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Policeman accused in teen's death promoted

By Janyaporn Morel

KRABI: The Phuket Provincial Police officer accused of shooting to death Koh Kaew teenager Worawut Samarnmit, which sparked a mob and a four-hour blockade of Thepkasattri Rd, has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant Major.

Following the April 18 incident, which is still under investigation, then-Sergeant Prasarn Chuayman was transferred to Krabi.

On Monday, June 11, he was promoted.

Sgt Maj Prasarn is under investigation for the shooting of K. Worawut, 17, who was allegedly evading police who had signaled for him to stop his motorbike for a driver's license check about 1 am on the bypass road.

Following the shooting, villagers from Koh Kaew blocked traffic on Thepkasattri Rd, and only agreed to disband after Provincial Police Deputy Commander Col Chalit Thintanee agreed, in writing, to a series of demands.

Among those demands were the immediate suspension of the officer responsible for the shooting and that the officer pay compensation to the family.

According to Phuket City Police Station Superintendent Col Nos Sawetalek, who was also part of the negotiations, no compensation has yet been paid to the family and instead of a suspension, Sgt Maj Prasarn was transferred.

On the night in question, the officer allegedly fired in the direction of K. Worawut and his friends as they sped away on their motorbikes. K. Worawut was shot once in the left hip, his 16-year-old girlfriend who with him at the time later told the *Gazette*.



LANDFALL: Briton Michael Wilson shows a Tourist Police officer the broken anchor chain of his 38-foot sailboat *Sultan*, which washed up on Patong Beach about 1 am June 19 during a storm.

Mr Wilson suspects someone may have cut the anchor chain, though he admitted he had no proof.

He had just arrived in Phuket after sailing alone for 17 days from Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The pair had gone out to watch other youths race motorcycles that night, she said.

As the police couldn't see the boy's wound in the dark they didn't believe he was seriously injured and refused to call for help for him.

"It took a long time for anyone to stop and help. By the time they did it was too late," said the girlfriend, who asked that her name not be printed.

K. Worawut was eventually taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital, where he died soon after his arrival.

"There had to have been a better way to make the teenagers stop than shooting at them," said Teewee Samarn after the death of her son.

Asked how the officer could have received a promotion, Col Nos said the promotion was requested before the shooting

took place.

"The promotion was applied for about six months ago, but because the process took so long we received the approval only recently and the award-giving ceremony was held after that," Col Nos said.

"We are still investigating this case. If Sgt Maj Prasarn is found guilty, he will be punished," he said.

Yongyuth Samarnmit, K. Worawut's father, told the *Gazette* that he and his family are still waiting to hear the results of the investigation.

"Although more than a month has passed, we are still sad and we are still waiting for justice in this case," he said.

Sgt Maj Prasarn was among 1,100 police officers in Provincial Police Region 8 who were recently promoted from Sergeant to Sergeant Major.

Shrines to produce 'Chinese' Jatukhams

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: Three Chinese shrines are joining forces to make Chinese-style versions of the popular Jatukham Ramatthep amulet to raise money to build a 60-million-baht VIP wing at Vachira Phuket Hospital.

A press conference was held at Pud Jor Shrine on June 18 to describe the amulet-making process and inform the public how to reserve the amulets.

Since May 9, more than 2.5 million baht in down payments have been placed to reserve the amulets.

The Chinese versions will have a Jatukham image on one side and an image of the Chinese deity Phra Pothisat on the other. Various sizes and types will be available, ranging in price from 99 baht to 599 baht.

Some 200,000 amulets will be made at the Pud Jor Shrine on September 15 and handed over to devotees in a ceremony on September 22.

Vachira Phuket Hospital Director Dr Jessada Chungpaibulpatana said Vachira Phuket needs a new 60-room VIP ward, improvements to increase parking area and medical equipment upgrades.

The new ward would be named "Luang Por Cham Wat Chalong 100 Pi Vachira Phuket", after the revered monk of the same name and the temple where he practiced during his lifetime, he said.

"We hope to raise 20 million baht from the amulet-making," he said.

Amulets can be reserved at Vachira Hospital, Jui Tui Shrine, Pud Jor Shrine and Giw Tien Shrine, all open daily.

Danish jazz star to play Phuket

KATA: Internationally-acclaimed jazz vocalist Katrine Madsen will bring a touch of Scandinavian jazz flavor with her when she performs at Beach Club at the Kata Thani Hotel on July 1.

Tickets for the charity concert cost 1,000 baht each and are available at both the *Gazette* offices and at the Kata Thani Hotel. The ticket price includes a complimentary light cocktail.

The evening will begin with drinks from 7 pm until the concert begins promptly at 8 pm.

Proceeds from the concert will be donated to His Majesty The King's charity projects throughout Thailand.

The event is organized by Nation Group and Hitman Jazz.

For more information or to buy tickets contact Khun Jib at the *Gazette* office at Tel: 076-236555. Tickets are also available at Beach Club at the Kata Thani Hotel, Tel: 076-330124-6.

Tennis tourney coming to BIS

KOH KAEW: In an effort to raise money for tennis programs in Africa and increase the popularity of the game in Phuket, British International School (BIS) tennis coach Lorenzo Marcuzzi has organized a charity tennis tournament to take place on June 24, starting at 2 pm.

Entry fees for the tournament, to be held at BIS, will be 200 baht; any optional donations will be gratefully accepted. The money will go toward Mr Marcuzzi's "Tennis for Africa" program, which is based in Rome and sends coaches to Sierra Leone.

The tournament will be divided into age brackets, winners of each receiving rackets signed by world-class players as well as other prizes.

For more information or to register, contact Mr Marcuzzi. Tel: 081-0802453. Email: lorenzo.tennis@libero.it

Shrimp get ahead with 'blue flag' promotion

By Janyaporn Morel

PHUKET: In order to help out the island's suffering shrimp farmers, the Phuket Provincial Internal Trade Office (PITO) on June 18 set up a "Blue Flag Shrimp Festival" to sell the crustaceans directly to consumers for 99 baht per kilogram until the end of September.

PITO Chief Somphot Sangkhaopong told the *Gazette* that some 1,500 kilograms of Pacific white shrimp (*Litopenaeus vanamei*) are harvested daily in the province.

