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Bombs spark security alert

By Gazette Staff

PHUKET: Police Region 8 put 50 extra officers on standby in Phuket over the holiday period, to be bolstered by about 100 more officers on standby from January 5, following the bomb blasts in Bangkok on New Year's Eve.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pol Maj Gen Decha Budnampeth told the *Gazette* that the extra officers, to remain in Phuket until the end of the high season, will be divided among the island's eight police stations.

"We are focusing the extra security mostly at popular tourism areas, such as Patong and at other beaches. We were lucky that this year nothing bad happened and there were lots of tourists," he said.

Gen Decha said that the Bangkok bombings were unrelated to the ongoing violence in the Deep South.

The bombs were meant to cause a disturbance rather than maximize carnage, he said.

He called on the public to help with the security effort. "If anyone sees anything suspicious they should report it as soon as possible by calling 191," he added.

However, tourism industry experts remain cautiously optimistic that the bombings in Bangkok will have limited impact on tourism numbers in Phuket.

Suwalai Pinpradab, Director of Tourism Authority of Thailand's Southern Region 4 office in Phuket, said, "We are concerned about this in Phuket, especially as it comes during a peak period for tourism."

"If similar incidents occur and the violence continues to



Key tourism operators expect the number of tourist arrivals to match the 4.8 million visitors to Phuket last year – as long as there are no direct threats to the island's security.

spread, we could face problems here."

Foreign embassies, including those of Australia, New Zealand, England and the US, issued warnings advising their nationals to exercise caution while traveling in Bangkok, she said.

"However, I have yet to receive reports of tourists canceling plans to visit Phuket," she said on January 2.

"If this string of bombings turns out to be an isolated incident, I think tourism prospects for 2007 remain very good. I have spoken to several hotel operators and they have told me business is very good at the moment," said K. Suwalai.

Phuket Tourist Association (PTA) President Maitree Narukatchipichai told the *Gazette* two days after the blasts that there had been no impact on bookings

at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa in Karon, where he is Owner's Representative.

"I haven't checked with other hotels yet, but nothing has changed at my hotel. However, this is bound to have some impact on the industry, as security is very important to tourists. Reports about the bombings in the international media will damage the entire country's reputation, especially coming in the wake of a military coup," he said.

Despite his concerns, K. Maitree expects 2007 tourist arrival figures to match the estimated 4.8 million visitors who came to Phuket in 2006, provided there are no more threats to security.

Deputy Patong Mayor Chairat Sukaban said there would be little short-term impact on tourism, but that such events

Continued on page 2

Boy, 15, blasted with shotgun

By Supanun Supawong

PHUKET CITY: Piyawuth "Ab" Pattamapaneewong, 19, and Wirat "Dam" Thongsu, 20, both from Phuket City, have been charged with gunning down a 15-year-old boy about 12:30 am on December 24.

The victim was identified as Chumphon "Toto" Ruengdam, son of Prasert "Phu Yai Soi" Ruengdam, Headman of Ras-sada Village 3.

Police arrested the two suspects about 5 am the same day in a rented room on Samkong Rd, where they were sleeping soundly. Police found a shotgun along with four unused cartridges and a fifth spent cartridge behind the headboard of the bed.

The officer in charge of the case, who asked to remain anonymous, said that Chumphon was riding around Phuket City with six to eight friends, when he saw Ab and Dam at the Clock Tower traffic circle.

Ab and Dam were allegedly incensed by Chumphon staring at them, and followed him to Satee Phuket School intersection, where Ab pulled out a sawed-off shotgun from his waistband and hit Chumphon twice over the head with it.

Dam sped away, but as he did so Ab fired at Chumphon, riddling his body with nine pellets.

Chumphon managed to hold on to his friend for 200 meters or so after being shot, but then fell to the roadway and died.

The two suspects have been charged with murder and unlawful possession of a firearm.

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From page 1

Security beefed up

can have long-term effects that are not reflected by cancellations. Tourists might choose not to book in the first place if they feel Phuket is unsafe, he said.

"They may choose another country, such as Vietnam, if they think it is safer," K. Chairat said.

To minimize the chance of a bombing in Phuket, he called on homeowners and business operators to cooperate by waiting until just before scheduled garbage collection times to put out their trash, especially in tourist areas.

"If everyone cooperates, tourist areas can be more secure and more attractive," he said.

Along Soi Bangla in Patong, for example, garbage is now collected every two hours due to security concerns and large garbage bins have been replaced by smaller ones.

Security concerns about the heart of Patong's red light district have been high ever since the October 2002 bombing in Bali.

Nippon Piromrit, Secretary of the Phuket Limousine and Business Services Cooperative (PBC), told the *Gazette* that all PBC members are keeping an eye out for threats to security, especially at the airport. "We will remain alert and if we see anything suspicious we will report it to airport security," he said.

"I believe whoever did it was just trying to stir up trouble and didn't mean to kill anyone," he said.

Three die in New Year's Day road accidents

PHUKET: Between the end of the new year countdown and sunrise on New Year's Day, three people were killed on Phuket roads.

The first fatality of the year on the island's roads came at 2:30 am, when Suripong Jitsamut, 30, was killed when his motorbike crashed into an electricity pylon.

At 3:35 am, Prakarn Keawdee, 20, and Thanachart Rungsrisk, 18, were killed after their motorbike was involved in a collision with another bike.

From December 28 to the end of January 1, 26 people had been injured in road accidents.

The Governor had earlier set a target of limiting road deaths to three and injuries on the road below 40 over the December 28 to January 3 holiday period.

Police reported that they had stopped 39,286 drivers and handed out 2,119 tickets between December 28 and January 1.

The most common offense was driving without a license, for which 1,134 tickets were issued. Not wearing a helmet on a motorbike was the second with 586 tickets, while 247 drivers and passengers were ticketed for not wearing a seat belt. Eighty-five people were caught with illegally-modified motorbikes.

Another 67 tickets were issued for drunk driving, but no drivers were cited for speeding.

At 7:30 pm December 27, the evening before the "danger period" began, three men died after the pickup in which they were riding as passengers on the back seat overshot a curve and slammed into a power pole in Mai Khao.

B10,000 reward for escaped convict

By Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

PHUKET CITY: The Director of Phuket Provincial Prison is offering a 10,000-baht reward for information leading to the arrest of a convict who broke out of Phuket Provincial Prison in December and remains at-large.

Phuket Provincial Prison Director Paisal Suwanraksa identified the fugitive as Thiwa Wahji, 20.

In his successful bid for freedom on February 18, Thiwa

scaled the facility's wall by using a homemade rope made from shoelaces, he said.

K. Paisal reported the breakout to Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit at the annual meeting of the Phuket Provincial Security Committee held at Provincial Hall.

Thiwa was being held at the prison for four theft-related crimes, including two snatch-and-run crimes in Thalung for which he had already been convicted and sentenced to a total of seven years in prison, K. Paisal said.

Two other court cases are pending against Thiwa, one a snatch-and-run and the other a burglary, he added.

"He served more than one year at the prison and I believe he is still somewhere in the province," K. Paisal said.

"As we have searched for him everywhere without success, I am happy to give a 10,000-baht reward out of my own pocket to anyone who can tell us where he is," said K. Paisal.

K. Paisal said having Thiwa on the loose was a threat to public safety, given his criminal record.



JAILBREAK: Escapee Thiwa Wahji, 20, is considered a threat to public safety.

The search for the fugitive has thus far focused on where he is known to have relatives and close friends, including sites in Krabi, Pattani, Phattalung, Phang Nga, Chumphon and Nakorn Sri Thammarat provinces.

K. Paisal said Thiwa escaped where a prison building was close to a wall, enabling him to scale the fence and flee. The "weak spot" in the prison's containment will be rectified, he said.

Anyone with information about Thiwa's whereabouts is encouraged to contact K. Paisal directly at Tel: 081-8552749.

Princesses to visit Phuket

PHUKET: HRH Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol and HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha will visit Phuket this month.

Princess Chulabhorn will arrive at Phuket International Airport January 8, staying at the Similan Islands off Phang Nga until January 14.

Princess Bajrakitiyabha will arrive in Phuket January 18. As part of her work with the Justice Ministry, she will visit the Phuket State Attorney's Office on the morning of January 19 and will stay at Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort. She will leave the island January 20.

The visits of HRHs Chulabhorn and Bajrakitiyabha follow HRH Princess Soamsavali arriving on the island December 28 and staying at the Banyan Tree Phuket for two nights.

During her visit, Princess Soamsavali presided over the opening ceremony of a tsunami evacuation site at Wat Pananikom in Baan Bang Niang in Phang Nga.

Fake Mah Song jailed for 15 days

THALANG: Medium Paitoon Khopwej, 27, a woodcarver from Chalong, has served 15 days as a guest at Baan Bang Jo prison for "deceiving the public" after skewering a pig's tongue instead of his own during this year's Vegetarian Festival.

Paitoon took part in the festival as a *mah song* ("spirit medium"). However, he pretended to skewer his tongue with a sword, but in fact ran the blade through a pig's tongue that he had put in his mouth to fool onlookers.

He told police he wanted to impress the crowds by skewering his tongue bottom-to-top with both a long, pointed sword and a sharp-tipped saw blade – but that he was too afraid of the pain.

When his deception was discovered, Paitoon was beaten by an angry mob and reported to elders at Kathu Chinese Shrine, who then filed a complaint against him with Tung Tong police.

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Health Chief warns of 'unhealthy' foreign labor

By Supanun Supawong

PHUKET: Phuket Provincial Health Office (PPHO) Chief Dr Wanchai Sattayawuthipong has warned that the large number of illegal migrant workers on Phuket is placing the island's population at greater risk of an outbreak of communicable diseases.

Dr Wanchai's warning follows an order from the Ministry of Public Health in Bangkok to crack down on communicable diseases by targeting foreign laborers in order to prevent diseases from entering or spreading throughout the country.

However, he said that the PPHO already screens incoming migrant workers as part of the registration process, and that for the past two to three years the PPHO has been tracking and recording details of foreign labor-

ers with communicable diseases.

In that time, he said, the PPHO has found that the number of foreign laborers in Phuket with HIV or tuberculosis has increased.

In 2004 the PPHO found that 38 migrant workers had HIV, but that in 2005 the number had grown to 46.

Other communicable ailments commonly suffered by Thai and foreign laborers on the island are diarrhea, gastrointestinal diseases, pneumonia and skin diseases, he added.

Malaria among foreign laborers is another main concern of the PPHO, said Dr Wanchai, as it had not been found on the island until the use of foreign laborers increased around 1998.

He said that Phuket currently has about 30,000 legal foreign laborers, but that the total number of migrant workers on the island may be closer to 60,000 or 70,000.

"People should not support illegal foreign laborers working in Phuket. If Phuket people do not allow foreign laborers to come in, that would help to reduce the incidence of communicable diseases in Phuket," he said.

'Chalong bomber' remains at large

By Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

PHUKET CITY: A high-level provincial panel investigating bomb attacks in November on three new homes off Chao Fa East Rd and a land dispute in the area has made little progress, despite the Governor's insistence that those responsible be brought to justice as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, home construction continues in the area, part of which may be protected mangrove forest.

Chalong Police Deputy Superintendent Pol Lt Col Suwat Kaewprom said that police have prepared a list of key witnesses and have substantial physical evidence, including the fingerprints and a police sketch of the suspected bomber.

The suspect remains at large however, Col Suwat told other members of the Phuket Provincial Security Committee at the group's monthly meeting at the Thavorn Grand Plaza Hotel December 27.



One of the incomplete homes blasted by a homemade bomb in November. The suspect has so far avoided arrest.

Noting that the three damaged homes were being repaired and that construction of another new home had begun, he urged fellow panel members to move as quickly as possible in ruling on the status of the land, which is subject to an ownership dispute.

Committee member Muang District Chief Wirawat Janpen said that his office had conducted a survey that found 123 families living on the land in dispute.

It would take about two more weeks for the panel to conclude whether or not some of the land occupied is mangrove forest, he said.

Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit urged all committee members to conclude their parts of the investigation as soon as possible, saying that encroachment issues are one of the island's most pressing problems.

Life Home Project moves to Koh Sireh

PHUKET CITY: The Life Home Project, which supports and houses mothers and children suffering from HIV, has moved to its new premises on Koh Sireh, at 10/11 Rassada, A. Muang, Phuket.

The center's new telephone and fax number is Tel: 076-352210, though the mobile phone contact number Tel: 081-9703750 remains the same.

The project's mailing address also remains unchanged at 12/16 PO Box 105 Montri Rd, T. Taladyai, A. Muang, Phuket 83000.

Visitor co-ordinator Nuch Nulong said that the Life Home Project had outgrown its previous rented location. The new facilities are larger and the project was able to buy it, K. Nuch said.

Young man executed at Layan

THALANG: A young angler was found shot in the back of the head on a bridge at Layan Beach on December 28.

Pol Lt Col Jessada Sangsuee, Investigating Inspector at Cherg Talay Police Station, told the *Gazette* that Suthin Srisamut, 40, about 10:30 pm that night reported that the body of his son, Worayuth Srisamut, 25, had been discovered on the bridge.

He said that Worayuth was found dead with his fishing rod and two empty cans of Leo beer

next to him. He had been shot in the back of the skull with a .38-caliber gun.

The body was sent to Thalang Hospital for forensic testing.

Col Jessada said that Worayuth's wife had told police that Worayuth had been worried about something, but had not confided in her before taking his fishing rod to the bridge, Col Jessada said.

Police believe that gang involvement or mistaken identity were likely factors in the murder.



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Queer News

CHICK OR CHEAT?

By Noolek Karaket

PATONG: A front-page headline in the December 30 edition of a daily Thai-language newspaper shocked readers with the horrific news that a mother had murdered her newborn child and left its lifeless corpse to rot in a field behind a row of low-rent apartments.

The headline for the initial report, roughly translated, read: *"Wicked brutality: Mother kills child, stuffs in box."*

The report featured a fuzzy picture of the "newborn", accompanied by the caption: *State of the corpse of the newborn, killed by mother with the heart of an ogre. The corpse was found in a foam box, which was thrown behind a row flats belonging to bar girls and alien laborer during the middle of the night in Tambon Patong, Kathu District, Phuket Province.*

The report said that the box was discovered at about 5:30 pm on December 28 by workers at the Damrongphan Wood shop, off Sainamyen Rd.

So bad was the state of the smell emanating from the box that police and workers with the Kusoldharm Volunteer Rescue Foundation were called in to investigate.

They took the box of rotting flesh to Patong Hospital, where it was photographed. The report read that the body of the "newborn" was so badly decomposed that doctors there found it impossible to determine its gender.

The report also quoted an unnamed source in the Kathu Police as saying that the newborn was probably born to either a bar girl or a poor alien worker who lacked the mental capacity to care for it, and therefore killed it, stuffed its remains into the box and threw it away.

When the *Gazette* called Kathu Police duty officer Pol Maj Pisit Chuenpet to confirm the gruesome details a different story emerged. The rotting flesh was discovered by workers as described, but it was unlikely the remains of a human baby, he said.

"I think that it looked more like a bag of rotten chicken than a dead baby. We only found a few bones, and they resembled those of a chicken leg. We didn't find a skull or anything else indicating it was human," he said.

"It would make no sense for someone to wrap a body up like that and leave it in a place where people could see it. It would be better for them to bury it and conceal the crime," he added.

"I do not want people to panic or say things that are not true. I remember a case, around the time when they first started building Jungceylon, when workers found something buried near the site. People thought it might be a dead body, so by the time we got there there were lots of people standing around, expecting to see a human corpse. But it turned out to be the bodies of four dogs that somebody had poisoned and buried there," he said.


Just to be on the safe side, the remains would be sent from the hospital to a police forensics laboratory for further examination, Maj Pisit said.

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Occultist sentenced to 100 years

Occultist Harn "Nain Ae" Raksajit was sentenced to a total 100 years in prison after his conviction in 25 cases of sexual assault against women.

Harn will serve only 20 years out of the sentence, however, as that is the maximum combined prison term stipulated for crimes that carry a maximum sentence of no more than five years.

Harn, 46, managed to convince his victims that having sex with him would make them more attractive to men.

Harn asked clients to undress during his charm procedures and persuaded them to have sex with him, claiming this would make his magic more potent.

The Criminal Court also ordered him to return a total of 910,000 baht to 33 women who paid him for improving their "charm" in this way.

Harn's wife, Chamaiphorn, is seeking a divorce after she became infected with a venereal disease she alleges her husband contracted from a client.

The one-time Buddhist novice was defrocked after he was discovered producing "magic potions" from stillborn infants, an offense for which he was con-



At a studio in Bangkok, models Patrick Ribbsaeter and Avi Siwa pose with a banner encouraging the closure of all zoos. The photo will be used by animal rights group People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) in an advertisement to be released in the Philippines, India, Sweden and Thailand.

Photo by: Tatchadon Panyaphanitikul.

victed and jailed in 1995. He was arrested on the sexual assault charges in 2005.

Buddhist authorities commenting on the case said occult rituals were not part of the religion, but superstition and magic were often woven into the fabric of everyday practice in many parts of Asia.

Be my guest: The Ministry of Tourism and Sports and the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) have set a target of receiving a

record 14.8 million tourists in 2007, while focusing on quality.

Tourism Minister Suwit Yodmanee said the agencies would try to attract international tourists, particularly those spending a lot of money, rather than concentrating on quantity as the agency was before.

It is expected that the number of foreign tourists will increase from 12.4 million to 14.8 million next year.

Income from overseas visitors is expected to reach 547 bil-

lion, an increase of 13.8% from 2006.

Water woes: Drinking water at almost two-thirds of schools in Thailand is substandard, according to random checks by the Medical Sciences Department.

Department Director-General Dr Paijit Warachit said that student health problems could arise from contaminated water sources, containers, coolers and filter machines found in 63% of the schools surveyed.

Conducted between March and August, the random checks covered 724 schools in various provinces.

The checks found large amounts of cadmium, lead, nitrate, manganese, aluminum, fluoride and micro-organisms in drinking water at many schools.

According to Dr Paijit, the chemicals could be harmful to the drinkers.

Too much manganese can cause fever, headaches, loss of appetite and weakened muscles. Too much iron could cause nausea and osteoporosis, he said.

Dr Paijit said the findings have been given to the relevant authorities, including the Education Ministry and schools.

Knocked up, locked up: Cabi-

net approved a proposal put forward by the National Human Rights Commission for legal amendments that would delay punishment for pregnant convicts by a few years.

The move aims to allow pregnant convicts to give birth and take care of newborns before being sent to jail.

There are now up to 130 pregnant women in Thai jails, said Angkhaneung Lebnak, Director of the Central Women's Correctional Institute.

Correctional facilities have doctors provide pre-natal care for pregnant detainees, who are sent to hospitals outside the prison when they go into labor.

The Corrections Department would also contact their relatives to get them to take care of the babies.

"If no relatives show up, we will take care of the children until they reach the age of six years old. After that, we will transfer them to the care of the Public Welfare Department," she said.

Some female detainees also got pregnant while in prison, Angkhaneung said.

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

Spectacular Beachfront Residential Units For Sale



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The project to build an L-shaped private pier protected by a breakwater off Klong Son Beach has stirred up a great deal of controversy on Koh Yao Yai, where the headman of Baan Yamee has accused Prayad Srisamut, President of the Koh Yao Yai Tambon Administration Organization (OrBorTor), of deliberately concealing from villagers the fact that he had given written approval for the project at a provincial-level meeting as far back as last July.

The villagers learned that K. Prayad had approved the project only after a meeting at Phuket Rajabhat University on December 20. That meeting was attended by Vasant Panich, one of the 11 members of the National Human Rights Commission, which has taken up the villagers' fight on the grounds that the proposed pier and breakwater will infringe on their rights, mainly their means to make a living.

Commissioner Vasant's active interest in the issue is no small feat. High-profile human rights cases he has been involved with include the investigation into the disappearance of human rights lawyer Somchai Neelaphaijit and the unsolved killings during the Thaksin administration's "War on Drugs".

Although the NHRC lacks the authority to directly punish or prosecute a guilty party, it has important oversight powers, including the rights to examine cases as it sees fit and report any human rights violations and make recommendations to both the National Legislative Assembly and the Cabinet.

The project, if it goes ahead, will be developed by Bangkok-based firm Naracha, part of the Nichada Group of Companies.

Koh Yao villagers

Construction of a pier and breakwater at Klong Son Beach on Koh Yao Yai is on hold as the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) seeks to have the project's building permit revoked, but the development firm behind the project says it has all the necessary authorization and plans to begin work early this year.

The *Gazette's* **Sompratch Saowakhon** and **Stephen Fein** investigate the controversy, which has pitted Bangkok developers against poor local people – and left some local officials in hot water.

Col Pracha Yoosumran, who identified himself as a consultant to Naracha, told the *Gazette* that the planned pier will comprise a 15-meter main dock running off the beach and an L-shaped 70-meter floating dock running out into the sea, where it will be protected by a large breakwater. At 5.8 meters wide, the pier would be similar in appearance to docks at the Boat Lagoon in Phuket, he said.

Permission to construct the pier and breakwater has already been granted by the local office of the Marine Department, which has authorized dredging of the seabed to accommodate docking for boats of up to 20 tons displacement, he added.

"Naracha Company has already been granted all the necessary building permits by the local Marine Department office and we own more than 500 rai of land in the area, where we plan to develop a holiday home project," he said.

Col Pracha denied that any of the land in question was under investigation by the Department of Special Investigation, as has been reported by some Thai-language media sources.

The land has long been owned outright by Naracha and has no connection with land that is now the subject of an encroachment case involving Malaysian-born Phuket resident Tan Teik Hai, aka "Valentino", he said.

Dredging work and construction of the pier and construction of an offshore breakwater would begin in early 2007, he said.

However, opposition to the pier project is especially strong in Ban Yamee, a part of Koh Yao Yai's Village 3 area. Residents there fear the project will destroy the local marine environment on which many of them rely to make a living. There are also concerns that the project will destroy seagrass beds that sustain the local dugong population, which is already highly-endangered.



Local fisherfolk of Baan Yamee claim they stand to lose their livelihoods if the pier and breakwater are built.

The headman of Village 3, who asked for his name to be withheld, told the *Gazette* that about 400 people live in the immediate vicinity of the planned pier and that up to 40% of them rely directly on local marine resources for a living.

"Most of the people who live here are poor, including myself," he said.

Wannakiat Thubthimsang, Director of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) Department of Marine and Coastal Resources Phuket office, in October told the *Gazette* that his office had surveyed the area of the intended pier. At that time he confirmed the presence of both coral and seagrass beds in the area.

"In my opinion, any changes


to the seabed will have some impact on the local environment," he said.

He noted at that time, however, that the environmental impact of the work would depend both on the final project design and how the work was actually carried out.

Representatives from Naracha and the local Marine Department met briefly with Koh Yao Yai residents in early October, informing them about the project.

After that meeting, Naracha agreed to reduce the size of the pier and to install a breakwater in order to address villagers concerns about the environmental impact of the project, said the headman of Village 3.


