the all-important tourism sector now – and what they believe the future may hold.

making this target appear attainable.

"One thing we fear is that former repeat customers who went to alternative destinations after the tsunami might continue to patronize those places and not return to Phuket," he said.

As for the tsunami scare on July 24, he said two or three customers had canceled as a result – but that most guests were already asleep by the time the warning came.

"We didn't want to unduly frighten the guests, so we warned only people staying on the ground floors and in areas that were inundated in the last tsunami," he said.

He thinks it would be a good idea for the provincial government to include Bangtao, where the resort is located, in the early warning system.

"Even though Laguna has its own internal crisis management procedures in place, the Bangtao area still lacks an emer-

gency evacuation plan or warning system. Currently, the only source of information is the media.

"I discussed this with Governor Udomsak Uswarangkura on July 27 and learned there is no plan to install a tsunami alarm system here," he said.

"The province asked Laguna to donate 4.5 million baht for its provincial tsunami warning system, but when I looked at the plan for the system I saw that Bangtao wasn't even included in it," he said.

Neil Cumming, Managing Director of Asia Web Direct, which runs the popular Phuket.com online hotel booking service, said that advance reservations were stronger than ever among the independent travelers who use his service.

"Those people are booking much more than they have ever done before. We've been doing online bookings now for eight years, and we're about 30% up on the same period last year for forward bookings for the next high season – and last year was a record," he said.

When asked about the July 26 scare he said, "It certainly didn't have any effect on our existing bookings. We didn't see any cancellations and we didn't see a reduction of new bookings. So, it didn't seem to have any effect," he said.

Asked about the government tsunami early warning system, he said, "If anything, it might be slightly reassuring – the fact that there is a warning system in place that seems to work," he said.

He mentioned the unrest in the Deep South as a potential time bomb for Phuket, however.

"At the moment it doesn't

KEEHIN Quality in products
Trust in service



● We sell and service electrical equipment, lamps, lightbulbs, air conditioners, communication systems, closed circuit television (cctv), security alarms, fire alarms, motors, generators, water pumps, washing machines, water filter tanks, hot water systems, electrical hoists, televisions, refrigerators, high pressure power-jet cleaners, power tools, transmission gases, valve equipment, etc.

● We design and install electrical systems, switchboards, air conditioners, dumb waiters, etc.

100/2 Moo 5 Chalempakiat Ror 9 Rd. 1, Rassada, A. Muang, Phuket 83000.
Sales Tel: 076 261450 Fax: 076 261456-7 Open daily 8 am - 6 pm
Service Tel: 076 261460 Fax: 076 261464 Open Monday-Saturday 8 am - 5 pm
Email: keehin@foxinfo.co.th

House of sanitaryware and tiles



The most beautiful room in the house

Tel: 076 261 470-5 Fax: 076 261 477
E-mail: sanitary@foxinfo.co.th

A UNIQUE SHOPPING DESTINATION



เดอะ พลาซ่า สุรินทร์

THE PLAZA

SURIN

FASHION . FURNITURE . ANTIQUES . ART

5/50 cherngthalay phuket Tel 076 271 241 www.theplazasurin.com

Aleenta
Lamont
Fine9design
Lola
Cocoon
Indigo
Namsang
Tamarine
Soul of Asia
Sivalla
Candere
Everything Underthesun

show cautious optimism

affect us, because it seems to be contained in the three southernmost provinces. But if it does break out of those provinces, then it will have a devastating effect on Phuket. If, for example, there were some trouble in some of the tourist resorts, such as in Phuket, Krabi, Samui – or even in Bangkok – that's our big worry," he said.

When asked if he thought government agencies in Phuket were doing their best to shore up the tourism industry here, he said, "I don't know. What have they done?"

As for tourism promotion efforts abroad, he said, "The only people who could tell you that would be people outside of Thailand ... but what I hear is that most of the promotion has been overseas and most of it has been into new markets.

"So, for example, [promotion is] down in places in the UK. People there still think Phuket is devastated and dangerous, so

they still don't want to come here. So we could do a lot more promotion in established markets like the UK or Germany, for example," he said.

When asked how long it would take the tourism industry

to return to normal in the region, he said, "I think this coming high-season it will be back to normal in Phuket. Krabi will probably will take a little bit longer. The Phi Phi Islands, for example, won't come back this high season. It will prob-

ably be one more year. "And Khao Lak will probably take two or three years. The high season of 2007 will probably be Khao Lak's earliest opportunity," he said.

The key to recovery, he believes, is getting hotels reopened and making sure the infrastructure around them is working properly.

ably be one more year.

"And Khao Lak will probably take two or three years. The high season of 2007 will probably be Khao Lak's earliest opportunity," he said.

The key to recovery, he believes, is getting hotels reopened and making sure the infrastructure around them is working properly.

"Phuket has bounced back very quickly and everything looks nearly normal, in almost every area. But that's not the case in Khao Lak and Phi Phi. Unfortunately for Krabi there is still an association with Phi

Phi, even though most of the main resorts [on mainland Krabi] were not touched. That may affect Krabi overall," he said.

Phuket Tourist Association President Pattanapong Aikwanich told the *Gazette* that occu-

pancy rates on the island were at about 90% when the tsunami hit. He expects about 70% of that figure [about 63% total occupancy] over the 2005 Christmas holiday period.

"I think that will be good enough. I expect Australia and Europe to be major sources of tourists in the next high season," he said, adding that bookings were increasing while cancellation rates remained normal despite the tsunami warnings.

K. Pattanapong said that public relations campaigns, both by the government and the private sector, were beginning to pay dividends and that the message that Phuket is back to normal is now being heard overseas.

"I met with executives of the Austrian Airlines recently and I heard that the 75% of the seats on their high-season Vienna-Phuket route have already been booked.

"During the [current low] season we normally get a lot of visitors from Australia and Korea. That's why it's such a shame that Phuket Air canceled its direct flights from Korea to Phuket. However, Thai Airways is ready to support us in getting Korean tourists back here," he said.



There are plenty of empty beach loungers on Phuket at the moment, but tourism industry leaders believe they will start filling up in November.



Legend Revival

The world's first cultural spa

Sukko

www.sukkospa.com

Opening in Winter 2005

Be the first in the world to experience the unique Thai cultural service and design with three categories of rooms and 160 treatment beds
In the new five-star dayspa in Phuket with more than 12000 sqm. spa area and full wellness facilities



Sukko Cultural Spa & Wellness
Sukko Spa Executive
Sukko Spa Academy
Sukko Gallery

Bangkok Office :
Tel. (66) 2251-3118-21 Fax (66) 2251-3169
e-mail : sales_bkk@sukkospa.com

Phuket Office :
Tel. (66) 7623-5240 Fax (66) 7623-5261
e-mail : sukko@sukkospa.com
5/10 Chaofa Rd. (west) Phuket Thailand 83000

By Ananya Hongsa-ngiam

With Phuket's growing reputation as a hub for alternative medicine, perhaps it was only a matter of time before the island got its first shop dedicated to the healing powers of semi-precious stones and minerals.

The Internet is full of websites dedicated to the subject. Do you suffer from "bad habits"? Amethyst or amazonite will put you right.

Are you a woman seeking to become more loving and compassionate? A bracelet made of rose quartz just might do the trick.

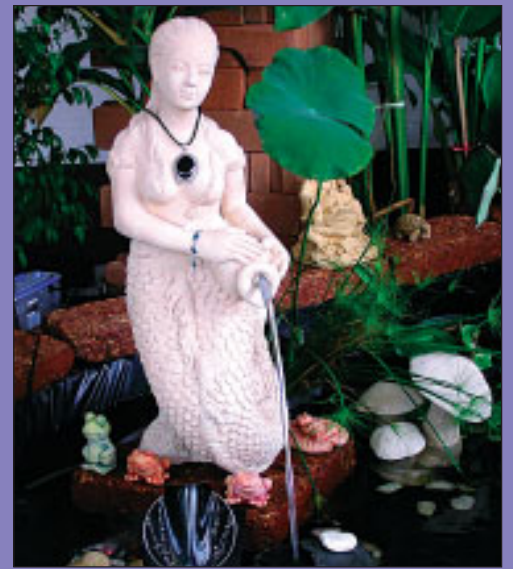
Suffering from an embarrassing case of herpes? If all else fails, perhaps you might try wearing a fluorite necklace.

Now Phuket residents and tourists need no longer travel to Bangkok to find the mineral elixir they seek, nor must they put themselves through the absurdity of sourcing rocks in cyberspace.

The newly-opened Holly Stone & Garden shop in the Samkong area of Phuket City has a wide range of stones on offer, and at very affordable prices. The shop is the creation of Dr Napath Petcharachuwong, formerly a resident psychiatrist at Bangkok Phuket Hospital and now working out of his own clinic.

Through his experience as a mental health practitioner, Dr Napath became interested in various alternative medical approaches to help people who presented with common complaints, such as chronic fatigue, that can sometimes stymie conventional treatment regimens. He became interested in yoga, reiki – and then stone therapy.

At first he was skeptical, but



Above, one of the shop's many unusual garden statues.

Left, store owner Dr Napath Petcharachuwong, a practicing psychiatrist, is a believer in the healing power of stones.

ROCKY RELIEF

he kept his mind open and gave stone therapy a try. His first experiment was with amethyst, which is said to induce drowsiness in people with insomnia.

When he put an amethyst above his own bed before retiring one night he awoke after a wonderful night's sleep feeling rejuvenated and alert – and a believer in the healing power of stones.

Another benefit of semi-precious stones and minerals is that they are not only attractive, but affordable. Diamonds may still be a girl's best friend, but lapis, lazuli and rutile quartz might just be nice alternatives for women on a budget.

Dr Napath thinks Holly Stone and Garden is the first shop of its type on the island. Customers can select from the wide variety of stones on offer there and then order a necklace, bracelet or other piece of jewelry. All the work is done in-house, with silver settings the most popular.

Prices are very reasonable. Bracelets made from stones such as onyx run from 400 baht to 800 baht, and necklaces with a single stone setting start at about 250 baht.

A pair of attractive silver-stemmed earring can be had for as little as 79 baht. The popular rose quartz bracelets run from 150 baht to 800 baht, and red

jasper stones – thought to ward off evil and bring good luck – range from 400 baht to 900 baht, not including the price of the setting, if required. After paying a small deposit, customers can pick up their order after just three days.

Jewelry is only one side of the business, however. Holly Stone & Garden also offers some attractive stone accessories, sculptures and religious icons to bring the perfect *feng shui* to just about any garden, especially those with an Asian motif.

In the center of the side the shop, surrounded by display cases, is a small pond encircled with rocks. Perched in and

around the pond are statues of the bodhisattva Mae Guan Im, along with other religious icons and voluptuous *waiing* figurines obviously inspired by Angkor-civilization decorative art.

Dr Napath said that he has been satisfied with sales so far, given that it is low season and the only advertising has been through word-of-mouth. He said that, so far, about 80% of the customers were local Thais.

Like most merchants on the island, he hopes that the next high season will see more foreign tourists coming to visit the shop.

Holly Stone & Garden, open daily from 10 am to 9 pm, is located at 23 Hongsyok-Uthit Rd, opposite Dairy Hut restaurant. For more information call Dr Napath (Tel: 06-6875357; 04-8386500).

WARNING: SELLING ALCOHOL TO PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS OLD IS ILLEGAL

*When the taste is perfect,
it can be the start of a friendship.*



PM: 90% support for new powers

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra shot down suggestions that the State Of Emergency Decree should be changed to become an Act of Parliament, saying that 90% of the public supported the controversial measure.

Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Krea-ngam had earlier suggested that the administration could replace the decree with an Act of Parliament if lawmakers insisted it was necessary.

PM Thaksin, who did not explain how he came up with the 90% approval figure, said that those opposed were few in number but very vocal in their opposition. Much of the opposition to the decree was based on misunderstanding by those who had failed to read it, he said.

The decree, which went into effect July 19, will be in place in the three southernmost provinces for a three-month period.

Authorities selected seven of 16 measures it contains as the first to be implemented. Among these are granting immunity to government officials who commit offenses in the line of duty.

Critics say the measures have handed authorities a license to kill, and will fuel strife in the region.

Flight delays: Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra publicly admitted for the first time that the 150-billion baht Suvarnabhumi Airport in Samut Prakan Province would miss its scheduled opening on September 29 by as much as eight months, due to delays in several major peripheral projects.

"It's normal for delays at a



Fire-walkers take part in an annual ceremony at Lim Ko Niew Chinese shrine in Pattani.

Worshippers this year prayed for business success and an early end to the ongoing violence in the Deep South.

new international airport. But if the opening has to be delayed to make security and structural work perfect, that is acceptable to me," he said.

The part of the project that is most behind deadline is the construction of elevated ramps at the front of the main passenger-terminal building, he said.

Speaking during his 90-minute inspection tour of the airport, which covers some 20,000 rai, PM Thaksin said the contractors of all major construction projects had assured him that they would be finished by December 29, in time for him to host a New Year countdown ceremony on December 31.

Samet squatters: Some 200 villagers from the resort island of Koh Samet in Rayong Province rallied outside Parliament, peti-

tioning senators for their help over land seizures by government agencies.

The villagers submitted complaints to the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights, in which they charged that National Parks Department and Treasury Department officials had unjustly claimed government ownership of land that had long belonged to them. They also produced house

registrations dating as far back as 1956 and aerial photos from 1981 to back up their claims.

In their defense, officials from the Treasury Department asserted that a 1999 survey showed several villages were occupying land owned by the department.

A National Parks Department official added that a directive issued in 1981 declared land inhabited by villagers to be parkland, and said that the department had tried unsuccessfully to evict the intruders.

Cancer alert: The Food Safety Institute (FSI) announced that use of artificial coloring may make five commonly-grown vegetables carcinogenic.

According to its report, kale leads the pack of potentially cancer-causing vegetables, followed by cabbage, runner beans, chilies and carrots.

FSI Deputy Director Yuthasak Supasorn explained that a food safety agency in the UK had found prohibited artificial colorings known as Sudan red and Para red in chillies imported from Thailand.

Thai food safety officials

have warned farmers and food exporters to ensure their products are free of EU-banned colorings in order to avoid massive recalls of Thai produce by EU countries, which could harm Thailand's image as a food producer, he said.

Playing the odds: The Government Lottery Office (GLO) expects to have an online-lottery system in place by the March 16 draw next year, after the agency signed an agreement appointing Loxley G-Tech Technology Co to provide the online system and machines.

Under the 6.9-billion-baht project, the company will install 12,000 online lotto machines across the country and charge the GLO for each transaction made through the system.

The company's income will not exceed 2.4% of annual sales.

The online lotto machines will be allocated to more than 6,000 agents now selling tickets in the government's popular two- and three-digit lotteries.

Around the Nation news round-up is sourced from the pages of The Nation and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.

Mom Tri's Boathouse Wine & Grill

Celebrating fifteen years. More beautiful and delicious than ever.

New Mom Tri's décor. New chef Tammanoon's menu. New award-winning wine list.

Mom Tri's Boathouse Wine & Grill is honored by Wine Spectator for having one of the most outstanding restaurant wine lists in the world.

Same Top Service Please come & enjoy!

Reservations are recommended.
Mom Tri's Boathouse.
Wine & Grill.
Kata Beach.
Tel: 076-330015
www.theboathousephuket.com

mama's recipe @ PHUJA nirvana

"Thanks Mom" with lovely and delicious dishes on Mother's Day and throughout the month of August.

อ๋มๆ อุ่นๆ "Thanks Mom" ด้วยเมนูต้นตำรับกรุ๊ปโอรักวันแม่ตลอดเดือนสิงหาคม

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Indian Mama's mutton do plaza 250- Japanese Tofu steak 100- Chinese Deep-fried prawn spring roll 115- Vietnamese Spicy cabbage and chicken salad 85- | Thai Tuna herbed salad 85- Malaysian/Indonesian/Singaporean Fried vermicelli with chili sauce (Mee slam) 70- and more... |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Full of Love... Full of Delight

1 - 31 August 2005

@ Phuja Nirvana Restaurant on 1st Fl., Lan Lom, Central Festival Phuket
Reservation : 66 (76) 291 010 www.phujanirvana.com

More boats needed for full moon parties

Ponlert Chockjai, the District Chief of Koh Phangan, is requesting that local businesses lay on more speedboats from Samui to Koh Phangan to serve full moon party revellers.

At the most recent event on July 21, there were 10-15% more partygoers than previously and this caused delays and congestion, particularly the following morning.

K. Ponlert said that there were a lot of tourists, many drunk, trying to get back to Koh Samui at the same time and this put a lot of pressure on the boat operators to overload their vessels.

If companies invested in more boats they would certainly fill them, and this would be good for business as well as making the transport service to and from the party safer and more efficient.

With the cost of boats and fuel currently at all-time highs, speedboat operators may not see the situation in the same light. In addition, demand for sea transport at the full moon party only peaks in the morning, with a steadier flow of passengers over to the island during the night.

K. Ponlert sees the provision of more boats in a wider context, and added that following a recent visit by the Minister of Justice, an official crackdown on

FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND



By Commander
Sammy Swan

criminal activity is already producing results. The police say that far less crime was reported in July than in the previous months.

"All these measures are necessary for us to achieve our main aim – always to take care of the tourists so that they can relax and enjoy the party safely," K. Ponlert said.

Pier pressure: Thierayut Eintrakul, District Chief of Koh Samui, recently expressed concern that the imminent opening of



Increased numbers of revellers have caused delays and congestion.

two new public ferry piers in Nathon and Bang Rak could lead to an unacceptable increase in both sea and road traffic.

A cargo pier is also under construction on the mainland at Kanom, and local officials are worried that cargo boats arriving from the mainland will then stay to compete for space with the many passenger ferries, fishing boats and tourist craft already arriving and leaving Samui daily.

This would obviously lead to congestion and pollution and also

cause safety concerns. "I am worried that there will be a price war with budget operators' resulting in the reduction of quality of their services in order to cut costs," said K. Thierayut.

"Boat operators urgently need to introduce controls that maintain quality and safety standards.

"We have good cooperation from boat operators serving the full moon party on Phangan and we need the same from other boat operators in the region."

Both land and sea traffic are becoming a serious issue for Koh Samui. More ferries will bring more cars to the island and the authorities are now looking at potential solutions such as restricting the number of vehicles and vessels arriving at the island, and even banning larger commercial vehicles outright.

Title fight over: The Samui Municipality recently requested that owners of land that as yet has no Chanote title deed come forward to claim their papers, as part of a nationwide plan to legitimize all land ownership by 2008.

Local people are being asked to present details of their land to the *Phu Yai Baan* by the end of August. He will then pass on the information to the land office and they, in turn, will send out surveyors to plot the land and eventually issue deeds to the registered owner.

Land ownership issues are particularly troublesome in places like Koh Samui where people often encounter problems after buying unregistered land.

It is hoped that the new policy will make the process of buying and selling land legally more straightforward.

Cdr Swan is a writer with Koh Samui's community magazine.

Special Campaign



ANOTHER QUALITY PROJECT FROM LAND & HOUSES

Land & Houses Park Phuket





Pruerk-pirom

9.9 million baht



Pruerk-lawan

10.9 million baht

No matter where the house is or how big the land is, you can have them all at the same price.

5 units only

For further information, please contact our office:

Tel: 076-381150-2 Fax: 076-381111

Email: info@lhphuket.com Website: www.lhphuket.com

Free sports complex membership
(4 persons/1 unit)

Location



This week



TOURISM TRIO: Among others at a recent meeting on Asian tourism – held at the Novotel Coralia Hotel – are (from left): Alan Cooke, British Honorary Consul in Phuket; Sasithara Pichaichannarong, Director General of the Office of Tourism Development; and Hajo von Keller, MD of The Mangosteen Resort and Spa.



WATERFORD CLASS: Pupils of Butlerstown National School in Waterford, in the Republic of Ireland, raised some 75,000 baht for Phuket schoolchildren. From left (back row) are: Akawee Samart of the Muslim Wittaya Foundation (MWF); Helene Fallon-Wood, Irish Honorary Consul in Phuket; Bumrung Sampaowat, MWF Chairman; Daniel Mulhall, Irish Ambassador to Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos and Thailand; and Malee Mohmood, Principal of the Phuket Muslim Kindergarten.



I SPY ICE CREAM: Among others at the recent reopening of the Patong branch of Häagen-Dazs are Tim Bulow, the Company Manager of Häagen-Dazs Thailand (left) and the Deputy Mayor of Patong, Chairat Sukbal.



MY WAY: At a recent Amway Thailand convention held at the Royal Phuket City Hotel are (from left): Somkid Phirom, Assistant Training Manager of Amway Thailand; Kawalin Sukhumjittanon, Sales Coordinator for the hotel; and Suthee Supsiritamrong, Executive Coordinator of Amway Thailand.



ON THE FIDDLE: Renowned blind Japanese violinist Narimichi Kawabata (left) signs autographs for pupils after his concert at the Patong Childcare Center on July 27.



MILK OF HUMAN KINDNESS: Following a plea in the *Phuket Gazette* for milk for children at the Nice Care Center in Baan Bang Muang, Phang Nga, staff from AVC Phuket and Carmen Restaurant – who donated milk worth 50,000 baht – were among many who heeded the call.

EXPOSE YOURSELF! to 30-35,000 visitors a day!

A Phuket Gazette website banner is your window to the world. Can you afford **NOT** to have one?

Ask Anna or Koy for details. Tel: 076-236555 Email: anna@phuketgazette.net



PHUKET DIARY

Until August 31. Here & There: John Marmon Photography at Watermark. From the simple to the sublime ... "Here & There" is a stimulating collection of color-intensive, high-impact graphic images by accomplished photographer John Marmon.

Images shot in China, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Italy, Jordan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the US Virgin Islands form this amusing, whimsical, imaginative and original portfolio of contemporary photographic art.

Mr Marmon's images represent his personal vision of things he has seen while traveling and living around the world.

Preferring to eschew the typical travel photograph, he draws attention to the insignificant and ephemeral that may otherwise go unnoticed.

For more information, call John Marmon at Tel: 09-0571976 or Stuart Bird at Tel: 01-7376184, or Email: info@watermarkphuket.com

August 12. The birthday of HM Queen Sirikit. August 12 is the birthday of HM Queen Sirikit, a public holiday and the day traditionally celebrated as Mother's Day in Thailand. Most government offices and banks, along with many businesses, will be closed.

September 3. Pop-jazz night with Nantida at Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa. Nantida, the Thai singer famous for songs such as *Bork noi dai mai* ("Can you tell me?") will perform a special concert in Phuket.

Tickets are priced at 2,000 baht, 1,500 baht and 1,000 baht. All tickets include entrance to a cocktail reception. Patrons buying the 2,000-baht tickets will also receive an after-concert cocktail.

Ticket holders can also win prizes offered by the Hilton group.

Tickets are available from: Hilton Phuket, Central Festival (B2S and 1st floor info counter), Tesco-Lotus at the I-tree shop (opposite Home Pro), Baan Rim Pa restaurant, The Green Man Pub and the *Phuket Gazette* offices.

Hilal Town Festival attracts big crowds

Thousands attended the "Halal Food Hilal Town" Muslim festival at Kamala Beach from July 28 to August 1.

Privy Councilor Gen Surayud Chulanont declared the fair open in a ceremony followed by the presentation of a play about Princess Mahsuri, a semi-legendary princess from Kamala.

Other activities included a wide range of inexpensive, tasty Halal food (food prepared according to the Muslim way); readings of the *Holy Quran* by young people; zebra dove and bulbul singing contests; demonstrations of leatherwork; and many other attractions featuring traditional local Muslim lifestyle.

There was also an exhibition on sustainable tourism, and stalls featuring products from the 14 provinces of the South.

The festival was organized by the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization and the Tourism Authority of Thailand.



RELIABLE SERVICE

NOTEBOOK
DESKNOTE
DESKTOP
PALM & POCKET PC
COMPUTER ACCESSORIES

Big C (Basement floor)
T/F: 0-7624-8699
Phuket City.
T: 0-7621-8936-7
F: 0-7621-8802
www.buscomputer.com
email: buscom@j-net.com

BUS COMPUTER AND SERVICE CO., LTD.



A tropical luxury lifestyle investment. A residential condominium project of 73 units only 2.5 kilometers from the heart of Patong. Our full resort facilities include:

24-hour security, restaurant and pool bar, convenience store, massage and spa, fully-equipped gym, swimming pools, waterfalls, BBQ areas, meeting rooms, a business center, Internet and more.