"We have about 30 shrimp farms in Phuket, almost all of them in Thalang. Most of these switched from raising giant tiger prawns to Pacific white shrimp, but now there is a glut in the market and prices have fallen,"

K. Somphot said.

The problem in Phuket reflects a nationwide trend, with decreasing export sales and domestic production continuing to rise all across the country.

As this went to press, Thai shrimp exporters were preparing to lodge two complaints with the World Trade Organization against the US, Thailand's biggest export market, alleging unfair trade practices.

Thai Frozen Foods Association President Poj Aramwattanont said that last year, exports from Thailand reached 193,764 metric tons, three times that from China, the second-biggest supplier.

But in the first two months of this year, total exports were just 1,593 tons, a 95% de-

cline from the same time last year.

K. Somphot urged the public to take advantage of the low prices and encouraged restaurants, hotels and food shops to add shrimp dishes to their menus.

The "Blue Flag Shrimp Festival" will take place at two locations:

-The Esso service station on Thepkasattri Rd, near Supercheap, open daily from 8 am to 1 pm.

-The Phuket Provincial Commercial Affairs Office, opposite Seng Ho Bookstore on Montri Rd in Phuket City, open Monday to Friday, 3 pm to 6 pm.

People wanting to place large orders with the Phuket Shrimp Farmer Club can do so by calling 086-6835869 or 081-7978713.

Korea pushes for more Thai tourists

By Supanun Supawong

PHUKET CITY: The Bangkok office of the Korea Tourism Organization (KTO), Korean Air and Sun Moon Tours & Travel joined forces to promote Thai tourism to Korea with an industry event at The Metropole Hotel on June 14.

Kang Sung-Ghil, Director of the KTO's Bangkok Office said, "Phuket is one of our main markets for MICE [meetings, incentives, conventions and exhibitions], especially incentives. From now on, we must come here more often to give updated information about Korea."

"The event provided useful information about major international trade fairs and tourism attractions in Korea to help in planning incentive tours or educational trips to Korea, as well as pleasure tours."

"We also provided information to encourage travel agents to include Korea in regular tour programs. We would like to encourage travel agents here to become Korea tour specialists in this region," he said.

"Our aim is to increase the number of Thai tourists visiting



Last year some 130,000 Thai tourists visited Korea – a 30% increase on the previous year – Kang Sung-Ghil, Director of the Korea Tourism Organization's Bangkok Office.

Seoul and locations where Korean dramas are filmed, such as Jeju Island, where the drama *Jung Geum* is filmed. Korean dramas are very popular with Thai people," he explained.

"Seoul is the number one attraction, as it is the heart of Korea, but Jeju Island is also popular; it is much like Phuket, but has four seasons," he added.

Mr Kang explained that last year some 130,000 Thai tourists visited Korea – a 30% increase in the number of Thai tourists to Korea on the previous year. "People in Phuket and nearby provinces can travel to Korea direct from Phuket as Korean Air operates regular direct flights from Phuket to Incheon International Airport."

However, traveling in the opposite direction, last year about 1.1 million Korean tourists visited Thailand, Mr Kang said.

"Now, in the low season, we have four direct flights a week from Seoul to Phuket and four direct flights a week from Incheon to Phuket, all flown by Korean Air."

"I think this is the same number of flights provided by Thai Airways," he said.

Gold shops boost security

PHUKET: Gold shop owners on Phuket have agreed to increase their security measures in exchange for discounted insurance premiums from the Ministry of Commerce's Department of Insurance.

Phuket Gold Shop Association Chairman Chaiyoot Prayoon-yong stated that the slowdown of the economy has increased the risk of robbery nationwide and that gold shop owners have agreed to upgrade their security, by installing more surveillance cameras, alarms and security bars.

The discounted premiums for gold shop insurance policies were announced on June 6 by the Department of Insurance.

Insurance policies will include coverage for damage or theft of equipment and inventory.

Premiums of 18,800, 32,900 and 47,000 baht per year are offered for coverage of one, two and three million baht, respectively.

K. Chaiyoot, owner of Rassada Gold Shop in Phuket City, said that the discounted premiums were a good idea.

However, he added that he had yet to receive any official documents from the insurance department.

There are about 70 gold shops in Phuket, most are in Phuket City and Patong, he added.

"This will be good for gold shop owners. Selling gold depends on economics, if we have money to buy the best security systems for our shops, we will do so," he said.

– Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

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Scientists study effects of 2004 tsunami quake

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

AO MAKHAM: A multinational group of oceanographers has completed a survey of the fault zone that caused the 2004 tsunami and early results show that the quake also caused a massive landslide.

The R/V *Roger Revelle*, a 75-meter research vessel from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California, berthed at the Deep Sea Port at Cape Panwa yesterday after completing a 39-day study of the sea floor that involved coring of seabed sediments.

The focus of the research, led by Dr Chris Goldfinger of Oregon State University, was the Java Trench subduction zone off the coast of Sumatra, near the epicenter of the 9.3-magnitude earthquake that triggered the 2004 tsunami.

The research team comprised 59 scientists, including oceanographers from Germany, Japan, Spain and Indonesia.

Dr Goldfinger said initial results indicated that the research had detected evidence of the submarine landslide caused by the earthquake, but that the data need further analysis back in the US.

While the research was useful, there is still no way to accurately predict or prevent tsunamis from occurring, Dr Goldfinger said.

For this reason, a reliable early warning system must be



Just back from mapping the sea floor where the 2004 tsunami originated, the *Roger Revelle*, pictured here at the Deep Sea Port at Cape Panwa.

installed in risk areas and people living in such areas must have confidence in it for it to be effective.

The *Roger Revelle* left Phuket on June 18 to begin its next mission: mapping a 4,000-kilometer volcanic ridge in the Indian Ocean known as the "90-East Ridge", which is the longest of its type on earth.

The research on the 50-day survey will be led by Dr Will Sager, a professor of oceanography at Texas A&M University.

Scientists have believed for many years that the ridge formed naturally from rising magma from the mantle where the Indian Plate

drifted northward into the Eurasian Plate, sequentially forming a line of volcanoes. That theory has come under criticism in recent years, so the mapping will try to determine how the ridge actually formed.

Seismic techniques will be used to probe into the sediment layers.

Another part of the research will involve using 19th-century dredging techniques to collect exposed volcanic rock samples along the ridge flanks, at depths from 2,000 to 4,000 meters. The rocks will then be analyzed onshore for chemical composition and age.