Naracha claimed to have



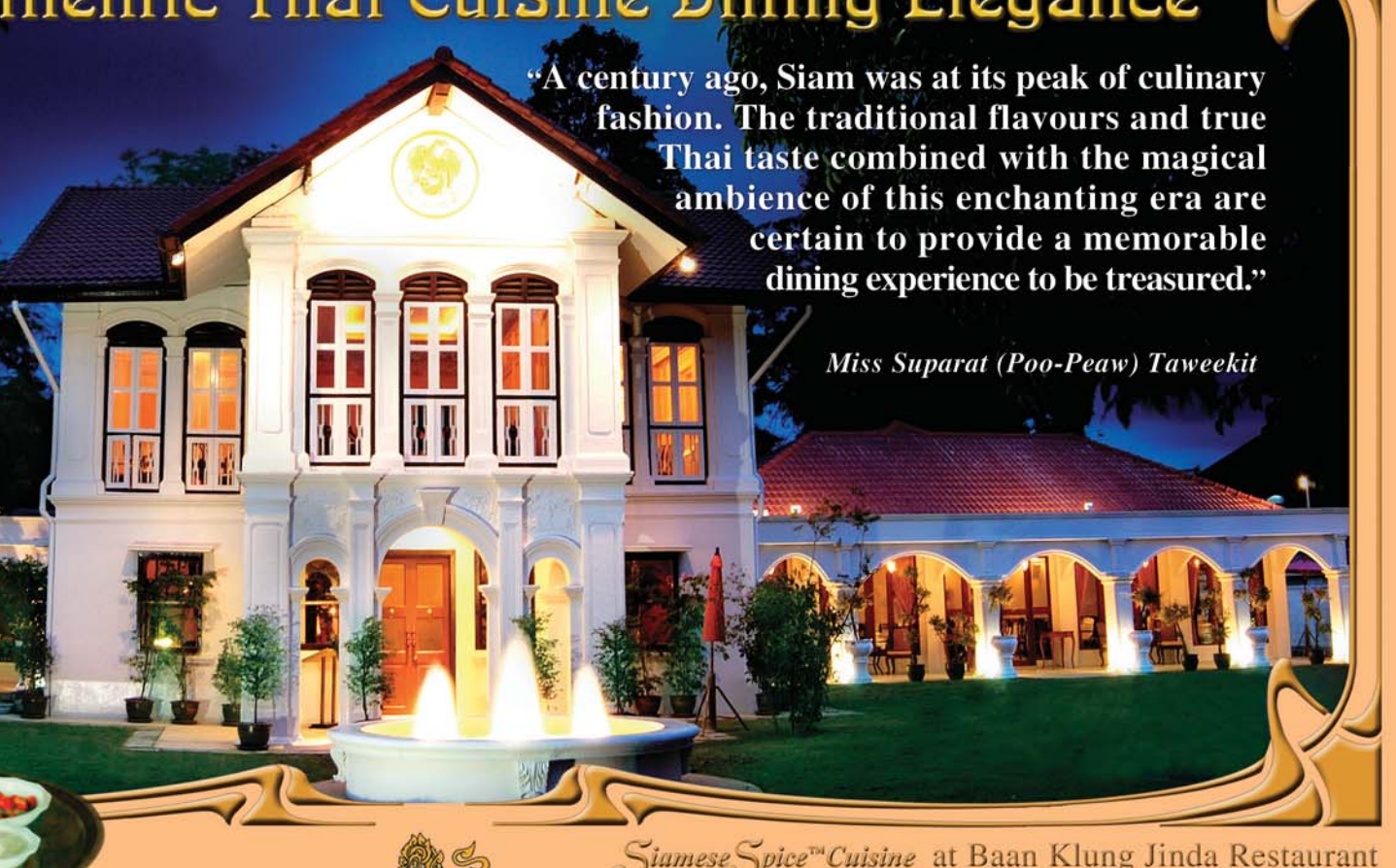
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fight new pier project



This satellite photo shows where the 70-meter floating dock and the large breakwater are planned to be built offshore from Baan Yamee on Koh Yao Yai.

won local support for the project, but this came from canvassing opinion of residents of villages 1, 2 and 4, whose livelihoods would not be directly affected by the project, said the headman.

However, Baan Yamee residents, whose livelihoods stand to be directly affected if the pier is built, remained adamantly opposed to any offshore construction.

To head off the project, they contacted the MNRE in Bangkok as well as the NHRC.

At a December 14 meeting between local residents and representatives of the Naracha

Company, officials from the local Marine Department office asked Naracha to delay construction, pending review and a decision by the Ministry of Transport in Bangkok.

Then on December 20, after the meeting at Rajabhat Phuket University and a visit to the proposed project site, K. Vasant told the *Gazette* in a phone interview that despite the building permit issued by the Transport Ministry's Marine Department, offshore construction in the area is prohibited by law.

The seabed off Klong Son

Beach is protected under legislation put in place after the tsunami. The legislation aims to protect natural barriers to impede any future tsunamis and to protect the rights of local residents who rely on marine and coastal resources, he explained.

In addition, the work would involve dredging some 100,000 tons of sediment. Naracha has not specified where this material would be stored or disposed of after its removal, he added.

K. Vasant said that his panel would send urgent requests to halt the project to both the MNRE

and to the Ministry of Transport, which has the authority to revoke the building permit issued by its Marine Department.

In the meantime, it was agreed that the project be put on hold until both the MNRE and Transport Ministry review the project, he said.

On the morning of December 25, a group of about 30 villagers presented a petition to K. Prayad. The petition, which they asked him to sign and send directly to Naracha, noted their opposition to the project – and by his signature, his.

"After the big meeting between Naracha company's representatives and the NHRC at Rajabhat Phuket University on December 20, it was decided to postpone the project," said the Village 3 headman.

"But on that day, the Ban Yamee villagers learned for the first time that in fact the *OrBorTor* President had already signed off his permission for the Naracha project on July 20, even though he continued to tell villagers after that time that he would not permit the project over their objections," he added.

"After that, the villagers requested that *OrBorTor* President Prayad clear up the issue. So on

December 22, K. Prayad went to the village, where he admitted that he had given permission for the project in July – and then covered up the fact," he said.

"K. Prayad told the villagers, 'If you don't accept the project, then I don't accept it either', when in fact he had already signed off on it, giving Naracha the right to build it," he added.

However, K. Prayad told the *Gazette* that he had accepted the petition from the Baan Yamee villagers, saying he would consider it and try to organize another meeting between the villagers, Naracha and the *OrBorTor*.

He admitted that he had signed off on the project during a high-level provincial meeting chaired by the Governor of Phang Nga in July. All the other members of the meeting had already agreed to the project and signed the document, which needed only his signature for final approval when placed before him. He denied, however, that he had ever hid this fact from the villagers.

"It was a matter of public record, I am surprised they never knew about it," he said, insisting that the project's environmental impact and the villagers rights were always important considerations for the *OrBorTor*.



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M16 OVERKILL

Nakhon Sri Thammarat police are on the hunt for a gang of assassins who shot dead three men and left a fourth seriously injured in an ambush on Christmas Eve, as the victims were returning from a cockfight in Chang Kwang Minor District. The attack left the victims' car riddled with more than 50 bullet holes.

Killed were Daecho Khunsri, 41; Suchet Rakthim, 36; and Chakhirah Khaokham, 35. The injured man, Sutthichai Eotphijit, 33, was reported as being in a serious condition as of press time.

The following day, Pol Maj Gen Sudjai Yannarat, Commander of Nakhon Sri Thammarat Provincial Police, said that he believed the intended target was Suchet.

Suchet, who had a history of clashes, recently fled to his home in Surat Thani's Wiang Sa District to hide out with a well-known gambler and local leader in Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Gen Sudjai added.

Lt Col Somchok Jantamane, Deputy Superintendent of the Chang Klang Police, said eyewitnesses reported that the attack happened very quickly and could remember only that the vehicle used in the attack was a metallic-colored pick-up truck with at least four gunmen in the back. After the attack, the truck turned round and headed back in the direction of Chang Klang, they told police.

The assassins had a small arsenal at their disposal to carry out the attack.

"The guns used in the attack included an M-16 assault rifle, a shotgun, a 9 mm and an 11 mm. There were at least 50 bullet holes in the victims' car. The vehicle was left riddled with bullets, which we collected as evi-



TIGER TRIUMPH: Songkhla Zoo recorded another success in its rare animal breeding program last month, with the birth of four tiger cubs. The two male and two female cubs were born to a female tiger called "Boh" and her mate "Sah". A competition will be held to name the cubs. This is Songkhla's Zoo's third success with breeding rare felines in the past six months. The zoo's Asiatic golden cats and flat-headed cats both bore kittens.

dence. We are particularly interested in the bullets from the M-16, as we want to find out if they were fired from the same weapon that was used to shoot Suchet a few months ago," Col Somchok said.

A source in the police investigation department said that Suchet was usually very mindful of security, always carrying a 9mm pistol. At the time of the attack, however, Suchet was speaking on his mobile phone and was unable to draw his weapon in time to return fire.

There were many possible motives for the killing, including business disputes over second-hand car businesses and auto service stations. The victim was also involved in an ongoing dispute with the wife of a Surat Thani politician, the source added.

Despite this latest massacre, disputes among influential people in Nakhon Sri Thammarat have decreased considerably,

said Gen Sudjai.


Violence related to disputes in other areas spreading into Nakhon Sri Thammarat could harm the province's image, he added.

Bus burglars busted: Four staff members on a Bangkok-Surat Thani tourist bus were arrested on December 27 for stealing passengers' valuables.

The bus ran a service aimed mainly at backpackers traveling between Bangkok and the islands of Koh Samui and Koh Phangan. The four suspects allegedly waited until passengers fell asleep before rummaging for valuables.

Pol Col Wiraphan Thanjai, Superintendent of Region 5 Tourist Police, said the four were bus drivers and attendants working for Phukij International Co.

Around the South news round up is sourced from Kom Chad Luek newspaper.


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Norwegian bar owner shot dead

Around 2 am December 14, Norwegian John Terry Peterson, 34, was shot dead outside his bar, the Opal Lounge, opposite Chaweng Boxing stadium on Soi Reggae, a popular nightlife area.

Eyewitnesses told police that Peterson and his friend Lars Jokim, 35, from Sweden, were seen arguing with a young Thai man. When they began to walk away from the dispute, the Thai man produced a gun, ran after them and opened fire before escaping with an accomplice on a motorbike.

Peterson was shot in the head and died soon afterward. Jokim was shot in the chest, but survived and was taken to the local hospital for emergency treatment.

After hearing testimony from several witnesses, including Peterson's girlfriend and business partner, Dorkged Meesungnern, 28, Pol Lt Col Boonma Geawlayat, Investigating Inspector at Koh Samui District Police Station, and a team of officers went to the house of Piyapong Mookrasda, 26, a waiter living in Bophut District.

Piyapong escaped through a window, but police arrested him later the same morning. He was found in possession of an unlicensed .32 pistol, the same caliber as the one used in the murder, loaded with three bullets.

He was taken to Koh Samui District Police Station, where he confessed to being involved in the shooting, but claimed that his friend, who had escaped, shot the men.

Col Boonma said that investigations had revealed that Peterson was involved in drug dealing and investigating officers believe that the motive for the shoot-



Hotels such as Central Samui Beach Resort employ trained lifeguards to look out for guests' safety

ing may be connected with Peterson's illegal activities or could be a personal dispute with the gunman.

Tourism preserve: The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has deployed 500 volunteer lifeguards on the beaches of Koh Samui, Koh Pha-ngan and Koh Tao following rough seas and high winds battering the Gulf of Thailand.

Regardless, the festive season brought large numbers of visitors to Koh Samui. Bangkok Airways, the island's only airline, reported full seats on flights to and from the island during the Christmas period. Resorts enjoyed similar high demand, with most reaching near-100% occupancy during the holiday period.

Guarded optimism: Despite another promising start to the is-

land's high season, which usually lasts until late March, some figures in the tourism industry on Samui have expressed concern that factors such as insufficient infrastructure and Phuket's resurgence as a major tourism desti-

nation could weaken Samui's enduring popularity.

The head of the Thai Hotels Association on Samui, Ruengnam Jaikwang, recently said that it was time for Samui to opt for "quality over quantity" and called

for faster solutions to the island's shortfalls. "It is now essential that the authorities catch up with the private sector in terms of development," he said. "The days of the relaxed, old 'This is Thailand' attitude are gone."

Initial signs suggest that, for this year at least, the island will continue to boom. An increase in visitors from other Asian countries has so far compensated for fewer European visitors, while new high-end hotels, such as the lavish Four Seasons resort due to open in February and the Conrad resort to be built on the island's south coast, are expected to affirm Samui's place on the international holiday map.

Legal Execution: The disturbingly-named Thai Legal Execution Department has opened a branch office on Koh Samui to assist with corporate legal disputes and business re-organization procedures.

Waragorn Rattanak, the Chief of the Tambon Koh Samui Municipality welcomed the news and said he hoped it would help the island's businesses deal with legal procedures more swiftly and efficiently.

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The art of food and the food of art

By Noolek Karaket

Whether you are an art lover or just someone seeking a nice meal in beautiful surroundings, Art Makham in Rawai might be just the perfect stop for you.

Art Makham is both a chic art gallery and a cozy five-table restaurant, serving European food with French flair along with drinks and refreshing cocktails in cool, shady surroundings – with truly inspiring décor.

Much of the the visual art currently on display was created by French artist Laurent Touraine, a graduate of the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Musique Alfred Cortot in Paris.

The exhibition at Art Makham is his first, after the pianist and music teacher turned to his love of painting as another avenue to express his ideas.

“For each painting it takes me a long time to get the idea. After I start, a piece takes me about two to three days to complete,” said Laurent, who lived in Chiang Mai for about six months before coming to Phuket to exhibit his work at Art Makham, owned by his friends Sandra Marquis and Olivier Pages.

Sandra is well known on the



From music to the visual arts: Laurent Touraine at Art Makham with one of his works.

island for her work sculpting highly sensual, feminine images – as well as for teaching belly dancing.

Laurent's current exhibition, comprising 10 paintings, will run until January 21. One of his works, *Le Pianiste*, sold for 9,000

baht just three days after it was put on display in early December.

Prices for other works

range from 7,000 baht to 12,000 baht, including value added tax and free framing for every pastel.

The concept behind Art Makham is to allow guests to enjoy fine food and drink while indulging their visual senses with works that range from Laurent's abstract paintings to underwater photography by Olivier, who also works as a dive instructor. With relaxing background music playing and comfortable furniture, the overall effect is classy but relaxed, making Art Makham a perfect chill-out venue.

Getting to Art Makham can be a little difficult, as it is located on a small soi off Soi Khok Makham, not far from Wat Rawai and Rawai Beach.

However, if you find yourself lost in the area just give Sandra a call and she will come and collect you.

Art Makham is located at 7/39 Moo 2, Rawai. Open daily Saturday to Tuesday from 6 pm to 9 pm. Available for private parties, but reservations are requested. For more information contact Laurent (Tel: 087-2638552, email: laurenttouraine@hotmail.com) or Sandra (Tel: 087-2687332, email: art@sandramarquis.com).

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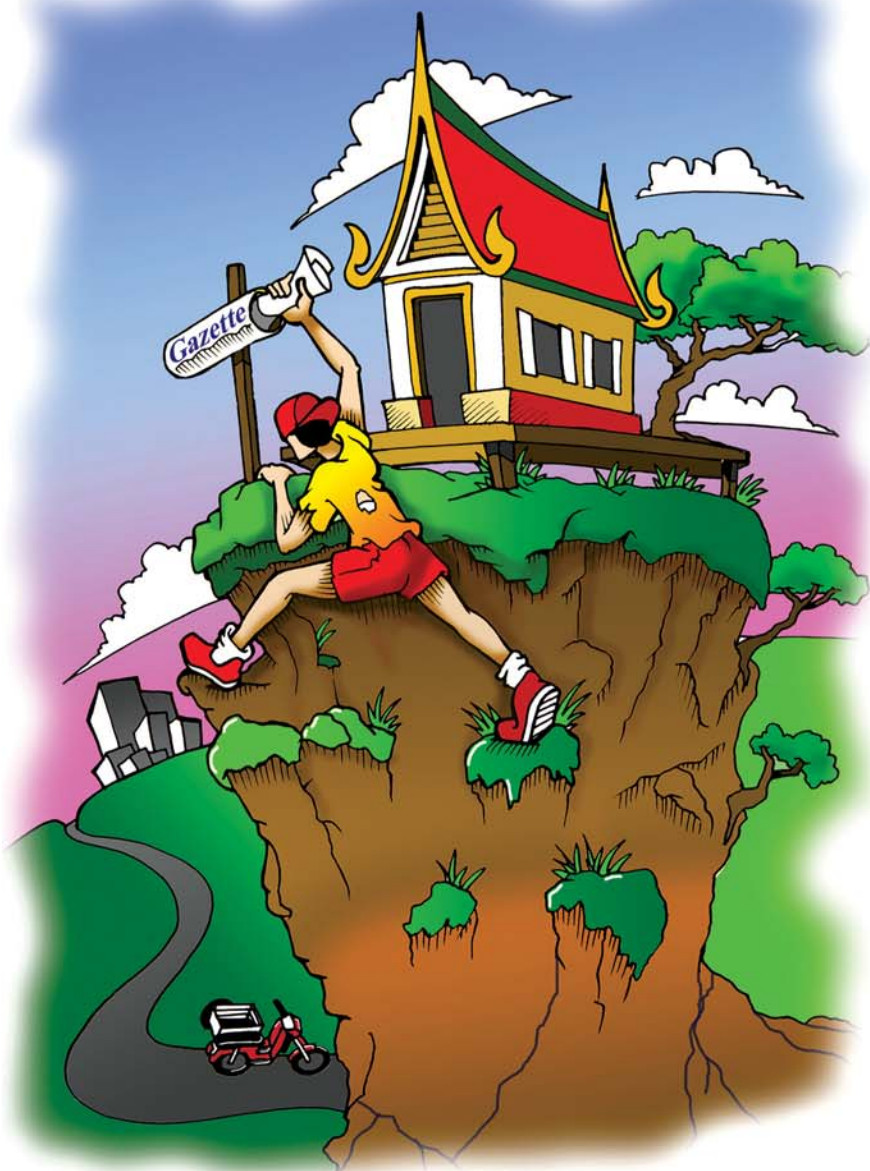
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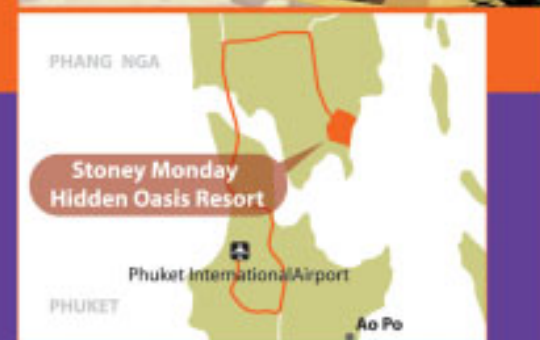
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His 'n' hers: The Swasana spa's double treatment room, for destressing stressed couples.

Although it has been two years since the tsunami, I still have trouble finding the courage to step on the beach.

But I tell myself that having a sweet pampering at a beach-front spa is an interesting reward I shouldn't let pass by as the year comes to an end.

So I muster up the courage to visit Swasana, at the Impiana Phuket Cabana Resort & Spa at Patong Beach.

Paratree "Tree" Jeyjoo, Spa Manager at Swasana, which opened three months ago, hands me a refreshing roselle drink and a cold towel soaked with lavender scent. I sit and talk with her in the lobby, where I can smell peppermint and orange throughout the room.

K. Tree explains that *swasana* means "tranquil" in Malay. The hotel's parent company, Impiana Group, is a Malaysian company. There is another Swasana spa at the Impiana Hotel on Koh Samui.

K. Tree shows me around the spa, which is decorated with dark wood and glass windows and designed in contemporary Thai style. The spa has three treatment rooms and two Thai massage rooms with a total of four beds and a foot massage room with two seats.

There is a private single suite with a Jacuzzi, floral bath and steam room; a double suite

for couples, with the same facilities as the single suite but with two beds; and a one-bed single room without facilities which connects to the foot massage room.

"We have eight therapists, but only seven are on duty each day, and our receptionist can administer treatments when we are at full capacity. All our spa products, which are very high quality, are from the Lemongrass House, which is easy for us to order from," K. Tree explains.

The spa menu lists Body Massages, Body Spa Treatments, Spa Facial Treatments and Spa Packages. The prices range from 690 baht for a 30-minute Hand Massage to 7,500 baht for The Royal Swasana package, all prices exclude a 10% service charge and 7% tax. Floral Bath, Jacuzzi and Herbal Steam treatment are optional.

I choose to have a sauna with the spa signature program "Swasana Massage", which uses

Swasana oil for the body massage. K. Tree says that the Swasana oil won the Spa Fair award last year in the "essential oil massage" category.

"We blend nine ingredients together. There are the scents of pomelo, jasmine, lotus, ylang ylang, sweet almond, sandalwood, Zingiber, jojoba and we use coconut oil as the base oil," says K. Tree. The oil gives a mixed, varied scent I haven't smelled before.

I am taken to the treatment room – the single suite – where there is a floral bath from where I can see the white sand and blue sea through the window. I am a little bit concerned that I can be seen by people outside but K. Tree says that with this window, people outside can't see me. Regardless, unfortunately I don't have time to enjoy the bath for long.

The sauna room is now ready. K. Tree says that a herbal

sauna is very good for detoxing, and he suggests that I shower every five to 10 minutes in between sauna sessions, before having the massage.

I disrobe and shower in the sauna area, which is warmed to 40°C with vapors of lemongrass, galangal, ginger and cinnamon camphor filling the room. As I enter the sauna I have difficulty breathing, but soon I feel very relaxed. After the sauna I feel very fresh, and enjoy the hot tea that is ready for me.

Now I'm ready for the Swasana Massage, and so is Nipawan "Nit" Taengmee, my therapist, who is waiting for me. K. Nit starts by massaging my back, and then massages my shoulders and calves. She applies the Swasana oil while massaging and I feel all my worries drifting away.

It feels like there are 10 hands massaging my back and legs at the same time – lingering-

ly and continually. I ask K. Nit how she does it. She replies that Swasana Massage has been adapted from the Hawaiian Lomi Lomi technique, in which the masseur moves harmoniously with each massage step.

K. Nit then asks me to lay on my back, and she massages my legs, feet, stomach and body, and arms ending with my head and neck.

After my treatment, I am served a hot balé fruit drink to help me relax that little bit more.

As I prepare to leave, I realize that I'm already thankful to K. Nit and the tranquil Swasana spa, which has managed to assuage somewhat my anxiety about being by the sea.

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On a lazy evening in Phuket you might find concert violinist Aaron Meyers wandering the beach lost in some tune he has yet to write, or perhaps settled on the beach next to a drinks vendor. As the local man plays traditional Thai melodies and Western cover tunes on his guitar, Aaron is likely to be accompanying him on his violin.

No matter what he's doing or where he is, Aaron is likely forming a connection to someone through his music.

On one such evening late December, Aaron is preparing for his third concert at The Chedi, at Pansea Bay. The first tsunami charity concert was held just days after the 2004 tsunami, when Aaron and his wife, Renee, were already on their way from their home of Portland in the US to Thailand for a New Year's Eve concert in Chiang Mai.

They had planned to come to Phuket, but rethought their vacation plans after the tsunami ravaged Phuket's shore.

With encouragement from The Chedi, however, Aaron and Renee stuck with their plans and within days of arriving on Phuket, Aaron staged a concert to raise money for local villages. That evening they collected 400,000 baht, and immediately made plans

Stringing together a global concerto

Concert violinist **Aaron Meyers** was on a plane heading for Thailand when the 2004 tsunami hit. He continued on and now stages annual benefit concerts at The Chedi hotel.

Before his third annual concert on December 26, he and his wife speak with the *Gazette's* **Laura Schafer** to explain why they want to help, and why they keep coming back.

for another concert in December the same year, which raised 450,000 baht.

This year the concert raised another 400,000 baht and has become a tradition for Aaron, one he says he'll continue until he's no longer able. "In Thailand you have to move on, but people like to stop and remember and pay

their respects, and I think this is a way we can do it," Aaron said.

After returning to Portland in 2004 he gave interviews describing what it was like in Thailand after the tsunami. Aaron explained that he did these interviews to tell the truth about the extent of the damage in Phuket – to tell people that although some areas were hit hard Phuket was still safe to visit.

Perhaps it's inevitable that Aaron is a violinist. His father is a violin teacher. "My dad always taught at home, so kids were always coming to my home [to play violin]. I thought it was something every kid did," Aaron said. "I was immersed in it, surrounded by it."

But the spark that launched Aaron's career was a cake. When he was five years old, one of his father's students won a contest to perform with the Philadelphia Orchestra. Seeing the girl in front of the 110-piece orchestra impressed Aaron, but what really got him was the cake at the after party – it was huge and in the



'I love combining the local music with what I do, it's a joint cross-cultural collaboration' – Aaron Meyers, in his third annual charity concert in Phuket on December 26.

shape of a violin.

Aaron told his dad that he wanted one too, so his dad instructed him on what he would have to do. "I was motivated, young and had a goal, and he fueled the fire," he recalled.

Aaron did get his cake – after he played with the Philadelphia Orchestra at age 11.