For more details, please call 07-0778454 or email: patongharborview@aol.com

Patong Harbor View

FOR SALE



The Plantation, Kamala Bay, Phuket.
Experience The Luxury Of Nature

The Villas

- 19 LUXURIOUS VILLAS set in a PRISTINE RAINFOREST ENVIRONMENT
- LOT PRICES from ONLY 11.8 Million Baht (approx. US\$295,000)
- With BREATHTAKING VIEWS & RESPECT for PRIVACY, VARIOUS VILLA OPTIONS AVAILABLE



For Brochures & Enquiries Contact:

Tel: +66 (0)76 386 040 - 2

info@theplantationphuket.com

www.theplantationphuket.com

The Terraces

- 17 TERRACED APARTMENTS overlooking KAMALA BAY (incl. 5 with Private Gardens)
- Approx. 204m² for SEAVIEW TERRACES & 235m² with Garden
- LOCATED on THE GOLDEN MILE, in PHUKET, THAILAND.
- PRICES from ONLY 13 Million Baht (approx. US\$330,000)
- LOW DEPOSIT TERMS AVAILABLE (40% over 10 months)
- HIGH RENTAL YIELD from 8.7% to 11.8%

A Natural Paradise... Designed for Living



IN ASSOCIATION WITH PACVEST GROUP

* Details subject to change.



Left, above: Families dressed their best for the occasion.

Left, below: *OrBorJor* President Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr (center) poses with members of the cast from the play about Muslim Princess Mahsuri.

This page, above and above right: Sirintra Yayee, a descendant of the real Mahsuri, played the princess on stage.

Right: the huge variety of food was a big hit with visitors; far right, a couple of musicians take a break.



SALE

DEDON®

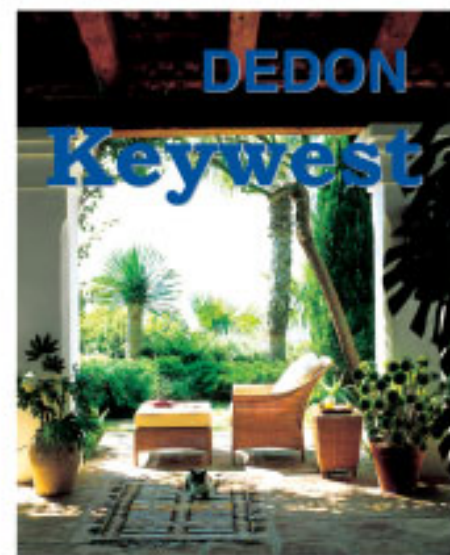
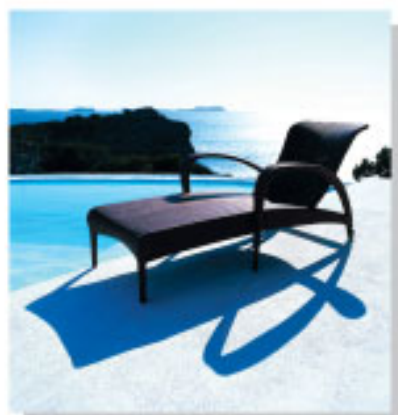
25% discount on selected items

at



EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN

The Plaza, Surin



RESOURCE ASIA OUTDOOR COLLECTION CO., LTD.

Unit M6, The Plaza, 5/50 Moo 3, Srisoonforn Road, Chermg Talay, Thalang, Phuket, 83110, Thailand. Tel: +66(0)76 271 626 Fax: +66(0)76 271 627
E-mail: cherry@resourceasia.co.th Website: www.resourceasia.com.hk

The Leading Supplier of Outdoor Furniture

Makeup Makeover

This week, we visit the Red Earth cosmetics counter at Robinson Department Store in Phuket City.

We stop to have a small chat about the art of cosmetics with makeup artist and beautician

Latpitchatorn "Tist" Ngernsiam (right).

Some people demonstrate their *joie de*

vivre through music, the arts or sports; Tist's specialty is makeup. Here, she works her magic on two faces.



BEFORE



AFTER

Oranut Samantamit, 26, before her makeover: "I feel fine wearing makeup. As a working woman, I don't have much time to spare. I think I can manage to apply makeup once a day in the morning before going to work but the killer comes when I need to look cool for a party. I really need help on that."

And after: "Tist is a real artist. I'd never met her before, but I trusted her instincts immediately. I like the way she wears her own makeup. I said to myself that if she does it so well on her own face, she can do anything with me."

Thirty-five minutes ago, I told her that I would be going to Timber Hut tonight and hey, look at me now; I'm ready to rock 'n' roll!"

Tist's comment: "Oranut has young and lively face. She also has nice eyebrows which is a plus. Some people might find her rounded face a problem but I will not worry about it. I made her Chinese eyes look sexy with a smoky shade. With an orange shade of lipstick and blush on, she'll be the queen of the dance floor tonight, I promise."



BEFORE



AFTER

Alison Winward, 40, before her makeover: "Last time I wore lipstick I was 18. I don't really like makeup, I find it unnatural, like wearing a mask. Rather than spend 30 minutes in front of a mirror making up, I prefer to spend it in bed."

And after: "When Tist was working on my face, she reminded me of an artist at work. I felt her shading my face with a brush and placing colors where they look best and I could feel the dimensions of my face."

Even though it feels like I'm wearing sunblock, I like it. I can't believe the face in the mirror is me."

Tist's comment: Alison has a beautiful facial structure. Too bad she does not believe in cosmetics – she owns only three beauty products: Vaseline lip balm, eye cream by The Body Shop and face moisturizer by Yves Rocher. I find it unbelievable.

Her face is a bit dry so before I used any color on her, I applied moisturizer.

I also paid a lot of attention to foundation. As a makeup artist, I always believe that if you have a good foundation you are a winner. With Alison, I just brought out the "real" her. I did not add anything that is not her and went for a totally natural look.

To book a makeup session with Latpitchatorn "Tist" Ngernsiam, call Tel: 09-4691462

MISSION HEIGHTS

LAND FOR SALE

Fully developed building plots - roads, water, 3 phase elec street lights (are all finished). YOUR BUILDER OR OURS. From 225 wah²(900 m²). **\$2.50 mil.** Small deposit secures.

300 m² LUXURY HOUSE WITH 90 m² POOL INCLUDES LAND - BEAUTIFUL KITCHEN - AIRCONS. 8.95 Million Baht. COME & LOOK

For Personal Service Tel: 01-3444473 01-8298101
Email: brian@missionheights.com
Check our website www.missionheights.com



High Quality Gas BBQs

Available in 3 sizes and styles:
a 4-burner full stainless-steel BBQ, with stainless-steel burners and integral side burner; or

2, 3 or 4 burners (3- and 4-burner options come with integral side burner) in partial stainless steel with high-grade cast iron umers. Both styles can be supplied as mobile, free-standing units or be custom designed to be built-in to your specific requirements.

Phuket office Tel: 06-9414652, 076-280578
Email: info@goldengrills.com www.goldengrills.com

The Clock is ticking!



What are you waiting for...?

The Gazette Guide is accepting FREE updates
and new FREE listings NOW!
Can your business afford to go unnoticed?

Hundreds of online users every day
Hard copies placed in over 7,000 hotel rooms island-wide
On the desks of more than 4,000 Phuket residents

The Gazette Guide is your guarantee of visibility – worldwide

Please use the easy access page at:
www.phuketgazette.net/guide
For advertising, contact:
guide@phuketgazette.net

The
Gazette Guide

Spa MAGIC

By Sanghae Leelanaporn

Six Senses

I had heard people talking about the Six Senses spa at the Evason Resort in Rawai, but I'd not yet had the chance to have a look at the place.

On the day I visited, the sun was shining and the sky was a deep blue, bringing out the clean white lines of the resort's design.

The spa is situated in the lower part of the grounds with spectacular sea views. I liked the location, and this was the first time that I'd ever had a massage in full daylight in a bright room. Maybe some might not find this romantic but for me it was a uniquely sensuous experience.

There are two rooms for Thai massage, three for oil massage, six treatment rooms and four salas that seem to float on a lotus pond, with views out over the bay to Koh Lon.

Every room offers the choice of air conditioning or a fresh sea breeze and I was told that most people prefer Mother Nature's touch over air conditioning.

There is a steam room and



The treatment salas for couple allow double pleasure alfresco, with a delightful view across the bay.

Above: Details count, making the difference between a good spa and a fine one.

SENSUALITY ON THE BAY

a sauna, along with treatment rooms specially for couples.

There were quite a few clients at the spa: a surprise at this time of year, but Spa Manager Linda Overman told me that they have about 40 customers a day,

most of them resort guests.

I was asked to submit information about myself, such as my medical history and general diet to make sure that the spa treatments would not bring out any adverse reactions in me.

Six Senses appears to have a special love of nature. Treatment rooms are decked with leaves and flowers from the resort grounds and I could hear birds singing outside.

Assistant Spa Manager Aoy was my therapist. She encouraged me to turn my mobile phone off so I could forget my worries, work and life in general.

Soon, the combination of a back massage, soft music and the gentle sound of waves breaking in the background began to work its own particular magic.

I could feel that the spa's products were top quality, too; they were absorbed very quickly into my skin. Six Senses uses

100% natural Sodashi products, imported from Australia, which are also on sale at the spa.

After the massage I tried a gentle, not-too-hot sauna and felt like a million dollars afterward.

I could have opted instead for the steam room, but the afternoon had been such a gentle experience that I wanted to keep it that way.

Treatments at Six Senses range in price from 1,800 to 6,000 baht. The spa is open every day from 9 am to 9 pm.

Six Senses Spa, Evason Phuket Resort, 100 Viset Rd, Rawai. Tel: 076-381010-7; Fax: 076-381-018. Visit www.six-senses.com or Email: info@evasonphuket.com

Rak Mak! Awards

This week's lucky numbers:

กจ 8163
ภูเก็ต

Gray Honda Jazz

บฉ 6147
ภูเก็ต

Gold Toyota Tiger

กจ 6440
ภูเก็ต

Gold Toyota Soluna

ลว 6415
ภูเก็ต

Silver Mitsubishi

กก 4656
ภูเก็ต

White Toyota Corolla

กง 9842
ภูเก็ต

Silver Ford

The first three of these vehicles' owners to contact us can choose from the following three prizes: a two-night stay for two in a deluxe double room (accommodation only) at the Absolute Sea Pearl Beach Resort in Patong; or Seafood Basket dinner for two at Old Siam Thai Restaurant; or a day trip to Phang Nga with Sea Canoe Thailand.

Absolute
Sea Pearl Beach Resort
www.seapearl-beach.com

Phu Nivana
Spa
100 Viset Rd, Rawai

Sea Canoe
Thailand
Phang Nga

Please contact the Gazette quickly to ensure you get the prize you want.
First come, first served!
Email LovePhuket@PhuketGazette.Net, or call K. Nok at 076-236555.

offers expire August 16, 2005

Love Phuket? Put this sticker on your vehicle:

Yes, **We Love Phuket**
The Phuket Gazette • Serving the island since 1992 • Daily News / Classifieds • www.phuketgazette.net

If we spot it, you could win a two-night stay for two in a deluxe double room (accommodation only) at the Absolute Sea Pearl Beach Resort in Patong, or a 120-minute "The Scent of Siam" treatment at Thai Privilege Spa, or dinner for two at Phuja Nivana Restaurant.

Absolute
Sea Pearl Beach Resort
www.seapearl-beach.com

Privilege
Spa
100 Viset Rd, Rawai

Phu Nivana
Spa
100 Viset Rd, Rawai

Bellefloor
Engineered Hardwood Floors
Pre-finished Solid Wood Floors
Real wood, not synthetic laminate product

Tropical Decor Co., Ltd.
Samkong near Tesco Lotus
Tel 0 7622 5462, 01-4241354
www.tropical-decor.com

The Beautiful Solution to Hardwood Flooring
Making your home closer to the nature
no dust, no sanding, no varnishing smell
install in shortly time

TD THAI-DIEN
Building Technology

Building & Construction Chemicals Since 1994

- Waterproofing
- Structural repairs
- Concrete floor repairs & treatment
- All kind of sealants
- Vapour & radiant barriers
- Resin coatings
- Pool tile repairs
- Bitumen & polymer membranes & linings
- High-pressure foam injection
- Sales, consulting and application
- Experience, know-how & reliability
- Materials & work guaranteed
- Materials made by Fosroc, Sika, Cormix, Lanko, Drizoro and Henkel.

70/31 Pattana Thongthin Rd., Soi Muangthong Uthit 1, Phuket, 83000.
Tel: 076 242 025, 01-397 1567 Fax: 076 391 680
E-mail: thaidien@td-building.com, thaidien@hotmail.com
www.td-building.com, www.phuketisland.info/thai-dien

Three hours along the road from Chiang Mai to Mae Hong Son lies Pai. First discovered by backpackers as the ideal stopover along this arduous route, Pai has in recent years become a destination in itself.

The surrounding hills and mountains are ideal for trekking, local hill tribe villages abound, and Pai also boasts some of the best – and most accessible – soft-adventure locations. Mountain-biking, canoeing and rafting are all available, and are also still very affordable.

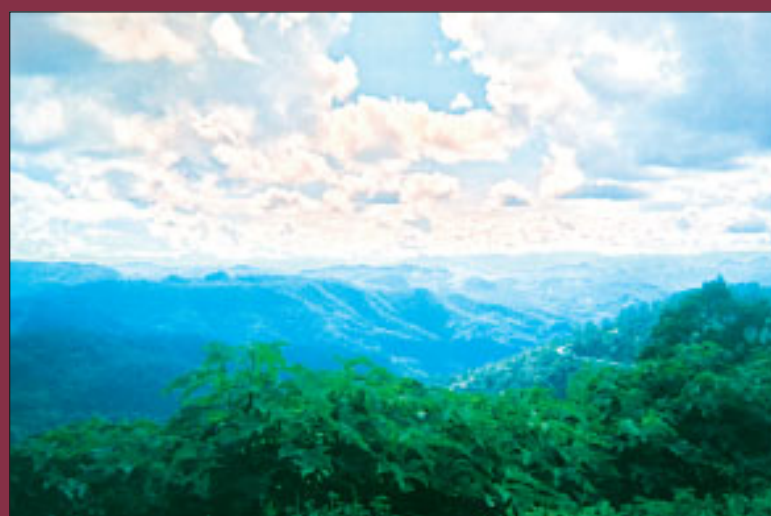
The stunning two-day-one-night white water rafting trip from Pai to Mae Hong Son, for example, takes small groups more than 150 kilometers through the mountains and over 60 rapids, with an overnight stop at a remote camping area deep in the hills.

This is one of the soft adventure trips currently still available in Southeast Asia.

Another exciting side trip is certainly worth a half or even a full day – to the Tham Lod Cave area, 40km west of Pai. Here the River Pai runs through some of the largest cave formations in the country.

Several optional trips are possible here, from a stunning 6.5-km canoeing trip through a series of small rapids and river caves, to an exciting bamboo rafting trip

A slice of gorgeous Pai



Pai is a great base for trekking through stunning mountain scenery.

through the famous Tham Lod Cave itself.

Eight hundred meters long, this features cathedral cave structures more than 50m high. It has the largest stalactite and stalagmite formations I have ever seen. You can also trek through from the center of the cave system to the "coffin cave" to see its 2,000-year-old wooden coffins, the origins of which are still somewhat mysterious.

The town of Pai itself is a wonderful combination of small

riverside guesthouses, yoga retreats, and two of the best secondhand bookshops in the kingdom – as well as the usual small restaurants, bars, motorcycle rental agents, and the ubiquitous 7-Eleven. I suppose nowhere is safe any more ...

The place bustles in the early evening with foreign and Thai travelers alike shopping at the local central market, and others simply going for a wander. Pai is certainly becoming one of the new places to hang out.

Getting there: Pai lies 140 kilometers northwest of Chiang Mai on the road to Mae Hong Son. At present the only way in is by road.

Minibus: deals are available everywhere in both Chiang Mai and Pai for the three-hour trip. Prices range from 100 to 250 baht.

Taxi/car with driver: these can be negotiated with many local agencies. Expect to pay around 2,500 baht one way.

Rental car: Try my old favorite, North Wheels, which still offers some of the best deals and cars in Chiang Mai. Tel: 053-874478; Website: www.northwheels.com

Where to Stay: Pai River Corner – fan rooms from 800 baht a night. Deluxe air-conditioned villa rooms from 2,000 baht night. Tel/Fax: 053-699049; Website: www.pairivercorner.com

Guesthouses – dozens of them. The way to find the best deals, as all seasoned travelers know, is to stroll into the nearest café and share a coffee with another local traveler.

ed to sum it all up for an older sort of guy like me.

It is run by a British expat called Phil who serves up a wonderful combination of good food and very cold beers, great cocktails, and an excellent selection of rock, blues and jazz.

Despite the tough drive from Chiang Mai, I will certainly return. The natural charm of the area, nature and people all make it a must. I would also recommend a trip to Pai soon, before things change.

Thailand TRAVELER

By Bill Owen

To ensure you find the perfect home

www.phuketimmo.com 076-249-315

Experience Exciting Singapore

3 Day / 2 Night Package
from Phuket / Singapore / Phuket

THB 6,500*

- These fares are available with Tradewinds
- Contact info : Tel : 076-219-926 Fax : 076-219-531
- E-mail : slksales@csloxinfo.com

* Fares valid till Sep 30, 2005
Valid only on MI 753 and MI 751 departures
Minimum 2 passengers travel together
Package price does not include relevant taxes and surcharges

*The mechanics may change without prior notice under conditions.

Silk Air **UNIQUELY Singapore**
visitsingapore.com

Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa

Concert...

Nantida Pop Jazz Night @ Hilton Phuket
Saturday, 3 September 2005
Grand Ballroom
Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa

Ticket Prices

- Platinum : THB 2,000 including cocktail reception
A complimentary drink after the concert.
- Gold : THB 1,500 including cocktail reception
- Silver : THB 1,000 including cocktail reception

(10% discount all prices for Hilton Premium Club Card holders.)

8.00 - 8.30 pm: Cocktail Reception
8.30 - 10.00 pm: Concert

Tickets available at :

- Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa, Karon Beach
- Central Festival at B2S Book Store
- Phuket Gazette, Phuket Town
- Baan Rim Pa Restaurant, Patong
- The Green Man Pub, Chalong

Every ticket holder will be eligible to win one of the many fantastic prizes.

Guest Artists...

- 'Pari' Paboonkiet Khawkwaw
- Mark Hodgkins, Saxophonist

For further information, please contact Khun Nikki
at Email: Nampetch.Tipaxsom@hilton.com
Tel. + 66 (0) 7639 6433-41 ext. 2052

Cocktail reception served 30 minutes before the concert.
Dress Code: Smart Casual

Phuket Gazette

3 exclusive privileges only for the audience:

- Special seafood BBQ buffet dinner on 3rd September at THB 650 nett per person
- Stay overnight @ Hilton on 3rd September at THB 2,000 nett for Single/Twin (Room Only)
- Special Jazz Brunch with Saxophonist Mark Hodgkins on 4th September at THB 1,080 nett per person, including one bottle of wine per couple

Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa 333 Patak Rd., Karon Beach, Muang, Phuket 83100, Thailand
Tel. +66 (0) 7639 6433-41 Fax +66 (0) 7639 6136 E-mail: reservations.phuket@hilton.com
Website: www.hilton.com

Worldwide Resorts

MEKONG MEGALOMANIA

John Keay is an old India hand with seven books to his credit on the history of the subcontinent.

In *Mad About the Mekong* (HarperCollins, London, 2005, 393pp), however, he turns his focus on the French Mekong Exploration Commission, led by Doudart de Lagraée and Francis Garnier in 1866, a two-year journey of incredible hardship up the Mekong from Vietnam through Cambodia, Laos and the Shan States to China – more than the length of Africa. Of the 23 expedition members who started out, 13 survived to reach journey's end, shoeless and in rags and broken health.

Keay uses an old *National Geographic* trick to tell his tale, tracing the explorers' route through the modern day descriptions of the Mekong and the six riparian nations. The book is replete with maps and old engravings.

The author has a sharp descriptive eye for the mighty river,

though his prose sometimes tends toward the purple: "Knee-deep in bamboo fronds and badly in need of a haircut, spindly sugar palms reel across the floodplains like pin-men with hangovers. Untroubled and still unconfined, the Mekong wallows, buffalo brown

The total displacement of trade goods and personal baggage was five tons. They would soon be dumping almost all of it, reducing themselves to penury.

Yet, in the imperialistic spirit of the day, they were undaunted, led by a vision of French glory, personal fame and a romantic devotion to the Mekong.

The author shares in their spirit: "The river was unquestionably female. Clad in virgin forest, she suffered no bridges across her bosom, no promenades along her brow nor trade

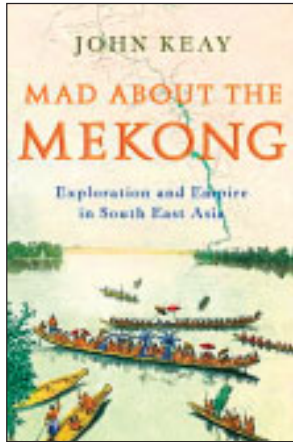
routes down her limbs. Beguiling, wanton and capricious, in a pre-feminist era she conformed to every bearded bachelor's fantasy of a wild maiden from the hills."

What the Mekong was not was navigable. Huge stretches of rapids in southern Laos, northern Thailand and the Shan States made the dream of opening trade

At last, in the little market town of Jinghong, they saw a pair of ragged Chinese women with bound feet and realized they were out of the wilderness.

in a swamp of green, as if reluctant to reveal its majestic proportions in such disrespectful company."

As usual with European expeditions of this type, the French explorers travelled heavy. They – or their local bearers – carried 766 litres of wine, 302 litres of brandy and 500 kilos of biscuits.



Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

between Yunnan and Saigon an utter impossibility. Though, as the author reports, the Chinese are working on the problem now, blasting the way for navigation at least part of the year down to northern Thailand.

Meanwhile, a revolt in Cambodia had closed the back door on the expedition. The way to France now lay through China. Garnier remained obsessed by the river, though, and after they reached the sanctuary of Luang Prabang he insisted on pushing through the wild reaches of the Shan States.

At last, in the little market town of Jinghong, they saw a pair of ragged Chinese women with bound feet and realized they were out of the wilderness. From here on out their Chinese passports would ensure a hospitable official welcome.

Visiting bustling Jinghong today, Keay writes: "Downstream of Jinghong the hard-hatted workers of China's economic miracle labour to clear the river;

upstream they labour to dam it. Whichever the direction, whatever the object, the river is being harnessed for mainly Chinese priorities, and there is little other riparian states can do about it."

Keay faults the monomaniacal Garnier for abandoning his ailing commander and making an inexplicable winter dash from Dongchuan near the Yangtze River west to Dali for one more stab at the Mekong.

The diversion ended in fiasco and when Garnier's party returned, Doudart de Lagraée was dead. He had mandated that his body be buried and his papers preserved. Garnier decided to reverse these wishes, exhuming the corpse for transport to Saigon and burning the papers. The glory would be all his upon return to Europe.

Five years later, Garnier was killed in a rash skirmish outside Hanoi. The foundations for the French Indo-Chinese colonial empire were slowly being laid and would finally be completed in 1907. But, as the author notes, "The man who would call himself Ho Chi Minh was already 10 years old in 1907."



Naturally Aesthetic Forever

As a result of fired to 1,100 °C and DIN 456 German Standards, Ceris Terracotta Roof Tiles provide high strength and lifetime colour durability.



Ceris Terracotta Roof Tile


Call Center 0-2586-5600

ANNEX Siam from Lafarge Roofing, no. 1 in Roofing Solutions Worldwide and Siam Cement Group


KIDS


THE FUN PAGE
FOR ALL
THE FAMILY

Spot the Difference



Can you find the seven differences between the two cartoons below? And can you find them faster than the rest of the family?





Brain Buster!!

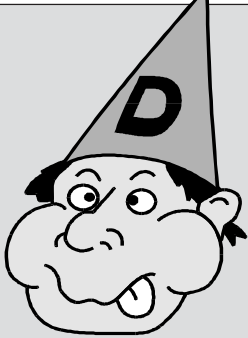
Arthit is walking to Baan Ching when he comes to a fork in the road.
There is no signpost, but a girl is standing there. He knows that she comes from either Baan Ching, where everyone tells the truth, or Baan Gohork, where everyone lies, but he does not know which.
What should he ask her in order to find out which road to take to Baan Ching?

A: "Which way is your home town?"