Kajonkietsuksa steps up school security

WICHIT: In response to several calls by parents concerned about stepped-up security at Kajonkietsuksa School on Chao Fa West Rd, the *Gazette* is happy to report that the new measures are purely precautionary – and not in response to any imminent threat to security at the school.

Nunthiya Lohitchan, a teacher at the school, explained that parents arriving to pick up their kids are now being asked to present school ID cards before being allowed drive cars onto the school grounds.

The ID cards have a photo of the student on one side and their parent or legal guardian on the other.

In addition to keeping unauthorized people off the school grounds, the "Expressway Project", as it is called by the school, is also intended to reduce traffic congestion by allowing parents to pick up their Little Einsteins on a drive-through basis, without having to park.

"It's totally unrelated to the security situation in the Deep South or rumors about child abduction, in Phuket or elsewhere," Khru Nunthiya confirmed.

"We put this policy in place for the safety of our students and we think it will increase confidence among their parents," she added.

– Natcha Yuttaworawit

Looking for Miss Beautiful

PATONG: Girl watchers might want to pay a special visit to Jungceylon on June 24, when beauties from all over Southern Thailand will converge on the second floor to apply for the chance to compete in the Miss Thailand World 2007 beauty pageant.

The pageant, organized by Thai TV Channel 3 content provider BEC Tero-Entertainment, will determine which beauty will go on to represent Thailand at the Miss World 2007 pageant, to be held in Sanya, China on December 1.

The one-day application period at Jungceylon, from 10 am to 6 pm, is the only one in Southern Thailand. Would-be contestants

can also register in Bangkok until June 28.

Among the requirements contestants must meet are:

- Thai national and resident;
- Real woman (no ladyboys);
- At least 165 cm tall;
- Never married, without child;
- Aged between 17 and 24, inclusive, on the date of application;
- Good personality, attractive and intelligent;
- No criminal record;
- Has never represented Thailand in an international contest;
- Can communicate well in both Thai and English;
- Not listed on the Immigration blacklist of the UK, where the contest organizer is based.

Tesco-Lotus junction claims another victim

WICHIT: The Tesco-Lotus junction, officially dubbed the "Samkong Intersection", claimed another victim early on June 12, when a man riding a motorbike through the junction and a Toyota Hilux Vigo collided at high speed.

The motorbike rider died at the scene. His passenger suffered serious injuries.

Pol Lt Akekarat Plaiduang, duty inspector at Phuket Police Station, identified the deceased as Manas Surat, 17. "Piya Ardhumma, 18, who was riding pillion, sustained serious injuries," he said.

"Both are from Sakhon Nakhon and came to live in Phuket and work as security guards," he added.

"Saroj Kongkeaw, 25, was

the driver of the Toyota Hilux Vigo, which still has red [new registration] license plates," Lt Akekarat said.

He added that criminal charges have yet to be made. "We still don't know who was in the wrong. We are checking the CCTV recording taken at the intersection," he said.

Pol Maj Teerawat Leamsuwan, of the Phuket City Police Traffic Division, said that most accidents at the Tesco-Lotus involved motorists speeding through the intersection, even though the traffic lights are now operating 24 hours.

"Even in the early morning, as in this incident, when there are few drivers on the roads, drivers must drive carefully and slow

down at intersections," he added.

Two people died and five were injured when a Kusoldharm Volunteer Rescue Foundation truck rushing four accident victims to hospital collided with a Toyota sedan at high speed at the Tesco-Lotus intersection just before dawn on May 6.

– Supanun Supawong

PPHO warns of wet season sickness

PHUKET: The Phuket Provincial Health Office (PPHO) on June 18 issued a warning for people to be wary of five types of ailments that are more prevalent during the rainy season, which is now upon us.

PPHO officer Arunee Suphanam warned people to take better care to avoid contracting diarrhea, infections in open wounds, colds and pneumonia, mosquito-borne diseases and conjunctivitis.

K. Arunee also warned against diseases transmitted by mosquitoes, such as dengue fever, Japanese Encephalitis (JE virus) and malaria.

"In the first five months of this year, 81 people in Phuket caught dengue fever. One person died from it. Thalung District has had the highest incidence in Phuket," K. Arunee said.



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After hearing about an underwater fight between a Thai diver and a foreign diver during which a knife was allegedly used threateningly, Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit on June 12 called a high-level meeting of his three vice-governors, the local office of the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT), the Phuket Professional Guide Association, the Thai Diving Association (TDA), the Phuket Tourist Police, the Phuket Tourist Association (PTA) and Phuket Immigration Department.

The first priority of the meeting was to uncover what had happened between the two divers at the popular dive site Richelieu Rock at the Similan Islands.

The Thai diver was Vinij Rungpheung, who writes the tourism column for the popular Thai website Manager Online. K. Vinij included his version of the incident in his column "Don't let farang rule the Andaman" posted online May 8.

In his article online, K. Vinij said he was waiting quietly to take photos of clown fish. "While I was waiting quietly for my shot, I suddenly felt a jerk on my BCD [buoyancy compensation device] from behind. At first, I thought it was my friend signaling me that he had found something nice.

"Instead, I turned to face a farang with an angry face, pointing his finger at me and then back to his head. It seemed like he was ordering me to leave clown fish alley right away, and was telling me 'use your brain to think about what you're doing'.

"I looked around myself again to see if I was touching coral, causing any damage or disturbing the fish too much. I knew exactly what I was doing. I was kneeling on sand bottom. Both of my hands on my camera, not touching anything at all...

"After checking that there was nothing wrong, I stared back at the bullying farang, and waved

Dive site fight may

The dive industry is facing renewed scrutiny and calls by the government for better regulation after an altercation between a foreign and a Thai diver resulted in flared tempers and possible legal action. Here *Gazette* reporter Semacote Suganya looks at the accusation, the response, and what the government plans to do.

him off, indicating that I had to get back to work...

"Then he threatened to cut my air hose and hurt me if I didn't get up. The water was a chilling 25 degrees Celsius, but my rage was boiling. That shiny blade swerving around my throat was boiled down to a toothpick by my rage. I tried to control my rushing anger caused by him looking down at me like that. I give him my coldest stare, and waved him off with indifference again, like I was saying, 'Keep that shoved up your butt, I'm not afraid.'