He admits that it was tough having his dad as his violin in-

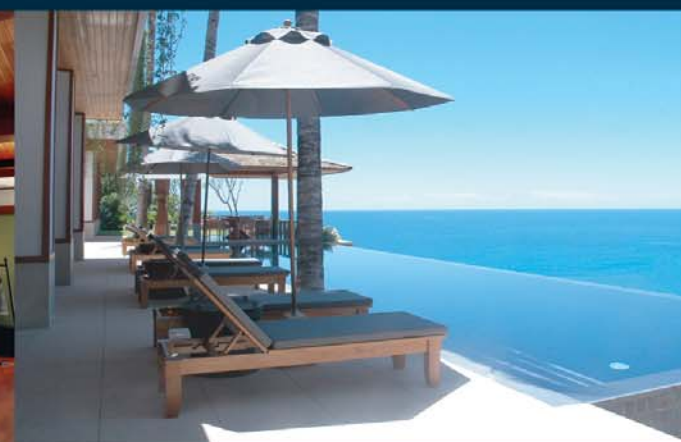
structor, and there was a time during his college years when Aaron gave up playing. At the time he felt that he couldn't be involved in "serious matters" as a performer, but he gradually began playing again when he realized that he could make a difference as an entertainer.

"I'm able to be involved with other people and cultures through music. Everybody loves

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music. We may not like the same kinds of music but we all like it in some way. To me, music is a universal language," Aaron said.

"Now I do something that I love, and I can be involved with things through music."

Perhaps the most notable performance Aaron has delivered was for the Dalai Lama when he visited Portland in 2001. Aaron was asked to write and perform a piece for him, and he vividly remembers the intensity as the Dalai Lama sat just 15 feet in front of him.

But Aaron's performance involves more than just playing the violin. He is fiercely passionate about creating and sharing his music, and he often plays with his eyes closed as the music carries him away.

"I don't think it matters what Aaron is playing, people just love to watch him play. It doesn't matter if it's classical or a Beatles' tune, or an original piece he wrote, people feel what he's projecting, which is love for the music and love for people," Renee said.

She added that listeners also enjoy hearing the violin differently and not necessarily in a classical setting, as his band includes drums, guitar and piano, with the violin as the lead.

Part of this fusion can be attributed to Aaron's personal favorites. This self-professed Deadhead lists Brahms, Beethoven, Mozart and Jerry Garcia of the Grateful Dead as his favorite musicians. In a rare moment when Aaron isn't playing or composing, he likes to spend time lounging around their home catching up on emails or eating out in Portland.

In addition to his tsunami relief work, Aaron helps raise money for charities around the

world, and he and Renee say they are lucky to have extra resources to share and give something back. "If you give you shall receive," said Aaron.

"A lot of the things he does around home have to do with the children. Aaron's heart is with the children," Renee said. She added that there was one event he did that was tied to a school fundraiser, and after the event, 60 schoolchildren were so inspired by Aaron that they took up playing the violin.

Aaron had never played a concert in Southeast Asia before 2004, but since that first concert at The Chedi, he has gone on to play many concerts throughout the region, including one which created one of his favorite memories, performing with the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra.

When Aaron returns to play with the orchestra he hopes to bring in some traditional Thai musicians for a collaboration and fusion between Thai music and his own music.

"Maybe I can even write something specific – a new composition. I love combining the local music with what I do, it's a joint cross-cultural collaboration," Aaron said.

He added that they hope to eventually record him playing with the orchestra and sell the album, with part of the profits going to the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra.

"We're a giant web," he said as he interlocked his fingers. "The work that I do; it's not work for me. It's something I'm really passionate about. There's still time to lay on the beach and do relaxing things. But to me this is exciting and interesting."

"The best part is connecting with all the people we get to meet."

Happily Ever After

Recent weddings in Phuket



Dr Naiyana Posaya-anurak and Methasit Anansiriphan were married at Pra Pitak Grand Ballroom of The Metropole Hotel on December 25, 2006

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This week



HOORAY FOR FINLAND: Finland's Honorary Consult-General for Phuket Pamuke Achariyachai (3rd from left) and Business and Professional Women's Association of Thailand (Phuket branch) President Thanyarat Achariyachai (4th from left), join Finnish Ambassador to Thailand Lars Backstrom (3rd from right) and his wife Brigitta (4th from right) and guests at the Finland National Day party at Oriental hotel in Bangkok.



PRETTY BOYS: Cabaret and TV star Dechawut Chantakaro, aka Day Freeman (3rd from left), recently emceed a 'beautiful man' contest at Phuja Nirvana at Central Festival Phuket. Pictured with Day are Sutthasinee Lovichit (right), Central's Vice-President of Marketing; Central Sales Manager Kasin Owasuwan (2nd from left); and Phuket International Airport Director Sq/Ldr Pornchai Eua-aree (2nd from right).



SEA SPA: (Above) Tima Janthima (center), Executive Secretary of Spa Boat Co Ltd, joins guests from Phuket spas, businesses and publications for an evening of spa treatments on *Merdeka* Spa Boat on Chalong Bay.



RATING THE RACHA: (Right) Tourism and Sports Ministry Permanent Secretary Sakthip Krairiksh (left) presents to Urs Aebi, General Manager of The Racha Resort, certification confirming The Racha's status as a five-star resort at a recent ceremony in Bangkok.



SUBURBAN SARDINIA: (From right) Salvatore Cossu and Eric Bayon, owners of Villa Salvatore Italian restaurant in Prangthong Village, enjoy the restaurant's cocktail party grand opening with Pierre Louis Desjoux.



CLEANING CREW: Volunteers from the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa and the Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation held a beach cleanup at Mai Khao as part of their commitment to the environment and to raise awareness of the critically endangered leatherback turtles.



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Speak softly, and carve a big stick

A friend of mine, Detlef Loemker, makes sticks. A regular visitor to Phuket, Detlef, formerly the general manager of numerous Hyatt hotels and resorts around the world, makes the most expensive sticks in the world, or at least the most expensive ones I have ever seen.

But to clarify, I shouldn't say he actually makes the sticks; rather, he shapes them from the wood of olive trees hundreds of years old.

It's a hobby of his. When on holiday, he shapes a piece of olive wood to more closely resemble an animal that he had recognized when the wood was still on the tree. The trees are long dead, killed by deep frosts, but the wood deep inside is preserved.

But not all of the trees have usable timber. In fact, Detlef says, about 70% of them are useless.

LARGER THAN LIFE

By Graham Doven

Working with Rolf von Beuren of Lotus Arts de Vivre, Detlef carves and polishes a piece and then enhances it with silver and precious stones to form a cobra, dragon or whatever Detlef imagines. The first 30 pieces of his olive wood collection, which took a year to produce, are being completed at a workshop in Bangkok.

"The essence of olive wood in itself is linked very closely with the history of mankind, right into the present," Detlef explains.

"Olive wood is mentioned prominently in all three holy books of the major religions. During the Roman Empire olive branches were used as a peace symbol and they were presented as the trophy in the first Olympics in Greece.



Former Hyatt GM Detlef Loemker has given posh hotels for fashioning polished wood.

phy in the first Olympics in Greece.

"In addition, the consumption of olive oil as a health tonic is well documented. The longevity of the Mediterranean people is often linked to the use of olive oil in their daily diet.

"The health benefits of olive oil were such that Cleopatra is reported to having taken baths in it to provide the glow in her skin that made her beauty legendary," he says.

However, carving adds a

different dimension to use of the olive tree, and requires experience and skill.

As the collection catalog says, the fact that olive wood is classified as hardwood means it is not easy to work with. One has to spot the aesthetic structural design offered by nature before being able to carve and transform it into a piece of art.

The wood is then painstakingly hand-polished to reveal its beautiful dark inner rings. Such dramatic effect of the dark inner

rings can be found only in olive wood that has stopped growing due to extreme cold-weather periods. Hence, selecting a branch to transform is a challenge in itself.

The culmination of this process is a set of interesting pieces, even for a person of dubious artistic taste such as myself.

Among people who appreciate fine art, including well-known collectors in Europe, Detlef's works are apparently worth paying for.



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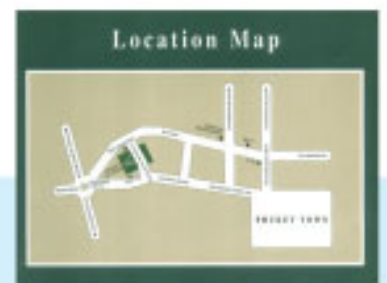
3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 298 sq.m.

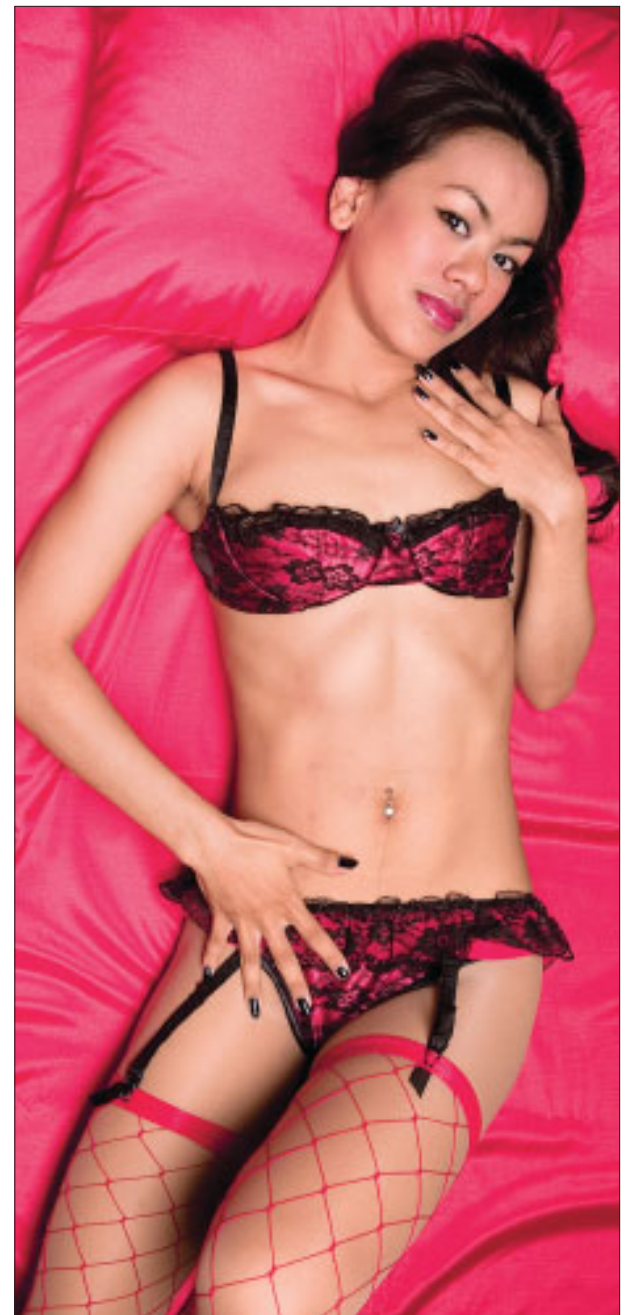
Model	Area (sq.wa)	*Total price*(baht)	Deposit (baht)	50% Down payment (baht)	Final payment (baht)
Pruerk-Pailin	52.6	4,090,000	100,000	2,045,000	1,945,000
Pruerk-Lawan	120.6	8,900,000	100,000	4,450,000	4,350,000
Pruerk-Pirom	99.6	9,900,000	100,000	4,950,000	4,850,000



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Try these on for Sighs

By Laura Schafer

Women are always on the prowl for sexy, comfortable lingerie. We might be looking for something more risque than usual for a special occasion, but year round the search for the perfect undergarments continues.

The good news for ladies on Phuket is that Desire lingerie may have found just what we, well, desire.

Designer Paul Phillips started Desire in Patong July last year when he saw a need for quality yet affordable lingerie in Phuket. His friends had Thai friends who were always calling asking them to send lingerie.

Paul, who owned a lingerie store in the UK at the time, helped his friends select pieces to send but was surprised as he assumed there were plenty of lingerie shops in Thailand.

Four years ago Paul came to Thailand and discovered that there were some international stores with high prices here and some cheaper shops with lingerie, but it was low quality and lacked style.

"Finding desirable, fashionable and sexy lingerie of

good quality in Thailand is somewhat of a rare experience," says Paul, designer and owner of Desire Lingerie.

"I think that one of the reasons for this is that, because of the Buddhist culture, women's sexy underwear has traditionally in Thailand been as much of a taboo as nudity or near-nudity," he says

Western influence has recently changed how many Thai women think about their underwear. As popular magazines, catalogs and the Internet become more accessible, international trends have become more popular.

"Western trends have invaded all corners of Thailand and helped to create a fresh approach to women's beauty and clothing, giving a much needed, fresher approach to women's independence and appearance," says Paul.

Desire's designs range from lacy yet practical underwear-and-bra sets to the racy school girl look, with plenty of – or maybe not so much – satin and lace in between.

Many of Paul's designs take Western trends and mix them with local preferences to wear something fashionable, yet different.

Some of the bestselling

items at Desire are lingerie sets with attached suspender belts, bustiers, chemises and corsets. In lingerie accessories, Paul's number-one seller is stockings.

"The trend is toward top-quality refined and sensual lingerie and away from bland items that are not sexy or tacky items that belong more in a cabaret show," says Paul.

Desire's customers are mostly local Thai women, with a few foreign men buying something for their girlfriends, or foreign couples on holiday. The store also offers wholesale prices for local bars and clubs.

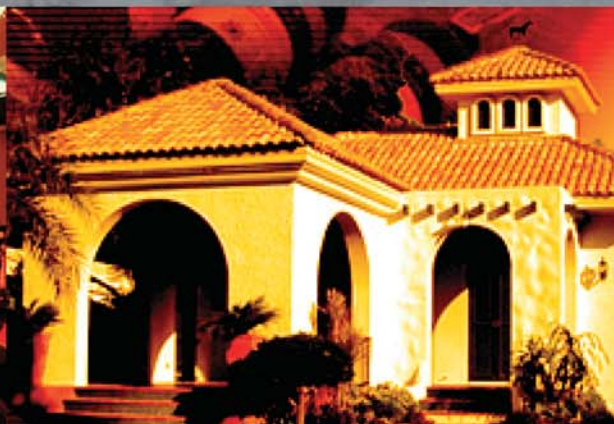
"Quality and stitching is very important no matter what the design or how beautiful the piece is. However, most of our customers buy from Desire because they can find something different," Paul says.

"They enter Desire to find something special."

Desire. Aroonsom Plaza, 60/5 Rat-U-Thit Pi 200 Rd (near Andaman Beach suites), Patong, Phuket 83150. Website: www.desirephuket.com, or order online at: www.silk-uk.com. Free delivery in Phuket, cash on delivery. Tel: 087-9087605. Email: admin@silk-uk.com.



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Above: Tek Kun's Pad Thai. Right: Hoi Tord. Below right: Ow Tow.



Flexing your mussels

By Janyaporn Morel

Newcomers to Thailand might be surprised at how easy it is to find something to eat; there are so many restaurants and food stalls that it is possible to sate your hunger at any time, day or night.

The night markets and food stalls scattered about the island are especially popular for people on a budget looking for a quick, savory meal.

One such venue that provides a variety of tasty Thai dishes is Tek Kun, on Thepkasattri Rd just a few hundred meters north of the Wor Kor Intersection.

The *hoi tord*, or fried mussels, is the most popular item on the menu.

It is made by dipping green mussels in flour and egg, frying them on a flat pan, then serving them with bean sprouts and chili sauce.

It is very similar to the Phuket dish with mussels and taro

known as *ow tow*, which is also popular at Tek Kun.

Stall owner Thaparat "Rat" Ongpruksa and her husband K. Boonma learned their recipe for *ow tow* from K. Boonma's father, Pae Thow, who has been cooking it at the fresh market behind Robinson department store in Phuket City for about 30 years. K. Boonma's sister also runs a stall at market fairs.

Aside from these two local dishes, Tek Kun has other interesting dishes on the menu such as *pad Thai goong sod* (Thai fried noodles with fresh shrimp), which is served with the bud of a banana flower, bean sprouts and Chinese chives, giving a tasty twist to the traditional fare.

The restaurant also offers popular dishes such as *rad na* (flat noodles with gravy and chopped vegetables), *pad si-iew* (fried noodles with soy sauce), fried rice and more.

All dishes sell for about 30 baht. The stall is open from 6 pm to midnight. For more information call K. Rat at Tel: 089-4746011.

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BEHIND THE WHEEL

By Jeff Heselwood

According to Honda...



Verging on boring to look at but ultra-reliable: the new Accord looks rather like, er, the old Accord.

The Accord has been around since the late '80s and has evolved into an advanced machine with several innovative features. Imagine a car that can almost steer itself. Well, the latest Accord is on its way to bringing that fantasy closer to a reality with its unique lane-keeping assist system (LKAS).

LKAS maintains the position of the car in lane by providing steering torque when necessary, significantly reducing driver fatigue and helping to prevent accidents.

In addition, an adaptive cruise control measures the distance to the vehicle in front and regulates the car's speed accordingly.

Want more? How about a clever high-tech MP3 audio system that adjusts the volume depending on the vehicle's speed?

There are three engine options available worldwide: a 2.2-liter diesel, and 2.4- or 2.0-liter gasoline models. The diesel motor features common-rail technology, while the gas model incor-

porates variable-valve geometry, a concept that Honda applies to most of its cars.

The upmarket gasoline engine delivers a healthy 190bhp (140kW), while the diesel produces a leisurely 140bhp; torque from the latter though is a hefty 340Nm at the low engine speed of just 2,000rpm. The 2-liter variable-valve motor delivers around 150bhp, with peak torque of 190Nm, and it is this model that is likely to be popular in rural Thailand.

A six-speed gearbox is now

available across the range, while all models – sedan or wagon – feature advanced drive-by-wire throttle technology.

Although there are subtle differences to the various Accord models, the body shape essentially remains the same. There is a new-look front bumper and a revised grille, while Honda also claims new windshield wipers which, it says, "increase glass-clearing efficiency while reducing drag and wind noise".

Other "improvements" are a revised rear bumper, new rear

lamps and a so-called new side sill trim, whatever that is. Despite all these cosmetic alterations, at heart it is still an Accord.

To be fair, the interior has received significant attention. The steering wheel rim is thicker, providing what Honda calls a "chunkier feel" and the gear shift lever is now easier to maneuver with a "gun-grip" handle.

The wagon also now has a remote tailgate power switch, an item sorely missing on the previous model. Other changes include a three-dial information panel in

front of the driver instead of variously located instruments. Back to basics, it seems. The instruments are finished in red, blue and white, which seems a little strange as Honda's corporate colors are just red on white.

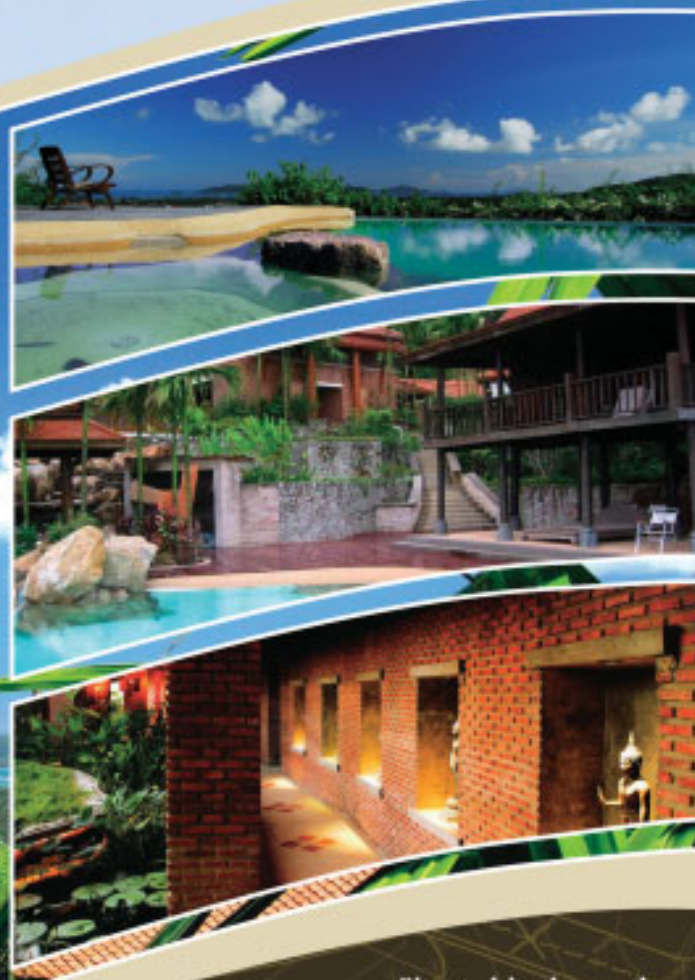
Honda is still independent and likely to remain so. The company is profitable; it has successful operations in the US, the UK and in its native Japan; and this year it achieved its first Grand Prix victory in 40 years when British driver Jenson Button won the Hungarian race in August. Next year Honda is aiming for the world title with Button.

Its cars may be verging on boring to look at but they are ultra-reliable and tend to hold their value. Whether you buy an Accord or the lesser Civic, reviewed this time last year by the *Gazette*, you are buying into something worthwhile.

Before any readers send me an email complaining that the Accord pictured is not available in Thailand, it should be noted that Honda builds three Accords worldwide: one for Japan, one for Europe and yet another for the US. All differ in detail, but they are all still Honda Accords.

Jeff Heselwood can be contacted by email to jhc@netvigat.com

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Puzzles

The Cryptic Crossword

Spot the Difference

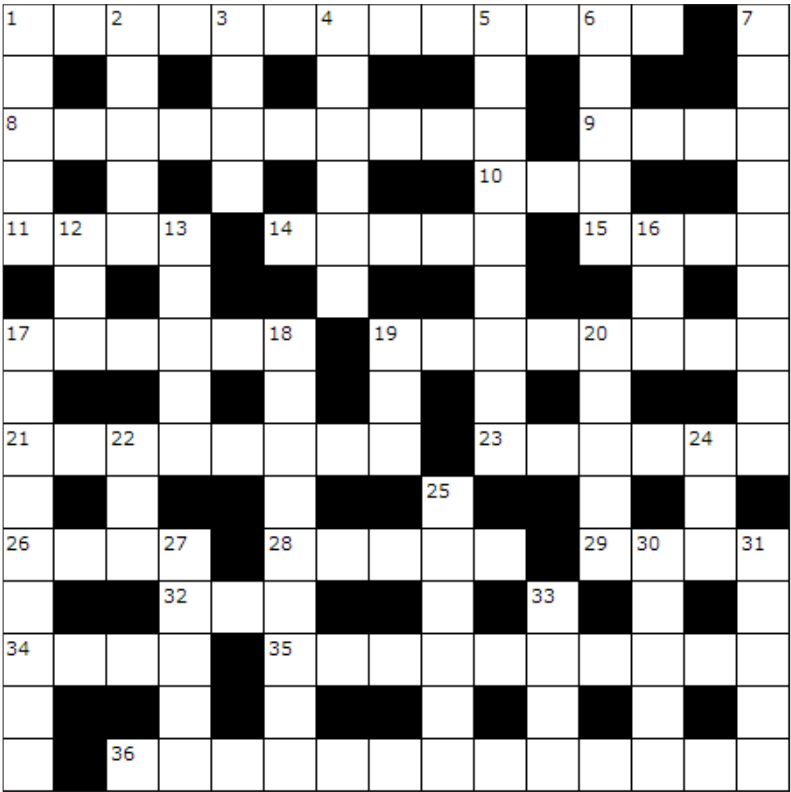


Can you find the seven differences between the two cartoons below? And can you find them faster than the rest of the family?
Solution on next page.