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S MONSTER QUIZ

1. Under Milk Wood; 2. Dylan Thomas; 3. The British Grenadier; 4. Germany, 4-2; 5. Jean Reno; 6. Alexander Pope; 7. Andrei Tarkovsky; 8. Steven Soderbergh; 9. Hercules; 10. Hetaerae (courtesans); 11. Artichoke; 12. Nike; 13. Britain; 14. 1995; 15. Nicole Kidman; 16. Bill Bryson; 17. Pele; 18. Tail; 19. Long-sightedness; 20. Wyoming.

Get your brain
in gear with
The Monster Quiz



Kids! Ask Mum and Dad to help you find the answers to these questions. They're not easy, but if you do some research you should be able to find the answers to all of them.

1. What name is given to an amphitheater-like valley created by a glacier?

2. "Little Boy" became famous on August 6, 1945. For what?

3. Which UK synth-pop band had a 1980 hit single with Enola Gay?

4. Who, in 1961, was the first man to spend more than 24 hours orbiting the Earth?

5. In the 2001 UK census, approximately how many people entered "Jedi Knight" as their religion?

6. By what other name is Haydn's Symphony No 103 in E flat major often called?

7. Who wrote the 1929 anti-war novel All Quiet on the Western Front?

8. Yav, Prav and Nav are three realms associated with which mythology?

9. What type of car did Steve McQueen drive in the film Bullitt?

10. Which Argentinian pianist scored Bullitt, Mission Impossible and Cool Hand Luke?

11. In Caravaggio's painting Doubting Thomas, what is Thomas doing?

12. Whose successor is believed to be born at the instant of his death?

13. What does the word "Islam" mean?

14. Contrary to popular belief, brides do not walk down the aisle. What do they walk down?

15. In Japan, who or what are Mizaru, Mikazaru, and Mazaru?

16. Which book, published in 1816, was subtitled The Modern Prometheus?

17. Mustardseed appears in which Shakespeare play?

18. In which book would you come across a Pan-galactic Gargle Blaster?

19. Who composed La Mer?

20. Who holds a trumpet on the cover of the Beatles' Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band?

Answers next week

Never a
Cross
Word!

ACROSS

1. Small vessel.

3. Perspires.

8. Stops working.

9. Nasty dog.

10. Section of a circle.

11. Help.

14. Maker of perfume No 5.

15. A good place to sleep.

18. Yes, in Paris.

19. Song for a babe.

20. Small sailing boat.

21. US car maker.

DOWN

1. That Simpson boy.

2. Argument.

4. Most sagacious.

5. Group of islands.

6. Rock layers.

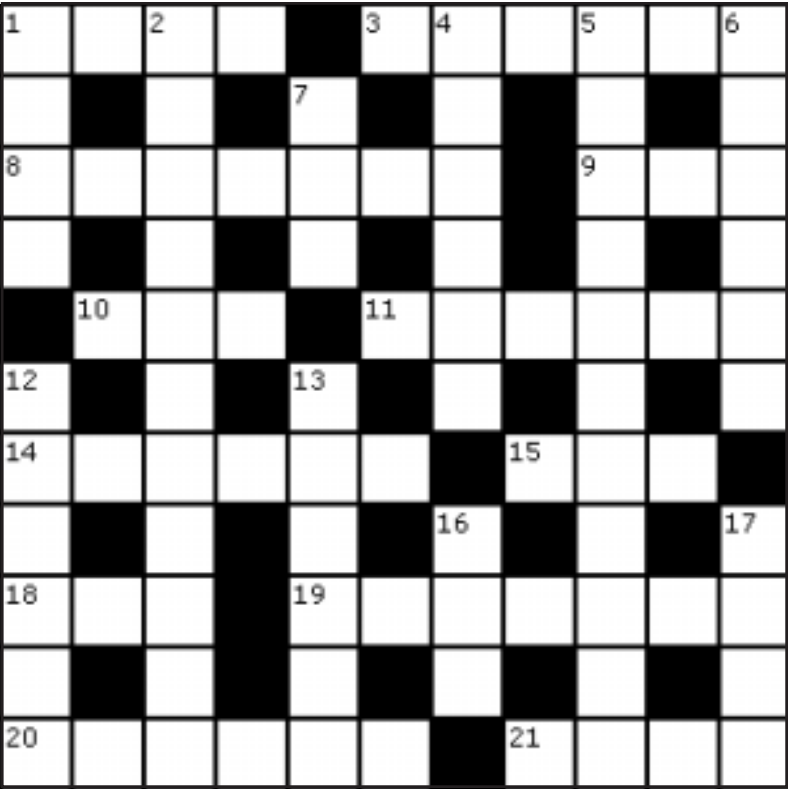
7. Golf teacher.

12. Agreement.

13. Physical well-being.

16. Inn supplies.

17. Colored.



SOLUTION TO
LAST WEEK'S
CROSSWORD

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | F | L | I | G | H | T | L | E | S | S | |
| O | | O | | O | H | | L | | A | | |
| P | O | S | Y | | B | U | R | E | A | U | |
| E | E | B | | | | | V | | E | | |
| R | E | | F | O | O | T | W | E | A | R | |
| A | R | | O | | R | | N | | K | | |
| T | H | I | R | T | E | E | N | | M | R | |
| I | | Y | | | | E | | N | | A | |
| O | R | A | N | G | E | | Z | E | B | U | |
| N | | D | | O | | P | | R | | T | |
| S | C | H | O | O | L | R | O | O | M | | |

Solution next week

In The Stars

by Isla Star

LEO (July 24-August 22): This week, the pace is fast and furious. If your birthday falls during the coming days, expect to experience a year full of action. This should more than compensate for the sluggish progress made during the last twelve months. Your energy levels will be high during August, but don't push your luck by skimping on rest. Wear white to chill out.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Others' opinions cannot be relied upon this week. If you are less than 100% confident about accepting a particular job offer, you are advised to put the matter on hold if possible. A better opportunity will present itself later in the month and you will regret being unable to accept it. In the meantime, a modest investment made earlier looks like it will pay off soon.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Your willpower is getting stronger and this will facilitate you reaching a particular goal. A gloomy mood mid-week could provoke a fall by the wayside; find ways of occupying your attention to avoid this. Admiration from others later in the week gives you a welcome boost. Pisces is starting to nurture romantic aspirations, but will not reveal their feelings yet. The number 8 brings luck next Tuesday.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Fruitless arguments will waste your precious time this week, but only if you allow them to. Sensible Scorpios will ignore others who seem determined to convince you that the world is flat. A spot of fishing on Monday reveals that there's a bigger catch to be had than you previously thought. Business should be booming by the end of August. A frisson of romantic interest on Wednesday puts a spring in your step.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Travel is likely this week, even if you have made no plans to do so. A passionate re-

What your stars foretell this week

union is highlighted for those who are maintaining a long distance relationship. In the midst of all this excitement, beware of being forgetful early next week. Your most auspicious days for finalizing business agreements are Tuesday and Wednesday; keep your pen in your pocket on Monday.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): News received next Monday will not be quite what you were hoping to hear, but every cloud has a silver lining. You should endeavor to look on the bright side; having a positive perspective on life will encourage good things to happen this month. Leave your cares at home and allow friends to take you to places you've never been before this weekend. The scent of sandalwood will bring inner peace.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Love finally gets onto a smoother path you this week. Recent crossed wires will disappear, leaving calm space for communication. Connections may still not be as fast as you wish, but at least there will be contact. Where business is concerned, financial mistakes will have the tendency to snowball. Double check all numbers to avoid this happening. The number 3 brings luck on Wednesday.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): You should be able to relax more this week. A cool breeze blows some tranquil air in your direction and you will wonder what all the stress was about. If you're single, you will discover new ways of enjoying life and

interesting people to enjoy it with. Those in a relationship should pamper their partners to compensate for lack of attention last week.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): You will experience a week with some ups and downs. On the negative side, a family relationship begins to turn sour when neither party wishes to concede defeat. Try to make this a matter of meeting in the middle. On the positive front, finances continue to be well starred. A close friend is not so lucky at the moment; you will be in a position to offer advice on Sunday.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Cupid hits the spot this weekend for you – if you're on the lookout for love. You won't need to focus your telescope on the horizon; a prospective partner should be able to find you in even an unlikely setting. Next week sees an unexpected cash bonus heading your way. This could cause jealousy to brew quietly amongst fair-weather friends. Keep your business options open and dare to ask probing questions.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): If you have been enjoying yourself and forgetting the dreary tasks recently, then expect a wake-up call early next week. Something you thought could be delayed indefinitely suddenly demands attention. Advice offered by Capricorn this weekend has little value, but an Arian's words on Tuesday could help you hit the bull's-eye. Mail from overseas arrives in your letterbox.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): "What goes around comes around" will be a pertinent saying for you this week. You are likely to be pleased on Monday when a friend returns a favor with interest although it could later bring a negative return. Something you said in the heat of the moment was taken to heart and the person concerned is about to reciprocate. Romance is starting to go the way you want it to.

ROPE-A-DOPE

I see from the papers that "Iron Mike" Tyson may come to Thailand to take up muay Thai, otherwise known as Thai kickboxing.

A few surprises may await Mike if he undertakes this venture. Certainly the subsequent saga would make one hell of a movie, and you will not be surprised to learn that I am already drafting a script.

It begins in Roi Et, where Iron Mike, accompanied by his promoter, Don King, is introduced to his first muay Thai sparring partner.

Machoboy Chechengym is small. He is wiry. He is tough. Iron Mike towers over him like Godzilla over a hobbit.

Mike: What yo' name, boy?

Machoboy: My name Machoboy Chechengym, *khrap*. You Iron Mike Tyson. I see you fight. I like it when you bite off Evander Holyfield ear. Nice taste, *na*?

Mike (chortling): You gonna fight me, li'l Machoboy? You know what I do to my victims? I crush dem like bugs. You are a matchstick. I will break you over my little finger. Then we gonna change yo' name to Pussy-boy.

Machoboy: Rough talk not po-

lite, Mike. Thai fighter have to respect opponent, *jai yen yen, sabai-sabai, superb-superb*.

Don: Yeah, Mike, like you gotta learn some of their culture, man. Might give you a little class.

Machoboy: Okay, Mike, we gonna give you a little demonstration about what Thai boxing all about.

(Pre-fight ritual begins. Mike watches in dismay.)

Mike: What is all this jive? I gotta put a rope around my head an' bow an' dance around like a chicken with a chili up his ***?

Don: Mike, take it easy, man, this is their culture, you gotta be respectful.

Mike: I ain't gonna do all that fancy dancin' and bowin' with a rope around my head. Makes me look like an *****.

Machoboy: Mike, come on, man, step into the ring, we gonna show you a few moves. Never mind the rope around your head. We gonna show you why you need it.

(Mike steps into the ring. He and Machoboy square off. The curtain gracefully descends to conceal the scene of carnage that fol-

No fears if you follow Deards

Last week I discussed issues regarding land. This week, it's about building a house. The advice given comes from John Deards, a man experienced in the Thai construction industry.

Perhaps, if you are planning to build a house, it would be worth keeping a copy of this list for reference:

1. Get the designs and specifications complete before starting, as changes and variations get out of control.
2. Get at least three tenders or quotations for the construction.
3. Once you have decided on the contractor you need to do some homework. Make sure that the contractor is financially sound, because if he runs out of money, then that means big problems.
4. Get the contract drawn up and checked with your lawyer in both Thai and English.
5. Do not pay advance money to the contractor without either a bank guarantee or a performance bond.

6. Agree to stage payments – the normal number is four. These should be for foundations; superstructure and roof; walls windows and doors; and finishing and fitting out.

7. Keep some guarantee or retention money, say 5% of each payment, to insure against defective work.

8. Get an independent party or a project manager to check the specifications and quality of materials. The critical issues are that the structures are correct, that the rebars (steel reinforcement bars) are the correct size and that the correct number are being used.

Make sure plumbing and the electrical systems are correctly installed. You can't see these after the house is finished so this is

where contractors often cheat. If they are not done correctly, plumbing and electricians can be some of your biggest problems later.

9. Make sure that your contractor signs for all materials, including material supplied by you. The contractor has to be responsible for loss of, or damage to, all

LARGER THAN LIFE
By Graham Doven

AM Production
DIRECT EXPORT
Made to Order
New T-Shirt
European Quality:
- Polo shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Baseball caps
+
- Embroidery
- Pens, Lighters
Tel: 076-321850
Fax: 076-321851
Email: info@best-t-shirt.com
www.best-t-shirt.com
Ask for: Mr. FRANZ

Cherngtalay Church
Sunday Service:
Thai: 10.30 am - 7.00 pm
Eng: 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm
48/92 Moo 4, Soi Pasak 8,
Cherngtalay (near Laguna Phuket).
Please call:
076-274 975-6
04-056-7027
E-mail: cherngtalaychurch@yahoo.com
www.cherngtalaychurch.com

WITH MIKE TYSON



'You gotta wear the rope. And do the dance. You gotta wear the rope and do the dance And jump around and leap and prance And kick and punch and do muay Thai And you da champion by and by. Yeah!'

lows. When it rises again, Mike is lying on his back, alternately clutching his thighs and his calves in agony.)

Mike (through clenched teeth): AGH! OWWWW! Oh, JEEE-zuss! That little ***** kicked the **** out of me!

Machoboy (helping him to his feet): Sorry, Mike, we had to teach you respect for the flying feet of the muay Thai masters. You wanna try again? Put *mongkol* on dis time, do *wai khru*, maybe you better luck.

Mike (struggling to his feet; dazed): Say what?

Don: The rope, Mike, you gotta wear the rope. And do the dance. You gotta wear the rope and do the dance/ And jump around and leap and prance/ And kick and punch and do muay Thai/ And you da champion by and by. Yeah!

(Interlude. Five months later. Mike and Don get off the plane in Los Angeles and are engulfed by reporters.)

Reporter: Mike! Did you win the championship?

Mike (flashing a large smile): Oh no, sir, *khraph*, I would never dare to entertain such a lofty aspiration. Why, those muay Thai masters – my comrades, my friends, my brothers – those young

heroes may be small, but my goodness, they can kick! No, I have gained new respect for my opponents, and a profound love for the great Thai nation and its resplendent culture.

Female reporter: Mike! I'm a woman! Aren't you gonna grope me?

Mike (smiling sweetly): Oh no, dear madam, I wouldn't think of it. Why, you are the hind legs of the elephant. Now if you will kindly excuse us, my good friend Mr King and myself should like to retire to the airport lounge to imbibe a relaxing libation of Mekhong soda.

Reporter: Mike! What did you learn over there?

Mike (bowing): Sir, I learned politeness. I also learned that soda may not be served without Mekhong, and a soupçon of lime must be added – stirred, not shaken. Farewell, friends. *Sawas-dee khraph!* (Smiles beatifically and wais them all; exit. Curtain.)

S. Tsow can be flamed at stsow@yahoo.com, except when he's picking up his Oscar for writing the script of the smash hit movie Iron Mike Meets the Machoboy Mauler.

Jungceylon... and on and on

It appears that the long delay is finally over and the opening of Jungceylon will be sometime in November. I for one can't wait; this development is the biggest thing to hit Toon Town since, well, Big Bill.

One whole street will be dedicated to bars and restaurants and even though some of the big names have crashed out – Hooters, for instance – many others have taken their place.

It looks certain that Mystique will open a nightclub; the Irish Times will also have weathered the delays and will have what may be the best sound system ever installed on the island.

There will be some sort of beer garden and – the best news – Saxophone Pub of Bangkok will be opening quite a large venue. Saxophone, located at the Victory Monument, has long had the best live music venue in the Big Mango. As long as they swamp us with Latino jazz every night, it should rock.

On the restaurant front, I do not have much news except that there will be a Floyd's restaurant in the new Burasari Hotel, which is run by the *über*-talented GM Mike Inman, so it should be a cracker.

Floyd's is the restaurant name of Brit celebrity chef and *bon viveur* Keith Floyd, by the way. There will also be Thailand's first branch of Indochine, a famous chain of fusion restaurants that already has outlets in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong and Germany.

Most of my regular readers know my thoughts on fusion food, however these guys are apparently very good at it so I'm looking forward to trying it.

Breaking brekker news: This is the time of year when I usually nominate, by my own highly personal criteria, The Best Breakfast In Patong Award.

This year some of you actually got off your butts and invited me along, and I did visit every place that approached me. Places that deserve to be mentioned are:

The Roadhouse "Mario's Place", next to C&N Resort, is run by the lovely Mario and Annette. The breakfast is excellent value at just 120 baht.

A 1 s o worth a mention is The Sofa, on

Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, between the two entrances to Soi Keksup. Their juicy black pudding, at 175 baht, is great.

However, anyone in search of a fabulous first meal of the day will find themselves spoiled for choice on Soi Sansabai.

For many years, Fiddy has won this award – and deservedly so, for he is the Michael Schumacher of breakfasts, the Lance Armstrong of the Patong *petit déjeuner*.

But now, on the same street, a breakfast of stunning quality has arrived.

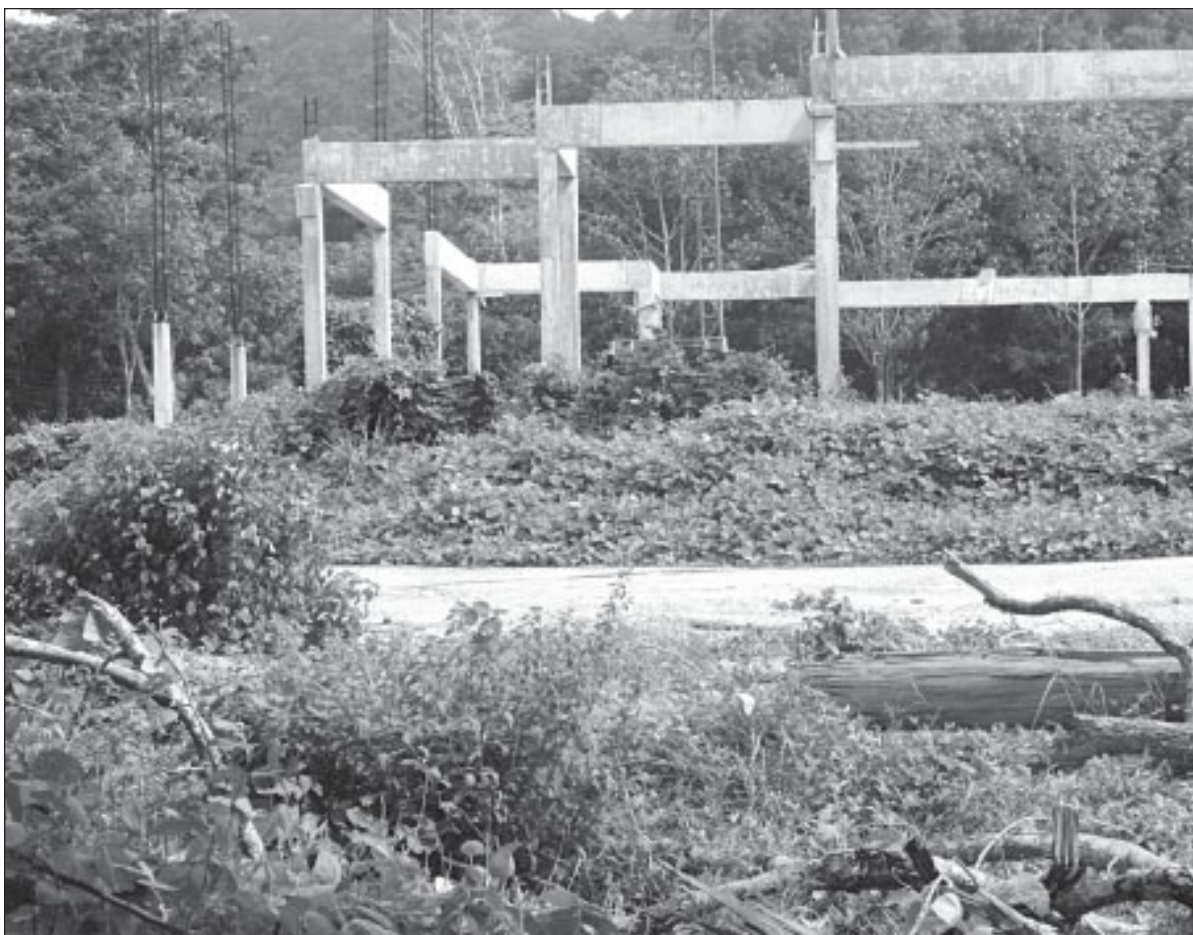
I refer to this year's winner: The Yorkshire Inn.

English tea bags, beans, white toast, tomatoes, excellent bangers and full round loin bacon – this place has it all and for a very reasonable price, which means that now I have to alternate my morning trips to the soi.

Well done to Paul Gibson, the new owner of the venue. The whole place has had a refit, too. I have tried their other English dishes – they do a cottage pie to die for, so check 'em out.



By Konrad Stalin
(Konradstalin@hotmail.com)



Is your house going to look like this five years from now? Follow the Deards checklist to minimize risk.

materials. If possible, it's a good idea to get a quantity surveyor to do a bill of quantities for the contractor to price against, in addition to the plans. If the design has not been changed, this should be no problem.

10. Make sure you retain a small percentage of the final payment as a guarantee against any possible short-term defects. Usually it's a good idea to retain 5%

releasing 2.5% after six months and the last 2.5% after 12 months.

Make sure the contractor is properly insured. Don't forget to budget for temporary power and water supply during construction. This is not normally included in the contractor's price.

If you are set on building a house yourself, then hopefully this little

list will help avoid the disasters which have befallen many an unwary customer.

Hopefully, rather than wailing and tearing out your hair like the unfortunate Mr Timothy Goodfellow of last week's column, you will be able to find some enjoyment in moving in to your new home – and maybe even be able to recommend the contractor to someone else.

PHUKET

We take care of all your forwarding problems.
(Air, Sea & Land)



Nature of Business:

- International Air & Sea Freight Forwarding
- Inbound-Outbound Customs Clearance (Phuket, Songkhla & Bangkok)
- Pickup, Delivery and Inland Haulage with in Phuket and Thailand Nationwide
- Packing Services
- Household Removal Services (Phuket, Thailand Nationwide & Worldwide)
- Worldwide and Thailand Nationwide Courier Service
- ONE-STOP Services for Exhibition, Event & Convention Matters
- Other Services: Warehousing, Shipping Agency, Vehicle & Equipment Rental

Name: Phuket Universal Service Co., Ltd.
Address: 24/19 Moo 2, Thepkasatri Road, Rassada, Muang, Phuket 83000 Thailand
Contact: Pongtip Katejaemsri / General Manager
Mobile: 01-737 3843
Tel: 076 238824-6, 238822 Fax: 076 238927
Email: pusco@phuket.ksc.co.th, pusco@loxinfo.co.th
Visit us at: www.phukettransport.com



The Phuket Gazette
- Since 1994 -

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Amphur
Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076-236555
Fax: 076-213971
Email: info@phuketgazette.net

Airport limo fees must go

The reaction of limousine drivers to the Governor's attempt to introduce a transport system similar to that at Bangkok's Don Muang Airport (see page 1) highlights the need to be aware of the dangers of taking too lightly the emotions of those whose livelihoods are threatened.

Time and again, Phuket has witnessed heated debate over transport, not only between transport syndicates and the authorities, but also between different "mafias" that control different parts of the island as if they were their own private fiefdoms.

In some cases arguments have led to violence and even death. In December 2000, a limousine driver was beaten to death at the airport in an altercation with a "black" taxi driver; there have also been numerous dark incidents in the struggles for control of Patong and Kata/Karon.

The authorities should not pander to the limousine drivers. Phuket needs a normal metered taxi service at the airport to replace the current system, which is antiquated, monopolistic and makes a new arrival's first experience here a negative one.

Under the current situation, limousine drivers get a couple of desks inside the arrivals hall and can pick up fares right outside, while the meter taxis are exiled to the far side of the car park and their numbers severely restricted. Clearly this is unfair.

But the current proposal is equally unfair. The meter taxis would get a desk in arrivals and would be allowed to pick up outside the terminal and their numbers would be increased significantly.

If metered taxis are to compete head-to-head with the limousines, the playing field must be leveled. The limousine cooperatives currently have to pay hefty concession fees to the airport authorities in return for their monopoly. If the monopoly goes, so should the fees.

So far, there has been a suggestion – verbal only – that the airport might reduce the concession fee by 50%. But, as Sam Goldwyn purportedly said, a verbal agreement isn't worth the paper it's written on.

In any case, the limousine drivers would still have to pay the other 50%, which would mean they would be unable to compete with metered taxis, who would pay no concession fee.

The solution is simple. Airports of Thailand must kill the concession fee altogether. If that happens and the limousine drivers still threaten to strike or otherwise take action against the metered taxis, the Governor must in turn make good on his reported threat to bring in the army to provide security and, if necessary, have soldiers provide transport for passengers.