"When he was unsuccessful in pulling me away, and I wasn't afraid by his knife, he couldn't think of what else to do. He put his knife back in its sheath. Well, maybe because he didn't know what else to do, he swept his hand over my mask (and dislodged it from its place-translator), then swam away."

K. Vinij's report goes on to



Top officials met with Governor Niran Kalayanamit (head of table) during a meeting June 12 to discuss the licensing of dive operators in Phuket. Among the decision-makers present were the three vice-governors and Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwansupana (2nd from left).

explain that when he surfaced, he and his friends went to Mr Hormann's dive boat to discuss the matter. "The farang sat with his head hung low, stumbling while trying to explain that he dove in Thailand five years ago and it was beautiful. But this time the condition was worse so he was frustrated, and acted stupidly. He was sorry for his actions.

"Being Thai, with compassion in our hearts, we were calmed because the culprit had confessed and admitted his guilt. We reprimanded him and warned him not to do it again to anyone, especially to Thai divers," the report said.

"I have not pressed charges, I just want to him to be warned about his threatening reaction, which is illegal and compromises underwater safety," K.

Vinij told the *Gazette*.

"Many foreign dive leaders bring divers and always behave like this, and want to show off to their group. This happens many times, it's not just this time. Many Thai divers have had similar experiences with foreign dive leaders," he said.

Guenter Hormann, the foreigner involved in the incident, has over 6,000 dives over 25 years to his record. He explained his version of events to the *Gazette*. "I was with a group of registered divers and we had nearly finished our dive. I saw a diver alone on the bottom, which was very unusual because normally diving alone is not allowed, and he looked like he was struggling.

"I pointed him out to my divers, which is normal dive procedure. I thought the man had a

problem, I told my group to wait and I went down.

"But then I saw he didn't need any help. He was in the middle of coral and breaking it. He was paddling to keep still and his fins were hitting the coral. So I put my hand under his elbow and tried to lift him up."

K. Vinij then waved Mr Hormann to leave him alone, which sparked a reaction. "I overreacted and tried to remove his mask," Mr Hormann told the *Gazette*.

As for the knife, Mr Hormann told the *Gazette*, "At first I thought he was caught up in fishing line, but then I saw he wasn't so I put it away."

Mr Hormann confirmed that the dive association PADI had been notified of the incident and that he had written an apol-

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BUT stays open at day)

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Chaofa South

lead to more crackdowns

ogy to K. Vinij.

"I overreacted and what I did was wrong, and that's why I had to apologize. PADI didn't withdraw my license because it's my personal behavior. I am not an instructor or divemaster. I tried to protect the environment. I had no function on the boat. I was on holiday," he said.

However, at the time of the incident, Mr Hormann was a shareholder in Patong-based Water World Asia, which organized the tour that he was diving with on the day of the incident. Mr Hormann has confirmed that he is no longer a shareholder in the company.

At the June 12 meeting Gov Niran said that the government had no matter of recourse in regulating such individual behavior, which he says can be damaging to Phuket's dive industry. So now he is advocating that the TAT call in the Ministry of Education and set up a system of individually licensing divers working in Phuket's dive industry.

As an immediate measure, Gov Niran called on the TAT to sweep through the dive industry and weed out any operators not complying with the regulations introduced last year. "The new regulations might affect business owners, but we need them," he said.

Whether the TAT will – or can – follow this directive remains to be seen. Phuket's dive industry last year succeeded in staving off the regulations brought into effect October 1 last year.



Representing the Phuket Professional Guide Association at the meeting were Vice-President Supachai Wattanarin (above left) and President Panomphol Thummachartniyom (above right). Pragon Geatgun (right), vice-president of the Thai Diving Association, also spoke with the officials.



Under the regulations, all dive operators would register by presenting the company's registration documents and tax information, the work permits of foreign staff, all boat registration documents including the names of captains and crew members, records of salaries and wages, details of any related website, the company's payment systems, diving courses and students.

Dive businesses that would have been granted permission to operate from the province would also have to submit monthly reports giving details of income, current staff and dive trips made.

Businesses that failed to submit reports, or were deemed

to have submitted inadequate reports, would have risked having their permission to operate withdrawn.

However, whether the provincial government has the power to introduce such regulations is still being fought in the Administrative Court in Nakhon Sri Thammarat. The TDA is representing about 60 dive operators in Phuket who lodged a petition with the court.

On October 30 last year the court ruled that dive operators were not obliged to comply with the new regulations until the court had reached a decision, which it has yet to do.

So now focus has turned to

trying to introduce compulsory licensing for each diver working in Thailand. However, diver operators are issued licenses by organizations outside Thailand. "How can we regulate those licenses? Most of them are issued abroad," said Gov Niran.

TAT officer Rattinan Chan-kanakoset said, "We do not have our own diving standard that is recognized by the international diving community. The TDA has been offering CMAS [Confé dé ration Mondiale des Activités Subaquatiques] qualifications for three years now, but Thai law does not stipulate that all dive company employees must be members, so any qualifications

are acceptable for a dive business to get a TAT license."

PTA Vice-President Panu Maswongsa, explained, "The problem is that one foreigner holding instructor or divemaster qualifications can register the company and operate the business, but the rest of the employees we have no control over, such as fellow foreign divemasters working with the company.

"This is the gap that we have found. And we have no control over whether or not they are issued a work permit," he said.

Governor Niran said, "The TAT needs to plan the process for revoking a license. If we allow just any people to work, problems will be beyond control. There must be criteria for qualification."

He suggested that the TAT work closer with Employment Office and perhaps use the Ministry of Education's system for checking foreign teachers.

He also said that a committee should be formed soon to brainstorm ways to deal with the issue.

"There is no coordination. The Ministry of Education should be charged with checking whether a person has a valid dive instructor permit.

"If the qualifications claimed are found to be false, then there must be a committee to review the claim and revoke the license.

"The TAT must research this and propose a solution to the TAT executive board, who should seriously consider this issue," he said.

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QUEER NEWS

The case for wearing stout underwear

NAKHON RATCHASIMA: A man was admitted to Bua Yai Hospital on June 7 with complaints of abdominal pains, which he said were caused by a leech that crawled up inside his anus while he was trying to catch fish for his wife's dinner.