- ACROSS
- 1. Going backward is prudent after worker with single timepiece. (13)
 - 8. Inherent aptitude has Di looking fuzzy. (10)
 - 9. None married – were in debt... (4)
 - 10. ...I, for example, have nothing. (3)
 - 11. And French, as in “toward sunrise”. (4)
 - 14. Tailor under the streets? (5)
 - 15. Ratchet catch is quiet, boring tool. (4)
 - 17. Kind of potato for cool weather? (6)
 - 19. Caucasian architectural style. (8)
 - 21. Not stereo, Tony ends in boredom. (8)
 - 23. At 50, I’m with Penthouse girl...and mollusk? (6)
 - 26. Sam takes cardinal to coal source. (4)
 - 28. Float, hotel above. (5)
 - 29. Solely on 50? Yes. (4)
 - 32. Enterprise precursor takes us south. (1,1,1)
 - 34. Spa essentials? (4)
 - 35. Positive nerve with mist I went in. (10)
 - 36. Twisted Emir’s vendetta is commercial. (13)

- DOWN
- 1. Not yet dead, Al takes four to the east. (5)
 - 2. Surges when Delta’s in neckwear. (5)
 - 3. Actors are thrown. (4)
 - 4. Dickens lad has martini essential, right? (6)
 - 5. Liquid is off, we hear. Ducks, maybe? (9)
 - 6. Bend spoon to investigate. (5)
 - 7. Mars has Commie plan for alien. (3,6)
 - 12. A half a laugh is not quite “Eureka!” (3)
 - 13. A city too, in Kentucky. (5)
 - 16. Boxer Al and I. (3)
 - 17. Secret agent’s famed island. (5,4)
 - 18. After canine, some are very tasty. (9)
 - 19. Chap’s tent piece. (3)
 - 20. Stew contains part of a gumboot. (5)
 - 22. By the way, a sports organization. (1,1,1)
 - 24. Wiggler Lee’s back! (3)
 - 25. Twins – diamond, maybe in one. (6)
 - 27. Direction in mud, reflected. (5)
 - 30. Dame follows it to college. (5)
 - 31. Boat? Yup, eight in Germany. (5)
 - 33. Long for conifer. (4)



Compiled by Tortuus. © 2006

Scribble Space



EZ TRIVIA QUIZ

- 1. In which province is Haad Yai?
- 2. Which rock band does Bono lead?
- 3. What is the full name of the school Harry Potter goes to?
- 4. What is the name of the school game?
- 5. Who wrote the book *Frankenstein*?
- 6. If you were born in November, what is your birthstone?
- 7. Where would you find a proscenium?
- 8. In terms of fuel, what does LNG stand for?
- 9. Insulin is use to treat which disease?
- 10. Which Zeppelin dirigible burned in the USA in 1937?

Answers on next page

Rhyme Time

The words described below all rhyme with ‘room’.
What are they?

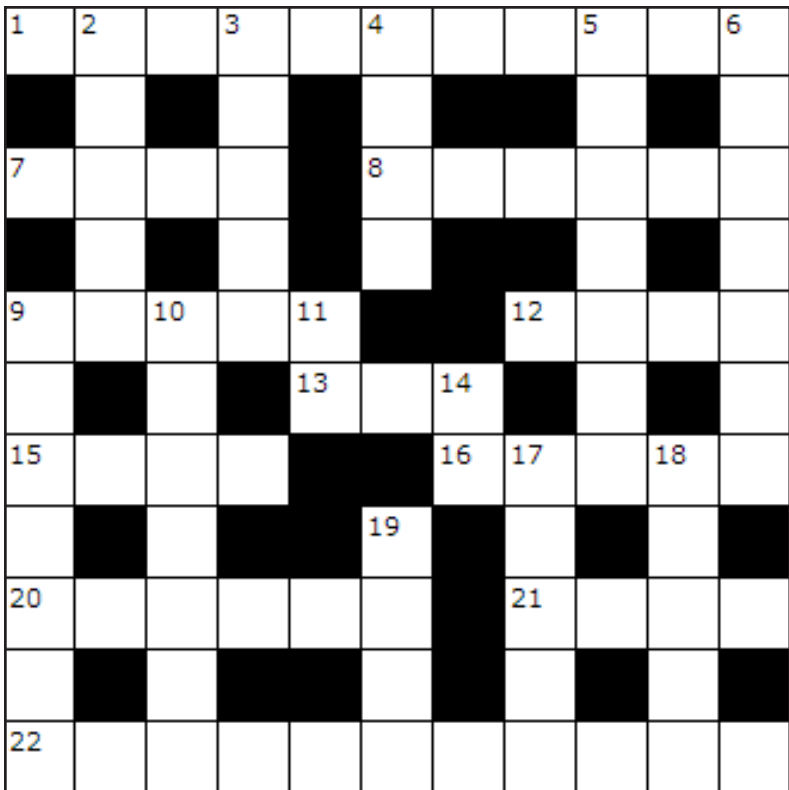
- 1. Flower.
- 2. Weaving machine.
- 3. Feather.
- 4. Get back into it.
- 5. Smolder with anger.
- 6. Gorge with stream.
- 7. Where babies come from.
- 8. Witch’s transport.
- 9. Sudanese capital.
- 10. High-speed noise.

Answers on next page

su | do | ku
© Puzzles by Pappocom
Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

6			4		8
7				9	
2		4	8		6
		5	6		7
	7			3	
3		6	2		1
		7	9		4
				1	
1	9	8			5

Sudoku is very simple: each row, each column and each “box” of nine squares within the puzzle must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 with, naturally, no repetitions. Beware: there is only one solution to this puzzle, which is on the next page.



Quick Crossword

ACROSS

1. Ruled by the rich.
7. It requires scratching.
8. Country to the north of Burundi.
9. Trojan beauty.
12. Indian garment.
13. Animal exhibit.
15. Ice cream shape.
16. Golf club.
20. Leader of the Huns.
21. Top of house.
22. Met.

DOWN

2. Effortlessly graceful.
3. California/Nevada lake.
4. King or ace, for example.
5. Beer-drinking vessel.
6. Poison.
9. 10,000 square meters.
10. Crazy person.
11. New Zealand.
14. Cry of pain.
17. Spooky.
18. Representation of the world.
19. First light.

Solution below, right

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. Who or what is a zebu? | 8. If mega is 10^6 , what is zetta? | 15. Who or what is a zoon? |
| 2. Against whom did Zedekiah, last King of Judah, revolt disastrously? | 9. The Zeya is a tributary of which river? | 16. Where would you find a zocalo? |
| 3. Who was the first physician to use small-pox vaccine in the US? | 10. In which country is the city of Zibo? | 17. Which sign of the Zodiac follows Scorpio? |
| 4. In which year did he do so? | 11. Which ancient civilizations built ziggurats? | 18. What is the name of the snake god of the voodoo cult? |
| 5. If a woman is "zaftig", what does she possess? | 12. In which year was the zipper invented? | 19. In which country was the theological doctrine of Zwinglianism devised? |
| 6. In which country would you find Zagorsk? | 13. By what name was movie actor Herbert Marx better known. | 20. If a bird is zygodactyl, what does it have? |
| 7. In which mountains is the ski resort of Zermatt? | 14. In which 1949 Orson Welles movie was the theme music played on a zither? | |

Answers below

Puzzle Solutions

EZ Trivia Answers

1. Songkhla; 2. U2; 3. Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry; 4. Quidditch; 5. Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley; 6. Topaz; 7. In a theater; 8. Liquified Natural Gas; 9. Diabetes; 10. The Hindenburg.

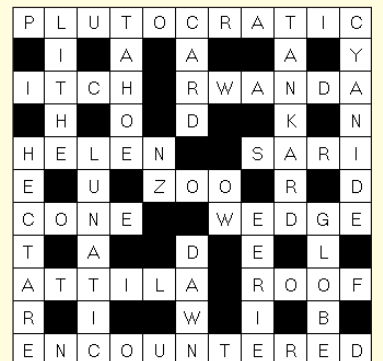
Monster Quiz Answers

1. A type of cow; 2. Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon; 3. Zabdiel Boylston; 4. 1721; 5. A large bust; 6. Russia; 7. The Pennine Alps; 8. 1021; 9. The Amur; 10. China; 11. The Assyrians and Babylonians; 12. 1913; 13. Zeppo Marx; 14. The Third Man; 15. An animal developed from a fertilized egg; 16. In a Mexican town – it's the town square; 17. Sagittarius; 18. Zombi; 19. Switzerland; 20. Two toes pointing forward on each foot, and two pointing backward.

Cryptic Crossword



Quick Crossword



Sudoku



Rhyme Time Answers

1. Bloom; 2. Loom; 3. Plume; 4. Resume; 5. Fume; 6. Flume; 7. Womb; 8. Broom; 9. Khartoum; 10. Sonic boom.

Solution to this week's Cartoon Puzzle



For three decades Robert Hughes was the art critic for *Time* magazine, writing with a firm personal voice that avoided both airy-fairy pseudo-poetry and the abstruse theorizing of the mullahs of modernism.

He also found the time to write nine books, including: *The Fatal Shore*, the definitive history of colonial Australia; *Barcelona*, a homage to his favorite city; and *The Culture of Complaint*, a scathing screed against the flaccid values of contemporary America.

Things I Didn't Know: A Memoir (Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 2006, 395pp) is his memoir of growing up Catholic in Sydney in the straight-laced '50s, fleeing to swinging London and serving his apprenticeship to art in Italy and Spain.

The book opens with a bang: his horrific 1999 automobile accident on a deserted road in the outback of Western Australia. Three drunk and stoned young drug felons off a fishing trawler had rammed the right side of his car at a closing speed of 150mph.

The list of his injuries fill a long and painful paragraph: multiple broken bones in his right leg and right arm, four broken ribs, and shattered collarbone and sternum. I don't think in all of the world's literature there is a more vivid description of the hallucinogenic horror of a monster auto crash.

Trapped in the wreck for hours, Hughes might have begun to pray, except for his fierce repudiation of his childhood Catholic faith.

"At one point I saw Death," he writes. "He was sitting at a desk, like a

A Shore hand at writing



Off the SHELF

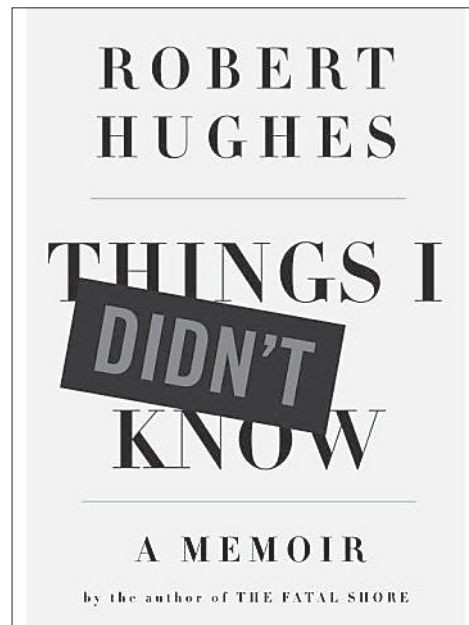
By James Eckardt

banker. He made no gesture, but he opened his mouth and I looked right down his throat, which distended to become a tunnel: the *bocca d'inferno* of old Christian art. He expected me to yield, to go in.

"This filled me with abhorrence, a hatred of non-being. Not fear, exactly: more like a passionate revolt. In that moment I realized that there is nothing other than life itself, obstinately asserting itself against emptiness and nullity. Life was so powerful, so demanding, and in my concussion and delirium, even as my systems were shutting down, I wanted it so much."

During his long painful recovery, he resolved to write about this life.

So he returns to an account of his Catholic childhood in Sydney, his family from a long line of lawyers, his father a



war hero. Hughes provides a stirring account of his father's adventures as a World War I ace but many of the mundane details of his own suburban childhood are, frankly, boring.

But the narrative flickers back to life with his savage account of his Jesuit boarding school days. "Our religious education was, let us say, aggressive. Bellicose, in fact," he writes. After an indifferent academic career, Hughes stumbles into journalism and art criticism.

Five years after flailing about on the outskirts of Australia's art scene – full of

wild eccentrics about whom he writes vividly – Hughes finally makes his escape in 1964 to swinging London. He is swiftly disappointed.

"I hardly met a single person in the 'underground' context who didn't, no matter how sexually available or amusing, turn out in the end to be ignorant and rather a bore," he writes.

"The depths of tedium that can be plumbed by sitting around half stoned, listening to people chatter moonily about reuniting humankind and erasing its aggressive instincts through Love and Dope, are scarcely imaginable to those who have not suffered them."

His new English wife turns into a drug-addled groupie and he flees to Tuscany. Here, exploring the world of Italian religious art, he has a series of epiphanies that bring tears to his eyes.

"It wasn't a question of confusing art with religion, or trying to make a religion out of art. As some people are tone-deaf, I was religion-deaf... But I was beginning, at last, to derive from art, from architecture, and even from the beauty of organized landscape, a sense of transcendence that organized religion had offered me – but that I had never received."

The 1969 publication of the book *Heaven and Hell in Western Art* brings him to the attention of *Time* magazine and the memoir concludes with his flying off to New York.

PHUKET DIARY

www.phuketgazette.net/calendar

Photo: Artasia Press



February 16-20: Phang Nga Bay Regatta

The 10th Phang Nga Regatta organizers are taking registrations, with this year's regatta limited to 45 yachts. Already 22 entries are confirmed.

The racing will take place over the Chinese New Year. The opening party will be held on February 16, with the racing continuing around Phang Nga Bay and

returning to Phuket February 20.

To register, visit the website at www.bayregatta.com or contacting the secretary at Email: info@bayregatta.com.

January 4 to 30: Moments of Color art exhibition

This exhibition, at The Watermark Bar & Restaurant in the Boat Lagoon, shows the work of local artist Varaporn "Map" Ponrit. Daily from 10 am until the bar closes. Entry free. To contact the artist call Tel: 081-6963901 or email: art@phuketlifestyle.com

February 16-17: 2nd Phuket International Blues Festival

The dates for the 2nd Annual Phuket International Blues Festival have been moved forward to the 3rd weekend of February, at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa, for better chances of great weather

during the big outdoor event.

Eight to 10 Thailand-based and highly-acclaimed international artists will descend upon Phuket for two nights of great blues, R&B and rock 'n' roll.

The headline band on the first night will be British legend Victor Brox, who once had Jimi Hendrix playing in his band, while the line-up on the second night will be headed by the Rich Harper Blues Band from the US.

Other acts already confirmed include Kyla Brox (Victor's daughter), Phuket's own Groove Doctors, The Blues Machine from Pattaya, and Blue on Blue, Cannonball and the Soi Dog Blues Bank from Bangkok.

Tickets are 500 baht for one night or 800 baht for both nights. For more information see the events website at www.phuketbluesfestival.com or contact Andy Andersen by email to phuketmusic@yahoo.com or by calling Tel: 086-6822639.



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Pier pressure

This week's Inside Story (pages 6 and 7) on the postponed construction of a pier and breakwater off Koh Yao Yai island in Phang Nga Bay captures nearly every aspect of the many environmental protection and human rights issues arising from the rapid development of the Andaman Coast region.

Most commendable is the strong determination of the villagers of Baan Yamee in protecting what remains of the region's most valuable asset – its rich natural heritage. They are in the frontline: isolated, yet unwilling to bow to pressure.

It is understandable that the headman of Village 3 did not want his name published. One need only look at the unsolved murder of Land Department officer Pongtorn Hiranyaburana in April, 2003 or the bombing of three homes in Chalong (see 'Chalong bomber still at large', news pages) to see how land ownership disputes are all-too-often settled here.

The developer, Naracha Co Ltd, conducted public hearings, but the residents of the village to be directly affected for some reason were not involved – and their objections either not heard or ignored.

The local office of the Marine Department approved the project, although a thorough Environment Impact Assessment was never submitted. Considering that much of Koh Yao Yai is national park land, one would think an approved EIA would be a critical factor in gaining permission – not an afterthought.

The fact that the island boasts so much national park land, with little private land available for development, makes the area highly attractive to the real estate industry. However, it has yet to be disclosed exactly what the project is being built to serve. Is one to believe that an 85-meter dock and a breakwater are being built solely to serve a 500-rai "holiday home" development? Time will tell.

The local Tambon Administration Organization President seems to have been pressured into signing his approval. Sitting in a meeting in front of the Phang Nga Governor and being asked to sign his approval, after being told that the heads of all the other relevant agencies had given theirs, is a predicament few elected officials would relish.

Now that the Human Rights Commission is involved, with no less than Commissioner Vasant Panich leading the fight for the villagers, it seems he is willing to compromise on the matter.

So will the project move forward, as its developers claim? The decision now rests in Bangkok, where true power in such matters ultimately resides, to be made by those with little first-hand knowledge of the issues involved or understanding of the potential impact of their decision.

– The Editor

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PHUKET TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM

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.

Baffled by bail

What an interesting situation: the Phuket Governor releases a statement about his road-safety campaign target of no more than three deaths and 39 injuries over the New Year holidays, yet a Danish man, Mr Persson, is granted bail despite causing the following carnage: six pedestrians injured and 16 motorbikes and two vehicles damaged, all while driving a stolen vehicle.

I find this matter disturbing, not only from a legal standpoint but also as it is grossly unfair when there is a European woman in Phuket Prison serving a four-year prison sentence for the theft of two mobile phones.

Surely Mr Persson's willfully reckless behavior demands not only a stiff sentence, but also that his bail be revoked.

Delene Watson
Patong

It's our fault

I've been reading for months now the running complaints in the letters column about lost mail. I agree it's a drag to lose mail, but let's not forget we, the foreigners, are the cause of the problem.

In the 1990s, I interviewed an old missionary in Phuket City who had come to the island right after World War II. He told me that up until the 1980s, whenever a foreigner got a piece of mail the head guy at the post office would get on his bicycle and hand-deliver the letter himself.

It was a badge of honor to be the one who delivered a farang's mail, because a letter with a foreign stamp was a rarity in those days.

Now air mail probably ex-

ceeds surface mail at the Phuket Post Office. The island is over-run with farang.

All the problems people complain about in your letters column, the bad mail service, the bad traffic, even the packs of wild dogs, they were never problems here until farang came to Phuket by the plane-load and began throwing money around.

The population boom created all these problems, and while there has been an increase in the Thai population on the island, it's nothing compared to the sudden massive influx of foreigners.

So don't complain that the Thais are causing you problems, because *we* caused the problems.

Peace
Steve Rosse

Grow up, guys!

I came here looking for a good time and, hopefully, a small holiday romance. But even though I look good for my age and I am a personal fitness instructor, I just cannot find a man.

It seems to me that most men of my age here are only interested in riding around on very large motorbikes wearing a WWII German helmet with a young Thai lady riding pillion!

I ought to be able to compete, as some of these girls clearly went to the "Jackson Pollock Make-Up School" as they seem to have just "thrown it on in a most haphazard fashion" (the make-up that is).

What is it that can cause some of these lovely young nymphs to ride around with a granddad whose beer belly girth is far too big for them to wrap their arms around?

And where are there places

for people like me to go and find a little holiday romance? Any ideas?

In Europe some people are now opting for euthanasia when they get old and incontinent, but it seems to me that many European men are now opting for "youth-in-Asia"! That is, get a really loud, big stupid motorbike and get some young Thai chick to change their incontinence nappies every time they dismount! They really ought to grow up and act their age!

Gemima Cocking
By Email

Coasting along

Heartiest congratulations to Franky Gun on having achieved a commendable milestone – five years of reporting for the *Phuket Gazette*.

I always look forward to reading his passionate column and wish him many happy days ahead.

John Kaplan
By email

Treasured Trash

In response to Paul Clark's letter (*Gazette*, December 30 issue), I commend the *Gazette's* Trashing Phuket series.

Yes, it is a shame these eyesores are dotted all over the island, and that little is done about them, but at least it raises some awareness of the issue. It got your attention, didn't it?

But I'll happily see a photo competition with a bottle of champers up for grabs in the *Gazette*.

Come on *Gazette*, what about it?

Thirsty
Chalong

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

The problem with mathematics

To solve the many problems arising from rapid development, first we must establish the actual number of people living and working in Phuket.

We have already talked with business owners, asking for their cooperation in providing us with comprehensive staff lists specifying how many of their staff are actually listed on Phuket house registrations forms.

Soon we will require all Thais who wish to move to Phuket and work here to have their names appear on a house registration form in the province before they can be allowed to work. We will also tackle this problem from the employer's side and not allow them to hire anyone who is not included on a Phuket house registration form.

Of course, some people may not know where to register their names as they do not have relatives in Phuket, but in cases like these we can make a separate house registration for them, even if they are staying in an apartment or condominium. The same will also apply to students from other provinces. We will not allow them to study in Phuket without registering with the province. In cases where people are living here [such as in unregistered dormitories], we will add their names to the central registry list of each district.

It won't be easy, but after we establish the actual resident population we will be able to refer back to this figure in budget requests to the government.

To get an idea of the disparity, consider vehicle registration. Transport office figures put the total number of registered motorbikes and cars at about 400,000 vehicles, but the population is just 290,000.

Therefore, we have to determine the real number of residents in Phuket as soon as possible so that we can get the

The Governor's LETTER

Niran Kalayanamit, 52, was promoted to Governor of Phuket on October 31, making him the first Phuket Governor ever to be promoted from Vice-Governor to the top job within the province.

Having already served as deputy governor for five years, the Bangkok native has in-depth knowledge of the challenges facing the province.

In his first monthly letter exclusively for the *Gazette*, compiled by Sangkhae Leelanapaporn, Gov Niran talks about the problems arising from the great disparity between Phuket's registered population and the actual number of people who live here.



government's attention and be granted budgets for projects that are necessary to keep up with the actual rate of growth and development.

Phuket Province remitted about 850 million baht to the national coffers last year, so I don't think the government can reasonably expect such a large amount was generated by just 290,000 people.

To accomplish our goal, we will conduct an urgent "resident survey project". The Phuket Chief Administrative Officer (*Palad*) will lead the effort, which will include mobile units with computers and special software traveling around the island offering special services, such as registering for "smart cards".

At the same time, people from other provinces will be able to transfer their names to Phuket. The project is being drawn up right now and we have already discussed it with business owners, who have agreed to cooperate.

In places such as China and Russia, citizens are required to notify the government if they move to another part of the country. We do not have laws forcing people to register in Thailand, but we will do our best to see that they do. We also have to keep human rights issues in mind as well.

Another related problem facing Phuket is the security of our residents. As we now have many people moving to live here

from other places, it is increasingly difficult for us to provide security for all local residents and tourists.

We have a rapidly-rising population, yet the number of police remains static. This is why we are experiencing an increase in criminal activity.

My predecessor, Governor Udomsak Uswarangkura, set up a project to check new arrivals at Tah Chat Chai Rd checkpoint. It is still underway, but we need to be more strict about this in the future.

As an island, we still have the issue of people who arrive by boat. We used to have about five offices where people arriving by boat could check in, but these have been replaced by a single

"one stop service" center in Chalong.

We don't have enough officers in other parts of the island, such as Pa Khlok. This makes it difficult to keep track of who is arriving or departing by sea.

In the future, we might have Coast Guard vessels inspect boats at sea. It might be a nightmare to train the officers and get the necessary equipment, but if it is necessary we must consider doing it.

As an international tourist destination, visitors may ask us what security measures are in place to protect them during their stay here.

We now can tell them that after the tsunami we installed tsunami warning towers at 18 points around the island, with construction on another one still underway.

A buoy with equipment that can directly detect tsunami waves has already been deployed and more are planned. This should give us better advance warning and more time to conduct an evacuation in the unlikely event that another tsunami hits our shoreline.

Of course we have to be vigilant to ensure that the system works properly at all times. We have already encountered one case of thieves stealing electric cable and other parts from the warning towers, rendering them inoperable.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy new year.

May Buddha and all the other sacred spirits that protect Phuket look over you to ensure you prosperity and the strength to overcome any obstacles you may face in 2007.

Niran Kalanamit,
Governor of Phuket

Why is there no Patong-Karon shuttle bus?

I have been coming to Phuket for years, and still there are no shuttle buses going between Patong Beach and Karon. Is there a reason? They are the two main tourist beaches in Phuket. I know that there are public buses to Phuket City and from Phuket City to Karon.

Peter Kaufmann
Perth, Australia

Chairat Sukabal, Deputy Mayor of Patong, replies:

We really want to have shuttle buses between Patong and Karon, but the power to allow that lies with the Phuket Provincial Land Transport Office. I agree that there should be a shuttle, but

first we have to talk with the governor, and then the governor will take the order to the Provincial Land Transport Office. I think the governor should talk with the Provincial Land Transport Office so that they can tell Patong Municipality what we have to do.

Jaturong Keawkasi, an officer from the Phuket Provincial Land Transport Office, replies:

The reason there is no shuttle bus between Patong Beach and Karon is that the distance is very short – only about six kilometers – and it would be able to charge passengers only 10 baht each way.

There are no transport entrepreneurs who are interested in offering this kind of service, especially because drivers think that the hilly road is too hard on their

buses, so it's not worth running a shuttle bus.

The Gazette published a similar query in May, 2004. At that

Issues & ANSWERS

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time, a senior transportation official offered a very different reply. He said:

"In 1994, we established a public transport route linking Patong and Karon.