– The Editor

The Phuket Gazette

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

Editor: Rungtip Hongjakpet

Managing Editor: Alasdair Forbes

Deputy Editor: Chris Husted

Chief Reporter: Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

Editorial Team: Stephen Fein, Andy Johnstone, Anongnat Sartpisut, Athiga Jundee, Sam Wilkinson, Ananya Hongsa-ngiam, Shiona Mackenzie

Managing Director: Rungtip Hongjakpet

Marketing Manager: Oranee Pienprasertkul

Website Services Manager: Natthira Susangrat

Distribution Manager: Passara Kaewbumroong

Publisher: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Contact us

Advertising Sales: adsales@phuketgazette.net

Classified Advertising: classads@phuketgazette.net

Website Services: anna@phuketgazette.net

Shopper Card inquiries: shopper@phuketgazette.net

Gazette Guide inquiries: guide@phuketgazette.net

Telephone: 076-236555 (10 lines) **Fax:** 076-213971

The views expressed in the Phuket Gazette are those of the writers and contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher, the editor, the shareholders, or the directors of The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd.

Copyright © 1994-2005 The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd



Letters

The *Gazette* is pleased to receive mail from readers. Please write to us at 367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, fax to 076-213971 or send an email to editor@phuketgazette.net

with your views for publication in our next issue. We reserve the right to edit all letters. Pseudonyms are acceptable only if your full name and address are supplied.

Not alarmed at all

In response to your article about the tsunami evacuation (*Gazette*, July 30), I live in Khao Lak but was not warned about nor informed of [the earthquake] because I did not watch TV that evening.

Nor did I receive an SMS message warning me; I wouldn't even know how to subscribe to this life-saving service. I learned about the tsunami [warning] the next day by watching BBC World news.

My friend, who lives on Racha Island, saw the TV warnings, but because he does not speak Thai well enough, he did not know what was happening.

Fortunately for him, he was able to reach his Thai wife in Phuket to get clarification of the situation and then moved to higher ground.

Calling the evacuation a "90% success" is a bit rash, and even if the figure was right, what about the other 10% (including myself)?

Are we collateral damage?

Michael
Khao Lak

Anarchy in Kamala

I refer to your courageous article in Inside Story [*Gazette*, issue of July 30] about the sorry state of affairs in Kamala, as well as the apt editorial.

I am a Southeast Asia-based expatriate, and a Kamala property owner since 1996.

However, your Inside Story tells only part of a wider story.

If your writer would take the trouble to take a look at the back lanes of the Kamala beach-side village, she would notice that

a number of private properties remain unrepaired.

My local friends report that many families are on the starvation line and have no income at all. [They are] certainly not helped by the finger-pointing and squabbling between the [Tourism Authority of Thailand] and the Tambon Administration Organization. There are no tourists, there is no work and there is no income.

The consequence is that we now have an unprecedented crime rate throughout Kamala, affecting locals and expatriates alike.

There have been 11 attempted or successful break-ins at my houses in the past five weeks. The burglars brazenly come into private homes in broad daylight and within sight of their residents.

One of my tenants had his place burgled four times within three days. While he was working on his motorbike in the afternoon, a thief just walked into the living room, took a wallet and ran; the other three attempts were during the night.

My other tenant had his place burgled three times. On one occasion, while he was taking a shower, somebody came into the house and stole valuables.

One of my overseas guests was robbed during the middle of the night.

Needless to say, my two tenants have moved out and my friend left for Bangkok.

My own residence has been burgled four times. All around Kamala I hear similar stories – there is no point in making a report to the police; [it is] a total waste of time and effort.

The current situation in Ka-

mala is a mess. All the clean-ups being carried out are private efforts; the local authorities clearly have no grasp of how to deal with even simple civic problems.

No wonder we have a state of near-anarchy in Kamala. And nobody cares, gives a damn or makes moves in the right direction. There is an utter lack of understanding of how to implement protocols for future situations.

Nobody wants to learn or improve, nor are they willing to accept professional support from those of us who are committed to Kamala and its community.

I guess it may take a few generations before the penny drops.

Name & address supplied

Top Dog given pounding

In the recent Making Tracks article [*Gazette*, issue of July 30] the author quoted two researchers as saying the island's stray dog population was on the decline and now stood at about 10,000.

After that he noted that there was a lack of wildlife on the island.

Yet he failed to draw the relationship between the two facts. Get rid of all these strays and you will see a lot more wildlife coming back, I assure you.

The article also reveals just how political the world of organized animal-loving has become. Imagine, animal welfare groups from around the world meeting in Singapore to hold awards ceremonies as if they were actors receiving their Oscars. Isn't this a bit over the top?

Charles McBride
Phuket

Letters conveying views and suggestions are published here. Those seeking comment from government officials or business owners are published as *Issues & Answers* on the facing page.

Letters

TAT is not the target

While I agree wholeheartedly with the thrust of your July 30 editorial piece – that it is high time the lazy bureaucrats get off their duffs and do something that they promised would be, that could have been, and should have been, done long ago – your target in this case I feel is wrong.

Aside from its Tourist Business Registration Office, the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) is a purely promotional organization.

It cannot order local government or any other agency to do anything.

It is not even a part of government, being officially operated as a semi-private state enterprise. The TAT is quite unable to execute any plan – irrespective of who gives the order for them to do so – without active co-operation from local bodies or other agencies that have direct control over an area.

The TAT does have considerable persuasive power and it is also highly respected: the director ranks in the provincial hierarchy just below the governor.

But the fact remains its only discretionary powers are in the way of promotion.

Thus, ordering the TAT to oversee the Kamala Beach clean-up was silly a move from the start.

Even if it had the manpower and equipment to do the job, or contracted for them, local officials would have the final say; and if the TAT tried to go round local officials to get the job done, they would find themselves facing obstructions and perhaps the odd potshot by way of revenge.

The proper objects of your ire, then, are Kamala's tambon administration organization (*OrBorTor*), and Phuket's provincial administration organization (*OrBorJor*), both of which are charged under ordinary circumstances – indeed, it is part of the law under which the two bodies came into existence – with maintaining the environment and ensuring an efficient clean-up after storms or other natural disturbances.

An observer
Phuket

Is it time to chop the coppers' choppers?

Following last week's story concerning Phuket City Police Department's shortage of vehicles, perhaps those of their colleagues in Chalong, Kata and Karon, and Patong – currently patrolling our fair isle on expensive chopper-style motorbikes – might consider trading them for in a couple of Honda Dreams or the equivalent motorcycles and donating one of them to ease their colleagues' suffering.

What do other readers think?

L Williams
Chalong

Change means no change

FIRST PERSON

I just heard from my new employers that they will increase my salary by five baht, which will take it to 155 baht a day, plus two meals.

It's an increase, sure, but it isn't enough to cover the rise in the cost of living – although I know that I am lucky to be working for them.

I was a gardener elsewhere before, and the job was okay. There, they paid me 146 baht plus two meals a day, but it was a long drive to work; 15 kilometers each way every day was too expensive – and dangerous. I had to think of who would care for my daughters if anything happened to me.

But where I work now is just a kilometer from where I live, so I sometimes walk to and from work. It is safer and it saves money.

My two daughters – they are eight and five years old – attend Bang Rong Primary School, which is about two kilometers from home.

Most days a neighbor takes the children to school on her motorcycle. Sometimes I take them myself, but sometimes they have to walk to and from school.

I can afford to give my daughters 15 baht a day each for school meals, and I also have to provide food for the family – my daughters, my mother and me.

I spend on average of around 30 baht a day, or 900 baht a month, for meals at home, and most of our meals are rice, vegetables and herbs that we find and pick, and occasionally eggs; meat and fish are too expensive.

I spend another 1,280 baht

The Ministry of Labour increased the minimum daily wage for all provinces from August 1. In Phuket, the rate increased from 173 baht to 178 baht.

The reality, however, is that not every worker on the island received the old minimum rate – and will probably not receive the new minimum wage, either.

Phuket-born Kaysorn Payklum, 37, works as a gardener. Her pay is currently 150 baht a day plus two meals. Here she talks about life on minimum pay, and how the five-baht rise will affect her.



a month on the payments for my motorbike, 1,000 baht a month for the TV and around 80 baht a month for electricity, washing powder and sundries.

Fifty baht worth of gasoline usually lasts between three and seven days, and I usually do our cooking over a fire made from rubber-tree wood; it's plentiful and cheap.

My total monthly outgoings are more than 4,000 baht from an income of 4,500 baht.

I try to save some money in case someone in my family gets sick.

Thankfully, no one has become seriously ill, although we do have access to the 30-baht health care scheme, and have used it sometimes.

I was ill for long periods when I was young, and conse-

quently missed out on a lot of my education.

I know that it is my lack of education that means I cannot get a well-paid job; I don't want the same to happen to my daughters.

Their father ran off when I told him that I was pregnant with our second daughter. We haven't seen him since, and I must care and provide for my daughters alone.

I have worked hard, albeit for low wages. I was a construction worker at the new Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok two years ago and was paid 150 baht a day.

I left that job and worked on a building site in Buri Ram Province but decided to leave after 15 days when I became certain that my employer wasn't going to pay me.

I ended up selling my mobile phone in order to buy the bus ticket back to Phuket.

Working on a building site made me exhausted, but gardening is a far less tiring job and I would like to continue gardening for a living, and the conditions – convenience, safety and food, including rice from my employer – are okay.

I do everything – happily – for my daughters and my mother, but my income is simply too low; the price of everything, from gasoline to food to clothes, has increased and I just don't earn enough.

I would like to earn 200 baht a day; that would improve my life and the lives of my family.

But increasing the minimum wage by five baht will make no difference to my life – or theirs.

What are the requirements for opening a car driving school?

I would like to open a car driving school. What are the basic requirements?

Pratheep Ketkaew
Krabi

Teerayuth Prasertphol, Chief Technical Officer of the Phuket Provincial Transportation Office, replies:

First, contact the Provincial Transportation Office (PTO) relevant to the location of your proposed driving school. The PTO will provide the necessary information.

Driving school requirements are as follows:

1. The classroom space should exceed 30 square meters.
2. All driving instructors must be certified by the land transportation department. This entails being trained, tested and passed by the Transportation Office. Instructors must wear a uniform.
3. At least one car must be available for learner drivers to use, and the vehicle must meet Trans-

portation Department standards. 4. The driving practice area should be at least 7m wide and at least 300m long.

5. The driving practice area must include: a sloping path; an intersection; an S-curve; a 90° curve; a circular area; a bridge; a braking area; an area for practicing driving straight forward and backward; a parking place close to a sidewalk; an area for reverse parking into a parking space on the left; a space for reversing; and an L-shaped driving practice area.

The owner should report to the Chief Technical Officer of the PTO and arrange an inspection of the school premises.

If, during the inspection, everything is found to be in order, the officer will report this to the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning.

Then, the driving school will be registered and a certificate issued to the driving school about one week later.

Issues & ANSWERS

Want to know how to get something done? Can't understand some of the dafter things that seem to go on in Phuket? Want to pitch an idea to Phuket's authorities or institutions? Then this is the forum for you.

Submit your queries or suggestions to us and we'll ask the appropriate people to respond to them.

Write to: The Phuket Gazette, 367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Muang, Phuket 83000. Fax 076-213971, or submit your issue at www.phuketgazette.net

Importing tuk-tuks

How can I import tuk-tuks?

Geert Kloppenburg
Amsterdam

Preedawan Sripirom, Chief of Taxis, Department of Land Transportation replies:

First, contact the Information and Communication Technology Office, the Department of Industrial Works, Ministry of Industry at Tel: (66) 02-2024099, or

Email: inform@diw.go.th or visit their website at www.diw.go.th (in Thai only) for the names of manufacturers of tuk-tuks.

Then contact the Department of Land Transportation (DLT) for the documents you have to fill in pertaining to exporting tuk-tuks. The DLT is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Tel: (66) 02-2725322. Email: admin@dlt.go.th

ON THE MOVE



Cholayut "Joe" Surachetta-pong has taken the role of Director of Sales, supporting Evason Phuket Resort, Evason Hua Hin Resort, Sila Evason Hideaway at Samui, and Evason Hideaway at Hua Hin. He has a communications degree from Bangkok University, and a diploma in hotel management from Cavendish College, London. He trained at London's Savoy Hotel and worked in Bangkok and Chiang Mai, as well as doing a two-year stint at the Hua Hin Marriott Resort and Bangkok's D'Ma Pavilion Hotel. K. Cholayut is based in Bangkok.



Briton **Nick Reade** has been appointed Executive Chef at the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa. Mr Reade has over 20 years' culinary experience in many well-known restaurants across Europe. He spent 13 years working for famed chef Albert Roux in London in Le Gavroche before moving to Pont de l'Isère, France, to work with Michel Chabran. He joined Marriott in 1998 as Executive Chef at the Amsterdam Marriott. Before moving to Thailand, he worked as Executive Chef at the Surfer's Paradise Marriott Resort in Australia.



Thanittha Arman, 31, from Satun has been appointed Sales & Marketing Manager at the Andara Luxury Villa & Spa in Kamala. She holds a master's degree from the Prince of Songkhla University, Phuket Campus, and a degree in communications and art from Sukhothai University. K. Thanittha amassed extensive experience at Laguna Phuket before moving to Andara.

Databases: not so basic any more

In last week's column I explored some basic features of spreadsheets and how they apply to specific data management needs. This time I'll take a look at databases, what they can do for you, and how they differ from spreadsheets.

The main difference between spreadsheets and databases is that the former take a column-and-row approach to data management while the latter are more free-form in their applications.

Take last week's example of tracking customers and how long it has been since the last time your sales staff contacted them.

In the spreadsheet we arranged the customer list in one column, the last contact date in another and then placed a formula in the third column that subtracted TODAY() from LAST CONTACT DATE. This graphpaper approach, although extremely powerful when working with numeric data, is quite limited when it comes to large amounts of information that needs to be searched, tracked and reported.

The database, however, is a much more open tool for handling data. When you go to the doctor and she looks up previous medical information, she is using a database. When you call directory enquiries and ask for Mr Smith's telephone number, the

operator, too, uses a database to get your answer.

However, databases are not limited only to these applications. Take, for example, your email program: this is a pretty sophisticated collection of multiple databases storing everything from emails received to contact names and attachments.

Another example of a simple database is the list of numbers you keep in your mobile phone. Pretty much any information that you can search and sort electronically is kept in a database.

The application of databases to everyday needs is a very interesting use of computer technology.

Our company has written many database programs for both local and international clients. Some track sales and expenses of multinational marketing companies, while others enable would-be buyers to search hundreds of available homes and properties for sale here in Phuket.

A few years back, before the advent of the Internet, the average person using a database was restricted by the programmer as to how they could interact with the data. If you work with computers you have probably seen some good and some not-so-good program menus that enable you to use the program.



Left: a typical use of SQL database programming.

Below left: SQL can be a big money-saver.

sipping a cool tropical drink.

All of this is made possible by browser technology accessing databases, and in this case it's all done over the Internet. One result of this emerging technology is that it has

opened new markets for programmers. Additionally, it has created demand from users to evolve all databases to the browser-based compatibility standard.

Before this, users could access a database only by using the program that was written for that database. Now, however, just about anyone can be given access to pretty much any data, all through the use of a simple browser interface.

This can be both good and bad, though. A good example may be the fact that security departments in governments around the world are now able to share data much more easily. A not-so-good example may be that the traffic police in Hong Kong can access your driving record in London. Then again, maybe knowing this will make better drivers of us all.

It would certainly help on the roads of Phuket, though of course you need to have a driver's license before your record can be accessed...

John Seebach has more than 25 years' consulting experience in information systems and business process re-engineering. His company, Island Technology, offers IT solutions and broadband services throughout Southeast Asia. For more information contact him by email to john@islandtechnology.com



These systems were complicated to use and quite expensive to develop because the tools used to write the programs were specific to that programming language and only worked on that particular database.

These days, however, things have become far more standardized and the tools used by programmers are mostly compatible with each other. This makes for far better designs and therefore much easier user interfaces.

One of the most exciting developments in databases is SQL (system query language) and the fact that any browser program such as Internet Explorer can be programmed to access these databases.

This is the technology behind pretty much anything you see

on the Internet and that you use to search information located on a website.

Here are some useful applications of browser technology and SQL, the databases language:

Let's say you work for a multinational company with headquarters in London and branch offices in Hong Kong and Singapore. Obviously there is a need for each office to access the data in another office.

This is where Intranets (private Internets) come in. Simply get onto the Internet, go to www.yourcompany.com, click Login, enter your username and password and voilà! You're suddenly sitting at your desk back in London, though in reality you are here in paradise, in your shorts,



Siam International
38/54 Nanai Road,
Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150

Siam International

❖ Legal consultation Contact:
❖ Company formations Tel: 076 346 149
❖ Notarial Fax: 076 346 150
 certifications Email:
❖ Contracts siamint@loxinfo.co.th
❖ Work permits
❖ Bookkeeping
❖ Visa service
❖ Translations

Yacht chartering still in doldrums

By Chris Husted

PHUKET: The charter boat industry was, in common with almost all businesses in Phuket, dealt a devastating blow by the tsunami. Many local operators saw all bookings canceled by clients, or canceled them themselves – within a week of the disaster.

One company that took the latter step was Sunsail (Thailand) Co Ltd. Kevin Quilty, the company's Managing Director, explained that immediately after the disaster, Sunsail canceled all bookings for January, and either moved clients to other Sunsail destinations or gave them refunds. "In total we refunded about US\$500,000 [23 million baht]," he said.

"We monitored the cruising area weekly, and as soon as we were happy that clients could enjoy the area again, we reopened for business," he added.

Mr Quilty explained that Sunsail's primary markets are Europe, Asia and Australia. He said that many bookings were affected by the travel warnings issued by the foreign offices of countries in those regions, which stated that it was unsafe to travel to Phuket.

Phuket's boat charter industry has enjoyed a boom in recent years. "Our market was growing rapidly before the tsunami, due to a relaxation in regulations and the reduction of taxes on imported yachts."

"Sunsail recently imported 19 new yachts and our bookings had increased by about half," he said.

"In response to the dramatic fall in bookings, Sunsail moved six yachts to Koh Samui to operate there from May to September, Samui's high season. This move proved very effective, and for 2006 we will increase the Samui fleet to eight yachts."

Other strategies used by Sunsail to counter customers' worries about Phuket included flying journalists from the UK sailing magazine *Yachting Monthly* to report on the first post-tsunami charter in Thailand.

"In addition," said Mr Quilty, "We have been to boat shows across the world to promote the region as safe and beautiful for cruising. We have also offered special promotions and generally raised the profile of our sailing schools to encourage people back onto the water."

"We expect 2006 to be a good year and the bookings for November-December 2005 are looking strong but, generally, our business took a massive hit in 2005."

Rob Williams of Yachtpro, at Laem Phrao, saw all of his company's charters from overseas canceled within a week of December 26.

"Yachtpro was fully booked but reports in the international media that Phuket had been devastated caused the cancellations."

"But," he added, "those clients who were already in Thailand did not cancel."

Unlike Sunsail, Yachtpro has not instituted new strategies to compensate for the lack of boat charters. The company's sailing courses are keeping the company busy, Mr Williams said. "Without them, we'd be bu**ered."

He says he has yet to see any signs of recovery in the market and predicts that demand for boat charters will not return to pre-tsunami levels until mid-2006.

Craig Banister of Phuket Charters at Boat Lagoon also saw all of his bookings canceled within a week of the tsunami.

Phuket Charters, though launched

only in March 2002, enjoyed remarkable growth in its first two years, with some 70%-80% growth in 2004 alone, Mr Banister said.

One of the reasons bookings are slow to return, said Mr Banister, is that his company is still battling the fear of ghosts in the Singaporean Chinese market.

The lack of bookings has seen Phuket Charters turn its focus to local markets, including Bangkok, though Mr Banister said that Phuket Charters has yet to yield a significant increase in bookings from the capital.

A mainstay source of customers for Phuket Charters is the hotels on the island, bolstered by international bookings through its website. Mr Banister explained that the hoteliers with whom he tends to deal generally hold one of two views: they are either positive that charters will return to normal levels by year's end, or they have a much more pessimistic outlook and believe it will take two years for a full recovery.

"It is too early to tell whether the coming high season will see a full recovery of the charter industry," he noted. "The test will be this Christmas."

A shrewd currency move by Beijing

The decision by the Chinese authorities to allow their currency to "float" is to be applauded. The move, which effectively allows for a 2.1% appreciation against the US dollar, is obviously very limited. Also included in this change is a decision to link the Chinese currency to a basket of currencies rather than solely to the US dollar.

This is a shrewd move by China, though not exactly unprecedented. We have to look no farther than Singapore to find another currency linked to a basket. Singapore has always refused to reveal what is actually included in this basket, and it would be very surprising if China were any more transparent.

It can be assumed that, in time, China will allow further movement in the currency, but it is likely to be a protracted affair.

A Central Bank spokesman said that it will probably take another five years before the currency is fully convertible. The reason given for the delay is that China is concerned about negative speculation against its currency by hedge funds.

The current statements being made – mainly by some Asian politicians and some economists – that the current move will have significant effects in various areas is hogwash.

Using a very mundane example of gasoline prices at the pump, a 2% adjustment, assuming a baht price of 25 baht a liter, would change the price only to 24.50 baht. Considering that fuel prices have risen more than 30% in the past year, this is meaningless.

Peter Mandelson, the Euro-

pean Union (EU) Trade Commissioner, has already said that the Chinese currency adjustment will not affect the various trade disputes the EU has with Beijing.

The probable positive effect will, at least initially, be more noticeable in the US. In June, US Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan and Treasury Secretary John Snow met with a very hostile Congressional Economic Committee on the subject of China's exchange rate.

The meeting became so acrimonious (from the committee's side) that Greenspan and Snow requested that it be closed to the media. It is obvious now that the two of them then told the committee that China was preparing to adjust its currency, and that heated political rhetoric might cause delay; China could never allow itself to be seen as bowing to direct US demands.

This approach seems to have been successful. Immedi-



MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

It will probably take another five years before the currency is fully convertible... China is concerned about negative speculation against its currency...

ately after the meeting, attitudes had softened considerably.

There has been considerable speculation that if the Chinese government moves significantly to a real basket of currencies, this could lead to higher long-term US bond yields.

However, only one day before the Chinese currency adjustment occurred, Alan Greenspan, in his twice-yearly Humphrey Hawkins testimony on monetary policy and US economic performance, had, in fact, voiced concern that low long-term interest rates could fuel the fires of the US housing boom with later unpleasant consequences.

Many retirees and pension fund managers would also ap-

plaud higher long-term interest rates, as they have become somewhat desperate in their search for higher yields.

Deficit delight: One important piece of economic news that has had less coverage than it deserves is the prediction of the size of the US budget deficit in 2005.

It was originally predicted to be US\$429 billion, but the White House recently announced that it is now expected to be only US\$333 billion.

Two main factors have caused this: US corporate profits and the taxes they generate have been growing at double digit levels; and the US economy has been creating a substantial number of jobs, and this has increased tax receipts.

In addition, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is reported as being more rapaciously conscientious than ever in its collection of money.

Assuming that the US budget deficit does reach US\$333 billion in 2005, that is very good news. For so long we have heard that the deficit is "out of control", but if these new figures are the

reality, the budget deficit is no longer a concern.

While US\$333 billion may be a very big number, in reality it is only 2.7% of gross domestic product (GDP).

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has for decades advised governments that they should not run deficits larger than 3% of GDP. These new figures place the US back inside the safety zone.

The US current account deficit is still too high, but until Europe and Japan can raise economic output, it will remain so.

Richard Watson runs *Global Portfolios Co Ltd*, a Phuket-based personal financial planning service. He can be reached at Tel and Fax: 076-381997, Mobile: 01-081-4611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th.

| VITAL STATISTICS: Car and pickup sales still soaring | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Type of vehicle | June 04 | June 05 | % change |
| Cars with capacity for no more than 7 people: | 439 | 535 | + 21.9 |
| Cars with capacity for more than 7 people: | 14 | 14 | 0 |
| Pickup trucks: | 255 | 312 | + 22.4 |
| Meter taxis: | 1 | 0 | -100 |
| Motorcycles: | 2,433 | 2,544 | + 4.6 |

Source: Provincial Transportation Department

Providing the best business solutions

World-class
Accounting Software

QuickBooks **sage**

Accounting & Tax Services

Thai Tax Courses (in English)
Tax Clinic (For your tax solutions)

Phuket: 076 212989

Bangkok 02 5137151
Pattaya: 03 8378178
Koh Samui Branch: 0 7723 0831

info@thaiaccounting.com
www.thaiaccounting.com

Short, sharp lessons in concentration

In last week's column I wrote about the "strategic school" on golf courses. In this column, would like to discuss how penal golf holes fit into the ideal golf course mix.