Nong Chingpho, 43, told doctors that he had intermittent stomach pains for about a month, ever since his wife saw a leech crawl into his bottom. He tried taking anti-worm pills, but the pains persisted and he sometimes noticed blood in his feces, he told doctors.

Doctors at the hospital X-rayed K. Nong, but found nothing out of the ordinary. To be on the safe side, they decided to keep him in overnight for observation and to arrange for him to be X-rayed again at Maharaj Nakhon Ratchasima Hospital, which has more advanced X-ray equipment.

K. Nong explained that on May 16 his wife said she wanted fish for dinner, so he went to try and catch some at a pond nearby railway tracks in Namcharoen Village.

After a while, he began to feel itchy. Coming out of the water, he noticed a number of leeches clinging to his body. He pulled the bloodsuckers off and got back in the water, determined to catch a fish. But not long after he did, he felt an itch around his anus and again got out of the water, K. Nong said.

Waiting by the side of the pond was his wife Aphinya, 40. He asked her to have a look to see what was causing his discomfort.

She pulled down his shorts – he was wearing no underpants – and was shocked to see the tail end of a leech, at least three cen-

timeters long, hanging out from his anus.

K. Aphinya grabbed the leech and tried to pull it out, but could not get a firm grip on its slimy exterior. When her fingers slipped off its body, the leech worked its way well up into K. Nong's bottom, he said.

When he returned home he took anti-parasite medication, but was still not sure if the leech had died or not.

A few days later, he developed a stomach ache that persisted, on and off, until eventually he decided he should see a doctor to find out if the leech was to blame.

"I want to warn anyone who goes swimming to wear tight-fitting underpants as a leech could crawl into your bottom or genitals and you'll end up with the same problem as me," K. Nong said.

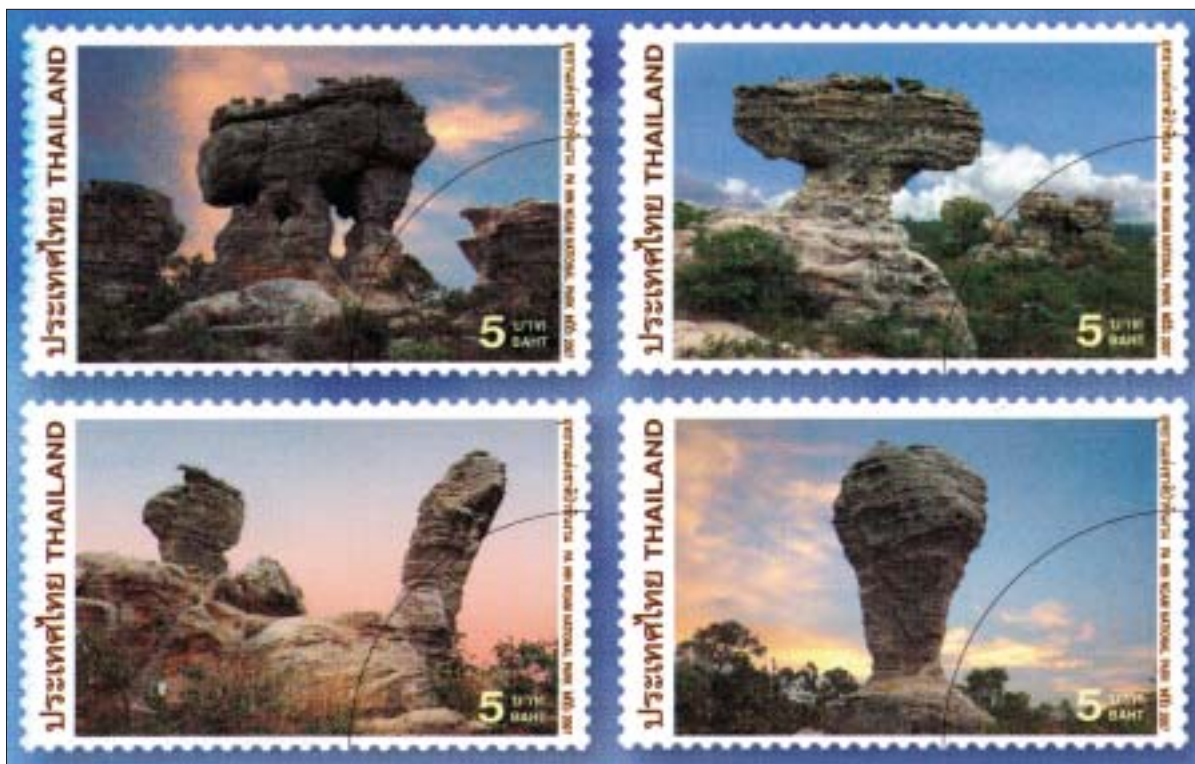
"Now I always feel uncomfortable and sometimes there is blood in my feces," he added.

Dr Chanon Chaodamrong-sakul, Director of Bua Yai Hospital, repeated K. Nong's warning that anyone swimming in freshwater ponds or lakes should wear tight-fitting undies. A leech entering a woman's sexual organs could be particularly dangerous, he noted.

Doctors treating K. Nong would first have to determine whether the leech was still inside him and, if so, where exactly it was, Dr Chanon added.

They would then have to find a way to remove it, he continued, possibly using a scope and tweezers. If the leech was in a position that could not be reached by a scope and tweezers, they may have to operate.

Source: Khao Sod



Thailand Post on July 2 will launch a series of four stamps, each one featuring a photo of a different famous rock formation at Pa Hin Ngam National Park in Chaiyaphum province.

The famed rock formations to be featured on the stamps are Elephant Rock, Radar Rock, Hen Rock and World Cup Rock, so called because it is the same

shape as the FIFA World Cup trophy.

The stamps will cost five baht each and will measure 45 millimeters by 28mm. Only 1 million of each of the four stamps in the series will be produced.

A special production technique will be used so that the surface of the stamps where the

rocks are shown will feel "rock like".

The aim of the series is to highlight and promote Pa Hin Ngam's natural wonders and to offer a souvenir of the national park's attractions.

The stamps will be available at all 10 Thailand Post offices in Phuket.