"After just three days, however, the driver was pulled from his vehicle and badly beaten by competitors.

"We would still like to have an investor operate a *songtaew* along that route, but since 1994 nobody has contacted us about it.

"They are probably worried about having similar problems and losing their investment capital.

"Public transport in Phuket faces many problems of this nature."

Want off the Immigration blacklist? Start talking

Mr A, a foreigner living and working in Thailand, worked for a development company as marketing director. For convenience, he was also appointed director of the company with full signatory powers.

When he left the company, he resigned as director and handed in his work permit to return with his Thai wife to his home country.

After some time settling into life back home again, and after his wife had given birth to their first child, they decided to return to Thailand for a short holiday and to bring the newborn to meet the grandparents for the first time.

On arrival at the airport Mr A was told that he was allowed to enter Thailand but could not leave without first having the Phuket office of the Revenue Department clear his name from the Immigration blacklist for not filing taxes in the name of the company he was employed by and director of.

Mr A was seriously concerned as he had his family with him and had to get back to work after his holiday.

He began investigating the matter, for which he came to Phuket and discussed the problem with the Revenue Department through his wife, a law firm and the previous accountant of the company.

As it turned out, Mr A had not been a registered director of the company for two years, but the company had filed tax returns late, showing his name as director. In addition, since that time the company had even been de-registered.

However, the computer at the Revenue Department office did not show this information.

One would think that with all that information all should be clear.

However, it took nearly until his departure date to get his name cleared off the blacklist because the Revenue Department still had an issue with the company – despite Mr A no longer being a director.

In the end, thanks to an understanding official at the Revenue Department, all was cleared and Mr A flew back to his home country with his wife and their baby.

LAYING DOWN THE LAW



With Friedrich 'Sam' Fauma

In The Stars

by Isla Star

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): If you are celebrating a birthday this week you should be packing your bags for a surprise trip. Your partner knows that having a birthday immediately after the holidays is often something of a let-down and wants to show how much he or she cares. Home improvements are highlighted for you this month; so incorporate so tones of chocolate and cream to encourage a more serious approach to finances.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): You should be feeling pretty lively at the moment. While others are looking to remain low-key after a busy couple of weeks, all the partying has whetted your appetite for more fun. If you're expecting visitors to arrive you must make it clear how long they'll be welcome; there are signs that your generosity could be taken advantage of sometime this month if you are not careful. The number 6 may bring good fortune next Monday.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): Too much dreaming and scheming could cause you to miss out on a very real opportunity that will be briefly revealed this week. Cancer makes a gesture that temporarily eases a burden you've been carrying, but you need to find a long-term solution to this dilemma. Going back to work isn't as tedious as you'd expected, as a new colleague will liven up the atmosphere considerably. Wear a piece of amber to encourage harmony.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): A fledgling relationship is put to the test when the other person's ex-flame turns up out of the blue. You should resist making unreasonable demands on your partner. Instead, take the time to attend to overdue personal commitments, and trust in Cupid to do the right thing. Love favors you this month, so "all's well that ends well".

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Life can be as easy or difficult as you want to make it. If you still don't realize how much control you have over your destiny, you should wake up. If you've been harboring a secret crush, the cat's about to be let out of the bag. Committed relationships will be unsettled until the middle of this month; the only solution is to remain calm and give each other space to breathe.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): You will be under more than your fair share of pressure as 2007 gets into gear. Resist the urge to throw a cream pie in someone's face on Tuesday, when there will be anger in the air. Your finances will grow healthier as the month progresses, but a small setback requires careful juggling this week. Wear the color emerald green to enhance your charisma this Saturday. Pisces is already interested.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): You should already

notice improvement to your finances this week. If there is a cloud of debt hanging over your head, make every effort to sort this matter out as soon as possible. The stars will support your efforts to do so. Where romance is concerned, there's only one answer to your infatuation and that is to get over it and move on quickly. Aries is a much more realistic contact to make.

LEO (July 24-August 22): Pace yourself this week. Your natural laziness won't be evident at the start of 2007, as you feel pressure to get more than one project off the ground. However, others around you don't have the same energy and will not produce the results you expect. Compliments flow your way at a social gathering this Sunday; Capricorn is particularly impressed, but all is not what it seems. The number 8 can bring luck next Thursday.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Your attitude toward life could use some changes; if you are content to focus on the here and now, you will be unable to plan your dream future. You need to start to store something away for rainy days to come. Aquarius has some well-meant advice; don't let your pride prevent you from taking this on board. Priorities this week should include making contact with someone who can help you move up the career ladder.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Exciting plans are afoot in the jungle. If you are prepared to stray from your usual path you can look forward to a stimulating time ahead. Your reputation is better than you imagine; don't be shy to ask for a work-related favor on Tuesday. To get more support from your partner you should be more open about your hopes and fears. The color gold will encourage a positive outlook.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): You will receive astral backing in making dramatic changes to your life. During the month of January the stars should shower you with creative energy and the confidence to change what is making you feel down. A dream you have this weekend offers a solution to an irritating romantic issue, but contain the sting in your tail when approaching another Scorpio. Number 4 looks lucky on Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Money matters are looking good for you this week, with a windfall forecast to land in your orchard. Your cool-headed approach to doing business puts you ahead of others who make agreements too impatiently. The only drawback could occur midweek when Gemini fails to meet a deadline. It will be only after you have discovered the reason for this that you will find it easy to forgive their tardiness. The color lotus pink helps you to be more approachable to a prospective romantic partner.



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December certainly is a festive month. First there's Christmas Eve and Christmas Day – filled with food and fun. Then there's Boxing Day, which unfortunately carries a tragic connotation since 2004.

Then there's New Year's Eve, a.k.a. Big Party Night, and then 2007 begins, with the usual atmosphere of anticipation and fresh beginnings that January 1 always brings.

And inevitably, with the dawn of a New Year comes the lists of resolutions that we all feel obligated to make, but which we most likely will not keep.

In fact, they should rename New Year's resolutions "soon-to-be-broken-promises"; because basically that's what they are, promises to ourselves to do things that we know deep down we will not stick to longer than it takes to finish the New Year's leftovers.

The practice of making these resolutions is a tradition dating back to the early Babylonians – that's thousands of years of people optimistically resolving to do things and then failing because they were probably a tad too ambitious.

The Babylonians' New Year resolutions were ever so slightly different from ours. While the most popular modern resolutions are to lose weight and quit smoking, the Babylonians' most common resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment.

Aside from shedding a few pounds and attempting to stop emulating a chimney, the other most popular resolutions these days are as follows:

- 1) Spend more time with family and friends.
- 2) Get to the gym more often.
- 3) Enjoy life more, whatever that may involve.
- 4) Stop drinking.
- 5) Get out of debt.
- 6) Learn a new skill.
- 7) Help others by donating to a charity or doing some volunteer work.

Don't kid yourself

The Babylonians' New Year resolutions were ever so slightly different from ours. While the most popular modern resolutions are to lose weight and quit smoking, the Babylonians' most common resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment.



Youth 'n
ASIA

By Amy
Van de Castele

8) Organize one's life.

These are all very noble resolutions, but in reality trying to fit all of them into our already hectic lives is a rather daunting task, especially since some of those resolutions are at odds with each other.

How, for example, are we meant to quit drinking and enjoy life at the same time?

Alcohol is not necessary for happiness of course, but it does accompany many of the things that we enjoy, such as going out for dinner with friends, having a picnic on the beach, or spending a few hours in a favorite bar listening to eardrum-bursting bone-shattering rock music.

As for smoking, many people turn to nicotine as a weight-loss aid, because it suppresses hunger urges, so asking yourself to continue with your rigorous diet and quit smoking at the same time is perhaps a little cruel, although undoubtedly it will result in a much healthier you.

Goals 1, 2, 6 and 7 are all

admirable and undoubtedly keys to enrich your life, but there are only so many hours in a day to see your friends, go to the gym, learn a new skill and then trot down to the homeless shelter (never mind trying to find one in Phuket).

The most sensible way of achieving these goals probably involves combining them.

For example, you could always drag a friend to the gym with you and catch up on some breathless gossip while walking side by side on the treadmills.

The new skill that you learn could be bench pressing. With the time you save by doing everything in the gym, you'll have more free time to go volunteer at a charity, if you can still the trembling of your exhausted muscles.

Resolution 8, "learning to get more organized", is probably a resolution our parents dearly wish we teenagers would stick to.

Anyone who has ever walked into a teenager's room knows it's not a pretty sight – dirty

clothes strewn everywhere, rumpled sheets, candy wrappers under the bed, posters of grim-looking wrestlers or surly rock bands glaring at you from the walls... and then of course all our school books dumped in some cobwebby corner where we can pretend they don't exist.

A few shelves, a desk and a wastepaper bin would work wonders.

We teenagers, however, have our own sets of resolutions, and in most cases they don't involve tidying our bedrooms because, let's face it, we're just downright incapable of that.

No, our resolutions run more along the lines of the following:

- 1) Plot a new, more effective strategy of bribing our parents for money.
- 2) Force our brains to focus on schoolwork for more than five minutes before getting distracted by the latest gossip/video game/party.
- 3) Gather up all our newfound New Year's confidence and ask out that boy/girl we've

been secretly in love with since our eyes met for a nanosecond three years ago when he/she asked to borrow our eraser.

4) Learn to drive – an essential teenage skill.

5) Try as many different alcoholic beverages as possible OR see how many of the aforementioned beverages one can drink before rather inelegantly regurgitating them onto the pavement. (Note to parents: just joking about this one.)

Teenage resolutions might seem easier to keep than adult ones, but they're surprisingly tricky. Parents, for example, have become much more adept at seeing through our bribes.

As for asking out that special crush, well, have you ever been on the receiving end of one of those withering stares of rejection that could curdle milk or draw blood from the proverbial stone?

If so, you will realize that putting your heart on the line takes an abnormally large amount of courage.

To lessen the pressure of attempting to fulfill all these ambitious resolutions at once, it would probably be wiser to make one good resolution and stick with that one for the year.

That way you're far more likely to achieve your goal, which will give you a sense of pride.

In turn, this hard-earned pride will motivate you to achieve the next goal in the coming New Year.

Yes, you might reach your goals much more slowly, but at least then you're more certain to reach them; and maybe then you can actually keep that one crucial promise you made to yourself the moment the clock chimed midnight.

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CROCODILE SNAPS BACK

Nine months after fire gutted Crocodile Disco, the hotspot at the end of Soi Moulin Rouge has been resurrected as the new "Crocodile dclub". Nestled at the end of the busy soi, the club's green sign and overwhelming presence beckon revelers to the large dance floor and energetic atmosphere inside.

On a walk-through of the rebuilt venue, the most eye-catching and original design feature is the pair of balconies overlooking Soi Moulin Rouge, also known as Soi Katoey or Soi Crocodile. These offer a unique chance to watch the throngs of tourists, bar girls and elaborately-bedecked ladyboys on the street below.

Back inside, DJs Simon and Simon – one from England, the other from America – fill the late-night DJ shift with the quality and type of music found in Western clubs. When they are on the turntables you can expect good dance music from track to track. The dancers in the club were consulted for the music selections, ensuring that the DJs play music the girls want to dance to.

AFTER Crocodile DARK

By Zach Fridell



To that end, the club employs 20 dancers, and thanks to a collaboration with the new Erotica bar, trained dancers from Erotica will entertain customers nightly with special shows and choreographed performances. In

fact, Steve Jordan, one of the managers at Erotica, helped to design the rebuilt club.

Club Manager Robin Lee is no newcomer to Phuket's night-club scene, having worked with Night Station and Rock World, Crocodile's former incarnation, as well as clubs in Singapore and Taiwan.

That experience allowed him, along with fellow manager Sean Healey and director Mats Wikstrom, to put all the pieces together for a high-quality venue despite the fast construction time.

"People like to watch other people," Mats explained, and that is why the upper level of the club has a clear view of the dance floor along with the view out to the soi.

The three men also made it clear that the new venture is neither a go-go bar, despite the elements of dancing, nor a discotheque, despite the large dance floor and shimmering lights. It is instead rightfully called a night-club, with a bit of everything, including quiet areas to relax and have a conversation at less-than-shouting volume.

An honest review would point out both the pros and cons of the club, but with no cover charge – at least until the end of January, when the managers will re-evaluate whether or not to introduce a door charge – all beers at 100 baht and an "open until very late" policy, coupled with entertainment and good music, it's hard to fault the club.

Maybe the 200 baht gin and tonics are a bit pricey, but I'm not one to look a gift crocodile in the mouth.



The view from the balconies across the front of Crocodile overlooks the throng in the soi below.

DJ Simon spins a mix of Western club tracks.



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ON THE MOVE



James Firth, 31, from the UK, has been appointed Managing Director of Beautiful World in Phuket. He has more than 12 years' experience in exporting furniture. In 2001 he joined Maxialto Co Ltd as Marketing Manager, exporting furniture to the US, Italy, UK, Germany, Australia and South Korea. He was appointed Sales & Marketing Director in 2004.



Pipat Pokiaw, from Bangkok, has been appointed Public Relations Manager at Phuket Laser Center in Patong. K. Pipat is a marketing graduate from Burapha University in Chon Buri. His experience includes working as Southeast Asia Representative of Respiratory Health International Ltd for five years. Before moving to Phuket he was General Manager of Ergo Co Ltd for two years in Bangkok.



Kunthari Sangchat, from Bangkok, has been appointed Marriott Vacation Club International (MVCI) Resort Manager.

She graduated with a master's degree in hospital-ity management from Conrad Hilton College at the University of Houston, US.

K. Kunthari joined JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa as Director of Events in June 2004.

OrBorJor reclaims Chalong Pier

By Supanun Supawong

CHALONG: The Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) resumed administration of Chalong Pier on December 1, ending six years of control by private companies. In their place, the *OrBorJor* hired Chokaree Tour Co Ltd to manage and improve the pier.

"The *OrBorJor* took back the pier because we want to make it a good image to present to people coming to Phuket. For six years the companies rented the pier, but they didn't develop it or take care of the equipment and the shuttle buses, and they didn't keep it clean," said *OrBorJor* Vice-President Suthin Uthaitamrong.

Chalong Petroleum Ltd Partnership, Kikon Marine co Ltd and Seaside Center Ltd Partnership previously operated the pier, but did not own the equipment used on the pier.

Lamphun Tangnoi, Manager of Chokaree Tour Co Ltd, said that the old system saw equipment being hired out and tourists transferred to the end of the pier by 9:30 am, but Chokaree's goal is to have everything transferred by 8:30 am. The company also plans to add two electric shuttle buses to the pier area.



Although the *OrBorJor* has taken back management of Chalong Pier, fees for services there, including parking, remain unchanged.

"I will also focus on the cleanliness of the pier. I venture to guarantee that you will never see more than 10 pieces of rubbish. I want it clean because I think of Chalong Pier as a window to Phuket that tourists see when they visit the island," K. Lamphun said.

K. Suthin explained that it will be more convenient for the

OrBorJor to administer the pier's operations because it will be able to directly oversee work done there.

"It's good that the *OrBorJor* is running the pier again because we can respond to problems faster. For example, if a section is broken, we can repair it, and if it is dirty, we can clean and clear it ourselves.

"We can also improve the landscaping, build convenience centers and increase security at the pier. We can do these all immediately, too, whereas before it was inconvenient and took much longer."

K. Lamphun estimated that the *OrBorJor* will generate 695,000 baht a month in income from the pier during the high season, 360,000 baht a month from May to September, and 530,000 baht a month from October to November.

Predicted costs for December are expected to be around 405,000 baht, he said, but with expenses for January reaching falling to about 295,000 baht.

Chalong Pier should be able to support more tourists than it currently does, K. Lamphun said.

However, he pointed out that parking and transfer problems limit the volume of traffic on the pier.

To help solve the problem, he said, new administrators will

introduce a pontoon boat to replace the speedboats that currently transfer tourists.

"We have many plans for improving Chalong Pier, such as building a pavilion... and creating shade for tourists at the end of the pier waiting to be transferred," K. Lamphun said.

Service fees at the pier will remain unchanged: 10 baht per one-off transfer; 100 baht a boat for daily mooring; 20,000 baht a month for monthly mooring; 20 baht for car parking, or 40 baht for long-term parking.

K. Lamphun estimates that 600 vessels currently use the pier each day. Of those, 36% are small yachts, 30% are fishing boats, 16% are dive boats, 11% are large yachts, 6% are speed boats and 1% are travel motor ships.

"We will not stop improving pier service here, at a profit if we can, at a loss if we must, but always with high-quality service so we can be the best local pier," he said.

VITAL STATISTICS INTERNATIONAL ARRIVALS JUMP 30%

	November, 2006	November, 2005	% change
Domestic passengers	267,078	226,700	17.8
International passengers	156,625	119,845	30.7
Domestic aircraft	1,542	1,259	22.5
International aircraft	1,297	1,004	29.0
Domestic Cargo	1,336	1,374	-2.7
International Cargo	625	778	-19.7

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Most financial advisers use insurance companies – in the plural. We are essentially brokers and we do not want, under any circumstances, to be tied to any particular financial institution. In turn, the offshore insurance companies do not want to employ a sales force except to market their products and services to independent financial advisers.

Any reputable adviser will always use several insurance companies, but normally will keep the number to a minimum. This keeps administration relatively simple but at the same time allows the insurance companies sufficient business to keep the situation viable.

Scottish Life International, part of the Royal London Group, is one alternative featured recently in this column.

This article, however, is about another major group with whom my company has daily dealings – Friends Provident International. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Friends Provident, which was founded in 1832.

The name “Friends” is derived from the Society of Friends, another name for the Quakers. Barclays Bank and Cadbury are other examples of Quaker businesses. For almost 170 years Friends Provident remained a mutual life assurance company owned by its policyholders.

Around 2000, they “demutualized” the company and listed the shares on the London Stock Exchange. Today, Friends Provident manages assets of around £50 billion (3.5 trillion baht).

The group also owns 50% of Foreign & Colonial along with asset manager Ivory & Sime and Luxembourg-based Lombard International Assurance SA.

Old Friends offer good assurance

Friends Provident is a member of the Financial Times Stock Exchange (FTSE or Footsie) 100 companies and also is ranked in the Fortune 500. Headquarters of Friends Provident International are located in the Isle of Man, with offices in Guernsey, Dubai and Hong Kong.

A little-known fact is that the parent group, Friends Provident, started an administration operation in India 10 years ago, but it is not a “call center”. The staff in India has no dealings with either the public or even brokers (independent financial advisers). It functions as a true “back office”. It has been so successful over the past decade that the Friends Provident Group has found it to be more efficient and to make fewer mistakes than their counterparts in the UK.

Normally, offshore assurance companies do not sell life assurance, but Friends Provident International bucks the trend. In reality, it is difficult to buy life assurance if you are an expat. Even for Friends Provident International it is a tiny part of its overall business.

You may well ask what business are the assurance companies in? The answer is asset management, but it is more complicated than that because the offshore assurance companies are really in the broadest aspects of asset management.



MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

This leaves two questions: “What is offshore?” and “What are the broader aspects of asset management?” Offshore, in the case of assurance companies, means they are targeting the expat market by offering products that are highly tax efficient, flexible and personalized.

For example, Friends Provident has a product known as Reserve. It is available in two versions, collective investment and personalized. The former is designed to hold funds such as unit trusts, mutual funds, investment trusts and so on. In other words, registered collective investment schemes commonly known as “funds”.

The personalized version can also hold individual shares quoted on any major stock exchange and bonds/gilts.

What Friends Provident International, and virtually every other offshore assurance company, is offering is often called a “wrapper”. It allows investors access to almost every major investment group in the world at a huge discount.

If the investor wants to place funds with an investment

house that normally charges an upfront fee of, say, 5%, this is discounted by anything from 80% to 100%. Assurance companies themselves take no profit from this. They charge only a dealing fee on each purchase and sale.

I cannot think of an investment house that does not want to deal with assurance companies. In fact, investment houses have to satisfy the assurance companies that what they offer meets the standard of the assurer. The reason for this is simple – volume of business.

Just as manufacturers of many products fight for shelf space in the giant supermarkets and have to bow to the pressure on pricing, so it is in the assurance industry. Fund managers occasionally find that some of their funds are accepted and others denied. Property funds with high gearing are a good example.

Regardless of what investments the client selects, the assurance company conducts the purchase and registration of the investment. All assurers now offer daily updates on the values of all client portfolios as part of the service, regardless of the type of asset or currency.

Some assurers offer free beneficiary nomination forms. This removes the need and expense of a will for all assets held. In more complicated cases, they will often supply trust documen-

tation free of charge or, in some cases, they will act as trustees for nominal amounts.

Assurers supply regular income streams if required. It is up to the client to state the amount and regularity of the payment: monthly, quarterly and so on.

They also offer free technical advice on potential tax or estate charges. They all have technical departments that are dedicated to this function.

Offshore assurers are all members of the Association of International Life Offices, which negotiates on an ongoing basis with many governments.

Friends Provident is also a leader in ethical investment, and manages money that complies with any major restriction on things such as tobacco, alcohol and firearms. They do not impose this on the general public, but will conduct it for charities and any religious body regardless of belief.

A profile could include funds for JP Morgan Chase & Co, Fidelity, HSBC, Allianz, Invesco, Investec, Merrill Lynch; everybody wants “shelf space”. For many asset managers, assurers are their biggest clients.

Asset managers who do not deal directly with the public are more than pleased to accept business from assurance companies because it then becomes institutional business. As anti-money-laundering requirements are completed via the assurer, initially, investment houses are relieved of this burden.

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: 081-0814611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th.

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While some changes in the Phuket dive industry have been widely publicized, others have been transpiring quietly.

Scuba Schools International (SSI) has been growing in membership numbers, as many former Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) dive shops and instructors have been signing up to offer SSI certifications.

SSI is an internationally recognized dive agency that certifies divers from Open Water/Beginner level to Master. The switch has been brought on, in part, by a recent announcement that beginning in 2007 PADI will be increasing its fees for open water training materials by 45%.

The price hike has not been welcomed by dive centers and instructors. PADI is currently the dominant dive association in Thailand, but on the gulf side SSI has been gaining in popularity, and more than 50% of dive centers are now offering SSI certification. Last month SSI certified more than 120 instructors in Thailand, including many in the Andaman region.

SSI Thailand General Manager Gary Hawkes explained, "SSI is the largest dive-school-based agency, as opposed to member-based. Instructors must be employed by a dive center, or report to the SSI headquarters."

Doing the scuba switch

There have been SSI headquarters on Koh Tao since 2002. "Regional management can make decisions based on local market trends, instead of making global-based decisions. Instructors are affiliated with a dive center and freelancers must be affiliated with SSI headquarters."

"Our instructors prefer SSI's teaching philosophy because we try to create self-supporting divers who are aware of their own level of training and ability. We achieve this by teaching real-world skills that work under the worst possible conditions."

SSI serves the local community, not just the dive centers. By buying materials manufactured locally, the savings can be passed on to the customer. For example, since books used here are printed in Thailand, there is no freight cost, he added.

"Our prices on Thai and other foreign-language materials will be reduced by one third because they are made in Thailand." Also, certification cards are produced in Thailand and have just a 72-hour turnaround time.

SSI also supports Thai nationals to reach professional level



SSI instructor trainer Simon Speight (left) and instructor Gadegumpo "Patrick" Pecharatana (2nd from right) with students.

at its dive centers. When the dive center trains them for employment, the certification fees are waived and materials are provided for free.

Currently on Phuket two Thai nationals are certified SSI instructors, Dokmai "Born" Chada, working at Sea Bees Dive Center, and Gadegumpo "Patrick" Pecharatana, who works at Ocean Lovers Diving.

Gary and his team from SSI recently spent a few weeks conducting crossovers for dive operators on Koh Phi Phi Don.

Now about 95% of the dive shops on Phi Phi are offering SSI certification.

SSI Instructor and Trainer Simon Speight explained, "We are dealer-based, and SSI Thailand offers the support and the follow up at a more personal level. Our materials, including books and DVDs, and certification costs, are priced to support the dealer and instructor, as well as giving the best value for our customers."

He added, "I am happy with the increasing interest in SSI as I believe we must be able to give

customers a choice."

Gary said that at year's end SSI would have about 18% of the market share, and for 2007 he expects approximately 30%.