While most architects would claim to favor the strategic school, they will also selectively use it, realizing that over-use of strategic holes on a golf course will devalue its effect. Another problem with strategic holes is they tend to consume a lot of real estate. Thus, having a whole golf course made up of this type of hole would become prohibitively expensive both to build and to maintain.

On the other hand, penal golf holes tend to use less land area. Less land to buy is also less land to maintain, so penal golf holes tend to be quite common on modern courses, especially when the site is very hilly or broken up by steep or otherwise immovable slopes.

A penal golf hole is essentially one where the player has no choice but to play the hole a particular way or pay a sometimes severe price for transgressing.

Leading professionals tend to enjoy the "kill or be killed" nature of penal holes more than the average player who quickly tires after a succession of inevitable double bogeys.

It is a little ironic that penal holes have become more prevalent in recent times, since they were really the only type of holes "designed" on the earliest artificial courses in the late years of the 19th century.

They came into being more because of the nature of the golf ball than any other factor. Until the early 20th century, golf balls were difficult to get airborne.

The feathery ball was notorious for this. However, it would run a long way on the hard, non-irrigated fairways, meaning that badly-hit but straight shots would often travel just as far as well-struck shots played through the air.

To penalize such inequality, early designers placed steep-sided hazards directly across the line of play, at a point where they would catch all but the most perfectly struck shot.

This was penal design at its purest.

Advances in golf ball design meant that greater numbers of golfers were able to sail the ball over these cross hazards, so hazards were moved further from the tees, or new tees were built.



Around 1900, a more considerate style of designer began to emerge: one who recognized that penal design really only favored the expert, and that the hazards were in any case artificial and unattractive. Thus, strategic design was rediscovered and the golden age of the early 20th century was born.

The penal hole, however, must remain in the mix, as only golf courses that demand a player's full repertoire of shots can be considered true and fair tests of golf.

The penal hole really comes into its own late in the round on tournament courses or on courses

specifically designed for stroke play. A player with a huge lead may be tempted to ensure victory by merely "chipping" his way down a hole with no crossing hazards.

The best known example is probably the notorious island green 16th hole at the Tournament Player's Club in Jacksonville, Florida, where the

world's best are forced to endure the most gut-wrenching 130 yards in tournament golf.

The leader in any tournament is forced to negotiate one of the most dangerous shots in golf. This allowed the designer Pete Dye to play all sorts of mind games with players who might start thinking about this hole long before they get to the tee.

The other nice thing about holes like this is that the tourist golfer, who may be piling up a big score anyway, is offered the possibility of pulling off that one

memorable shot that will make his day.

I have to admit I had a hard time wrestling with my nominations for Phuket's best and worst penal holes.

On the worst side, I have opted to go with the 9th hole at Phuket Country Club's Phase 2 layout.

While many good players will probably enjoy the hole, I find it hard to like a hole that will see weaker players, and surely the majority of women players, pick up their ball and walk to the hole.

This is especially applicable when various forms of alternate routes could so easily have been considered during planning and construction.

Nominations on the best side, include Laguna's dastardly par-5 17th. It surely fits the bill with its positioning on the course and brutally penal qualities, though I feel it is simply too difficult for the average player, who may struggle when asked to play three or even four near-perfect back-to-back shots.

I haven't yet seen Laguna's island green 9th, though it looked more likely be a worst award contender during construction, due to its ultra-contrived nature.

The par-3 14th hole I designed at Loch Palm Golf Course is worthy of consideration, though the size and nature of the green versus the hole's playing length mean that it is a somewhat strategic challenge – not purely penal.

I'm almost inevitably drawn to Blue Canyon's beautiful but punishing island green par-3 14th hole. So much has been written about this hole, I surely need to say no more. But what the heck. I will.

The hole is achingly beautiful but at the same time at the "cardiac arrest" level of scarieness. More than anything these are the hallmarks of a great par-3. Can you imagine the excitement, had this been the 16th or 17th hole in the Johnny Walker Classics?

The almost 100% "punishment factor", added to the cocktail, produces one of the best penal golf holes on the planet.

Mai Khao give Pa Khlok a kicking in Thai Cup opener

PHUKET: The fourth annual Thai Cup soccer competition kicked off on July 27, with *Or-BorTor* Mai Khao beating *Or-BorTor* Pa Khlok 3-1 in one of the two opening matches.

The first-, second- and third-place teams in the tournament will play in the provincial finals from November 5-12, the venue of which has yet to be announced.

Qualifying matches for Thalung District are due to be completed by August 6 at the Phuket Rajabhat University pitch. Muang District qualifiers will be played at Sanaam Chai field from August 10 to 23, and qualifying matches for Kathu District will be played at both the Rajabhat and Sanaam Chai pitches on August 6, 7, 20 and 21.

Mini-marathon set to mark HM's Birthday

CHERNG TALAY: Cherng Talay Municipality is organizing a "mini-marathon" starting at 6 am on August 14 as part of its annual celebrations of HM Queen Sirikit's birthday, which is also celebrated in Thailand as Mother's Day.

Cherng Talay Municipality recreational officer Samran Somkhan told the *Gazette* that the Mother's Day run is also intended to promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Runners will compete in a variety of age groups in either a 3.5-kilometer "fun run" or a 10.5-km mini-marathon course. Prizes

for the top runners in no fewer than 17 categories are up for grabs.

The fun run route will be behind Cherng Talay Police Station, while the mini-marathon course will go through the landscaped grounds of Laguna Phuket.

The top three places in the open division of the mini-marathon will take home prize money of 1,500 baht, 1,000 baht and 800 baht respectively. Winners of other categories will get trophies or medals.

Registration, beginning at 5 am on race day, is free of charge.

International bicycle race to climax in Phuket

PHUKET: Thailand's first international bicycle race, the Tour of Siam, is to be held from January 15 to 21 next year, with the final stage being contested in Phuket.

The tour is to figure in an annual international circuit overseen by L'Union Cycliste Internationale and the Asian Cycling Federation.

Other events in the circuit are the Giro d'Italia and the Tour de France, which took place in June and July respectively, the Deutschland Tour, which takes place in Germany in August, the Tour of Spain in September, the Shanghai Tour in October, the Tour of Taiwan in Taipei in November, the South China Sea Tour in Hong Kong in December, the Tour of Langkawi in Malaysia in February, the Tour de Okinawa in Japan in March and the Tour of Qatar in April.

The Tour of Siam's theme is to be "Amazing Andaman – Cooperation to Recover the South". The 870-kilometer route will consist of five stages that will

bring riders from Hua Hin to Phuket. The first will be from Hua Hin to Prachuap Khiri Khan (a distance of 110km), followed by Prachuap Khiri Khan-Chumphon (190km); Chumphon-Ranong (120km); Ranong-Khao Lak (200km), Khao Lak-Phuket (170km).

Finally, there will be a 50-km circular race between Kata and Karon.

The event, which boasts a total of 1 million baht prize money, is expected to attract at least 500 cyclists from 19 countries, including the Thai national team, and will be arranged by the Thai Cycling Association under the Royal Patronage of HM The King.

In addition to prizes for overall position, there will be cash awards for each stage.

Each day the tour's overall leader will wear a yellow shirt, the winner of the previous day's stage will wear a green shirt, the best youth cyclist a white shirt and the highest-placed Asian cyclist an orange shirt.

Prapaporn, Nong Mark are No 1

PHUKET: Phang Nga's Prapaporn beat Nong Mark A to become the champions of the second To Be Number One soccer tournament.

The event, held at Saphan Hin stadium on July 21 and 22, gathered 111 teams from Phuket and nearby provinces to compete for the HRH Princess Ubol Ratana Rajakanya trophy.

The teams were split into two categories: under-16s, comprising 87 teams; and open, comprising 24 teams.

In the open category, Prapaporn beat the former champions, Rak Nong Pan, in the semi-finals. After a 2-2 draw in the 20-

minute final match, Prapaporn beat Nong Mark A in a sudden-death shootout 3-2.

In the under-16s, Sarin House B defeated Faengfa Bangtao 2-1, also in a shootout.

Prapaporn and Sarin House B will receive their Princess Ubol Ratana trophies from Governor Udomsak Usvarangkura on August 30 at Phuket Provincial Hall.

Results: Open: 1. Prapaporn, 2. Nong Mark A, 3. Banthita Sport, 4. MC Service. Under-16s: 1. Sarin House B, 2. Faengfa Bangtao, 3. Sarin House A, 4. Dao Rung Star.

Ruby Tuesday takes honors in thrilling week of sailing



Ruby Tuesday, seen here on a spinnaker run across the bay, was so far in the lead after five races that skipper John Vause decided not to go out for the final race on July 31.

By Chris Husted

RAWAI: John Vause and his crew on *Ruby Tuesday* mastered strong winds gusting up to more than 20 knots and waves up to 1.5 meters with an outstanding performance to win the IRC 1 class of the Evason Phuket Race Week, held from July 28-31.

Back with a vengeance after finishing second overall in the class last year, *Ruby Tuesday* had an insurmountable lead after Race 5, so Vause decided not to risk breakages and did not sail in the final race.

Perhaps the deciding factor was a pre-race twister near Koh Lone, around which all the races were held, causing more than a few nervous looks among crews.

David Lindhal's *La Samudra*, which came second overall in the class, and Scott Duncan's *Securicor Somtam Express*, which came third, also sailed well. There was often a huge gap between the top three yachts and the rest of the fleet.

In the IRC 2 class, Mick Kealy's *Minx* took top honors, with Paul Kendall on *Simba* and Stuart Crowe's *Cinders* finishing second and third overall.

Ava, captained by Joost van der Post, hit a rock while rounding Koh Bon in the first race, leaving a gash about four meters long in the 20-year-old wooden-hull craft.

Van der Post was forced to beach her immediately. Salvage efforts retrieved the sails, rigging and engine, but *Ava's* hull was later pulled offshore and sunk in about six meters of water on the north side of the island.

The Multihull Racing class had its fair share of excitement with Michel Arnulphy's *Cyrene* being turned turtle by a combination of strong gusts and large waves on July 30. Many yachts nearby immediately abandoned the race to render assistance.

Fortunately, none of *Cyrene's* crew suffered serious injury. At the time of going to press, efforts were still underway to right the 36-foot catamaran.

Despite this, *Cyrene* placed third overall in the class. Henry Kaye's *Charro* won top honors in the class, but many eyes were on Olaf Riese's sleek *Voodoo Child*, which was launched only on the second day of the regatta. Although the cat sailed in just three races, *Voodoo Child*, skip-

pered by Mark Pescott, was fast enough to finish second overall.

Christine Corfield's *Rastegaissa IV* won the Club class. This was despite a maximum five-point penalty for jumping the gun in Race 2 – a result the crew were undoubtedly very happy to drop from their final tally.

Matt McGrath's *Gator* came second overall, followed by Mark Trupp on *Maddelena*.

Wolfgang Riessbacher's *Mozart* won the Multihull Performance Cruising class, followed by Bob Mott's *Chameleon* and Chris Sieber's *Kilo*.

Chris Husted was crewing on RPM Switchblade, which came fourth in the IRC 1 class.

Skiff Asia

Ao Yon Phuket
(west side of Cape Panwa)

www.skiffasia.com
info@skiffasia.com
phone 06 954 1915
Come Sailing Today!
New performance sailing dinghies

- 4-day learn-to-sail package.
- Racing, instruction and scenic fun-sailing around Cape Panwa and Chalong Bay.
- New clubhouse facility has showers, views, beverages, sailing books and DVDs.
- Youth sailing program.

Intro "have-a-go" day for 2,000 baht. Resident prices from 1,800 baht per session.

SHADE SAILS

for wherever your imagination can use them

Now manufactured right here in Phuket to Australian specifications

resorts
pools
patios
gardens
shops
schools
car parks
restaurants
bars
walkways
playgrounds



SHADES (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

Tel: 076-323600 www.shades.co.th

Call us for an obligation-free design & quote

Looking for a place to stay?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

**FOR HOME AND HOTEL
FOR ALL YOUR FITNESS NEEDS**

**Brand-new arrival....
Body Charger Cardio Machine**

Special reductions on opening stock.
Save up 40%. Limited offer.

Phang-Nga Rd.
Phuket City Hotel

Phuket City Hotel

SPORThathlon

Tel: 076 356 273 Fax: 076 356 274
www.sport.co.th E-mail: phuket@sport.co.th

Come HOME to your GYM

and exercise
at your own
CONVENIENCE

Seara's professionals plan, supply and service the highest quality fitness facilities to match exactly your home and your budget.

CALL OUR SHOWROOMS TODAY

PHUKET
Tel: (66-76) 355 040 Fax: (66-76) 355 039
E-mail: Phuket@searasports.com and cj@searasports.com

BANGKOK
Tel: (66-2) 382 1722 Fax: (66-2) 382 1729
E-mail: info@searasports.com

www.searasports.com

Which wine for lamenting limeys?

Q Could you suggest some wines to accompany traditional English food?

I'll try, but I must admit I don't eat much in the way of jellied eels or meat pie; I'm just funny that way.

Tannic red wines work well with cheesy or buttery dishes like Welsh rarebit. A good Cru Bourgeois should please, or Burgundy if you have money to burn.

For entrées like fish pie or seafood in cream, a crisp Chardonnay from California's Central Coast or Burgundy is refreshing.

With assorted slabs of meat, I suggest experimenting with the unexpected, such as Rhône Valley Syrah or California Zinfandel.

Finally, I recommend following the English tradition of having port with dessert. It's great with Stilton cheese and roasted pecans.

Q What is a blind tasting?

A blind tasting is one where the tast-

ers know the wines' varietal or origin but not the identity of individual wines.

A double-blind tasting is one where the tasters know nothing about the wines. In both cases the wines are concealed until after tasting. This is an entertaining and challenging way to taste wine. By the way, a triple-blind tasting is one where the winemaker does not know the identity of the wine, either.

I just made that last one up!

Q Do you know why Grey Goose Vodka is so hard to find in Thailand?

Last year Bacardi bought Grey Goose from its former owner, Sidney Frank Importing Company, for US\$2 billion. I don't know what their plans are for the

WINE



By Steven Roberto

product in Thailand. It always amazes me that these big corporations are so busy buying and selling each other that they never can seem to find time to sell their products.

By the way, there actually is a real person named Sidney Frank at Sidney Frank Importing Co. And what does a new billionaire do with all that money? Why, get involved in wine, of course. Mr Frank recently unveiled his new line of Sidney Frank Estate wines. Nice name.

terring or fertilizing them too much. If good grapes make good wine, then why treat grapevines like that?

Grapevines evolved in the nutrient-poor sandy soils of the Middle East and therefore are adapted to drought conditions. As a result, grapevines relentlessly take up any nutrients or water they encounter in the soil and they channel them into green growth and leaves, which is not what a winemaker wants.

Denying grapevines water or nutrients causes hormonal changes that force them to make berries instead.

The more berries – and the more color and flavor there are in the berries – the more likely it is that birds will eat the berries and scatter the seeds.

Steven Roberto is a winemaker and restaurant consultant from California, in the USA. He is the Managing Director of enVision Phuket, a Phuket-based wine importer and consultant. Email: stevenroberto@lycos.com.

A cyberwalk down Soi Depression

Lately an awful lot of cyber-ink has been spilled over the subject of earlier Patong bar closing times. Here are just a few comments and observations, a few of which are quite depressing. Aspiring bar owners divert your eyes.

"In Patong the scene is minimal with some grizzled veterans hanging on, bless them. But there are still plenty of katoeys in Patong. I think they would survive even an a-bomb." – stickmanbangkok.com/Reader/reader1464

"I was most disappointed recently to see bars in Phuket looking dull because of the restrictions. Three years ago the place was throbbing ... And then too there were absolutely no Thais at these joints ... just tourists. So policy makers must keep this in mind." – matrix.bangkokpost.co.th/forums/print.php?Message_ID=813

Once again, welcome to the wonderful world of the Internet; a happy medium that boasts information and misinformation on every known subject except why there is an 's' in "lisp" and an 'h' in "Phuket".

OUTSIDE IN

By Lis Kinswoman

"Beachside bars are deserted, tuk-tuk drivers are idle and hotels and shops have few customers (although some tattooists have reportedly been busy etching tsunami tattoos into tourists' arms). The locals are already hurting, but because Phuket locals use the high season earnings to get through the low season, the crunch will come mid-year.

"Australians who own businesses have noticed locals already starting to set up stalls in the back blocks of Patong to sell

belongings just to feed themselves. And Buddhist monks have been leading local ceremonies to pray for foreigners to come back." – theurbanpimp.com

Number crunching: Just where journalists get their numbers from, only Buddha knows. One suspects that most of their research is done down at the pub, passing scribbled facts and figures to each other on the back of sodden beer mats in a form of hack Chinese whispers.

One also is severely tempted to think that their peanut- and pistachio-crunching is a whole lot more accomplished than their number crunching. This is from The Times of London's website,

at timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,27-170

"How he survived, nobody knows. About 8,500 inhabitants of Phuket – an eighth of the island's population – are thought to have perished in the disaster. Many were children." Hang on; this means that, according to the *Times*, the population of Phuket is roughly 68,000 people. Our officials estimate the number is 500,000 – how could they have got it so wrong? And 8,500 perished in Phuket? Actually, that's 8,221 more than the correct figure.

Nuts to you boys – get your numbers right.

Er, when? "Although the December 28th 2004 Tsunami severely damaged the coastal resort area around Phuket ... the resort community has bounced back quickly.

"The record fleet for the 2005 Evason Phuket Raceweek, which runs from July 28 to July

31st 2005, is a great sign for the future," rhapsodizes sail-world.com/newstext/pda

Just one point: if the writer can't remember his tsunami date correctly, how can we be sure that the "Raceweek" runs on those particular dates?

Bugs galore: What is it with bugs? Read on ... "When we arrived in the city of Patong I thought we had reached the end of the world. During the day, the bars looked dark and cheerless. Then, like ants upon a dying cockroach, it suddenly came to life when darkness descended." lookatlaos.com/press/hotseason

"Contrary to our expectations, [Phuket] zoo officials said none of the animals showed signs of distress before the tsunami. But Phuket residents did report one curious phenomenon – far more centipedes than usual ... before the waves hit." – sptimes.com/2005/webspecials



Starting this month,
Phuket Gazette will be available at
all **FamilyMart** outlets in Phuket:

● Nanai Rd, Patong.

● Sainamyen intersection (next to Subway restaurant), Patong.

● Sawatdirak Rd (near Patong Hospital), Patong.

● Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd (opp. 7-Eleven), Patong.

● Thara Patong Hotel, Thaweewong Rd, Patong.

● Maeluan Rd (diagonally opp. 7-Eleven), Phuket Town.

● Yaowarat Soi 2 Rd, Phuket Town.

● Chaofa (East) Rd (opp. Big-One Supermarket), Phuket Town.

This column does not generally recommend vehicles, but the Mercedes-Benz featured this week is without doubt the best possible option for Thailand, albeit an option a little on the pricey side.

On a recent trip back to England, Mercedes-Benz UK kindly loaned your humble scribe an E270 CDI, probably the most frugal luxury model on the market. Performance is excellent and its sparing use of a liter of diesel is truly remarkable. It would take quite a while to use a tank of fuel with this in-line five-cylinder diesel motor.

Now, Mercedes-Benz has replaced the five-cylinder with a V6 which has been setting the motoring world on its ear.

The E320 CDI V6 diesel Mercedes recently set a number of world records. Three identical E320 models covered 100,000 kilometers and 50,000 and 100,000 miles respectively in world record time.

The successful record attempt was held under the eye of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile at a high-speed circuit in Laredo, Texas.

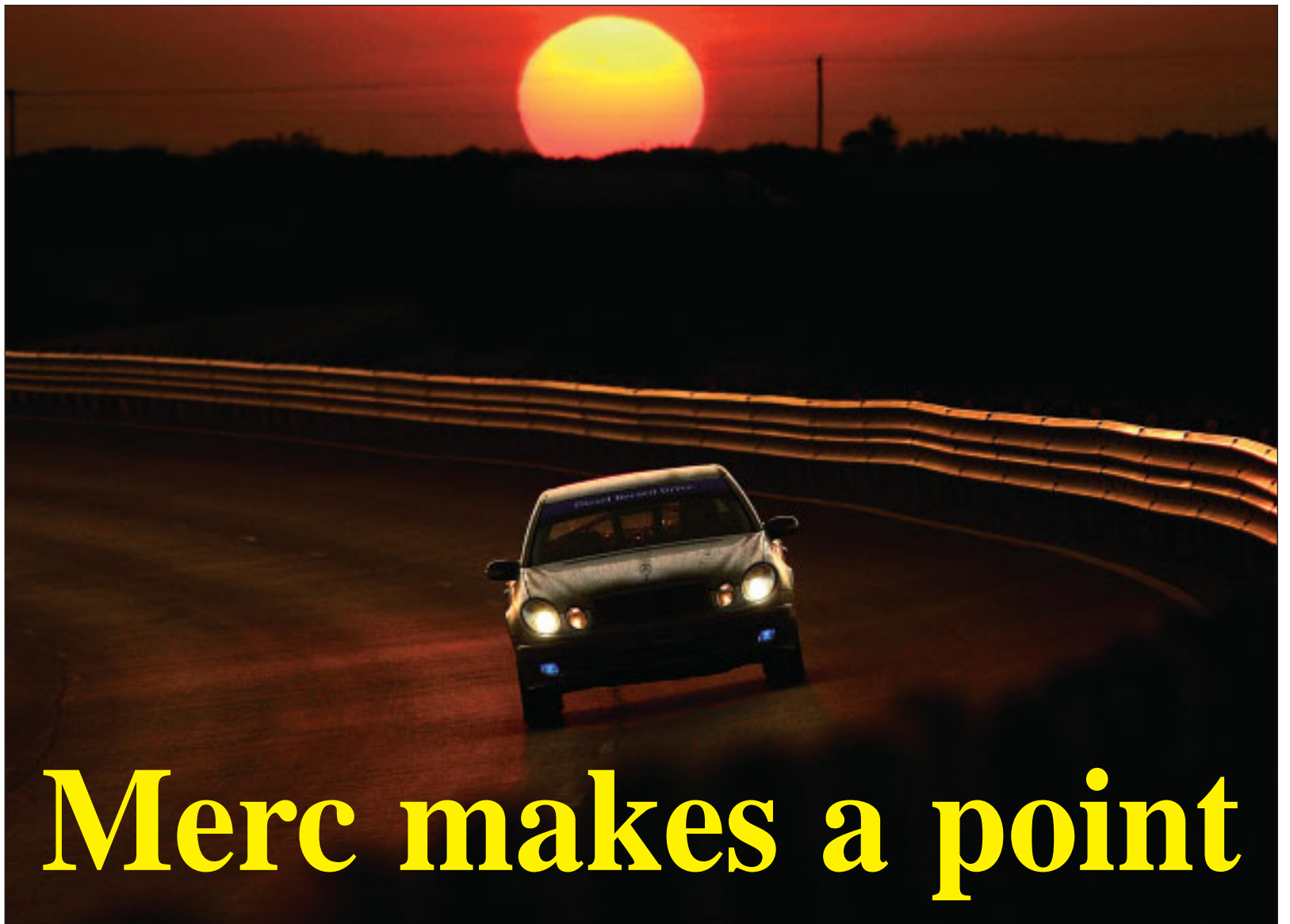
To achieve the records the three cars each had to complete approximately 20,000 laps of the circuit.

The average speed for the longest record of 100,000 miles was 224.823 kmh, yet none of the three cars suffered deterioration in performance over the 30 days of the endurance tests.

The cars were driven by three teams of six drivers, including current Formula 1 safety car driver Bernd Mayländer. Drivers took the wheel for roughly two hours and 10 minutes at a time, changing during two-minute fuel stops.

The cars were selected at random, and were sealed and shipped to the USA from DaimlerChrysler's Sindelfingen plant in Germany.

The E270 CDI, which is still available in Thailand, produces a creditable 177bhp and an astonishing 425Nm of torque. New fuel injection nozzles and revisions to the internal geometry of the engine reduce particulate emissions. A six-speed manual gearbox is available, as well as a



Merc makes a point

Apart from two-minute fuel and safety stops every couple of hours, the three cars ran day and night for a month.

five-speed automatic transmission.