STAMPS



Phuket's equivalent of Manila's notorious Smoky Mountain garbage dump may be found on Soi Bangthong (on the left side before you drive up Patong Hill from Kathu). Within sniffing distance of this reeking pile are Thungthong Police Station and Kathu District office. Got a particularly juicy informal dump in your neighborhood? Send a pic and a brief description to dump@phuketgazette.net

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Egat plans nuclear power plants

The Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (Egat) is ready to invest over US\$ 6 billion (208 billion baht) in building two nuclear power plants to generate a combined 4,000 megawatts (MW) of nuclear power.

Egat Governor Kraisri Karnasutra said that the investment required is significantly cheaper than that for coal-fired plants.

"We're studying the project in detail, and we'll also work on educating the public about nuclear power generation," K. Kraisri told an Egat-sponsored forum entitled "Why Nuclear Power Plants?"

The plants, to be located near rivers for cooling purposes, would cover an area of 1,000-2,000 rai, he said.

Energy Minister Piyasvasti Amranand told the forum that Thailand needs nuclear power because it is over-reliant on natural gas, one-third of which comes from Burma.

Energy ministers of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) forum at a meeting in Australia in May approved jointly developing nuclear power technology, he said.

Under the Egat plan, 4,000 MW of nuclear power is set to supplement the Thai national power grid within the next 14 years: 2,000MW to be added in 2020 and 2,000MW in 2021.

A working committee on nuclear power has been formed and an action plan should be complete by the end of this year, K. Piyasvasti said.

If approved, construction of the plants will not start before 2014, by which time the authorities will have undertaken personnel training and public education.

A further assessment will then be carried out to finalize whether Thailand was ready for nuclear power plants. If so, the plants will take about six years to build.

Holy cookies: Amid Thailand's Jatukham Ramatthep craze, the abbot of Wat Suan Kaew in Nonthaburi, has launched a line of "Chatu Kham" cookies in a bid to teach people about the Lord Buddha's teachings.



A BLOW FOR FREEDOM: Siriporn Thaveesuk, drug convict and WBC female light-flyweight champion, steps out of the Women's Correctional Institution for Drug Addicts on June 13 after the Corrections Department granted her early parole. She was sentenced to 10 years' jail on drug charges and had served seven years before her remaining sentence was reduced to 21 months. Her life story will be made into a movie by a Thai film company and into a Discovery Channel documentary.

Targeting Buddhists caught up in the amulet craze, Phra Payom Kalayano on June 15 revealed the Chatu Kham series of cookies, sold in cans costing 60 baht each.

One side of each cookie has Chatu Kham image imprinted on it, the other Buddhist teachings written in Sanskrit.

Questioning the craze of the Jatukham talisman, and noting it was not exactly compatible with the essence of Buddhism, Phra Payom said his Chatu Kham cookies were a simple way to teach the Lord Buddha's teachings so that Thai people would be aware and refrain from getting "unreasonably attached" to material wealth.

Innocents die: Police in Lampang charged Srinuan Phromnim, 59, with premeditated murder for allegedly poisoning her two grandchildren in Sop Prap District

– in order to collect insurance payouts worth 200,000 baht so she could pay off debts.

On June 5, Kwanpetch Sudthes, 11, and Kwanmanee Sudthes, 10, suffered fatal symptoms of poisoning while riding bicycles to shop for their grandmother Srinuan.

Kwanpetch died at the scene, while his sister went into a coma and later succumbed to organ failure. She died the next day.

The Lampang Centre Hospital's autopsy reports later revealed the children's stomachs contained traces of pesticide.

Police discovered Srinuan was the beneficiary of payouts after two previous poisoning deaths in the family, her husband in 2004 and another grandchild earlier this year.

Srinuan denied the charges and said she would fight the accusations in court.

Poorest province: Samut Prakan province has the highest average annual income per capita in provinces outside Bangkok, while Mae Hong Son has the poorest, according to a survey by the Interior Ministry's Community Development Department.

The survey found that the average annual income in Samut Prakan was 65,966 baht a year, more than twice the average of 30,230 baht in Mae Hong Son.

Pathum Thani ranked second, with an average annual income of 65,229 baht, followed by Chanthaburi (64,176 baht), Nonthaburi (57,843 baht) and Kamphaeng Phet (56,442).

Jarupong Poldej, the department's deputy director-general, said that the high level of income in Samut Prakan was due to its proximity to Bangkok, advanced infrastructure that supported business and jobs, and each household having two to three income earners.

Mae Hong Son, in contrast, was a mountainous area with a large proportion of minorities, such as hilltribes doing agricultural work.

Erosion toll: Coastal erosion is biting two square kilometers of land off Thailand every year, according to a report issued by the World Bank.

The World Bank's Jitendra Jha said Thailand's coastal environment has suffered adverse impacts from populations and activities along the coast of Thailand increasing over the past several decades.

With increased sea-fishery activities and shrimp farms, about 80% of coral reefs in the Andaman Sea and 50% in the Gulf of Thailand have been deteriorating.

Construction of piers, dams and digging for artesian water

also aggravated the erosion, he said.

Natural Resource and Environment Ministry Director-General Nisakorn Kositrat said her ministry would begin surveying coastal areas in five provinces bordering the Gulf of Thailand.

"If any structure is found to have caused erosion, it will be improved," she said. Nisakorn vowed to remove structures that cannot be improved if their existence meant erosion would become worse.

A bill on the promotion of marine and coastal resource management, when enforced, would allow coastal communities' participation in the management, she added.

The Council of State is reviewing the bill, which has already been approved by the Cabinet.

Hemp for highlanders? Following a suggestion by HM Queen Sirikit, highlanders are hoping to grow hemp from which they will make durable clothes to sell.

Mom Chao Bhisatej Rajani, President of the Royal Project Foundation, said industrial hemp had the potential to be a valuable cash crop – if it can be grown legally.

Currently, hemp with tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) levels of more than 0.3% is banned as the illegal drug cannabis under the Narcotics Act of 1979.

The Royal Project Foundation is looking to develop hemp strains containing low levels of THC to comply with the law ahead of seeking permission for legal cultivation.

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

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Fashioning a new beginning



Inmates create items like wicker end tables, night stands and patio furniture to sell at their annual fair, from June 28 to July 7 this year.



By Natcha Yuttaworawit

The 4th Annual Prison Products Exhibition for Southern Thailand, featuring products made by inmates at the 25 correctional facilities throughout the 14 southern provinces, will be on show at Saphan Hin this year from June 28 to July 7.