Currently in Phuket there are six affiliated centers, but in the next three months the number will increase to about 15. This will include long-time established dive shops, such as the Karon Beach branch of the Phuket Scuba Club and Sea Bees Diving.

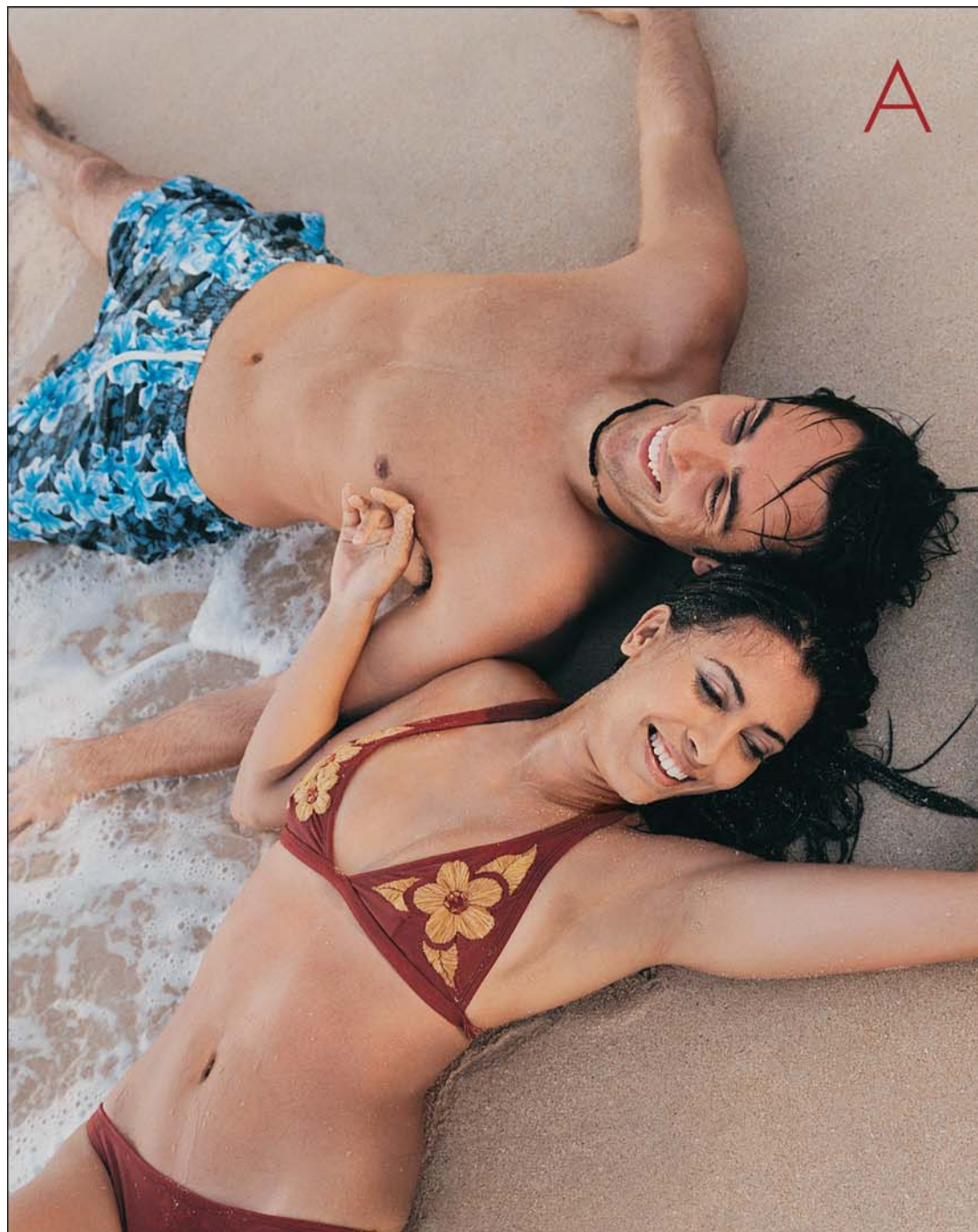
In Khao Lak there are currently three SSI dive centers, but the number is expected to double next year. SSI also has distribution points for materials at Seemann Enterprise in Chalong and All 4 Diving in Patong.

An SSI instructor crossover is relatively quick, as students are already qualified instructors and merely require an overview of the different standards and philosophy SSI has to offer.

Simon said, "Depending on the candidate's experience and what level we are crossing them over to, generally an open water instructor crossover only takes one or two days."

For more information visit www.ssi-thailand.com, or email Gary at info@ssi-thailand.com. Simon Speight can be reached at info@phuket-diving-thailand.com or Tel: 081-9583695.

Beneath the SURFACE
By Sylvie Yaffe



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PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

Coyote extend early lead

PATONG: Coyote Bar pulled further away from the rest of the league with another three-point win, this time at home on Boxing Day against Beach House.

Some other matches were rescheduled, including Piccadilly's tough home win against Funky Monkey. Funky Monkey salvaged a point by winning the team game, but still remain in last place, one point behind Beach House. Offshore had to forfeit their road game against Queen Mary, ceding all three points.

In addition to sending all match results to league secretary Steen, team captains are encouraged to send reports of high closes, 180s and other notable events to: darts@phuketgazette.net

December 26 results: Didi's* 6 Shakers 3; Dog's Bollocks 5 Valhalla* 4; Piccadilly 5 Funky Monkey* 4; Queen Mary* 9 Offshore 0 (forfeit); Beach House 3 Coyote Bar* 6 (* = winner of beer leg).

Standings: 1. Coyote Bar (19 pts.); 2.= Didi's, Piccadilly (14); 4. Queen Mary (13); 5. Dog's Bollocks (12); 6. Shakers (9); 7. Valhalla (8); 8. Offshore (7); 9. Beach House (5); 10. Funky Monkey (4).

January 9 matchups: Didi's v Coyote Bar; Piccadilly v Offshore; Shakers v Dogs Bollocks; Valhalla v Queen Mary; Beach House v Funky Monkey (home team first).



Above: Veronika and See Faa trade blows.

Right: See Faa, bloodied but victorious.

Veronika beaten in vicious bout

Norwegian Veronika Lundemo trades blows against See Faa from Surat Thani in their December 29 fight at Bangla Boxing Stadium. The 140-pound women lasted all five rounds. See Faa won by decision, to a barrage of boos from the audience.

Veronika, fighting out of the Chalong Chi camp and on promoter Weeraphon Paenchuay's fight card, had previously won Bangla Stadium's "Muay Thai World Championship" belt in a first-round knockout, but could not beat See Faa on points.

Tour de Thailand ends in Patong

By Supanun Supawong

PATONG: Eight cyclists arrived at Loma Park in Patong on the evening of December 28 after spending 26 days cycling the more than 2,500-kilometer from Chiang Mai in the fourth "Tour de Thailand 2006".

Fifty-two other cyclists, from the Phuket, Surat Thani and Tak Bicycle Clubs, who joined the tour on route, also crossed the line with the group from Chiang Mai.

The youngest cyclist this year was Forbes Slater, 13, from the US. He was also the cyclist

who raised the most money for the charity event – 240,000 baht. The oldest biker was Dan Rhatigan, 67, also from the US.

The fourth Tour de Thailand 2006 was organized by the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) and Tour de Asia Bicycle Touring to support tourism in Thailand and to raise money to help the Foundation for the Blind in Thailand and the Max Foundation (TMF), which helps patients with blood-related cancers.

One million baht was raised for TMF and 250,000 baht for the Foundation for the Blind in Thailand.

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Home of the Week

Rawai

A REFINED VIEW



Left: the house with its Thai-style roof. Above: the huge sala has plenty of space for outdoor entertaining.

The views from Villa Salika, overlooking Chalong Bay from its vantage point in Rawai, take in Phuket City in the distance; Nai Harn Beach and Laem Phromthep are a short drive away.

The villa, located in a quiet, privately-owned residential area, includes a reception-living area, five en-suite bedrooms with private spas, an infinity-edge swimming pool, Jacuzzis, a day room with spa and showers, sun terraces, a large sala for dining, a wine cellar, a large well-equipped kitchen and a yoga studio.

The main entrance leads to the reception and living area, which shows an insistence for detail – the geometrically de-

signed, Chinese teak staircase leading up to the guest rooms, for example. The room is dominated by glass doors that open to a chic black-tiled swimming pool. One floor up, also overlooking the bay, is a yoga studio.

An attractive feature of Villa Salika is the spacious distribution of rooms; the master bedroom is separate from the guest rooms to ensure total privacy. To one side of the chamber is a door leading outside to a sala and a large Jacuzzi. Above is a roof garden with views to Cape Panwa.

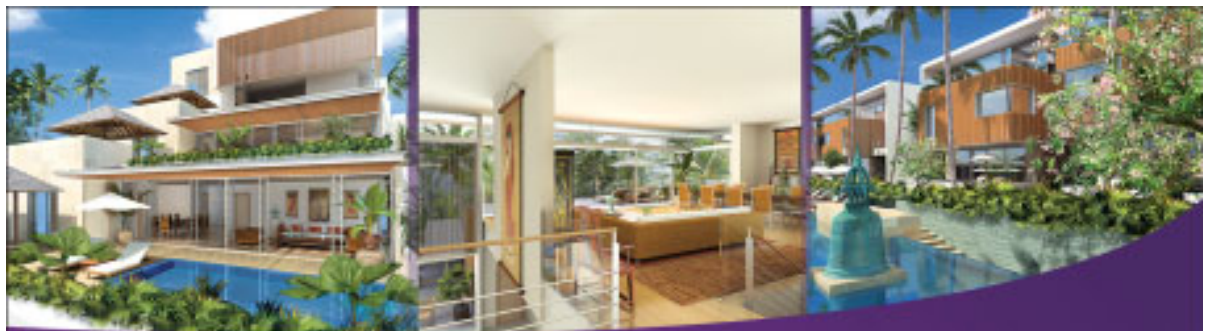
The second guest room is on the ground floor and has two entrances, one opening directly to the parking area. This room features a double bed, en-suite bath-

room and a private spa. Adjoining are the third and fourth guest rooms. The third guest room has an en-suite bathroom tucked away at the back of the room and also features an open-air private Jacuzzi.

Matching the home in style are the gardens that were landscaped by Pieter van Loon from Eurolandscape, Holland.

Set amidst the gardens is the L-shaped, infinity-edge pool with Jacuzzi, providing private sunset bay views.

Villa Salika, suitable as a private residence or a boutique resort, is for sale freehold at 72 million baht, negotiable. Price includes a Honda CRV. For more information call Able Wanamakok at Tel: 087-8901580.



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Construction Update

by Janyaporn Morel



Construction work on the new SB Design Square Phuket is about 25% complete.

Furniture mega-store set to open opposite Big C

SB Furniture House Co Ltd is building a new furniture mega-showroom on a plot of about 10 rai of land on the bypass road, opposite the Big C SuperCenter.

The showroom, set to open in June, will be SB's first outlet in Phuket and will be named "SB Design Square Phuket".

Terapol Tamsuk, Executive Director of Thai Industrial & Engineering Services PLC (TIESCO), the main contractor for the project, told the *Gazette* that work on the project started in October last year and is expected to take about eight months to complete.

The project will comprise a two-story furniture showroom with a usable area of about 10,000 square meters. The building will also house a sales office and a design room, to be situated near

the intersection with Chao Fa West Rd, near a number of other furniture retailers.

"This showroom will be SB Furniture's first in Phuket. The property and furniture market has high potential in Phuket as there are many foreigners coming to live here and they like to design and decorate their houses in their free time. Therefore SB Company believe that now is a good time to enter the furniture market in Phuket," he said.

On the 10-rai plot, aside from the showroom, there will also be a staff dormitory and a 50-space parking lot. The buildings will be ringed with a six-meter-wide road and there will be a fence around the outer perimeter of the project.

"The front of the showroom will be all glass. Inside there will be large open spaces on the two

floors to display the furniture," K. Terapol explained.

"The project is now about 25% complete. The showroom will be about 100 meters long and 50 meters wide. Our company is also installing the water and electricity supply systems and other utilities for the project," he added.

The showroom was designed by MMAS Co Ltd architects. The foundations were poured by DCS Associates Company Ltd and the construction management company is by Connell Wagner Co Ltd.

"TIESCO is the main contractor for the building work. We have contracts with about 15 sub-contractors to do specialized work, such as glass and aluminum work, and tiling. The sub-contractors are from both Phuket and Bangkok," he said.

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Gardening

with Bloomin' Bert

This is Thailand. You've probably noticed that life here is pretty damn good overall. There can be one of several reasons you're reading this, come to think of it: 1) You live in Phuket; 2) You're on holiday in Phuket; 3) You've visited Phuket and rather like the place; or 4) You want to live in Phuket. Have I missed anyone out?

The point is that it's not a bad place to be. But there is a problem. Branston Pickle. You can't get it here, as far as I'm aware. Any non-Brits will have absolutely no idea what I'm talking about, but trust me when I say that this is the stuff that cheese was invented for. It's the food of the gods that makes a cheese and pickle sandwich a *cheese and pickle sandwich*.

I'm sure I'm not the only person on the island who hands a shopping list to anyone going back to the UK for a visit; Branston Pickle is always on it. As are several bags of Liquorice Allsorts and a couple of jars of pickled onions. Anyone visiting the other side of the Atlantic is given a request for Reese's Peanut Butter Cups. You just can't get any of those things here, which really is a bit of a problem.

The few less-mainstream Western consumer goods that you can buy over the counter here are ludicrously priced. Kettle chips at 50 baht a pack. They're good, but 50 baht? A few micrograms of imported cheese for several hundred baht? An Italian office chair I saw recently in Index for 40,000 baht? What are they on?

Pretty immigrants



Global Garden: The water lily from South America and the crown of thorns from Madagascar are only two of the many migrant plants you may find in your garden.

At least I know that it's not the shop owners themselves who are lifting my leg – that's "ripping me off" for any confused Americans reading; I'll draw you a picture later. No, the fault lies solely and squarely in the hands of Thai Customs. Duty is whacked on at such a high rate that all imported stuff costs a fortune.

Have you tried to buy a jar of real English marmalade in Thailand? Or Vegemite (only Australians truly appreciate that bizarre stuff), or a decent bottle of wine? How about a Land Rover Discovery, or a La-Z-Boy

reclining chair? All of these will cost you two to three times the price of an equivalent that originates in Thailand – all these products are imported.

Monstrous duties on imported products certainly makes things fairly clear; when it comes to parting with your cash you're in little doubt about which products weren't made locally.

This country has done at least one sensible thing; they make their own version here. No confusion; it's simply a product originally from overseas that's now made in Thailand. And it's dirt cheap, as it should be.

Plants are no different in some ways; many of the plants here aren't native to Thailand. The clever thing is that it doesn't take international conglomerates consorting with diplomatic missions, or multi-million-dollar factories and government incentives to get them going. Once here, they just quietly get on with the business of growing, looking good and reproducing.

It would seem that it was the Europeans who started importing plants. The first international botanist, by all accounts, was a bloke called Christopher Columbus. The attempted avoidance of import duty is nothing

new – that was the original reason he went off in search of plants to bring home, to try and lower the prices of existing imported spices from India.

What he first "discovered" were pineapples and chilies, neither of which were unknown to the locals of South and Central America, who already had been enjoying them for thousands of years. They were certainly new to Europe, whose later explorers introduced them to Southeast Asia soon afterwards, where they flourished for years to come.

The ti plant, or cordyline (*maak phuu maak mia* in Thai), with its green leaves, originally came from Polynesia, where the locals made skirts from the leaves. At some stage, somebody obviously thought it would be a good idea to start introducing the ti plant to other tropical parts of the world. Today, the original long green leaves have become a multitude of shapes and colors, to the extent that it's now barely recognizable as a single species.

In 1768, a French sailor called Admiral Louis de Bougainville began his long journey to the Pacific Ocean and discovered the vine that now bears his name – bougainvillea. Thais know it as *fueng faa*. He brought it home

and it quickly spread to just about every warm corner of the globe.

Through the following years, this distinctive Brazilian beauty has assumed its place as one of the most popular tropical plants in the region. It's everywhere. Nobody seems to know how it spread so far so quickly, but it's not a bad looker, which is probably a big part of the reason.

The same mystery surrounds the king of the scented trees, the frangipani, or *Plumeria* (*lanthom* or *leelawadee*). Perhaps a Portuguese or Spanish ship brought over the first cutting from Central America, but over the centuries it has become a common sight in Buddhist and Hindu gardens and temples all over Asia. It was named after French botanist called Charles Plumier.

The two best-known members of the euphorbia family are immigrants to Thailand. The poinsettia, or *kissemass* in Thai, which we looked at recently, is originally from Mexico – even less of a reason for it ultimately to become the Christmas plant. Its far uglier cousin, the *euphorbia millii*, or crown of thorns plant, started out life in Madagascar. Same family, different homes.

Even the water lily didn't originate here. It was originally found in South America. Again, nobody knows how it made its way over here.

Gardens in Thailand really don't care where their inhabitants originally came from. We're just as likely to find heliconia from South America, plumbago from South Africa or peacock flowers from Madagascar as we are to find something that is native to this region, such as the ixora.

To be honest, nobody really cares. Does it really matter where a plant originated? We're probably best keeping fairly quiet about this. Who knows, if we ask too many questions, we are likely to find that we owe import duty on our gardens. Let's keep all this between you and me, shall we?

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Decor

by Natcha Yuttaworawit

NATURALLY BEAUTIFUL

Beautiful World opened its fifth branch in Thailand opposite Promphan supermarket on Chao Fa West Rd last month, bringing to Phuket an expanding range of furniture and decor items in contemporary Asian designs.

James Firth, the Managing Director of the Phuket branch of Beautiful World, explained that customer demand, although still mainly in favor of classic Asian designs, was leading the company's range of products toward more sleek, contemporary styles.

"What we have found is that our range of furniture designs are starting to go a little bit more contemporary, and not quite so heavy, but a lot of our target market is still mostly in favor of a heavy tropical style," he said.

The classic Asian materials of solid wood, water hyacinth, bamboo and coconut inlay are the most popular choices. "All materials [used to make Beautiful World items] are from Thailand, Vietnam, China and Indonesia because our range is based on Asian designs and materials," Mr Firth explained.

He added that the "tropical"

style of furniture is currently in vogue and works very well in homes throughout Thailand.

In addition to the growing number of contemporary pieces available at the store, customers can order furniture custom-made to their own designs.

In addition to decor, home accessory and furniture items, Beautiful World offers an interior design consultancy service.

Mr Firth explained that Beautiful World was attracted to Phuket by the potential of catering to property developments and hotels that have sprung up from the current construction boom. "We have five showrooms in total now. We opened the first branch on Koh Samui three years ago, and the second branch is on Koh Pha-ngan."

"Early last year we opened Beautiful World in Hua Hin, which is growing very well, and in the past four months we also opened in Pattaya."

Beautiful World (Phuket). Chao Fa West Rd, opposite Promphan supermarket. Tel: 076-522097. Website: www.beautifulworldthailand.com



Contemporary but natural: Beautiful World's stock comes in delightful natural colors and textures.

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Seaview And Luxury Villa

VILLA FOR SALE
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Villa area: 512.45 sqm, 4 bedrooms and bathrooms with jacuzzi, living room, kitchen, entertainment room, maid house and swimming pool.
Location:
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**Contact: 076-261392
086-6835583**
www.phuketdevelopmentcentral.com



VILLAS AT THE PLANTATION

Located on stunning Kamala Bay, on the West coast of Phuket, Villas at The Plantation is one of Phuket's most breathtaking developments. Each villa intelligently blends the soothing qualities of luxury and nature; living spaces flow without boundaries between indoor and outdoor areas, giving an overwhelming feeling of being truly at one with the environment.

The natural setting that surrounds the development is simply awe-inspiring. Exquisite landscaped gardens merge seamlessly with the pristine rainforest environment. This is your very own private Eden, unspoiled, unsurpassed.

Constructed from only the highest grade materials and built to the highest possible specifications, each villa is available in a choice of five luxurious and unique styles inspired by both modern tropical and Moorish design aesthetics.

As part of the successful Plantation project, in association with Pacvest Group, this development is a highly sought after investment opportunity with a limited number of villas available. Please contact the sales office below for more information.



PHUKET OFFICE
17/37 Moo 6, Kamala, Kathu, Phuket 83150, Thailand Tel: +66 7638 6040-3 Fax: +66 7638 6043
E-mail: info@theplantationphuket.com

www.theplantationphuket.com



Property Gazette

Properties For Sale

RAWAI SHOPHOUSES



2 new, connected shop-houses in Rawai, on Wiset Rd are for sale. Ground floor: sales office, staff room, kitchen, dining room and toilet. Second floor: master bedroom with separate bath and 2 separate bedrooms with connecting bath. Third floor: living room and en-suite bedroom. Living area: 200sqm. Freehold land: 100sqm. Price 4.5 million baht. (US\$113,000). Please contact Peter for more information at Tel: 081-8928526 or visit our website at: www.phuket-besthomes.com

RAWAI 2-STORY

New houses. 160sqm, houses for sale from 1.2 to 1.8 million baht. 400 meters from the beach. Contact. Tel: 084-3079909. Email: dyotachan@yahoo.com

TOWN HOUSE IN KATA

The house is located in a quiet, safe area, 800 meters from the beach. 3 bedrooms, one with balcony. Kitchen and a big living room. 4 aircons. 2.9 million baht, 60-year lease. Tel: 087-0297590. Email: bjaco2@online.no

PATONG VILLA FOR SALE



Very exclusive, completely-furnished, new villa with swimming pool in best residential area of Patong. Two floors, three bedrooms with aircon, three bathrooms, Jacuzzi, Western kitchen and dining area. Living area: 200sqm. Freehold land: 150sqm.

Price: 8.5 million baht. Tel: 081-8928526.

LARGE HOUSE

Large house in Chalong area. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, Western-style kitchen. Quiet street. 4.2 million baht ono. Tel: 081-7475293, 085-783-9285. Email: chillhouse@hotmail.com

BARGAIN HOUSE

For sale. Chalong. 3 bedrooms, 1 ensuite and bath. Adjacent maid's flat, self contained in private garden, TVs in both buildings & aircon throughout. 2 car ports with locking gates. Asking: 3.7 million negotiable. Tel: 076-330897, 085-7819961.

BEACHFRONT CONDO

Kalim, Patong. High standard, fully-furnished, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, pool, many facilities. Tel: 081-8920038.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Tel: 087-2799500. For details, please see our website: www.baan-phuttharat-phuket.com

HOT DEAL!

Beautiful, 3-bedroom house, open kitchen, marble floor, separate office, 2 telephone lines, high-speed Internet, 5 aircons, includes furniture. Quiet location, 5km to the beach. Only 3.9 million baht. Tel: 086-2740010. Email: scorp64Ch@yahoo.de

NEW VILLA FOR SALE

With pool. 5 bedrooms, superb location & best view from top of the hill. The most quiet 1 rai of land overlooking a golf course. Lake & valley views. 10 minutes to all shopping centers, boat/Laguna yacht and hospital, yet 15 minutes to beach. Near BIS. Guarantee 9% rental income. 19.5 million baht. Call K. Noi, for more details. Tel: 087-2698492.

NEW 2-STORY

House on land area of 432 sqm. Price: 3.8 million baht. Please contact me for more details. Tel: 087-2711270. Email: gimko_8@hotmail.com

PATONG SEA VIEW

Furnished, pool. 2.2 million baht. 36sqm, best location. Tel: 085-7823231. Email: guntmit@aol.com

VILLA FOR SALE PATONG PHUKET



Has private swimming pool. Fully furnished. Tel: 086-2791602. For more details, please see our website at: www.thai-norwaymansion.com

KATA SEAVIEW LAND

Unique opportunity to buy 4 rai of seaview land overlooking Kata Beach along with Thai company, 2 foreign directorships and 2 work permits. Only need to transfer share ownership. In secluded location in select area with electricity and town water on site. Ideal for seaview project. 32 million baht. Also available, 0.5 rai building plot in select development surrounded by secure stone wall and mature trees with excellent sea views. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 081-2735047.