Maximum speed of the E270 is a shade under 230kmh, while the 0-100 kmh benchmark is a leisurely nine seconds.

There is a vast amount of standard equipment on the E-Class models: two-stage front airbags, rain-sensing wipers, automatic climate control, and leather-trimmed steering wheel and shift lever are just some of the features.

On the technical front, the E-Class is the first volume model to feature Mercedes-Benz's revolutionary "brake-by-wire" system.

Pioneered on the SL-Class range, the system connects the brake pedal to the master cylinder electrically, removing the need for a vacuum-assisted brake booster, while a powerful micro-processor passes the signal to the

hydraulically-activated brakes using electrical pulses.

To maintain the driver's "feel" for the brakes, a simulator uses spring pressure and additional hydraulics to give pedal resistance, in much the same way as an Airbus pilot is given artificial resistance in his joystick.

Integrated into the electronic braking is the latest anti-lock braking system and brake

assist, which increases pressure if the computer senses emergency braking.

Six airbags are fitted, including full-length air curtains, and the E-Class is the world's first sedan to be equipped with a rollover sensor. If the car should roll, the side airbags are triggered, along with the seat belt pre-tensioners.

With either the older E270 or the latest E320 CDI, fuel con-

sumption is a major selling point, as well as the exemplary reliability demonstrated by the speed and distance records. While I'm not actually recommending you go out and buy one, you would be well advised to check it out. The diesel E-class is certainly one of the better cars on the market.

Jeff Heselwood may be contacted by email at: jhc@netvigador.com



By Jeff Heselwood

118/1 Yaowarat Rd., Muang, Phuket 83000

Pub & Restaurant

TIMBER HUT

Tel: (076) 21-1839

YAMYEN SEAFOOD

LAEMPANWA

(Near Phuket Aquarium)

SAKIDDET ROAD, PHUKET

Tel: (076) 391103

At THAI Cargo little things are treated to the same kind of care as big things.

At THAI Cargo we believe every item we transport should finish its voyage in exactly the same condition it started in. Regardless of whether your precious shipment is massive, microscopic or somewhere in the middle, we'll make absolutely sure that it receives the very highest levels of meticulous care and attention during every stage of its transportation. For every kind of cargo, put your trust in THAI Cargo.

For more information, please visit www.thaicargo.com or Thai Cargo Terminal, 2nd floor, Room CA 209, Phuket Airport Tel: 076 351226 Fax: 076 327155

Thai CARGO
Thai Care

Decor

By Ananya Hongsa-ngiam

DIG IN in *STYLE*

In deepest Isaan, cutlery may not be a priority, but in most other parts of Thailand it's a daily necessity. That does not mean, however, that it has to be mundane.

On this page are some examples of how the style-conscious homeowner can make the dining table look special with knives, forks and spoons that stand out from the ordinary.

Galleria Aleenta (top picture) has this simple and elegant stainless steel set at 1,900 baht for eight pieces.

• Plaza Surin, Cherng Talay. Tel: 076-271624/5.

Phuketnia also has stainless steel flatware such as the pieces in the middle photo. Individual pieces

may be bought, ranging in price from 190 to 250 baht. Bulk orders for restaurants or hotels merit discount.

For the truly creative householder, Phuketnia can arrange for manufacture of pieces to the buyer's designs.

• 46/202-205 Phra Barami Rd, Kathu. Tel.076-202173.

Ocean Craft (bottom picture) has a range of brass and stainless steel cutlery in three sizes.

Pricing is flexible, but expect to pay around 420 baht for a set of the six large-size items, 300 baht for the medium and 195 baht for the small. Individual items are priced at 130-190 baht a piece

• 1st Fl, Ocean Shopping Mall, Tilok Utis 1 Rd, Phuket City. Tel: 01-8942323.



Sai Taan

Luxury Villas For Sale/Rent

Tel: +66 (0)7627 1255 Fax: +66 (0)7627 1256
Email: info@sai-taan-phuket.com
Web: www.sai-taan-phuket.com

AAE Group
Projects & Construction Management
ONE-STOP service for your project.

The AAE Group was founded in 1980 by a group of Architects and Engineers fully committed to employing the highest-quality design and construction management. We have worked on more than 100 projects and have more than 100 full-time staff. Our experience means we are experts in a wide variety of project designs.

The AAE Group

- Engineering Consulting
- Engineering Design
- Project Management
- Construction Management
- Analysis & Structural Design
- Environmental Engineering
- Transportation Engineering & Design
- Value Engineer
- Turnkey Project Construction
- Shop Drawing Preparation

AAE & CONSULTING ENGINEER CO., LTD.:
9/32, Moo 9, Chaofa East Rd., Chalong, Muang, Phuket, 83100.
Tel: 076-283310, 09-1957394 Fax: 076-283311 Email: sahapoomd@yahoo.com

Head office:
444 Olympia Thai building 4th floor, Ratchadapisek Rd., Samesennok, Huay Kwang, Bangkok, 10320. Tel: 02-9389941-3, Fax: 02-9389209
Email: contact@aaecompany.co.th www.aaecompany.co.th

LUXURY TROPICAL LIFESTYLE
2 & 3-Bed Apartments and Penthouses overlooking Laguna Phuket and Layan Bay

Layan GARDENS

Tel: 01 893 6602
www.LayanGardens.com

OVER 60% SOLD

Construction Update

By Anongnat Sartpisut



Shade sails will give the Andaman Bazaar a distinctive roof line and make it a pleasant meeting place.

Bazaar aims to bring a touch of class to beach

PATONG: 30 million baht is being spent on the creation of Andaman Bazaar, a new shopping, dining and leisure project fronting onto Patong Beach.

Construction of the 40 retail spaces started on June 15 and the Bazaar is expected to open at the end of October.

Project Manager Nold Swangiang explained the thinking behind the project. "Patong still lacks high-end appeal. The concept of Andaman Bazaar is fine dining and quality shopping, to correspond with the majority sector of Phuket's tourist market."

The Bazaar is split into three zones. Zone I has two levels with a total of 14 units, each of 48 square meters. In addition, it has a 50-sqm stage area for performances and a café is planned for the 624-sqm roof deck.

Zone II has five units ranging in size from 18 to 447sqm, inclusive of utility areas. One of these five units has already been reserved for the first branch in Thailand of Australia's classily-named Hog's Breath Café.

Zone III will consist of three two-story buildings: building A will



have five units of 48sqm each while building B will have 10 units of 16sqm each and building C six units of 48sqm each.

This zone will feature custom tailors and shops selling sports equipment, clothes, leather goods, and souvenirs. The 528-sqm upper floor is designed, as in Zones I and II, as a café area.

"Most of the Bazaar will consist of shops and [international] restaurants and pubs," K. Nold said. "Upper levels are designed as cafés so people have a place to relax, talk with friends and enjoy the sunny seaside atmosphere."

The design, by JP Architects Co, stresses comfort, with upper floors featuring canvas and glass. The developer is Sainamyen Co, also responsible for the Andaman Promenade shophouse project on Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd.

K. Nold noted, "Construction is nearly 50% complete, and 47% of the units are already booked. More than half of them have been reserved by foreigners."

For more information, contact Andaman Bazaar at Tel: 01-5358575 or 076-340530, ext 1421.

Allamanda Condominiums

From 4.5m THB

- 5% guaranteed rental return
- One-and two-bedroom suites
- Freehold title available to foreigners
- Complimentary regular golf club membership

Sales Office at Canal Village
Tel: 66 101 76 324 366 Fax: 66 101 76 324 065
E-mail: property@lagunaphuket.com
www.lagunaproperty.com

laguna
PROPERTY

BEL AIR PANWA

• Stunning sea views with communal swimming pools
• Superb finish throughout condominiums and complex
• Located near to several beaches, hotels and fine restaurants
• Direct access to Phuket City - within 10 minutes drive
• Condominiums of two to three bedrooms of 106sqm to 215sqm
• Prices from US\$101,828 to US\$234,860 with financing available
• The entire development will be managed by Knight Frank

See our display condominium onsite in Phuket at:
Sakdidee Road, Cape Panwa, Phuket, Thailand (076) 200773

For further information, please contact:
Amy on 01 9708 304 or Masae on 01 9566 321
Email: bap@knightfrankthailand.com

Knight Frank

TAWAN PROPERTIES

Maan Tawan and Chom Tawan - two superb developments located in an area of stunning natural beauty on Phuket's north west coast. Comprising an inspired collection of luxury villas, apartments and penthouses for the discerning buyer and set amongst extensively landscaped gardens in a private, managed estate, the homes are of the highest quality design and construction.

Our show property is now complete and ready for viewing.

+66 076 271 188
www.tawanproperties.com sales@tawanproperties.com

Phuket Nature Home

The balance of life... amidst nature

5 unique tropical contemporary home styles

20/43 Mae-Luan Rd, Tambon Talad Nuea, Amphur Muang, Phuket, 83000, Thailand. Tel: 076 235171-2 Fax: 076 234206
www.phuketnaturehome.com Email: info@phuketnaturehome.com

Home of the Week

Chalong

This impressive new two-story, four-bedroom, four-bathroom home with large swimming pool is comes at a very reasonable price – 11.5 million baht.

Located in Chalong, among a growing number of other high quality homes, and set in delightful countryside with a lush tropical outlook to valleys and mountains, this house is an attractive blend of traditional Thai-style architecture and ultra-modern interior.

Designed and built by Australian owners using their extensive experience of tropical living, it features excellent through-breezes and al fresco outdoor areas.

The living area is 270 square meters built on a gently sloping 804-sqm landscaped block. Every room is light and airy with large windows and views toward the mountains or over the garden.

The attractive Thai-roofed porch opens into a large hall which sets the theme. It is bright and welcoming with elegant cream ceramics, timber skirtings and paneled doors to the bedrooms. The pool can be seen through the timber French door.

The hall leads to three double bedrooms and a roomy main bathroom with apricot-coloured ceramics and matching sanitaryware and timber paneling. This includes a full-size bath, and a separate shower with glass enclosure.

A jewel in the foothills



Set on a plot of more than 800 square meters, this spacious house would make an excellent investment as a vacation home, residence or rental property.



Bedroom two has a walk-through closet/dressing room and a spacious ensuite bathroom with glass shower enclosure.

Through the sliding patio door to its own terrace, this room has a delightful view over the garden to the pool.

Bedroom three, with a built-in closet, has a view of the mountains, while bedroom four, overlooking the pool and garden, has

phone and TV points, allowing it double as a home office.

A wooden staircase leads to the upper floor and the open-plan living and dining rooms, with feature walls, high stepped ceilings and sliding glass doors. There is also a guest bathroom on this floor.

The Western kitchen, with two large windows offering expansive views, has striking cus-

tom-made hardwood timber cabinets and bench tops with ceramic inserts. Its imported appliances, including gas hob and exhaust fan, are a chef's delight.

A huge verandah with hardwood timber ceilings runs the length of the upper floor, creating a marvelous "all seasons" outdoor dining and living area, with views over the countryside and pool.

External sandwash stairs lead from the upper floor to the garden and pool, and a walkway from the verandah gives access to the free-standing sala master bedroom suite, with its own timbered ceiling verandah.

This elegant bedroom has windows on three sides, giving the impression of being high in the treetops.

A walk-through closet/dressing room leads to the sumptuous bathroom with a large corner Jacuzzi, glass shower enclosure and pedestal vanity.

An attractive timber-ceilinged sala and terrace adjoin extensive outdoor areas of gold and gray sandwash surrounding the free-form swimming pool.

Interior décor follows crisp

and cool themes of cream, beige, and apricot with accents of black, gray and chocolate, and natural timbers.

Floors are quality ceramics in gloss and matt finishes – easy to take care of – and the maintenance-free brown anodized doors and windows, with tea-colored glass, have sliding screens.

The home features cavity-wall construction, and quality building materials, ceramics and sanitaryware have been used throughout.

Other features include treated hardwood ceilings, eaves, skirting boards and furniture, downlighting with dimmers, air conditioning and ceiling fans, central hot water system, well water, two telephone lines, ADSL and satellite TV.

This house would make an excellent investment as a vacation home, residence or rental property. The land title deed is Chanote.

For more information contact Richard Lusted, Siam Real Estate, at Tel: 076-288908, email info@siamrealestate.com or visit www.siamrealestate.com

ONE OF A KIND

WATERFRONT LIFESTYLES

A NEW KIND OF INSPIRATION... the Aquaminium has arrived

The Aquaminium is destined to change the face of waterfront living around the world. Now you don't just live on the waterfront...you are part of it.

The Aquaminium's revolutionary design incorporates an absolute waterfront condominium of exclusive apartments with private boat berths into an exhilarating concept layout. Step from your home to your boat and onto the island paradises that surround you...in minutes. Life has never been so good.

The Aquaminium is just one of the fantastic features you will find at our super-chic tropical marina. A residential resort community with everything for the individual or family with style.

Even if you've never owned a boat, yacht charters are delivered to your front door, and our never-ending array of lifestyle facilities – set around a beautiful tropical marina – is guaranteed to inspire you for life!

Show apartments now open

For further information contact us directly: Royal Phuket Marina.
68 Moo 2 Thepkassatri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200, Thailand.
ph: + 66 (0) 76 239 762 paradise@royalphuketmarina.com
www.royalphuketmarina.com



A QUALITY LIFESTYLE INVESTMENT

GROVE GARDENS

A residential resort project of 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom townhomes and apartments with full resort facilities on the east coast of Phuket, including: restaurant and bar; convenience store; massage and sauna; gym; tennis court; swimming pools; putting green; BBQ areas and international management.

For details call 076 239 820 or visit our sales office: 382/32 Moo 1 Cherm Talay, Phuket (near the entrance to Laguna).
info@grovegardensphuket.com www.grovegardensphuket.com

Gardening

with Bloomin' Bert

Along came a spider...

I used to hate gardening ... quite an admission from someone who is supposed to enthuse about the subject. It was all my mother's fault.

Let me explain. As a child, I remember vividly my mother's passion for any member of the plant family. She especially liked houseplants, and our home was festooned with just about every variety of indoor plant that could possibly exist in England's glorious indoor climate. There were hundreds of them there.

I was not the most patient of children, so I didn't get it. All she seemed to be doing was keeping them alive. That was it.

They didn't appear to grow a great deal, or to produce that many flowers. All they really did most of the time was just sit there on the window ledge to where they had been sentenced – and not die.

I recall my mother's joy when one of her prized tropical green-collection-of-leaves things actually produced a single flower – she was absolutely over the moon.

I asked her how often these things could be expected to flower, to which the reply was, "About every 10 years."

It was unclear to me at the time why she even bothered. I was bored even thinking about it.

It was with this attitude that I arrived in southeast Asia. I had this notion that plant species everywhere develop at a similar pace. How wrong I was – here, things grow just for fun. They can't help it.

Probably one of the more prolific plants in my mother's Yorkshire home was (and still is) the spider plant, or *set thee ruen nai* in Thai. Proper gardeners would probably refer to it by its Latin name, *chlorophytum comosum*.

In England, as in other temperate regions, most people are probably aware of spider plants, as they are among the first plants beginners try to grow.

One reason they are so popular is that this growth, al-



Spider plants put out stalks with small plantlets at the end. These can be established as plants in their own right.

though not exactly enthusiastic, is certainly not difficult to encourage indoors.

Spider plants, originally from South Africa, have tufts of foot-long, strap-like green leaves, which are often variegated with yellow or white stripes.

Most of the time, they reproduce by producing loose clusters of whitish flowers and new leaf clusters as offsets on elongated stems, like baby spiders dangling overboard, as if they were letting themselves down on a web.

These small plantlets, or "runners", begin as small white flowers, but go on to form more spider plants.

They can be propagated by

dividing the mother plant or planting the plantlets.

Put a pot near the mother plant and pin a plantlet to the surface of its soil. Water it and then treat it the same as the mother plant. When new leaves form on the plantlet, cut it free, and you have a new plant.

If the mother plant is in a hanging basket, cut off a plantlet and pin it to the soil of the pot that will be its home. Water it generously, and put the pot in a plastic bag or under a plastic dome to preserve the humidity.

Keep the new plant out of direct sunshine, but do make sure it still gets plenty of light. When new leaves form, remove the

cover. One pot-bound plant can produce hundreds of free plantlets to continue the process.

The record for the most plants from one single spider plant was set by Helen Richards, from Bristol in England.

She owned a spider plant that produced 1,308 offspring in the three years after she bought it at a village fair. The plant measured 91cm across and 60cm tall in June 1999.

I wonder why my mum has never been able to achieve that rate of growth?

Spider plants are generally vigorous and usually free of problems, but they do have one weakness – they're not particularly fond of treated tap water. The water here in Phuket can be a little inconsistent, so you'll know your spider plant has become sensitive to chemicals in the water if it develops brown tips on its leaves.

Some people believe these brown tips are due to lack of water, but that's not the case. These things have roots

adapted to water storage and prefer to dry out between waterings. Use rainwater if possible.

In terms of light requirements, spider plants prefer medium to high exposure, but no direct afternoon sunlight if possible. The variegated spider plants need more light than the plain ones.

A spider plant should be repotted whenever the fat white roots fill the pot and make watering difficult, which can be as often as twice a year.

My mother is now a regular visitor to Phuket. Given the performance of her housebound plant collection at home, she's amazed at the difference in the pace of growth here.

Perhaps she should go to Bristol sometime and meet Helen Richards.

Better still, bring Bristol's Ms Richards here to Thailand. I'd even offer her a beer.

Want to know more about a plant in your garden?

Email Bloomin' Bert at: bloominbert@hotmail.com



Groundwater Drilling Service

- Water quantity guarantee
- 1-year service warranty

Soil & water investigation

- Geophysics by resistivity method
- Rock & soil profile
- Data analysis and interpretation

By Senior geologist and staff

Before making a decision, use a geophysics investigation to test your property.

12/14-15 Moo 2, Thepanusorn Rd, T. Vichit, A. Muang, Phuket, 83000.
Tel: 0-7624-4638, Fax: 0-7624-4906, Mobile: 0-1978-8847
E-mail: mrp_group@yahoo.com www.phuketdir.com/pktgroundwater

We take pride in our most exclusive selection of glazed and terracotta pottery from Thailand and our associated factories in Vietnam and China.



Plus a good selection of lacquerware plastics. Located near Boat Lagoon.

House & Garden Limited Partnership

8/1 Theprasitree Rd, Sapum, Khokaw, Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel/Fax: (66 76) 239 600 Mobile: 01 893 3371, 01 891 9051
Email: 4sras@4sras.com www.4sras.com



MR. CURTAIN

**Curtains
Furniture
Wallpaper
Carpets**

Mr. CURTAIN (THAILAND) Co., Ltd.
108/70-72 Chalemphrakiat Rama 9 Rd.
Ratsada, Muang, PHUKET, 83000.
Tel : 076-217462
Fax : 076-217463

Expert Property Advice

- Sales (land & property)
- Consultancy
- Rentals
- Estate management
- Rental management
- Relocation advice
- Maintenance, repairs & construction

Local knowledge.
Global presence.

LYNX management group 

076 239944 / 01 893 3434
info@lynxmgmt.com
www.phuket-villas.com
www.phuket-homes.com

HP

House & Pool
Construction Co., Ltd. since 1995
Thai - German Management



- Private & commercial construction
- Renovation / alteration
- Swimming pools & Jacuzzis
- Architecture design
- Building permits

85/19 Moo 7 Sai Yaun Rob Koh Road
Rawai, Muang, Phuket 83100
Tel: 076-288845, 388078
Fax: 076-288846
English: 01-8067410 Thai: 01-7192819
E-Mail: info@siam-business.com
www.siam-business.com

Property Gazette

Properties For Sale

4 + 2 BEDROOM HOUSE IN KAMALA

An excellent 6-bedroom house for sale near Phuket FantaSea entertainment center in Kamala, 1.5 km from the beach. The house is located in a quiet and safe area, near a lake. There are 4 spacious bedrooms on the 1st floor and 2 medium-sized bedrooms on the ground floor, all with en-suite bathroom, air conditioner and ceiling fan. European & Thai kitchen, fully equipped. Mature garden with outdoor Jacuzzi, own water supply, hot water supplied by solar heating system. The house comes fully furnished. For more details please contact Franz Brun in Kamala. Asking price: only 18 million baht, negotiable. Tel: 076-279075, 01-4761415. Email: fbrun@loxinfo.co.th

NAI YANG

Small 5-house development; 2 houses under construction and ready to move into in August. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large living & dining room, European kitchen, laundry, verandah all round, boundary wall, electric gate, carport, landscaped garden. Living area: 153sqm. Land: 532-740sqm. First house for sale at 7.3 million baht. Tel: 076-328424, 01-8953481. Email: golddigger-phuket@hotmail.com

GOLF COURSE LIVING

Fully-serviced, 1-rai lots in an exclusive, gated community. Please contact for information. Tel: 09-9725226. Email: bgbphuket@yahoo.com

OUTSIDE KAMALA

On the old road to Patong: 2-story house, 6 months' old, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, terrace. For sale with 220sqm of land for 3.5 million baht, or with 970sqm (suitable for nice development) for 6.6 million baht. Tel: 06-2688061. Email: schendl@loxinfo.co.th

CHALONG LAND - FULL SEAVIEW



A beautiful plot of land with spectacular sea views over Chalong Bay. Hillside land containing 2 plots with a total of about 2,920 square meters (1-rai, 3 ngan, 30 square wah). It is located at Soi Suksan 2, which is close to Chalong Circle. Land title: Nor Sor 3 Gor (2 pieces). Price: 16 million baht for the 2 plots. Please contact for info. Tel: 02-9490949, 01-8229605. Fax: 02-949-0600. Email: thaiscan@asianet.co.th For details, see our website at: www.wysiwygthailand.com/Phuket_Land_for_Sale/home.html

RAWAI CONDOS

with sea view. 27, 54 and 81sqm. Priced from 350,000 baht. Financing for 3 years available. Foreign freehold. Tel: 09-4740227. Email: chotip_5@hotmail.com

BANG TAO BEACH

124sqm & 240sqm furnished apartments, 1 minute from the beach. Asking 6.5 million baht and up. Tel: 06-2806624 or see our website at: www.bangtaobeachgardens.com

GOOD OPPORTUNITY

Fully furnished house, up to European standards, private and very safe, 340sqm, for sale at Land & Houses Park, Mantana Area. Asking 3.5 million baht. Negotiable. Contact K. Lec. Tel: 01-8950711.

SEA VIEW PLOTS

For sale: 4.5-rai with a sea view in Bang Tao and 8-rai near the beach; asking 3.9 million baht per rai. In Layan, plots from 5 rai to 30 rai for sale; asking 2.9 million baht per rai. Tel: 01-7884488.

Professional Real Estate Advice



Residential Sales & Rental

Holiday Lettings

Property Management

Research & Valuation

Development & Design Consultancy

www.cbre.co.th

phuket@cbre.com

CBRE
CB RICHARD ELLIS

Tel: 076 239 967

LAYAN PLOT OF PARADISE

This 2,485sqm plot has a panoramic view, ideal for your palace. Overlooks Layan and a national park. Complete infrastructure. Price: US\$ 375,000. Contact for details. Tel: 076-271319, 01-7371-688. Fax: 076-271317. Email: info@layanocceanvillas.com

BARGAIN HOUSE

for sale in Kathu. Land and a house with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, air conditioning and a garden, 5 minutes to Patong. Asking 2.9 million baht. Also available, a 2-rai plot in Phang Nga. Asking 1 million baht. For house and both plots, 3.7 million baht. Tel: 01-307-4710. Email: tongdesigner@hotmail.com

HOUSE FOR SALE

New house in Baan Manee-kram (between Chalong and Phuket City) with 440sqm of land, 250sqm + + of living area. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, phone, UBC, Chanote title. Price: 4.9 million baht (negotiable). Tel: 09-867-0040, 07-8946438. Email: simoncree@hotmail.com



Best Sea View in Phuket the Doa Tiam project above Mission Hills Golf Course, 85% of the view land sold already. The only land I know of with a complete view of Phang Nga Bay 1,2,3 rai and up lots available. Chanote title 3.2 million baht/rai for view land and 2.2 million baht/rai for flat land. You can play all year on Phang Nga Bay when the West Coast is closed for 6 months due monsoon storms

Tel: 06-5950188 E-mail: nsupin@yahoo.com

UNIQUE SEAVIEW

Stunning sea view in Chalong, with Chanote. Gentle slope, 3-phase electricity. 200-degree view of the water, 8m-wide road. Best plot on the island. Asking only 2.9 million per rai. Please call for more information. Tel: 07-8938747.