The fair will open from 10 am to 9 pm daily, with a grand opening ceremony starting at 6 pm on June 28 featuring performances by local singers and food stalls from 80 restaurants around Phuket.

This is the fourth consecutive year the fair has been held.

The inmates who make the furniture get to keep some of the profits made from the sale of the furniture they create – money that they can put aside for when they are released back into society.

For many prisoners taking part in the project, the sale of their hand-fashioned products can help provide the confidence they will need to help them pursue their dreams in life after prison – without resorting to crime.

Phuket Provincial Prison Director Paisal Suwanraksa told the *Gazette*, “We would like to

show people the skills that the prisoners have learned, and we want to help further develop those skills in production and design.

“Most importantly, we want to change their behavior before they leave here and return to society.”

Prisoners receive 50% of net income made on the products sold, he said.

“They can keep this money to use while they are in prison or they can give it to their families,” he said.

“Our prisoners invest a lot of effort in their work, putting their all into every piece that they create. If you visit the fair, you will see that every unit of furniture shows how hard they have worked,” K. Paisal said.

“After they leave here, they will be able to use all the skills that they have learned in making furniture. We believe that they have the capability,” he added.

“All prison officials and current inmates hope that people will welcome prisoners back into society, because most prisoners are not bad guys. They might have been blind to their mistakes. When they are released we believe that they are ready to return to normal lives,” K. Paisal said.

On sale at the fair will be furniture such as sofas, wardrobes, beds and tables made from a variety of materials, including wood, iron, marble and rattan.

A wide range of styles is available, including traditional Thai and many unique design concepts developed by the inmates themselves.

Last year’s fair garnered six million baht in sales. Event organizers hope to make more this year.

For more information about the fair call Phuket Provincial Prison at 076-212104 ext 13.

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Bandito to finally get day in court

The high-profile case against long-time Samui expat resident Crispin Paton-Smith moved a step forward this week with a court date finally set for the end of August.

Paton-Smith, a former member of the British Army, was arrested last July in Pattaya in one of the biggest media-covered arrests in recent years.

Along with two other expats living on Samui charged in the same case, Paton-Smith was accused of a long list of offenses, including being officers in a secret society, attempted murder, money laundering, extortion, drug trafficking, human trafficking, racketeering, prostitution, bribing government officials, illegal land sales and transfers, rape, fraud and illegal weapons trading.

Charges against the other two expats have since been dropped, but in a court hearing on June 5 the trial date in Paton-Smith's case was delivered and the original list of allegations against him was reduced to two charges: forming a secret society with intent to make criminal activity and attempted extortion.

The two charges are in relation to Paton-Smith's involvement with well-known international biker gang the Banditos. The Thai government has been working in conjunction with Danish officials who claim that the gang has been involved with serious criminal activities in other parts of the globe.

The attempted extortion charge is said to be due to business dealings gone bad with other gang members also living on Samui.

Paton-Smith had been living on Samui for 13 years with his wife and child before his arrest and was the owner of a successful diving operation on the island as well as a popular publishing company.

The widespread media cov-

erage of his arrest, along with the other two expats and four Thai nationals from the island, shocked the community and led to further investigations of possible illegal land dealing and other suspicious activities involving land offices.

Accusations were made against some of the men that land was being illegally obtained and sold on the island.

Paton-Smith has a number of supporters and a website has been set up to gather further backers demanding for justice to be served and for his release from Bangkok's Special Remand Prison on the grounds that his remaining two charges are usually bail permitting.

"This court hearing has been a step forward in regards to the legal proceedings in this case, which has had many setbacks and hearings without a trial date being assigned in his case," said one of the attendees of the court hearing.

A total of 57 people are expected to testify in the case from August 27 to November 2.

One swung low: Korean Lee Sung beat local hotshot Prayad Marksang by just three strokes to win the third annual Bangkok Airways Open at the Santiburi Samui Country Club from June 7 to 10.

Lee lifted the tourney trophy and collected the top prize of US\$ 47,550 (1.55 million baht) of the US\$ 300,000 (about 9.79 million baht) prize purse in his first win on the Asian Tour golf circuit.

Lee, who was born deaf, turned pro in 2000 and played with the support of his brother and caddy Lee Sung-joo, who he communicates with by lip reading.

"I'm quite happy and will definitely call my dad [Lee Keng-kun]. My dad usually caddies for me but he is tired and decided to rest this week," said Lee.

The par 71 golf course saw heated competition from many high-ranking Western and Asian

competitors. Seoul-born Lee scored a course record 62 in the third round and completed the tourney with a 16-under-par 268.

Prayad finished three strokes behind in second place and Thai youngster Priom Mee-sawa finished in third place tied with Taichiro Kiyota from Japan.

Other players in the tournament included reigning champion Lin Wen-tang from Chinese Taipei, Filipino Gerald Rosales, Australia's Adam Blyth, American Anthony Kang and Dutchman Guido van der Valk.

The event has become a favorite of some of the players who enjoy the challenging yet scenic island course. The tournament has grown in popularity over the past three years and will continue to be held on Samui.

Before the tourney there was a Pro-Am meet followed by a golf clinic conducted by Heartland Golf School. The entire event was hailed as a success.



FROM THE
GULF OF
THAILAND

By Max Rogers



HAPPY: Lee Sung didn't just win; he also set a course record.



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Teachers targeted in Deep South

Nearly 100 public schools in Narathiwat province were closed for a week after three teachers were shot dead in Si Sakhon and Rangae districts June 11. Following the attacks, two Islamic teachers were shot dead in Yala and Songkhla provinces.

In the first attack, about midday, two men riding as pillion passengers on a motorbike arrived and walked straight into the library of Baan Sakoh School where Thippaporn Thassanopas, 42, and Yupha Sengwas, 26, were working.

The men fired 11mm and .357 pistols as some 100 children played in front of the library. Both women died at the scene.

About an hour later, a male teacher was shot dead in a shop in Rangae district. So-mai Laocharoensuk, 55, a teacher at Baan Jehke School, was hit six times in the head and body by AK-47 fire. A witness said that one of a group of six militants carried the rifle into the shop and opened fire on the teacher.

That evening, Da-oh Mundaiche, 42, an Islamic teacher, was shot dead as he walked to a store in his village in Songkhla's Saba Yoi District.