Email: houseinphuket@hotmail.com

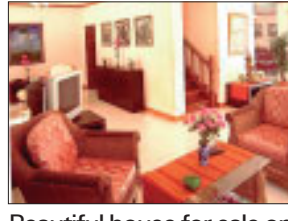
THAI-STYLE HOUSE

In Kamala. Beautiful new house in Kamala with pool, Jacuzzi and car port on 740sqm land. To be sold below market value by owner. Tel: 081-0797121. Email: nadda@malee-baan-thai.com

BEACHFRONT

Condo in Ao Makhram. Great design. Owner going back home. Nice resale + good price. Tel: 086-2670898.

HOUSE WITH POOL IN CHALONG



Beautiful house for sale on 224sqm of land, with private pool. Two bedrooms, big living room, bathroom with Jacuzzi and shower, European kitchen. Fully furnished, 3 aircons, ADSL, UBC. 5 million baht. Tel: 086-5336089. Fax: 076-310362. Email: gazette@glibber.com

4 BEDROOMS & POOL

New 4-bedroom house. Large living and dining room with furniture, 5m x 10m swimming pool. Contact for more information. Tel: 081-9390176. Email: beaver@tsstf.net

INVESTMENT

Guesthouse in Patong for sale with company, 208sqm with Chanote title, 150m from Jungceylon and bypass road. Option to open 3 shops and extend to 7 floors. Very reasonable price: 28 million baht. Tel: 086-1062566. Fax: 076-345554. Email: philipp@loxinfo.co.th

4 SARABURI VILLAS

For sale/barter 180sqm on 100sq wah guarded estate. 4.75 million baht. Or barter with sea view plots. Tel: 081-8142040. www.ziam.com

SRISUCHART

Phuket City. 1-story house, 2 bedrooms, big living room, 2 bathrooms, European-style kitchen with dishwasher. UBC, telephone line, nice garden with sala. Price: 3.6 million baht. Tel: 076-204138, 084-060-2497.

SEAVIEW PLOT

1,095sqm in Bang Tao: 3 million baht. Also 885sqm for 1.65million baht. Including infrastructure. Please contact for more details. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

GOLF VILLAS FOR SALE

Large 4-bedroom, 4-bathroom houses fronting hole 7 fairway at Phuket Country Club. Swimming pool, maid's quarters, lifetime membership. Perfect central location. 18 million baht, negotiable.

086 277 2691

BARGAIN HOUSE KATHU

In popular small development. 3-bedroom house with 3 bathrooms, large living room, kitchen/diner, laundry room, covered patio, private parking, walled garden. Nearly completed. Rural setting though close to all facilities. Sale price: 4.5 million baht. Tel: 084-843-9579. Fax: 076-323-421. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

FREEHOLD/SEAVIEW

Condo sale. Brand new, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Bel Air Panwa unit. Price: 9 million baht. Including 500,000 baht worth of furniture. Agents welcome. Tel: 076-342673, 081-9582705. Fax: 076-342673. Email: asiaproperty@compass-club.com

LUXURY HOUSE

Large pool. Private sale at Land & Houses Park Chalong. 3-4 bedroom/office, 2 stories, fully-fitted kitchen, private tropical garden and large swimming pool. Land area: 800sqm. 12.9 million baht. Contact for full details. Tel: 076-378361, 081-7722300. Fax: 01-6764849. Or contact via email: w_amonoo@yahoo.com

LAND FOR SALE

Kod Sireh. Beautiful land, main road. 92sq wah. Tel: 086-8999282.

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Property Gazette

HOUSE FOR SALE



3 million baht. Must sell, discounted price. 2 bedrooms, includes all furniture and appliances. Quiet, gated community, pool, sauna, gym. 1 min from Nai Yang Beach. Custom floors, cabinets, tiles, lighting. Euro/US standards. Please contact for more details. Tel: 089-5878154. Email: loverofasia72@yahoo.com

VILLA FOR SALE NEAR LAGUNA



Newly built. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Open-plan kitchen, living room. The villa is fully airconditioned and furnished. Built on 360 sqm. 176sqm living area, with a beautiful garden. The location is only 10 minutes to Bang Tao Beach and 5 minutes to Laguna. 7.8 million baht. Tel: 089-813-1447. Email: kwanphuket@hotmail.com

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EXCEPTIONAL VILLAS



Quiet Rawai-Chalong area, private development of 8 villas, security, living area 350sqm, open-plan living, swimming pool, stunning and amazing design, 6 villas, 17 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

RAWAI:

2 PLOTS OF 1 RAI

2 plots of 1 rai between Rawai and Chalong, quiet location, large coconut palms. 5 million per rai. Direct from owner. Please contact for more details. Tel: 089-8748804. Email: rat_phuket@yahoo.co.uk

RAWAI, 400SQM

Chanote title, 100 meters from main road, square plot. Asking: 1.6 million baht. Tel: 081-5376866.

SMALL PLOT IN

Rawai. 200sqm. Chanote title. Asking 750,000 baht. Good location for house. Tel: 081-5376866.

FURNISHED HOUSE

5 minutes to Laguna Phuket. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, UBC, ADSL, solar water heating, 3 aircons, living room, large hall area, pool 5 x 10, usage area 310sqm, land 1200sqm. Price: 13 million baht. Tel: 089-8738295, 086-594-8426. Email: tomasflet@hotmail.com

TWIN HOUSE 2.95M

New 2-story house in Bann Manee-kram. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 44sq wah. Great value. Tel: 089-7292313.

TWO SHOPHOUSES

Samkong area. 5 minutes to Tesco. 3 floors, 1 with modern shopfront. 3 years old. 2.8 and 3 million baht. Tel: 076-254063, 087-2652889.



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Kata Apartment sea view

4 story, 3 b/r, 4 ba/r, 406sqm, community pool, walk to beach

Price: 12.9 million baht

Other for sale

Kamala House 2 story, 3 b/r, 4 ba/r, pool, FF price: 13 million baht now 9 million baht
Kathu House 3 b/r, 3 ba/r, 3,220sqm, sep guest/r 3.5 million baht.

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PRIME LAND ON PHUKET



On Hill, very beautiful overlooking eastside & westside sea, and 2 golf courses (Blue Canyon & Mission Hill) 19 rai (whole sale 2.5 million baht/rai) (partial sale 3 million baht/rai) with Nor Sor 3 Kor and no obligation (price negotiable) Tel: 081-893-6355.

SEAVIEW, LUXURY FOREIGN FREEHOLD CONDOMINIUM



2 bedroom, 167sqm high-floor condo with panoramic sea views of Karon beach from all rooms. 14.5 million baht. Call Jeremy at Phuket Land Search Tel: 081-891-6174.

POOL VILLA IN NAI HARN

2 en-suite bedrooms, big living area, pool. 4 million baht. Tel: 076-288047, 081-8941660. Email: cottrell@loxinfo.co.th

HOUSE FOR SALE

Nakatani Village, Kalim Bay. Wonderful, fully-fitted out and furnished villa. Utter luxury and fabulous location 34 million baht. Tel: 081-9241447. Email: mail@villa.co.th

PHUKET VILLA

Sale. Phuket Villa, Suan Luang, semi detached. 45 sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 1.85 million baht. Tel: 084-059-5577.

ECO NANUA ESTATE

Eco Nanua is located on Phuket's east coast just a short distance from the Heroines Monument & just before the junction to Cape Yamu. The project will become a gated residential community comprising tropical gardens & views of the natural rainforest presenting a unique opportunity for its future residents. Land plot sizes range from 2 to 3 rai at 3 to 5 million baht a rai. Tel: 081-8925649. Fax: 076-385293. Email: noi@phuketinvestments.com

LAKE VIEW LAND

For sale in Rawai. Chanote title. Tranquil setting and close to Rawai beach. 1.18 rai for 6,270,000 baht. Please call PPH Tel: 086-9060166.

FAMILY HOME



Quiet Rawai area, 150sqm living space, only 4 villas in cul-de-sac, 2-3 bedrooms, land size 670sqm, walled in, 800 meters to waterfront and restaurants, superb neighborhood. 8.8 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

SEAVIEW LAND

In Ao Por. Nor Sor 3 Gor. 380sqm. Price: 1.55 million baht. Tel: 081-1719705. Email: atetayap@yahoo.com

KAMALA 1 1/2 RAI

House. Near beach, great opportunity, 10 million baht. Tel: 076-292596, 086-2678477. Email: tourniechristian@hotmail.com

NICE PATONG CONDO

With pool. 60sqm, fully furnished. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-7727-100, 081-5657427. Email: snonticha@hotmail.com

URGENT SALE



Sea view/breeze. 5 minutes to Nai Harn beach. 320sqm, 2 bedrooms with ensuite, master with Jacuzzi, guest shower, handcrafted custom bedroom & kitchen furniture. Quality construction, wood floors, 3 carports. 6.5 million baht. Neg adjoining 320sqm plot available separately. Tel: 081-9583513.

JN-TECH

Construction. Spanish-style Villa for a great price. Available with 120, 160 or 220sqm. Best opportunity on the island. German management! Tel: 086-7418345. Email: info@1nj.de For further details, please see our website at: www.1nj.de

NEW POOL VILLA

Land & House park. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Euro kitchen. Tel: 081-0918908. Email: junekata@hotmail.com

LAND 1 RAI

At Kho Ta Node. 1-2-39.9 rai, Chanote, next to new high-end project & near Laguna properties. Road & electricity, suitable for private villa or small project. 5 million baht a rai. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-325411, 081-3701189. Fax: 076-325413. Email: phudtheera@phuketrealty.net

HOUSE FOR SALE

In Nanai, Patong. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-6620804. Email: renoo-thailand@gmx.net

MISSION HEIGHTS

1 rai. Located in a beautiful development. Close to airport and golf course. 5km to Nai Yang Beach. Tel: 076-281-529, 081-5362138. Fax: 076-281530. Email: info@jonathan-cruiser.com



Surin Beach—Modern Seaview Apartments for sale

Within 100 metres of the beach. 80 sqm. of living space. One bedroom, living room, European-style kitchen, fully furnished, air conditioning, hot water system, home security system, internet connection, television and satellite TV. The price starts from 6.5 million baht for the first-floor apartment.

Please contact Ann 66 1 868 7676 or email: ann@mms.ais.co.th

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A stunning villa within the sought-after Katamanda Estate on the headland overlooking Kata Noi and Kata bays. This 477sqm villa was completed just a year ago. Built to the highest international standards and fitted with the very best of everything, the villa comprises a large living room, Western-style kitchen, 4 bedrooms, maids' quarters, storage and utility rooms, large sala and a 60sqm swimming pool. The villa benefits from extensive common reserve areas to both sides. The owner is asking a very realistic 30 million baht, including furniture. Inspect now, or lose this great opportunity!

For more information or an appointment to view, call 076 333251 ext. 336 or 089 652 1951. Email sales@katamanda.com or see our website at www.katamanda.com

Property Gazette

MODERN VILLA FOR SALE



Private sale in Thalang. Built to the highest standard. 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool. Price: 9.5 million baht. Tel: 089-7272822. Email: tonpa@gmx.net

750 RAI BEACHFRONT

Phuket Real Estate has EVERY beachfront plot that is left on Phuket Island. If you're looking for a 5-star hotel site or a 5-star development site, we can assist you. Please contact for full details. Tel: 076-346346, 089-8715192. Email: info@phuketrealestate.com

BEACHFRONT LAND

295sqm Nor Sor 3 Gor. Has road between land and beach, located at Kevin beach Ao Por. Price: 1.55 million baht. Tel: 081-1719705. Email: atetayap@yahoo.com

LUXURY VILLAS

Rawai. SAMAKKEA VILLAGE, Soi Samakkea 2. Top quality villas w/ large swimming pool, 3-4 bedrooms, fully-fitted kitchens. From 7.3 million baht. Tel: 083-176-6602. Send email to: info@thailandandhome.com For further details, please see our website: www.thailandandhome.com

LANTERN PROJECT

Near BIS. Must-see show house! 450sqm, water concept, 3 bedrooms, private lift and pool. SMEG kitchen, penthouse office with panoramic view. Completion: June 2007. Available for rent at 70,000 baht a month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-877-9292. Fax: 081-8779292. Email: prakaisriroj@hotmail.com

Please see our website at: www.gracegardensphuket.com

2-STORY BUILDING

Located on the bypass road, Srisuchart Grand View. For sale: 20 million baht. Great location for business. Call or email for visit. Tel: 076-376-279. Email: scspkt@loxinfo.co.th

VILLAS FOR SALE



Rawai, exclusive and private development at 60 meters above sea level, 374sqm living space, breathtaking sea views, 38 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

LUXURIOUS ESTATE



On 4,500sqm of land, 4 separate villas, fully furnished, 10 bedrooms, entertainment area, swimming pool, absolute privacy, direct beachfront on east coast. 84 million baht. Contact for more info. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

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Email: chrisfisher@yahoo.com

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Properties For Rent

NEW HOUSE FOR RENT



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms at Pa Khlok, just 700 meters from monument. Furnished, near international school. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8516115. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

VILLA FOR RENT



Ban Prangthong Villa Estate, 400sqm living space, 5 bedrooms, open-plan living/dining, garden with swimming pool, Jacuzzi, 80,000 baht a month, minimum 12-month contract. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

Land & houses park Chalong. New house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished aircon, free access to pool, fitness 400 Gym. Tel: 081-788-4655.

BUNGALOW

For rent. Fully furnished. 2 bedrooms with aircon. Nice, quiet & safe Chalong area. 22,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6064279.

LONG TERM RENT

Minimum 1 year, 1/2-rai complex in Kamala. Total 7 units, which consist of 2 x 2-bedroom apartments, 2 x 1-bedroom apartment, 3 studio rooms. Swimming pool, Jacuzzi, landscaped gardens with barbecue, etc. Private road 5 mins from beach with amenities close by. Tel: 086-2733437. Email: kamalarob@yahoo.co.uk

HOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedrooms, 1 pool, ADSL, UBC, aircon, Rawai, available from February. 40,000 baht a month. 2 bedrooms, ADSL, aircon, in Kata. 17,000 baht a month. Tel: 081-7371687, 086-9544155.

HOUSE RENT/SALE

Chalong Bay. 50 meters from the beach. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 living room with kitchen. Tel: 076-388174, 085-7815664.

SURIN BAY AREA

Big garden. Long-term lease now available on 3-bedroom house with aircon, 2 toilets, outdoor kitchen, opening up to 1.2 rai of screen-fenced garden. Unfurnished or partially furnished as required. Good for pets, kids & privacy. Large covered outdoor area. Garden maintenance provided. 27,500 baht a month. Tel: 086-9410410, 086-269-2020. Email: here@fastmail.fm

RENT A HOUSE

Beautiful house, views of elephants and nature, big terrace, 130sqm basement, garage, full aircon, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. European style. Long-term rent: 30,000 baht a month. Come look. Tel: 081-2711082. Email: happyjo@procom.in.th

INSIDE-SIAM PROPERTY Sales Office: Tel: 076-333334, 089-6797878. Email: inside_property@hotmail.com

FOR SALE Normal: 4.85 million baht. Special: 4.5 million baht. Special Condition... Only 2 Units

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BAAN PHUKARON

Front width 5 meters. 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom. More than 62sqm. Outstandingly modernized. Supply all things in your life at home and office together. To pay attention to design at one's best.

FOR SALE Seaview Commercial building, 21 units, in Karon beach.

KARON BEACH PARK Special price: 12 - 18 million baht

FREEHOLD CONDO

Sought-after freehold condominium. Thai-style, top floor with wonderful sea views over Kalim Bay. Two bedrooms, modern kitchen. Foreigner can own in his/her name. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 076-290148, 086-2765117. Fax: 076-290148. E-mail: jihshand@yahoo.co.uk

LAND FOR SALE

In Mai Khao area. - 10 rai on the beach. Price: 170 million baht. - 1 rai, 72sq wah sea view. Price: 3.2 million baht. - 7.3 rai, 500m from the beach. Price: 3.2 million baht a rai. - 3.3 rai quiet and private area. Price: 2.7 million baht. Tel: 083-1743880, 087-264-6808.

OCEAN FRONT 160M

7 rai opposite Yacht Haven with 160 meters ocean-front. Very rare opportunity to purchase absolute waterfrontage in the entire kingdom. Perfect for private villa, estate, condo or investment. 2.6 million baht per rai. Road, power, water. Tel: 081-8912688.

PATONG CONDO

300m to beach. Clean, modern, comfortable, new aircon, furnished, ready to move in, TV, pool, parking. Please call. Tel: 081-0825707. For further details please see our website at: www.phuket-accommodation.info

BANG TAO

Bungalows for rent at 15,000 baht a month + utilities (6 months minimum) or 22,000 baht a month, or 7,000 baht a week. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom with hot water, telephone line. Car park, gated, quiet, 3km from Surin. Call K. Tee at Tel: 086-2786465 or Betty at Tel: 076-270377.

SEAVIEW PATONG

Luxury 2-bedroom apartment. European kitchen, aircon, UBC, ADSL, large swimming pool. Available for long- or short-term rental. Tel: 086-2790837.

9 RAI FOR LEASE

Located in Kathu. 2 minutes from Central. Suitable for long-term investor. For more info email: leekuab@yahoo.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

Located in secure estate. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, dining room, living room, study, fenced garden, UBC, ADSL. For rent long term. 30,000 baht a month. Tel: 084-843-9579. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

RAWAI BEACH VILLA

Rent room. Daily or monthly 3,000 to 9,000 baht. Aircon, safe, ADSL, UBC. Tel: 084-3079909. Email: dyotachan@yahoo.com

SHOPHOUSE BLOCK

5 terraced houses for rent on the bypass road. 35,000 baht a month. Please call K. Vachira for more information. Tel: 081-3269495.

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Where beauty meets luxury

170sqm villa on 350sqm plot in Rawai beach start 5.5 million baht. Includes pool, can you beat this!!!

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Property Gazette

LUXURY PENTHOUSE



Bungalow, Kathu. Stunning view overlooking a lake and golf course. European kitchen, aircon, Cable TV, telephone line. 20,000 baht a month. Tel: 076-202-585, 085-5071216. Email: lakeviewapartment-phuket@hotmail.com

2-BEDROOM HOUSE

In Boat Lagoon, furnished, serviced. Short term: 40,000 baht a month. Long term: 35,000 baht a month. Now available. Tel: 086-2820567.

KAMALA BEACH

Nice apartments or houses for long-term rental, furnished or unfurnished, 2 or 3 bedrooms. 20,000-25,000 baht a month. Tel: 084-3059606.

SURIN APARTMENT

Modern, well-furnished, 2-bedroom 100sqm apartment including: 42" Plasma TV, washing machine, SMEG ceramic hob, breakfast bar. Great views. Available long term for 30,000 baht a month. Tel: 085-8882022. Email: sleeves@sleeves.com For details, please see our website at: www.sleeves.com/photos/LersuangApartment

BUILDING SHOP

For rent 1,000sqm, fully furnished & car parking area. Located near Heroines' Monument. Tel: 089-4711585. Email: theveewan@yahoo.com

KATA PENTHOUSE

And rooms to rent near beach. Swimming pool, cable, TV fridge, etc. Clean views. 7,000 baht a month. 400 baht a day. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-276-6597.

MODERN OFFICE

For rent/sale. Situated minutes from Phuket City, this newly-built small office offers great value for a company of 15-30 employees. All amenities available. Move in and start work right away. Sell for 4.3 million baht. Long-term rent: 25,000 baht a month. Tel: 081-537-5970. Email: info@yourrooms.com

NEW HOUSE

Phaklong, Thalang. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished kitchen. 13,500 baht a month. Palm Garden 56/6. Tel: 081-6063525.

LONG-TERM RENT

Chalong. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, car park, furnished. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-7288311.

LAND IN PATONG

For long-term lease. 2.5 & 3.5 rai. 200 Pi Rd. Tel: 081-6424280 (No brokers).

HOUSE FOR RENT

Newly built, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 1km to Phuket City & 7km to Patong Country Club. Available Feb 1 for 1 year rent. 27,000 baht a month. Please contact for further information. Tel: 076-203060, 081-0904786. Email: malkhamo614@yahoo.com

NEW KATHU HOUSE

For rent or sale. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished, garden, aircon. Near Lotus, Central and Patong beach. For rent at 25,000 baht a month. For sale at 4.5 million baht. Please call for more details. Tel: 081-7356684, 084-187-1939.

HOUSE FOR RENT

7 rooms. 540sqm, free space 300sqm on 1 rai, Sapam, Phuket City. Looking for long-term renter. Please call for more information. Tel: 086-6893289.

VILLA FOR RENT

Beautiful, new 2-bedroom villa. Fully furnished, aircon. 2 minutes to Rawai beach. Private pool and walled garden. Available mid-Jan minimum 6-month let 35,000 baht a month. Tel: 081-9701716.

PATONG HOLIDAY

Studio apartment close to beach. Nice decor, clean and comfortable. TV, fridge, double bed, new aircon, pool, parking. Tel: 081-0825707. Please see: www.phuket-accommodation.info for details and photos.

BUNGALOW

1 bedroom bungalow in front of Chalong Bay beach for rent. Has terrace, kitchen, aircon, car park 15m from house. Fully furnished. 12,000 baht a month. Tel: 084-658-4437, 089-7297978. Email: property1998@hotmail.com

3-BEDROOM HOME

Chao Fa Rd, 207sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, nice living room, good kitchen, cool garden, parking for 3 cars. Fully furnished. For rent at 40,000 baht a month or for sale at 6.7 million baht. Tel: 081-5978315. Email: phuket8@hotmail.com

DETACHED HOUSE

For rent or sale. just 7 minutes from International school. Fully-furnished house with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and ready to move in. Rental price 20,000 baht a month or selling price: 2.45 million baht (negotiable). Tel: 081-539-9269.

FOR RENT OR SALE

In condotel Sky Inn. 2 single rooms/1 double room. Tel: 089-8756803. Email: hebo41@gmail.com

LAKEVIEW APT/LOFT

office. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 floors, near Lotus. Furnished, cable, phone, aircon. 20,000 baht a month. Tel: 081-8928208.

SHOPHOUSE

Near SuperCheap. 4 stories (300sqm) with 5 rooms, 7 aircons and 5 phone lines. For rent at 30,000 baht a month. Tel: 076-238777, 081-7371-678. Fax: 076-239739. Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

CONDO FOR RENT

1 room, newly renovated. Aircon, small kitchen. Near Rawai Beach. 6,500 baht a month. Tel: 081-4899868.

HOUSE FOR RENT

Aircon, phone, 2 bedrooms, near Chalong. 6,000 baht a month. Please call for more information. Tel: 087-292-9967 081-7425884.

HOUSE FOR RENT

65sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms near Laguna, fully furnished, air, carpark. Tel: 081-3678093.

CHALONG NEW HOME

2 bedrooms, swimming pool villa for rent with aircon, UBC & telephone. Tel: 089-6521473.

MARINA VIEWS

Limited selection of various sizes of offices & apartments for rent, from December. Stunning views. Use of pool and gym. Contact for details. Tel: 076-206704. Email: info@yacht-haven-phuket.com



Rentals

Luxurious apartments, stunning sea view. 100 m to beach, elevator to Patong City.

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www.phuketandamanrealestate.com
Email: info@phuketandamanrealestate.com
phuketandamanrealestate@hotmail.com

PATONG TOWER

Sea view. 1-bedroom apartment, 100 meters from beach. UBC, pool, parking. Tel: 084-8473304.

FAMILY HOUSE

Chao Fah Rd. 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Nice garden. Safe and quiet. For long-term rent at 38,000 baht a month. For sale at 7.3 million baht. Tel: 081-7872201. Email: phuket8@hotmail.com

QUIET HOUSE

For rent, Bang Tao. 2 bedrooms, secluded mountain setting near waterfall, quality furnishings, kitchen, appliances, plates, linen, Internet, cable TV. 25,000 baht a month or 9,000 baht a week. Tel: 086-2670157. Fax: 076-324493. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

SHOP FOR RENT

1,000sqm, fully furnished, with parking area. Located near Heroines Monument. Contact for more information. Tel: 089-4711585. Email: theveewan@yahoo.com

PHUKET B.L.

Apartment. New in Kathu. Big room, 1 bedroom, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht a month. Tel: 081-6923163.

COMMERCIAL

Building, Chalong. Near traffic circle, 3 stories. Tel: 081-9895487. Email: aasvogel06@hotmail.com

KAMALA BEACH

Apartment & houses for rent. New, two to four bedrooms. 20-40,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-3059606.