LAND & HOUSES

I have many plots and houses (not new) for sale. If you are looking for land or a house, please contact me. I will give you a good price. Tel: 09-8731019. Email: saovalakcat@yahoo.com

RAWAI TOWNHOUSE

Selling 140sqm townhouse for 1.2 million baht. Price includes owning company and financing for 3 years. 400m from the beach. Tel: 09-4740227. Email: chotip_5@hotmail.com

Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

ANDREW PARK

Property Agents & Consultants

House and Land
Sale and Rentals

Over 10 years' sales
experience in Thailand

We can answer all your
questions

Call us now at

01-8923633

or

E-mail us at
sales@andrewpark.com

or visit our website
www.andrewpark.com



This 175sqm, 2-bedroom home has 3 bathrooms, a full Western kitchen, and a huge living room and dining room. Located on a quiet street, it backs onto a beautiful pond and has a shared swimming pool. At only 8 million baht, this is a great home to buy!



This 3-bedroom home is well designed and built for a Western buyer's taste. With 4 bathrooms, a full Western kitchen, living room and family room, there is private space for everyone. At only 4.8 million baht, you will not find a better built home. Call now!

**The world is not enough...
We'll go to the ends of the earth
to help you live and let buy**

Whatever your property needs, local or international, reveal them to the team who can spy quality and potential anywhere. Knight Frank, the world's not-so-secret agent.

The local office with a global network

076 318 151
www.knightfrankphuket.com

Knight Frank

Property Gazette

Accommodation Available

PATONG LUXURY

Central Patong 1- and 2-bedroom apartments available. For information and photos, Email: suites247@yahoo.com

HOTEL PROMOTION

Low season, long-stay, spa & pool. Many facilities. Price only 17,500 baht/month. Beachfront. Call for more details. Tel: 076-345518, 01-8920038.

ROOMS TO LET

Lake-view apartments in Kathu. Fully-furnished, with aircon, fridge, cable TV, hot water, car park. 183 baht per day. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-202585, 09-1968449. Email: ketmaneeclayton61@hotmail.com

PATONG APARTMENTS WITH POOL

Fully furnished 1- or 2-bedroom apartments with satellite TV/DVD, swimming pool, and car park in a quiet hillside location. Very reasonable for long- or short-term rent. Tel: 076-296-621, 01-6916147. Fax: 076-344689. Email: info@baansuanvilla.de For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-patong.com

Accommodation Wanted

LONG-TERM RENTAL WANTED

I am looking for a 2-bedroom air-conditioned house or apartment in central Patong, for two years starting September. Preferably furnished with en-suite bathroom and in a quiet area near Jungceylon. Please contact with full details. Email: connollymaurice@hotmail.com

BUNGALOW OR APT

I'm looking for a bungalow or apartment on Karon Beach. I will stay for 3-4 months: from December 2005 to April 1, 2006. Budget: not more than 5,500 baht per month. It must have cable TV and a small kitchen. Email: milanspacek@hotmail.com

Gazette Classifieds

10,000 readers a day!

1-BEDROOM HOUSE wanted. Mother-to-be soon needs one-bedroom house with aircon in a quiet area. Please email details and photos to: pern@thaimarine.com or call Tel: 01-7970835 for more information.

HOUSE WITH swimming pool. I would like to rent a nice house with swimming pool for a minimum of six months, maybe longer if it's "sabay". Email: sturemoen@hotmail.com

HOUSE RENTAL wanted. I am looking for a house to rent for a year or longer. Anything considered in any area. I am a tour guide and my maximum budget is around 10,000 baht per month. A walled garden would be nice as I have dogs for security. Would also like to have a car port. Please phone Tel: 09-7059734 or send an email to: thaihomefromhom@yahoo.co.uk

Building Services

The Stone Doctor

Specialist European stone care products and services:

- Restoration
- Sealing/Finishing
- Maintenance

All your maintenance, protection & cleaning needs for natural and manufactured stone.

- Marble
- Granite
- Slate
- Sandstone
- Sandwash
- Terracotta
- Terrazzo
- Ceramics, etc

Prevent: rust, stains, mildew, algae, scratches
Remove: builders' residue, incorrect sealants, rust, stains, mildew, etc
Daily care & cleaning products also available

Tel: 07-2824930, 076-271217
Fax: 076-271218
Email: info@thestone-doctor-asia.com

SITE OFFICES

New relocatable offices 6 meters x 3 meters. From 160,000 baht. Tel: 076-281-283, 01-8924804. Please visit our website: www.safewayphuket.com for details.

phuket home services

building renovation
shopfitting finishing
repair maintenance
electrical plumbing
air conditioning
roofing flooring
painting stonework
woodwork metalwork
landscapes ponds

office : 076 324 400

24 hrs : 01 60 60 200

www.phukethomeservices.com

Household Items

TOASTER & IRON

Toaster: Derens brand, in clean, white color. Asking price: 1,500 baht. Sharp AM 333 electric iron: pink. Asking price: 400 baht. Both items are brand new and have never been used. Please contact for more info. Tel: 01-4203873. Email: t_pranot@hotmail.com

EUROPEAN KITCHEN

Full kitchen set for sale: washing machine, dish washer, refrigerator, gas oven and microwave. Width is about 6 meters. Wood and green color. Asking: 130,000 baht (negotiable). Tel: 01-747-1939. Email gomikiki@yahoo.it

BABY GRAND PIANO

Yamaha, 3 years old, perfect condition. 435,000 baht or best offer. Please contact for more information. Tel: 01-7541584. Email: spb499@hotmail.com

Household Services

JET WASH A GO-GO!

New service. All types of terraces, driveways and patios cleaned to perfection. English run. Contact for info. Tel: 04-8438932, 07-278-0688. Email: paul_phuket@hotmail.com

SAFEGWAY STORAGE

Secure storage for your furniture, car, boat, bike, or surplus stock. Best rates in Phuket. Tel: 076-281283, 01-1251873. Please visit our website at: www.safewayphuket.com for details.

HOUSESITTERS

available. Young married South African couple available to look after your house and pets. Reliable, trustworthy and caring. 20 baht per animal plus 30 baht per day for the house. Contact for details. Tel: 06-7011532, 09-125-3794. Email: shannonraesanders@hotmail.com

Property Services

PHUKET MARBELLA VILLA MGT

Special offer on garden/cleaning/maintenance contracts! Sign up, pay in advance and receive one month free! Tel: 076-271-544, 07-2701387. Fax: 076-271545. Email: Phuketmarbella@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at: www.phuketmarbella.com

STORAGE UNITS

Individual storage units from 4 cubic meters. Well-ventilated, 2-hour security and sensor floodlights. Please call Tel: 010-825707 for more information.

C&C MARINE
Marine Engineering Specialist
"SERVICING ALL YOUR MARINE ENGINEERING NEEDS"
Dealers For

COYOTE **ELSCAN** **MANN FILTER** **ZE** **KOHLER** **MERCURY**
#1 On The Water

BOAT SALES
BARRACUDA COMMERCIAL BOAT RANGE

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| DIVE / SNORKELING BOAT | 10.6m (Only 1,750,000) |
| PARASAIL BOAT | 10.6m (Only 1,975,000) |
| FERRY INTER-ISLAND TRANSFER BOAT | 10.8m (Only 1,700,000) |
| CENTER CONSOLE FISHING BOATS | 8.8m (Only 1,550,000) |

PRO'S

- COMMERCIAL DIESEL ENGINES.
- 50% BETTER FUEL ECONOMY AGAINST STANDARD OUTBOARDS.
- CRUISING SPEEDS OF 27+ KNOTS.
- REBUILDS ONLY EVERY 3,000 HRS.
- COMPLETE SERVICE BACK-UP PLAN
- FINANCE AVAILABLE THROUGH CORRESPONDING BANKS.

SPECIAL: Newly arrived 8.8m centre console 170hp Mer-Cummins Diesel Engine, complete with Navman 8800 GPS/Fishtrack Nav system, VHF Radio, Vacuum Flush Head, Bimini with Thai registration. Price includes 10 months' berthing in the Boat Lagoon. "Complete Package" 1,850,000.

C&C MARINE
Contact: Craig Holmes +66 (0) 76 273247
The Marine Center, 16/2 Moo 4, Soi Nanae, Thepkasatri Rd, Koh Kaew, Phuket 83200, Thailand
Email: choimes@candc-marine.com Website: www.candc-marine.com

ROYAL PHUKET MARINA
YACHT SALES

220 Dauntless **Savage SL 500 Aluminum Runabout**

This new 2005 model is one of Boston Whaler's most versatile boats on the water. The Dauntless 220 is rigged for all activities, sports fishing, waterskiing or just island hopping. With the inclusion of the T-top, deck shower and portable head you are ready for anything. This boat is now on the way from the Boston Factory. Contact us now and be the first Dauntless on the water!

NEW ARRIVAL TO PHUKET
Royal Phuket Marina Yachts is pleased to announce the arrival of Australia's favorite recreational toy, the Savage Aluminum Runabout. This boat is great for all levels of users and is practically indestructible! The complete package includes trailer, VHF radio, 4150 fishfinder & cockpit carpet. Nothing left but to "JUST ADD WATER".

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS

Royal Phuket Marina Yacht Co., Ltd.
68/1 Moo 2 Thepkasatri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket, 83200, Thailand. Tel: +66 (0) 76 239 762, +66 (0) 76 239 755
Fax: +66 (0) 76 239 756. Craig: +66 1 970 0583
craig@royalphuketmarina.com, yachts@royalphuketmarina.com
www.royalphuketmarina-yachts.com

SEARAY 480 SEDAN BRIDGE 2001



Twin 640HP CATS 3196, 3 cabins, hardtop, nearly new condition. Please contact. Tel: +6012-2971364 (Malaysia), 06-2674998 (Mobile). Email: simon.theseira@simpsonmarine.com For more information, please see simpsonmarine.com

PRINCESS 440 1996



Twin 435HP CATS 3208. Top speed: 27 knots. New interior, hydraulic swim platform, new electronics, very keen seller. Tel: +6012-2971364 (Malaysia) or 06-2674998 (Mobile). Email to: simon.theseira@simpsonmarine.com Please see our website at: www.simpsonmarine.com

Agents for Classified Advertising

PHUKET

K.L. Mart
Patak Rd, Chalong

NAVA Language School
Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Sin & Lee
Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Taurus Travel
Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-280400/3

Tel: 076-232398/9

Tel: 076-258369

Tel: 076-344521-2

Boats & Marine

LEE MARINE
International Marine Brokerage

REVIERA FERRETTI YACHTS PERSHING JEANNEAU

Thailand's premier yacht sales company



Roberts 43 (1993)

\$77,000 USD

- 12 volt and Eutectic Refrigeration
- Varnished timber interior
- Auto helm ST60
- Uniden VHF
- SSB
- Radar
- Garmin 128 GPS
- Perkins 50 HP
- Electric windlass
- Large storage capacity



Adams 11.9 (1981)

\$65,000 USD



Saga 40 (1988)

\$133,000 USD



Hi Tech 50 (1990)

\$295,000 USD



Island Gypsy 36 (1994)

\$169,000 USD

www.leemarine.com

Dealership Office
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Martin Holmes
Tel: 076 238 803
Fax: 076 273 319
Email: info@leemarine.com

Brokerage Office
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Andrew de Bruin
Mobile: 01 894 1530
Tel/Fax: 076 239 729
Email: brokerage@leemarine.com

Yacht Haven Marina Office
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket
Contact: Jim Poulsen
Mobile: 01 891 3237
Tel/Fax: 076 206 260
Email: yachtaven@leemarine.com

Gulf Craft Inc. The Dolphin SD 31

Now in Stock!

This boat is a one-off custom model built to specific customer needs. This boat will seat 11 people with ease, plus allow sunbathing on the two forward sunbeds.

Come and enquire about this great new boat. This will be the only one offered to this specification. So come on and stand out from the crowd!

An excellent walk around day cruiser with forward cabin berth, enclosure head and shower, an equipped galley equipment with sink and a cooler, as well as Spacious fore deck with seat and ice box, large cockpit area with a stainless-steel sink built in fully upholstered GRS seat and storage lockers.

Go Boating (Thailand) Ltd.
14/1 Phuket Boat Lagoon, Mung, Phuket Thailand 83200
Tel: +66 (0) 76 239986 Fax: +66 (0) 76 239987
E-mail: goboating_th@yahoo.com

THAI MARINE leisure

www.thaimarine.com

HUNTER Nautitech Lührs DUKES YACHTS

A Marine Industry Leader in Thailand since 1990



Newly built Prowler 9000

THB5,500,000

Composite & light.



Destiny

Offers invited

Well proven Jeanneau design, Strongly built Excellent condition.



Penisi Ketch

US\$ 51,000

Refit 2003, Thai flag.



54 ft Bayliner 4788

US\$ 345,000

Launched 1995 Generator, Aircon 3 cabins, 2 bath Owner maintained.

Selected Brokerage Listings

| Power | Sail |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 58 Ft 2003 DeFever Trawler, Perkins 2x225 Hp US\$799,000 | 63 Ft 1993 Wooden Penisi Ketch, 1xIsuzu 115 Hp US\$65,000 |
| 49 Ft 1991 Grand Banks, Cat 2x385 Hp US\$450,000 | 60 Ft 1982 Wooden Penisi Ketch, 1xHino 175 Hp US\$51,000 |
| 48.5 1997 Warwick Cardinal 48 single x 51Hp US\$275,000 | 57 Ft 1996 Lagoon 57, Yanmar 2x45 Hp US\$950,000 |
| 48 Ft 1978 Dutch Pilot, Def 2x140 Hp turbo US\$150,000 | 44 Ft 1976 Peterson 44, Yanmar 1x45 Hp US\$85,000 |
| 36 Ft 1994 Island Gypsy, Perkins 2x225 Hp US\$169,000 | 38 Ft 2003 Athena Cats (2 sister boats), 2xYanmar 19 Hp US\$245,000 |

Please contact Tel: 076-239111 Email: broker@thaimarine.com

ASIA PACIFIC QBE We are THE QBE Agent for MARINE Insurance in PHUKET
FOR A FREE-OF-CHARGE INSURANCE QUOTE FOR YOUR BOAT, COMMERCIAL OR PLEASURE
Tel: 076-239111 Fax: 076-238974 Email: insurance@thaimarine.com

JETBOAT

(Super toy) Searayder, Thai registration, built in 2000. New 135HP engine (no hours on it); can see the bill. 5 seats. In great condition and very fast – put it on your driveway and go to the water. A bargain at 430,000 baht, including trailer. Tel: 01-0823240, 01-5376866. Email: bigbhouda5@hotmail.com

WOODEN BOAT

Superbly built, 4-year-old wooden boat with excellent stainless railings. Licensed for 150 pax – ideal for day trips or convert to liveaboard. 2 engines, 2 gen sets. First to see will buy. A bargain at 6 million baht. Please contact. Tel: 076-281526, 09-9720423. Fax: 076-281527. Email: dougi@divejohnsandy.com

NEW WOODEN BOAT

Takean Tong wooden boat in progress, to be finished October/November 2005. LOA: 24.5m. Beam: 5m. Twin 420HP Hinos. One gen set. 4.5 million baht without interior. Builder will build interior to your specs for additional cost. Please contact for more information. Tel: 01-0789397. Email: hpihemp@hotmail.com

LIVEABOARD FOR SALE IN PHUKET

Liveaboard built in 2003. Length: 29.5m. Width: 6.5m. Engines: 2x420HP. Speed: 12 knots. Navv: GPS & depth sounder. Dinghy: 4.75m + 40 hp Yamaha engine. The upper deck features 6 double-bed cabins; the main deck has 10 double-bed cabins, 4 spacious toilets/showers. Compressors: 2 Bauer + cooler system. 43 dive tanks. Email: diveboatsale@yahoo.co.uk

SPEEDBOAT

for sale. Has fiberglass body, finished, 6 meters in length. Asking 140,000 baht, negotiable. Please contact for details. Tel: 06-943174. Email: marco.moncini@email.it

ENGINE WANTED

Marine engine and gearbox wanted for 12-meter sloop. 40-80HP okay. Please contact for more information. Tel: 077-447023, 01-080 2178. Email: eastpier@samuinet.com

41-FOOT FIBERGLASS

Cabin cruiser. 2x330 HP Mercruisers (fully overhauled by manufacturer - 20 hours). All seats renewed. Sun deck, toilet, freshwater shower. Capacity: 22 + 3, ample for business or private use. Equipment for 10-12 divers (20-tank holder). Can be seen and tested at Koh Samui. Asking 3.5 million baht (70,000 Euros/US\$84,000), negotiable. Contact Tel: 07-2836262. Email: jareden75@yahoo.fr

DIVE SPEEDBOAT FOR SALE IN PHUKET

Speedboat, length 13m – custom made for diving – for sale in Phuket. Built in 2003. 2x200HP Yamaha engines. 30 dive tanks + 1 compressor. Takes 12 divers & 3 dive guides. Email: diveboatsale@yahoo.co.uk

50FT STEEL KETCH



Big and strong, Thai-registered ketch of Dutch design for sale. Located near Krabi. The boat has: a wide, 15ft beam; 7ft draft; Perkins 115HP engine with Borg Warner hydrogen gearbox; a Yanmar/Denyo gen set and wind generator; 1,500L water and 900L fuel tankage; VHF; CB; video sonar; GPS; 3 anchors and chain; new mizzen sail and starter batteries; Bauer scuba compressor with engine. The beautiful hardwood interior can sleep nine people in eight bunks. All-new paint and new carpet was installed in June this year. Asking US\$82,000. Photos available. Please contact for more information. Tel: 074-442-170, 01-8969319. Fax: 074-442170. Email: pygmyspermwhale@yahoo.com

LOAN OF BOAT

needed. I am a dedicated SOS volunteer working in Baan Nam Khem/Khao Lak (Phang Nga Province) for many months now. I specialise in finding and recovering tsunami corpses, many of which have yet to be found. You may have read the article about me in the March 5, 2005 *Phuket Gazette* (page 12). For diving purposes I urgently need the loan of a small boat in reasonable condition. Please help; I can't operate without a boat. What I need is a lightweight boat, 12-14 feet, possibly neoprene (rubber with a V-hull type), or aluminum/fiberglass with flat bottom. I also need a small outboard engine about 10HP (not longtail). Please contact for more information. Tel: 01-4770206. Email: rvbandco@hotmail.com

DORADO

This famous 60-foot charter fishing cruiser is for sale. Not damaged in the tsunami, *Dorado* is up and running and ready for work every day of the week. The associated website has a good Internet presence and the business has many repeat clients. The boat is also suitable for conversion to a dive boat. The accommodation is very spacious and the current licence is for 12 passengers with 4 crew. Sale includes a 9-meter longtail boat as tender. Boat, local and Internet business registrations, logo, etc, as a going concern: 3 million baht. Boat alone: 2.6 million baht. Serious inquiries only, please. Tel: 076-202679, 01-9703526. Fax: 076-202679. Email: dorado@phuket.loinfo.co.th For further details, please see our website at: www.phuket-fishing.com

Island Job Mart



Molly Malones Irish Pub Patong Beach Phuket.

One of Phuket's busiest Pubs is now recruiting experienced & energetic people for the following positions.

- ☐ Pub Manager
- ☐ Chef
- ☐ Sous-Chef
- ☐ Chef De Partie
- ☐ Commis Chef
- ☐ Restaurant & Bar Supervisors
- ☐ Bartenders
- ☐ Waitress/Servers
- ☐ Accounting Staff
- ☐ Administration Staff
- ☐ Musicians/Bands

For all applications please contact
For Thai 076 292 590 For English 01 956 2640
or email mollymalones@loxinfo.co.th
or apply in person at Scruffy Murphy's
Irish Pub 5 Bangla Rd, Patong Beach
or mail to PO BOX 138 BOX No; 020 A.Muang Phuket 83000
All international & local applicants will be considered.



Head of Finance required



The company

Yacht Solutions was founded as a yacht delivery company in 2001. Since then, it has grown into two operating divisions-Yacht Services and Marine Distribution-serving boat owners, builders, brokers, retailers and businesses nationwide.

Yacht Solutions is a dynamic, forward-thinking service company that seeks a like-minded individual to contribute to the success of the business during this period of rapid growth.

The position

The Head of Finance will manage the current accounts team and will be responsible for the overall financial accounting for the business. Including the full spectrum of financial budgeting, accounting, reporting, cash flow, working capital management, performance analysis as well as policies and procedures.

The person

- Thai national, 30-40 years old, BA in Accounting, or higher.
- 10+ years' experience in financial & accounting management from a SME size business up, with at least 5 years at management level.
- Dynamic and familiar with rapid business growth.
- Must be able to work independently & under pressure.
- Previous exposure to Tax and Legal issues.
- Able to analyse and offer improvements.
- Team player with a "Can Do" attitude.
- Knowledge of Quickbooks desirable.

All applicants need to possess excellent written and spoken English.

To apply for the job listed above, please submit your resumé to Wanthana@yachtsolutions.net



Phuket Island Property Services Co. Ltd.

Phuket's premier property management company is looking for suitable, qualified candidates for the following positions

- Marketing Manager
- Reception/ office clerk
- Estate Manager
- Receptionist
- Administration clerk

The following positions are available to candidates from the Kamala, Surin, Bang Tao, Cherg Talay areas

- Housekeepers x7
- Cleaners / gardeners x5
- Engineers / Handymen x3

Contact Khun Sarote - Personnel Officer.
Tel: 076 270750. Fax: 076 270751.
Email: hr@pipsphuket.com



Administrative Officer

Ocean Estates International is looking for an active and experienced individual to expand our dynamic team. Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- Good command of English and computer literate, (MS Office, etc.)
- Excellent interpersonal and multi-tasking skills
- Friendly, service-minded and capable of handling changing environment
- Familiar with basic accounting principles

Interested persons should send their CV by email, addressed to Sandra O' Neill, Area Manager Asia, Ocean Estates International (Phuket Office): 382/76 Moo 1, Cherg Talay, Thalang, Phuket, 83110. Email: sandra.oneill@ocean-estates.com



L'ORFEO BAR & RESTAURANT SOI SAI YUAN - NAI HARN BEACH OPENING SOON !

LOOKING FOR STAFF IN THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS
FOR LONG - TERM EMPLOYMENT

ALL THAI NATIVE

1 REST MANAGER W/EXP & FLUENT ENGLISH

1 CHEF ASSIST W/EXP & GOOD ENGLISH

ENGLISH PLEASE CONTACT: 01- 9560204

1 KITCHEN HELP. EVENING ONLY

1 HOUSEKEEPER FEMALE

THAI PLEASE CONTACT: 01- 8950481

OR SEND RESUME TO LORFEORESTO@AIM.COM

ACCOUNTANT & ADMINISTRATOR

We are seeking an Accountant with at least 3-5 years' experience and who knows Thai law and rules for accounting, taxes and VAT. The Administrator we are seeking must have Internet experience, and be able to use MS Excel, Word and email, and must be able to read and write English. Please call Tel: 076-273-427 for full details.

ACCOUNTANT

Fast-growing marine recreation company seeks a qualified accountant. Must have university accounting degree. Min 3 years' experience performing all accounting and administrative functions, including monthly VAT, withholding tax and social security reports, and general ledger entries. Duties will also include general administration and office management. Fax: 076-239559. Email: ftbrowsers@limestoneadventures.com

2 DATA ENTRY

staff. Work from home. Two full-time positions. Must have own computer and Internet connection. MS Word and Excel. 15,000 baht per month for fast workers. Please email to: opholdings@yahoo.com for more information

THAI ADMIN AT SCHOOL

Must have good English. Please contact for more information. Fax: 076-248-976. Email: info@kajonkiet.com

NEW STAFF NEEDED

now. Join our Marketing team in Kata. All English speakers are welcome. For more information, please email: mick@team4you2.biz or please see our website at www.team4you2.biz/kata.htm

KATA INTERNET

Thai female wanted for reception duties at an Internet cafe. Must speak English. A 6-day work week. A good salary is offered. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-284042, 04-0635773. Email: johnnymc21@hotmail.com

Island Job Mart



President Solitaire
President Park



Grand President
Royal President

Executive Serviced Apartments

We are an established company operating deluxe 4 and 5-star executive serviced apartments in Bangkok. In our efforts to maintain our high standard of service to our clients and to adhere to the group's continuous growth, we are in urgent need of experienced and enthusiastic people who are looking for challenging positions in the hospitality industry.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Front Office

- Front office Manager
- Night Auditor
- Guest Service Agents
- Business Center Officer
- Telephone Operator

Administration

- Executive Assistant Manager
- Corporate Human Resources Manager
- Building Manager
- Assistant Purchasing Manager
- Secretary

Marketing

- Graphics Designer

Housekeeping

- Assistant Housekeeper
- Floor Supervisors
- Room Attendants

Food and Beverage

- Cost Controller
- Accountant
- Supervisor
- Restaurant Cashiers
- Hostess
- Waitress

Sales

- Sales Manager
- Assistant Sales Manager
- Sales Executive/Sales Coordinator

Ananda Spa

- Director of Spa
- Manager of Spa
- Supervisor
- Sales Representative
- Massage Therapists

Engineering Department

- Chief Engineer
- Senior Technician
- Plumber
- Electrician/Mechanic



Applications for positions at the President Solitaire, Grand President, Royal President and President Park are to be sent to:

Human Resources Manager, Human Resources Department

7th Floor, Tower 2 Grand President Executive Serviced Apartments 14, 16 Sukhumvit Soi 11, Bangkok 10110

Tel : (662) 651-1200 ext. 3436, 3458 Fax : (662) 651-1261-2

E-mail: administration@presidentpark.com

Managed by CBRE

TaiLife

TaiLife is a new leisure company operating in Phuket. We now require staff for our new five-star fitness spa and restaurant opening in central Patong in November 2005.