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- 2 x Suzuki 140Hp outboards 20 hours!
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<p>Beneteau 331 (2002)</p>  <p>\$105,000 USD</p>	<p>Mon 391 (1997)</p>  <p>\$98,000 USD</p>	<p>Bayliner 4788 (1995)</p>  <p>\$245,000 USD</p>	<p>Hatteras 41 (1991)</p>  <p>7,500,000 THB</p>
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Please contact our sales office or website:

<p>Phuket Office c/o Phuket Boat Lagoon Tel: +66(0) 76 239 111, 273 320 Email: broker@asia-marine.net</p>	<p>Phuket Office Yacht Haven 141/2 Moo 2 T. Maikhao, A. Thalang, Phuket 83140, Thailand www.asia-marine.net</p>
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YACHT CHARTER

- Sunseeker Manhattan 58
- One-day tour 110,000 baht
- Price includes captain, food & drinks, diving & fishing equipment

Comments from our customer boarded during 14-16 Feb 06:
"Everything was perfect. The boat was clean and was very good condition. Service perfect, Food perfect, Captain perfect. We enjoy very much."

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(Contact Ms. Kanakorn Senguthai)
E-mail: sales@sunnay.com Website: www.sunnay.com

63' POWER CRUISER

Complete new refit, built for luxury, 4 double cabins, Twin Cummins engines, full galley, water maker and huge top deck. Please contact. Tel: 081-9390176. Email: beaver@tstf.net

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YACHT FOR SALE



Fairways Freedom 25. Very seaworthy, just finished full refit including new rigging, sails, engine, etc. She's a lovely little ship, reasonably priced. Tel: 081-9252155. Email: no1paul@gmail.com

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Maxi95MD11, GPS autopilot and more. In very good condition. Tel: 081-0815947.

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Great condition. Seats 25, 2 x 200HP Yamahas. Boat comes with tour company: lease earning 20,000 - 40,000 a month. Price: 850,000 baht. Tel: 084-6111913.

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KMD Management Group



Personal Assistant

Our client is a Western individual based in Asia with worldwide offices and operations. Due to significant time spent in the private villa estate in Phuket, we require a highly competent PA to enhance to global team.

The role will require interaction with a wide variety of people in the business as well as service providers and a diverse range of VIP's, family members and senior executives. The role will require taking responsibility for all elements of the family's Thailand operations and also some elements of corporate life.

The following are examples of the background of a successful candidate, though it is noted that personality fit with the organization is the most important requirement to fulfill.

- Bachelors/Masters Degree from a Western university.
- Experience in diary/travel planning of senior Western executive.
- Highly confident communicating in English.
- High level of IT skills including MS Office.
- Experience in dealing with our businesses and senior executives in planning and executing overseas meetings and corporate events.
- Experience working or studying in Europe or America.

This role is an excellent opportunity for someone seeking to use all of their talents working in an unparalleled organization on a worldwide stage with an excellent salary.

Please send your CV with photo to
KMD Management Group
57/10 Moo 1, T. Thepkasatri A. Talang, Phuket 83110
Email: RT@KMDMGMT.COM



East West Siam has been well established for more than 20 years. We are one of Thailand's leading Inbound Tour Operators and Destination Management Companies.

An award winning travel facilitator and product innovator, we have been providing customized services to leading travel agencies, tour operators and incentive organizers throughout the UK, Europe, North America and Australia.

We have served clients with our experience, knowledge and professionalism. With the help of our well-trained multi-lingual staff (180 team members in Thailand alone) backed by a fully computerized reservation and communication system, we have the ability to provide a comprehensive range of travel services and original products throughout Thailand. We are fully insured in compliance with existing laws and international standards.

Position Required:

Representative

Qualifications:

- Male or female, Dutch Nationality
- Experience in tourism
- Bachelors Degree in any related field
- Good communication in English and interpersonal skill
- Sales experience is a must
- Computer literate
- Service oriented and good personality for handling clients
- Based in Phuket

Interested candidates should send their resumé with a recent photograph and expected salary to: **Human Resources department**

East West Siam Ltd.

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www.ewsiam.com Email: hr@ewsiam.com

PROPERTY CARE SERVICES

PCS Phuket urgently require Site Managers experienced in janitorial field. Preferred applicants are aged 30 up, computer literate, and have basic English-speaking skills and a driver's license. Tel: 076-224658-9, 081-6949088. Fax: 076-254774. Email: scott@pcs.co.th

CUSTOMER SERVICE EXECUTIVE

Position available in Hygiene & Pest Control Division. Preferred applicants are female, aged 25 - 40, university grads with sales and operations experience. Drivers license and own vehicle required. Tel: 076-224658, 081-3702488. Fax: 076-254774. Email: scott@pcs.co.th

SECRETARY TO MD

Executive Secretary required for a very exciting project in Phuket. Marketing and Sales experience essential. Must be a hard worker, highly motivated and with good English/communication skills. An opportunity to earn a very good salary. Initial trial period: 4 weeks. Tel: 087-8974541. Email: glk40@hotmail.co.uk

HolyClothing

HolyClothing.com is a leading Internet fashion retailer of classical women's garments. We develop, manufacture & market our exclusive garments in-house.

Foreigner needed - Intermediate Web/PHP Programmer

The successful candidate will have the following experience:

- * Honors BSc in Computer Science.
- * Minimum 5 years general programming experience.
- * Minimum 1 year of Web programming experience (HTML, CSS).
- * Minimum 1 year of JavaScript programming experience.
- * Minimum 1 year of PHP programming experience.
- * Minimum 1 year of XML programming experience.
- * Minimum 1 year of MySQL programming experience.

In addition, the following mandatory and optional requirements will be considered:

- * Fluent English (both written and spoken) is mandatory.
- * A logical and methodical individual is the ideal candidate.
- * The ability to work within rigid programming standards.
- * High aptitude to learn and adapt to a new and expanding environment is vital.
- * C and/or C++ programming experience is a definite advantage.
- * Unix experience is a definite advantage.
- * Familiarity with Apple OS/X and XCode is a bonus.
- * Knowledge of Apple scripting is a bonus.

Work Permit is available for this position.
Please send your CV to: IT@HolyClothing.com
or call 085-7955393

RESERVATION STAFF

Diethelm Travel is looking for highly qualified and service-minded operations staff. Good command of English and computer skills are required, experience in tourism is a plus. Tel: 076-209163, 081-8927714. Fax: 076-209174. Email: max@dto.co.th

STAFF NEEDED

New property office opening January 2007 needs female staff. Contact for details. Tel: 076-273460, 089-4740461. Fax: 076-273460. Email: regmgr_solid@hotmail.com

TOUR GUIDE

Thai- Must have very good spoken English, for new venture in Phuket. Own transport [car] and live in Phuket. Contact us to arrange an interview. Tel: 076-289-044, 088-4376427. Email: gsmith100@gmail.com

STAFF WANTED NEW RESTAURANT

The Steakhouse is now hiring all positions. Call Kulu PJ. Tel: 076-341116.

PROJECT MANAGER

At least 5 years' experience in construction or engineering, ability to establish and implement project plans, well organized, problem-solving skills and proficiency in English communication. Tel: 076-328599. Send CV to email: pat@destinationair.com

SALES ADMIN

Female, 25-35 years with good written and spoken English. A year's experience in sales would be greatly appreciated. Please contact for more details. Tel: 076-215 710. Fax: 076-224368. Email: phuketsales@somerville-siam.com

SALES MANAGER

Male/female, Thai nationality, efficient English communication skills. 5 years' experience in sales development in airline, hotel or travel industry. Excellent presentation skills with ability to generate new business opportunities. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-328599. Send CV to: pat@destinationair.com

ACCOUNTANT

Male/female, with English communication skills and experience in bookkeeping & taxation. Please call. Tel: 076-328505. Send CV to email: bee@destinationair.com

HR MANAGER

Male/female, experience in HR with multi-national company, possess in-depth knowledge of HR management and Thai labor laws. Excellent English communication skills. Tel: 076-328599. Send CV to: pat@destinationair.com

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Sales Officer- Reservations Officer- Administrative Officer. Male/female with experience and knowledge relevant to the position applied for. Tel: 076-328505. Send CV to email: bee@destinationair.com

RESERVATION

Officer: 3 positions. Urgently need online reservations agent for airline booking system. Male/female Thai national with English-communication and computer skills. Energetic & hard working, own transport and able to work on shift. Tel: 076-328598. Email: bee@destinationair.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Needed for 3-hour daytime photo shoot. Experience working with models helpful. Text or call Phil Tel: 085-2212883.

MODEL WANTED

Need female for beach photo shoot. Must be attractive, thin, blonde. Age between 18-30 years old. Tel: 085-2212883.

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GREAT WORKFORCE
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Marriott's Phuket Beach Club, a leader in the global vacation ownership business, is looking for competent individuals and active professionals to join our team in the following positions

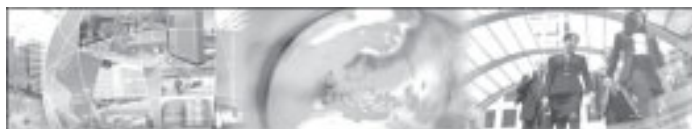
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|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1) Activity Coordinator | 2 Positions |
| 2) Marketing Executive | 2 Positions |
| 3) Administrative Manager | 1 Position |
| 4) Data Entry | 1 Position |
| 5) Database Manager | 1 Position |
| 6) IT Support | 1 Position |
| 7) Contract Coordinator | 1 Position |

All positions are based in Phuket and require self-motivated, confident people with excellent interpersonal skills and proactive. An intermediate degree of proficiency in English is necessary. Candidates with the above qualifications should submit a resume with a recent photograph at:

hr.phuket@vacationclub.com or fax: 076-348379

Marriott's Phuket Beach Club
230, 232 Maikhao, Talang,
Phuket 83110, Thailand

For more information, please visit our website at
www.vacationclub.com



Knight Frank

We are an international property consultant with 200 officers worldwide providing property agency services, asset valuation, property and facilities management, research and consultancy. Due to a rapid expansion, we are looking for qualified personnel to join our company as follows:

1. Estate Manager:

- Age over 28 years
- BA in Management or related fields
- At least 2 years experience in building/estate management
- 3 years in management level
- Knowledge in Juristic Person Acts is an advantage
- Strong leadership, good problem solving skills
- Able to work under pressure

2. Chief Engineer:

- Male, age over 25 years
- BA in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering
- At least 2 years experience in building services
- Knowledge of system maintenance management is an advantage

3. Project Coordinator:

- Age over 22 years
- BA in related fields
- Self motivated and possess good coordinating and problem solving skills with service mind

4. Accountant:

- Male or female, age 25-30 years
- BA in Accounting or Finance
- At least 3 years experience in related fields
- Familiar with accounting software and knowledge of MS Office, especially MS Excel
- Should be strong literacy in MS Office (Excel)
- Proficiency in both written and spoken English

5. Receptionist:

- Female, age over 22 years
- Vocational or higher in related fields
- Good telephoning, communication and interpersonal skills

6. Technician:

- Male, age over 22 years
- Vocational degree or higher in Mechanical/Electrical
- Vocational degree or higher in Mechanical/Electrical
- At least 1 year experience in system maintenance

Interested candidates are invited to write in with full resume, present and expected salaries, and a recent photo to:

Remark:

Thai Nationality only, Position 1-5 good command of spoken and written English and computer literacy is essential, male applicants must complete or exempt from military service, Knowledge of real estate is an advantage

Knight Frank Phuket Co., Ltd.

1 Plaza Del Mar Building, Room No. 109-111 & 201-202,
Pasak-Koktanod Road, T. Cherngtalay, A. Talang,
Phuket 83110
Tel: 076-318151-58, Fax: 076-318159.
Email: chutima.nirawani@th.knightfrank.com

Sales Representative Wanted

If you have your own car and want a paycheck that is limited only by your ambition, we might have a job for you. Our furniture company is looking for an experienced sales representative who is capable and willing to build their own customer base. The position requires generating outside sales and servicing clients. We are looking for applicants who speak and write good English, are computer literate, team players and have a charming personality. Basic knowledge of the furniture business is preferred. A generous salary, commission and benefit package will be offered to the successful candidate. Interviews will be conducted Monday January 15, 2007.

Please call 076-223-025 for an appointment.

LOOKING FOR 1 OR 2 MAIDS

Foreign couple is looking for a long-term maid/s with basic English. Working location: Kamala, in a new house. Must be honest and self-motivated. Good salary for the right candidate. We can offer private maid's room with bathroom, TV, etc. Please call or email for interview. Previous experience of hotel or house cleaning and laundry is required. Tel: 086-1727974. Email: rene.koller@bluewin.ch For further details, please see our website at www.romsai.ch

We create the great places to be – Fantastic resort destinations with the aim to become the best recognized brand name leisure real estate company in Southeast Asia, building, owning and operating great resort hotels, spectacular golf club resorts, and magical resort communities across Southeast Asia. We are expanding and we are looking for dynamic team players to join us.

DESTINATION PROPERTIES
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Construction Manager

- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering or any related field
- Minimum 8 years experience in construction site, experience in hotel resort is an advantage
- Good site management knowledge
- Computer literacy and good communication skills in English

Structure Engineer

- Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering
- Minimum 5 years experience in civil engineering field
- Possess a professional registration license
- Computer literacy and good communication skills in English

M&E Engineer

- Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical & Electrical Engineering
- Minimum 5 years experience in M&E field
- Possess a professional registration license
- Computer literacy and good communication skills in English

Architectural Supervisor

- Bachelor's Degree in any related field
- Minimum 5 years experience in site supervision for architectural works, preferably in hotel resort
- Computer literacy and good communication skills in English

Project Accountant

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or related field
- Senior Accountant and have real estate development accounting experience
- In charge of one of our resort development projects overseeing A/R, A/P, project reporting, and financing draws.
- Minimum 5 years project development accounting experience.
- Computer literacy and good communication skills in English

Site Administrator

- Bachelor's Degree in any related field
- Minimum 3-5 years experience in site administration
- Good document control knowledge
- Computer literacy and good communication skills in English

***** All candidates will be based in Phuket *****

Attractive remuneration package will be offered to the qualified candidate. Please send your resume to hr@destination-properties.com

Destination Properties Co., Ltd.

191/36 CTI Tower 23rd Floor, New Ratchadapisek Road,
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or visit us at www.destination-properties.com

PROJECT BAAN COCOON

Anuphas Pirom Resort Co., Ltd., a real estate company developing luxury houses in Phuket Country Club Golf Course, currently seeking qualified candidates to fill the following positions

1. Property Management Manager 1 Position

- Female, age between 28 - 35 years.
- Min. 2 years experience in this field.
- Good command of both spoken and written English.

2. Sales 1 Position

- Female, age between 26 - 29 years.
- Good command of both spoken and written English.

Please send your CV and recent photo to
Ms. Kantheera Rungsang-anotai
☎ 076-202189, 076-319084 - 5 ☎ 076-319083
✉ info@anuphaspiromresort.com
<http://www.anuphaspiromresort.com>

PHUKET FREE PLUS MARKETING

We are looking for sales and marketing staff (female) Thai nationals. All customers will be Thai but some English will help. Top salary and excellent commission. Contact K.Nutthanun. Tel: 076-245971, 085-888-0636.

MIDDLE MANAGEMENT Officer.

- Thai female, aged 26-45 years.
 - B.A. or Master's degree.
 - Very good English (esp. listening and speaking).
 - Good communication and computer skills.
- Tel: 076-264770-2. Email: info@kajonkiet.com

WWW.GLOBALHOME.EU

Needs advertisement sales rep to visit realtors. Earn 50,000 baht a month. Contact. Email: v.areskoug@globalhome.eu

CASHIER

& bartenders. For bar on Rawai Beach. Good English and experience required. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-288887, 089-1961773. Email: cindyjochrane@hotmail.com

Employment Wanted

LOOKING FOR A JOB
Singaporean lady, 27 years old. English spoken & written. Experience in real estate & law firm in Thailand. Anything considered. Tel: 089-289-7180.

LOOKING FOR A JOB
Male, 33, Belgian. Anything considered, hard-working, can speak Dutch, English, Spanish. Please contact for more details. Tel: 089-2897180. Email: reynaerts666@yahoo.co.uk

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

Articles For Sale

CAR PARK AWNINGS
PVC 3.3x5.5m, 5,000 baht. 6.5x4m, 6,000 baht. Tel: 089-7280996.

AIR CONDITIONER
21,000 BTU. First reasonable offer accepted. Tel: 089-7280996.

SCUBA
Mares Ruby, buddy commando BCD. 15 liter steel tank, Avanti Quattro fins, Sunto Solution computer, Nomad sea kayak. All in good condition, sell 40,000 or will split. Call for price. Tel: 081-6064649.

TWO BIG NEW 3-DOOR FRIDGES
2x1.8m glass doors, suitable for food/drinks. 25,000 baht each. Contact me for further details. Tel: 076-388621, 084-8519072. Email: goodtasteforgoodlife@yahoo.de

MASSAGE CHAIRS
In good condition. Equipped with system timer. For sale: 8,000 baht. Negotiable with quantity. Tel: 087-272-4330.

AIRCON TOSHIBA
Two new unused Toshiba aircons with warranty, installation included. New price 18,000 baht each, now 15,000 baht each. Tel: 089-4724841.

FITNESS EQUIPMENT
Mint condition cardio stepper and cardio bike, both have computers. Smooth, quiet, like new. Paid 12,000 baht each. Price: 6,500 each. Tel: 081-088-2179.

MOVING SALE
Denon AVR2805 surround with JBL E90 speakers, Samsung 30" widescreen TV, mountain bike, 4-burner golden gas grill. All 1 year old. Tel: 084-5078966.

WINDSURF BOARD
Beginner sail rig, still packed new. 50% price. Kawasaki KSR 110, Mongoose aluminium mountain bike. Near new. Please call for more information. Tel: 087-888-8244.

SCUBA CONSOLE
Has depth gauge, pressure gauge and compass. 12,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 085-785-5365.

Bulletins

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Is holding meetings in English at the following places in Phuket:

Mission Hospital Phuket City
Wed and Sun 7 pm

Bangkok Phuket Hospital Phuket City
Fri 7 pm

Patong Hospital Patong
Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun at 7 pm and Fri at 8 pm
For Phuket info (English) call 081-9564031, 081-8912895

Scandinavian speaking Group Wat Karon School-Karon
Tue and Sat 7 pm
Tel 081-2732053 (Nor) 087-2795636 (Nor) 086-7458910 (Swe)

For info on other Thailand AA meetings inquire at Tel: 02-2318300 (for Thai language press 3) www.aathailand.org or email info@aathailand.org

Business Opportunities

ESTATE AGENCY

For sale. This is one of Phuket's largest real estate agencies (established 2003), with over 300 listings, 500 web pages, and excellent double beachfront leased offices surrounded by 5-star hotels. Excellent profits with huge future potential. Sensible offers. Tel: 087-2837161. Email: realestatephuket@hotmail.com

FITNESS CLUB FOR SALE

Phuket's leading fitness club is open to offers. Over 800 members, swimming pool, spa. Priced for a quick sale as owner is relocating. 10 year lease available. Tel: 081-8926710.

GREAT BUSINESS

Bar, restaurant & Internet facilities for sale in Patong. Busy marketplace location. 2 bedrooms, 1 with aircon, bathroom, many new fittings. Low rent. Regrettably owner has other obligations. Genuine sale at 750,000 baht. Tel: 081-2716742. Email: smnhn@yahoo.co.uk

BASIC FOOD & BAR

Specializing in retail & wholesale home-made pies. We supply throughout Phuket and in Pattaya. Western and Thai food, burgers, fish and chips, etc. Located in Chalong shop with 5 accommodation rooms. 2 + 2-year lease, cheap rent, huge growth potential. Price includes all stock, training, recipes. Has loyal staff. Genuine reason for sale, 995,000 baht. Tel: 087-0245036.

GYM FOR SALE

Three-story building, Kamala Beach. Excellent shape. Please contact for more details. Tel: 084-3059606.

DRIVING RANGE



Mountain-view golf center for sale, or invest for further projects. For more details, Tel: 081-5574560.

KAMALA RESTAURANT

Fully furnished and staffed. Best location in Kamala. Available at 6.2 million baht with a long lease. This is an excellent opportunity. Call Kevin at TSBA. Tel: 084-7300190.

PATONG BAR

Central location, double bar, available to open immediately. Call Kevin at TSBA. Tel: 084-7300190.

QUICK SALE

Go-go bar in a prime Patong location. Only 500,000 baht. Call Kevin Tel: 084-7300190.

HOTEL RESTAURANT

This well-established Italian restaurant has become available as the owners are relocating. Call Kevin at TSBA for further details. Tel: 084-7300190.

BAR FOR SALE

Popular and successful Amigos Bar in Soi Seadragon for sale. Pool table, darts, own sound system. Price negotiable dependant on length of lease required. Tel: 087-883-8721.

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Email:
poul_66@hotmail.com

RESTAURANT/BAR/caf 

Internet. Good location Nanai road. Sale/rent. Contact for more information. Tel: 086-2720113. Email: casse55@hotmail.com

Office/Showroom Space for Rent The Plaza Del Mar - Entrance to Laguna, Phuket.

Last two superb, 40/80 square-meter, ground floor office/showrooms in the recently completed Plaza Del Mar.



Fully fitted, with concealed air-con security system, kitchenette, floors, 1 telephone lines with broadband capability, etc.

Please email Khun Nong at plazadelmar@gmail.com for more information

PATONG BAR

For sale. The Office bar, Soi Gym. Low monthly payments. 100,000 baht key money for one year. Tel: 089-8171060.

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for sale. In the heart of Patong, all furniture and materials with company, low-rent 3 + 3-year lease. Reasonably priced at 1.9 million baht. Tel: 084-850-0375. Email: wilhelmdeutsch@gmx.at

GUESTHOUSE LEASE

No rent. 5-year lease remaining, no rent until May 2007, close to beach, will sell with land. Tel: 076-342280, 081-9781956. Email: palm@phuket.ksc.co.th

RESTAURANT

For sale. 50 seats with modern kitchen. Good corner location with low rent. Tel: 089-729-1113. Email: richard_melen@hotmail.com

BOOK SHOP FOR SALE

Patong OTOP book shop & Nanai book shop. 2 shops for 980,000 baht. Tel: 084-1705552.

KAMALA

Restaurant & bar. Famous for pizza & Tex-mex. 40 seats, air conditioning, equipment, stock and furniture. For sale at 500,000 baht + rent 6,000 baht a month. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-287-8966. Email: boomerkamala@hotmail.com

MASSAGE + BEAUTY

Kata beach, 3 + 3-year lease. Fully equipped. For sale: 1.5 million baht. Tel: 089-4717 6298. Please see our website at www.phuket-beauty-massage.com

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OWN A BUSINESS

For expert advice on buying a business in Phuket contact Kevin at TSBA. Tel: 084-730-0190. Email: kevin@tsba.info

RESTAURANT

for sale. Prime location at Kamala Beach. Well established with seating for 100. Owner retiring. Please contact. Tel: 081-6777185. Email: resortinvestment@hotmail.com

INVESTMENT

Boutique hotel opening December 2007, only 9 shares available. Great return and yearly holiday. Please contact. Email: resortinvestment@hotmail.com

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Date	3.10.17.24	1.8.15.29	5.12.19.26	17	7.14.21.28

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Price includes transport/Hotel/Food on route.

Phone for more info 085-7954768. European management

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Personals

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Retired Businessman looking for Backgammon Players on Phuket Island. Please call for more information. Tel: 076-386113, 081-5778443.

ESCORT, COMPANION,

Tour guide. Do you want to be my companion and care for me during my vacation in Phuket in February? Do you speak English and are you a funny and pretty Thai girl? I am German, slim, sporty, good looking and generous. Interested? Please answer soon with a photo to email: golfo1@freenet.de

HOLIDAY HOUSE

Exchange. Couple (experienced exchangers) coming Feb/March seek exchange for beach house Spain. Non-simultaneous exchange possible. Please contact for further details. Tel: 34-63907-4433. Email: romanoasis@europe.com

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Female English bulldog for sale. We have beautiful AKC English bulldog companions. Home-raised, vet examined, shots and dewormings current to age. Health guarantee. Shipping and delivery available. Contact. Tel: 415-415775303. Email: petbreed11@yahoo.com

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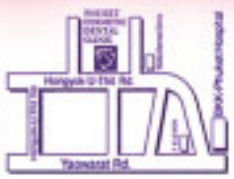
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