F&B Manager

Duties

- Deputize for General Manager
- Set-up and ongoing management of restaurant and bar
- Recruitment/training/stock and cash controlling

Qualifications

- 28-40 years' old
- Minimum of 3 years' experience in a senior position
- Good computer skills
- Bachelor's degree plus excellent spoken and written English

Accountant

Duties

- Set-up accounts and administration systems
- Accounts/tax/reports/personnel records/ internal auditing/submissions to Tax Department

Qualifications

- 28-50 years' old
- Bachelor's degree in accounting
- Minimum of 3 years' experience in a senior position
- Hotel industry experience
- Good spoken and written English

Reception Sales

Duties

- Manager and 5 reception sales staff required
- Reception duties plus membership sales

Qualifications

- 23-35 years' old
- Minimum 1 year's experience in a high-class hotel or spa
- Bachelor's degree
- Excellent spoken English
- Energetic and enthusiastic personality
- Good appearance
- Good computer skills

Telephone K. Manida 07 049 0726
165 Rat-U-Thit 200 Pee Rd, Patong, Phuket, 83150.

URGENTLY REQUIRED PHUKET RECEPTIF

(a Travel Agency in Phuket) is seeking qualified persons for the following positions:

- 1 Public Relations & Marketing Secretary
- 1 Operations Officer

Qualifications:

1. Minimum 2 years' experience in hotel or travel & tour background will be advantageous.
2. Salary range depends on experience.
3. Good attitude, willing to learn and work in a team.
4. Knowledge of computers.
5. Good command of spoken & written English.

Please send your resume and photo to:

Email: info@phuket-receptif.com

Tel: 076-261195.

Fax: 076-261197.

HOUSEKEEPER - UK

Opportunity for a housekeeper to a bachelor (58 yrs) in the UK, on an initial 6-month contract. Duties include: domestic cleaning, cooking, washing and ironing, and driving. Hours are variable and must be flexible, but, in general, not over 35 hours per week. The ideal person will keep the home running smoothly and act as a host. Benefits: all travel between the UK and Thailand paid for. As the position is in a rural location, a car will be provided. An International Drivers' Licence is a must. This is an ideal opportunity for a person aged 30 to 40 to explore the UK and live in a country setting. Email me with your details and photograph. Interviews will be held in Bangkok in September. Salary, paid in UK Sterling, is open to discussion. Email: sandy2501@aol.com



Ingsila Retreat is a luxury boutique resort consisting of 9 villas, a swimming pool, spa, restaurant & bar located at Lamai, Koh Samui.

We are looking for suitable and qualified persons for the following positions:

1. Front Office Manager
2. Night Auditor
3. Receptionist
4. Restaurant Manager
5. Executive Housekeeper

All positions require at least a good command or both spoken & written English. Interested persons are invited to send a detailed resume, stating current & expected salary, qualifications and recent photo to:

Ing-sila Development Co., Ltd.

142/33-42 Moo 4, T. Maret, A. Koh Samui, Suratthani 84310

Tel: 077-231482, 06-7755707 Fax: 077-231484

www.ing-sila.com Email: nawarat@ing-sila.com

BAKER AND DRIVER wanted. Khun Woody's Bakery seeks two new associates. Thai nationals only, please.

(1) BAKER: Excellent cooking skills required. College degree helpful. We will teach you to bake extraordinary American-style goodies.

(2) DRIVER/DELIVERY person who can help with other jobs as needed. Must be a slow, safe, reliable driver with valid license. Tel: 076-340066, 09-7298665. Email: woody@khunwoody.com

MARKETING PERSON Jungle Bungy Jump (Kathu) requires English-speaking female with her own motorbike for marketing. Good salary offered. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-321351.

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at
www.phuketgazette.net/

Island Job Mart



Finnish Red Cross International Aid

Finnish Red Cross (FRC) is currently involved in the tsunami recovery work and has committed 2 million euros in the years 2005 and 2006 and additional funds for 2007 - 2009. The FRC needs qualified staff to assist its delegates in their efforts to help the affected areas in recovering from the tsunami and to improve standards in health, sanitation and disaster management. The FRC has already purchased nine ambulances for Phang Nga Province and will continue in assisting the authorities and the Thai Red Cross. The FRC is now looking for suitable candidates for the following posts:

Interpreter/assistant

Duties and responsibilities:

- Assist the delegates in writing documents and reports; interpret in meetings and training seminars
- Other duties as assigned by the team leader

Requirements:

- Excellent command of written and spoken Thai and English
- Formal education in a relevant field
- At least two years experience of working in a related field

Training assistant

Duties and responsibilities:

- Assist the health delegate in planning and implementing first aid, disaster prevention and psycho sociological training programmes in cooperation with the authorities and other partners and the Thai Red Cross
- Liaise with the Thai Red Cross and health authorities and ensure the cultural acceptance of the health programmes/projects

Requirements:

- Formal education in a relevant health profession
- At least three years experience of working in a relevant position
- Experience in organizing training courses and workshops
- Beside being a native Thai good command of English

Both positions require individuals with the ability to work in a team, are computer literate, used to deadlines and working under pressure. Previous working experience with The Red Cross is an asset. Both positions will be located in Phang Nga and require traveling in the tsunami affected areas.

Applications with curriculum vitae should be sent to: sprphuket@hotmail.com Attention Mr. Timo Korhonen or to the address:

Finnish Red Cross 665 Health Authority of Phang Nga Muang Phang Nga 82000(Inquiries) Tel: 076-414110 or 06-9427412



www.lagunaphuket.com

The largest hotel and resort group in Phuket, and a listed company on the Stock Exchange of Thailand, is currently seeking qualified candidates for the below position:

E-COMMERCE & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

1 position

- Prefer native English speaker aged between 25-40 years.
- Graphic design and web design experience essential.
- Familiar with Illustrator, Photoshop and Dreamweaver software programmes.
- Excellent English language skills required as position not only involves graphic and web design work, but also copy writing, editing and managing collateral production, image library and web site content.
- Experience in publishing, marketing communications, brand management or e-commerce preferably in hotel or tourism industry desirable.
- Position requires independence, self-motivation and good organizational/managerial skills.
- Ability to set and work within priorities and meet deadlines.
- Able to relocate to Phuket.

Applicants are invited to apply in person at the Laguna Resorts & Hotels office, or send your detailed English resumé stating current and expected salary together with a recent photo to:

Group Director of Human Resources

Laguna Resorts & Hotels Public Co., Ltd.

390/1 Moo 1, Srisoonthorn Road, Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110, Thailand

Tel: 076 324444 Ext 16, 17 Fax: 076 271718

Email: sunisas@lagunaphuket.com



Office Manager

for long-term employment wanted!

Customer orientated, English & German plus Office-PC experience required.

Send application to : holger@sea-bees.com

Sea Bees Diving, 1/3 Moo 9 Viset Road, Ao Chalong, Phuket

Site Project Manager Site Inspector CAD Draftsman Site Secretary

Interested candidates, please send resumé & recent photo to the Project Secretary.

Cape Yamu office:

23/102 Thepkasattri Road, T.Koh Kaew, A.Muang, Phuket 83200. Tel: 076-273490 Fax: 076-273491
Email: hom@capeyamu.com

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

Our client, Puvarana Resort, is looking for senior accountant/administrative assistant with at least 3 years' experience. Must be energetic and have a good attitude. Salary: 17-40,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-263737, 01-5354108. Fax: 076-224-113. Email: recruitment@bowentraining.com

BOAT CAPTAIN

Part/full-time shore boat captain needed for small fleet of excursion vessels (daytrip and/or live-aboard); to be responsible for scheduled maintenance, quick turnarounds. Mechanical or electrical background required. Thai and foreign applicants welcome. Email: holiday@liveaboard-thailand.com or Tel: 01-8927847.

EXECUTIVE

Secretary to MD. The best and most interesting job in Phuket. Top-level English and excellent presentation skills a must. Please email resumé to attention K. Fong at: info@phuketonerealestate.com

ACCOUNTANT REQUIRED

Diving and adventures company in Karon area seeks Accountant. Thai or foreign nationals may apply. Candidates will be computer-literate. Accounting graduates with 3 years' relevant work experience and a fair command of written and spoken English. Attractive salary for the right person. Please send your resumé to 393 Patak Rd, Karon, Muang, Phuket, 83100, Thailand, or contact Tel: 01-8927847, 076-398-364. Fax: 076-398365. Email: holiday@liveaboard-thailand.com

REAL ESTATE SALES

Secretary wanted. Must have a good command of English: speaking, reading and writing. Own car required. Salary and benefits based on experience. Also, one Accountant/Administrator required. Please contact for more info. Tel: 04-8477100. Fax: 076-395894. Email: info@astongroupasia.com

INTERNATIONAL LAW OFFICE

IT Technician

Qualifications:

- Male or female, 25-35 years' old.
- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or a related field.
- Good command of written and spoken English.
- Experience will be an advantage.

Please contact us at Tel: 076-222191-5
Email: ohn@phuket-realestate-law.com

Employment Wanted

SALES AND MARKETING DIRECTOR

An International Sales and Marketing Director (40) is looking for a new challenge. Great experience in building and leading efficient teams with 'Must Win' attitudes and: - Working in developing countries - Building up new branches or subsidiaries - Implementing channel strategies - Introduction/establishment of new products - Working in start-up situations, and - Developing new markets. I am a team player with strong ability to motivate and develop people. I speak English and German, and have working experience in Asia and Europe. Email: muenchen1@gmx.net

PART-TIME JOB

I am a Thai female looking for a night-shift job, from 6 pm-9 pm. I can speak good English. I have 2 years' experience as a guest service agent in a hotel and as a Secretary for 1 year. Tel: 01-4770454. Email: pantiwa_9@hotmail.com

DIVEMASTER/COOK

My name is Sprite. I worked on a diving boat for 5 years as divemaster/cook. Please let me know if you have any work for me. Please contact with any offers. Tel: 06-9533064. Email: watchreec@yahoo.com

KEYBOARD VOCALIST

Seeking work in a hotel or resort. English, likes to sing ballad music; ideal for a hotel restaurant. 44 Karon, Patong area. Please call Tony for more information. Tel: 01-4778744.

RESTAURANT STAFF

English-speaking Thai staff needed to work in Nai Harn. Three positions available: Assistant Manager with experience; Chief Cook for Thai and Western food; Waiter/Waitress with or without experience. Please contact Khun Nan for more info. Tel: 01-6532122, 04-0585757. Email: proudly_nicha@yahoo.com

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Live-in maid with previous experience of working with foreigners in villa or in a hotel. Must be hard-working and reliable, able to communicate in English, and cook Western or Thai food. Please call Khun Sim for more information. Tel: 076-316700.

DIVEMASTER

or instructor wanted. Based on Phi Phi. Full-time position. Please contact for details. Tel: 076-384032, 01-3703181. Fax: 076-280286. Email: steve@powersnorkel.com

ACCOUNTANT

Asiadebit (Thailand) Co., Ltd seeks an Accountant with the following qualifications: - Accounting License - Fair English skills Interested candidates should send their resumé or contact for more info. Tel: 076-282-211. Fax: 076-283251. Email: oil@asiadebit.com

TRAVEL AGENT

wanted on Koh Phi Phi. Getting busy again! The biggest and oldest travel company is looking for 3 sales staff. Must have good spoken English. Tel: 076-236616, 01-8913039. Email: siamuk@loxinfo.co.th

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

Articles for Sale

FREEZER CONTAINER
20-foot refrigerated container in good condition. Quick sale: 175,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 076-281283.

ORNAMENTAL FERNS
Large choice of ferns, bird's nests and garden items, in Thalang. Tel: 04-8371063.

Business Opportunities

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Serviced Office Center
Receptionist Provided
Excellent Location
Tel: 076-239967 - 9

phuket@cbre.com
www.cbre.com **CBRE**
CB RICHARD ELLIS

PIANO BAR FOR RENT
Beautiful piano bar and restaurant for rent at 10,000 baht per month with a 2.5-year lease. It has 3 bedrooms, 3 toilets, all newly refurbished. Key money: 990,000 baht. Must be seen. Please contact Tony in Karon. Tel: 01-477-8744.

30-ROOM HOTEL FOR LEASE

In Patong, brand new. No key money, 9-year lease contract. Ref# DHKT070-512. Tel: 06-0043008. Fax: 076-383756. Email: info@ayudhya.net Website: www.ayudhya.net

RESTAURANT/
guesthouse on Patong main road. 40-seat restaurant; 11-room guesthouse. Asking 170,000 baht/month. Tel: 076-248626, 01-0808557. Fax: 076-248626. Email: admin@phuketdeafeagle.com

BUNGALOWS
and restaurant for rent/sale. Tel: 01-8946686. Website: www.phuketnatureplace.com

RESTAURANT
and lot for sale at Kata. Great location, has 4 rooms, large kitchen. Contact Ranne. Tel: 06-6833964.

BAR FOR SALE
in Patong. Very cheap! Own the best. Tel: 07-8817600. Website: www.homebarphuket.com

PARTNER WANTED
for new visa service for Samui, using a tour bus (not minibus). Selling 12.5% of shares for 1 million baht. Tel: 04-7457024. Email: kingrw80@hotmail.com

TAILOR SHOP

Thai-owned tailor shop for sale in Rawai. Good revenue. Includes bedroom, bathroom, and kitchen. Asking 500,000 baht or best offer. Tel: 076-248626, 01-0808557. Fax: 076-248626. Email: admin@phuketdeafeagle.com

Business Products & Services

DAY TRIP TO RANONG

New double-decker tour bus (not minibus), non-smoking and smoking areas, toilet, films/music, snacks and drinks, on-board buffet lunch. No extras to pay, all-inclusive. Only 1,500 baht. Every Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sunday. Tel: 04-7457024.

LEGAL SERVICES

Register your Thai limited company in just two hours through Thailand's largest legal service network, Siam International Legal Group. Business licenses, contracts and property transactions by legal professionals at reasonable fees. Call 24 hours. Tel: 076-345277, 04-0219800. Email: admin@siam-legal.com Website: www.siam-legal.com

5-STAR LIMO

service to airport available at your disposal: 5-star Fortuna service to and from any location in Phuket and the airport. Tel: 04-8438932, 07-278-0688. Email: paul_phuket@hotmail.com

Club Memberships Available

GOLF MEMBERSHIP
Laguna membership for sale. Asking 265,000 baht or nearest offer. Tel: 06-2772691.

Computers

COMPUTER SERVICES
New & used. Repairs, GPRS, ADSL, WLAN. No phone - Internet - no problem. English computerman. Tel: 09-473-5080.

Miscellaneous for Sale

INTERNATIONAL DRIVER'S LICENSE

5,000 baht, valid up to 10 years; 6,000 baht valid up to 20 years. Sole agent in Thailand. Free pick-up & delivery, open 365 days a year. Call Christine. Tel: 04-0068736, 04-6906612.

Personal Services

VISA FOR THAILAND

Tired of visa runs? Get a one-year Thai visa. Free initial consultation at Thailand's largest legal service network, Siam International Legal Group. Call 24 hours. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-345-277, 04-0219800. Email: admin@siam-legal.com Please see our website at: www.siam-legal.com

COMPANY

formation and accounting services. We can set up a registered limited partnership with work permit for 20,000 baht (no hidden extras). Over 50 and need a one-year visa? 12,000 baht yearly; company accounts 12,000 baht. We also take care of your monthly tax and social contributions. Contact us if you have problems. We are pleased to help you. Please contact for more information. Tel: 04-7457024. Email: kingrw80@hotmail.com

Need help finding a lawyer?

www.phuketgazette.net/

Personals

AUSTRALIAN SEEKS
lady. Australian man, 48 years old, is seeking a long-term relationship with a lady. If you are interested, please call Tel: 09-9081468.

SEEKING A MATCH

I am a Thai businesswoman, 35. I am warm, nice looking, sweet, smart, romantic, sincere and humorous. I am looking for an Englishman, younger than 45, who needs true love. Please email: saovalakcat@yahoo.com

BACKGAMMON

Retired businessman looking for backgammon players on Phuket Island. Please call if interested. Tel: 076-386113, 01-5778443.

Pets

PIT BULL PUPPIES

for sale. 8-week-old Pit Bull puppies for sale. One is white with green eyes. One is brown and white, with brown eye patch. Strong, big, aggressive parents. To good home with fence only. Asking 5,000 baht each. Tel: 01-7970375. Email: darrenlockie@hotmail.com

Wheels & Motors

Saloon Cars

Trusted Suppliers of Phuket's Finest Quality Vehicles
SURE MOTORS
The Joe Charoen Motor Dealership Est. 1993



Phuket's Most Trusted & Reputable Supplier of the Finest Quality Used SALOONS, SEDANS, JEEPS & PICKUPS

New cars or trade-ins - we have what you're looking for

For more info pls call us at Tel: 076-224632, 216243 www.suremotor.com

PERODUA KANCIL

Perodua Kancil, gold color, automatic, 29,500km, 4 doors, electric windows and mirrors, central locking. 279,000 baht. Please contact for more info. Tel: 01-2738192. Email: sumpfhuhn5000@gmx.de

TOYOTA CAMRY

2.4L, auto, full options, black, 2 years old, leather seats, no accidents, one owner. Quick sale: 850,000 baht obo. Email: spb499@hotmail.com

Pickups

MAZDA 4-DOOR PICKUP

2.0 power steering, runs well, stereo, CD-player, engine and gear overhauled 2.5 years ago. New brakes, tires good. Price: 99,000 baht. Contact Khun Joe. Tel: 01-6930173. Email: jaksat@phuket.ksc.co.th

MAZDA PICKUP

1997, in perfect condition. Power steering, new battery and new tires. Must be seen. Only 250,000 baht. Tel: 01-9562406. Email: yuyphatsara@hotmail.com

ISUZU

I want to sell my 2004, 4-door Isuzu Hi-Lander fast. Asking 550,000 baht. Contact K. Ying. Tel: 07-8944748. Email: parishat_ying@hotmail.com

4 x 4s

TOYOTA SPORT CRUISER

Dark blue, four-door 4WD, 2 years and 10 months old, with many extras. Price: 530,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 06-2746511.

ISUZU D-MAX CAB

March 2004 DI-Turbo. Automatic, 4WD, 4 doors, silver gray. In very good condition. 21,000km. Asking price: 650,000 baht. Tel: 01-970-3721. Email: pam@lynx.com

TOYOTA VIGO 2.7 G

Silver blue, four-door, 4WD, 3 months old, many extras. Only 4,000km. Price: 640,000 baht (negotiable). Tel: 01-7471939. Email: gomikki@yahoo.it

Motorbikes

JRD SURF 125S

18-month-old JRD Surf, selling for 18,000 baht or nearest offer. 3-year-old Tiger Smart 120s, selling for 15,000 baht or nearest offer. Both have low mileage and are in good condition, serviced regularly and have front disc brake. Contact K. Chris. Tel: 07-2774487.

'97 HONDA XR 250

for sale. Great bike, runs well. Recently set up by the Dirtshop in Bangkok. Has all registration and insurance documents and a perfect Green book. Email for pics and work done. First 50,000 baht takes it. That's it! Please contact for more details. Tel: 09-2181475. Email: hockeyric@hotmail.com

HONDA WAVE

125cc for sale. Yellow/black, electric starter, disc brake, Sept/October 2004, 4,000 km. Price: 32,000 baht. Please contact for more details. Tel: 09-4700319. Email: peter.persson@prefimek.se

Rentals

A1 CAR RENTAL



Cars, trucks, jeep, 7-seat people carrier for rent; fully-insured. from 10,000 baht a month; special long-term rates. Please call for info. Tel: 09-8314703, 076-200900.

LOW PRICE

Low rates for long-term rentals. Many types of new cars, with CD players, insurance and proper maintenance. Please call now for more details. Tel: 05-883-3470.

Wanted

VEHICLE WANTED

for hire for one month from September 1, 2005. Suzuki or similar small car. Price must include insurance and pick-up and return to Phuket airport. Please contact with details. Email: alansimpson75@hotmail.com

CBR 600 RR WANTED

Preferably 2001 or newer. A few scratches aren't a problem, but must be mechanically very good. I have a 400 RR that I can offer as part swap if you're interested; otherwise I will pay cash. Please contact for more information. Tel: 01-8022800. Email: count.slackula@gmail.com

Looking for some new wheels?

Check out www.phuketgazette.net

**.Fast installation
.Removable**

24,900 Baht (inc VAT)

FANT-TH

Jaiidee
Brings life into your garden

FANT-TH

HEIGHT: DIAMETER:
0.90M 4.6M

INCLUDES:
 .POOL
 .FILTRATION 4M3/H
 .CHLORINE DISPENSER
 .VACUUM CLEANER
 .LADDER
 .TIMER

FANT-ASIA . TEL: 076 224 444

PHUKET COSMETIC DENTAL CLINIC

Come and enjoy the difference of our unique esthetic dental treatment.

- Tooth whitening by plasma arc
- Dental implants
- All-ceramic crowns
- Ceramic veneers

16/1 Hongyok-U-Thit Rd, T. Taladyai A. Muang, Phuket 83000 Thailand.
Tel: 0 7623 6823 Fax: 0 7623 6824
Email: info@phuketcosmeticedentalclinic.com, www.phuketcosmeticedentalclinic.com

PATONG LANGUAGE SCHOOL

TEFLPlus® Teacher training
LinguaPlus® Language centre

Your first choice for language classes on Phuket island, with branches in Patong and Chalong.

Thailand's best value TEFL course at only 35,000 baht.

Patong Language School
Aroonsom Square, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150
Tel 0 7634 0373 Fax 0 7634 0873

LinguaPlus Language Centre
86/6 Wiset Road, Chalong, Phuket 83000
Tel/Fax 0 7628 0368

TEFLPlus Teacher Training
www.teflplus.com info@teflplus.com
info@phuket-languageschool.com www.phuket-languageschool.com

Looking for a place to stay?
See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Please call for special prices

The most up-to-date dental technology in town.

Metal-Free Restoration

Laser Tooth Whitening

Before After

Before After

- Crowns and Bridges
- Metal-Free Restoration
- Laser Tooth Whitening Center
- CEREC 3D
- Dental Implant
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Root Canal Treatment
- Gum Treatment
- Laser-Assisted Gum Treatment
- Operative Dentistry
- Sterilization by Autoclave
- Digital X-ray
- Dental Microscope

PROMJAI DENTAL CLINIC
5/4 Sawatdirak Rd., (2nd Fl. All 4 Diving) Patong, Phuket.
5/4 ต.สวนสัตว์ (ชั้น 2 All 4 Diving) ปาทอง ภูเก็ต
☎ 01-8934304, 076-345341-2
www.promjaidentalclinic.com

Desjoyaux **เดโชโย**
P O O L S สระว่ายน้ำ

Put your trust in the worldwide leader!

- .Rapidity
- .Reliability
- .Hydrotherapy
- .Simplicity
- .Quality
- .A real 10-year-guarantee!
- .No underground piping!
- .80% concrete...20% ingenuity
- .listed on the Paris stock market
- .No. 1 in the world

Desjoyaux in Thailand
Bangkok: Tel:+66 2 9899333 Fax:+66 2 9488118
Phuket: Tel:+66 76 263688 Fax: +66 76 264023
Chiang Mai: Tel:+66 53 283901-2 Fax:+66 53 202859
Hatyai: Tel:+66 74 262934-5 Fax:+66 74 262936
Samui: Tel: + 66 77 247588-9 Fax:+66 77 427256
www.desjoyauxasia.com

We do what we say! **Since 1966**