Two days later, on June 13, gunmen shot dead Abdulrahman Sama, 60, an Islamic teacher at a village *pondok*, or traditional Islamic boarding school, in Yala's Raman District.

Narathiwat police have arrested one man for his involvement in the killing of K. Thippaporn and K. Yupha. A police source reported that Maleepeng Che-leh, 19, confessed to being involved in the murder but maintained that his role was to drive the two killers to and from the crime scene.

On June 15 in Yala's Banang Sata district, seven soldiers on teacher security detail were killed in an ambush on their truck. Suspected insurgents detonated a roadside explosive device that disabled the truck. The assailants



HARD LESSONS: A Muslim Village Defense Volunteer guards students and their teacher at Baan Phong Yeu Rai School in Yala following the killing of three teachers in neighboring Narathiwat Province on June 11.

then sprayed the survivors with automatic weapons fire.

The attackers then made off with the soldiers' M-16 assault rifles.

Official exit: A government official and a female friend of his were found shot dead in the car park of Surat Thani Provincial Hall June 15 in what police believe to be a murder-suicide.

Police led by Surat Thani Muang District Police Superintendent Col Attaphon Plengwiithaya found the body of Chanchai Phromhan, an Administrative Officer (*Palad*) attached to the Provincial Fight to Gain Victory Over Drugs program, dead in the driver's seat of his car.

Next to him was the body of Suphap Judabut, 19, who had been shot once in the head and twice in the body.

Chanchai had been shot once in the temple. A 9mm pistol was found next to his body.

A colleague of Chanchai

reportedly told police that about 2 pm that day Chanchai took the pistol he had just bought out of his desk draw and told a close friend to ring his parents in Chiang Rai province and ask them to come and get his body.

He then ran down to his car and started shooting, the colleague told police.

The same colleague also reported that Chanchai and K. Suphap, who worked as a singer in a restaurant in Surat Thani, had been associating for some time before the incident and that Chanchai was already married with children.

Dam mystery: The motive for the killing of prominent Chumphon environmental activist Mai Noinarai, 49, who was shot dead June 7, is still unclear with the victim's wife insisting that K. Mai's death is connected to his work opposing the construction of a dam while police are focusing on a personal dispute.

K. Mai was shot on the evening of June 7 as he was riding his motorcycle back from a meeting to discuss how to oppose the building of a dam in Chumphon's Tha Sae district by the Irrigation Department. After being shot, K. Mai managed to carry on driving his motorbike to his brother's house, where he fell off.

K. Mai's brother, Thuan, 40, said that about 9:30 pm he heard a motorbike crash outside his house. He rushed out and found his brother lying on the ground and covered in blood, and shouting that he had been shot. K. Thuan rushed his brother to Tha Sae Hospital, where doctors operated on him for five hours but were unable to save his life.

K. Thuan said that before K. Mai died, he had told him that he had been driving through a coffee plantation when a pickup truck pulled up beside him and the passenger shot him twice with a short shotgun.

K. Mai escaped by turning

off onto a small trail through the plantation where the truck could not follow, K. Thuan said.

K. Mai's wife, Bunchoo Noinarai, 40, said that she was confident that the motive for her husband's killing stemmed from his opposition to the Tha Sae dam project.

His activities had brought him into conflict with influential investors who had bought land earmarked for use in the project with the hope of gaining lucrative compensation from the government.

K. Mai had received many death threats from these groups, she added.

Head of Salui Tambon Police Station, Lt Col Suthep Korsakul, however, said the case was not so clear. He said that K. Mai was close to a former Democrat Party Member of Parliament and a Deputy President of Chumphon Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) and K. Mai himself was a member of Song Phee Nong Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*), all of which could have provided motives for his killing.

Wiran Chuklang, a member of Chumphon *OrBorJor*, said that K. Mai was liked by many villagers for his work but had also made a lot of enemies. Apart from owning a rubber and coffee plantation, K. Mai worked as a moneylender and ran a school bus service, K. Wiran added.

Chumphon Provincial Police Commander Maj Gen Wisan Plenkham said that police, after questioning a number of witnesses, now believe that a personal dispute and not K. Mai's environmental activities to be the cause for the killing.

Police are also fairly certain that the gunman was a local man with a grudge against K. Mai rather than a hired killer, Gen Wisan added.

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



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Readers of the *Gazette* by now might have noticed that not many restaurants serving “farang” food have been featured in this column.

The truth is that most restaurants that do farang food well simply don't qualify, as we use a 100-baht per dish maximum as our rule-of-thumb on what qualifies as a “cheap eat”.

Of course, in the under-100-baht price range there are many restaurants in Phuket serving sickeningly sweet spaghetti, baked goods with the texture of pillow stuffing or pizza served with ketchup as a necessary condiment. The truth is that while Thais do Thai food well, they tend to struggle with Western fare – at least in this price range.

That's why P Pizza House on Yaowarat Rd in Samkong, Phuket City, is a real find, because it offers the quality of food one might expect from a restaurant in a four- or five-star hotel, but at prices just about everyone can afford – even a journalist.

Opened in early April this year and still with just two staff – Amporn “Porn” Krasang and his wife Phakaphan – P Pizza House is very much a family-run business. K. Porn has 14 years' experience in the food and beverage industry in Phuket, having worked at The Metropole, Le Royal Meridien Phuket Yacht Club, Patong Merlin and the Sheraton Grande Laguna, where he was a Chef de Partie.

K. Porn's hotel experience shows in every phase, from the design and spacing of the restaurant's eight tables and the attractive dishes and sturdy cutlery, right down to the food itself.

Most restaurants in this price range don't even have an English-language menu, but the one here is not only easy to read, but accurately translated – so you can ponder over a wide variety of mouthwatering choices that don't include the funny yet nausea-inducing options – such as “paper steak” or “deep fried crap roll” – that defile so many menus in Phuket.

The most expensive items on the menu, at 100 baht, are grilled salmon steak and sirloin steak. Thai staples such as fried rice and *raad na* are just 25 baht,

Everything starts with a P



no more than at a sidewalk stall. This is a real bargain when you consider that the dining area is airy and comfortable, despite being right on a congested stretch of Yaowarat Rd near Samkong Shrine, a center of activity for the annual Vegetarian Festival.

To start up his restaurant, K. Amporn invested in a new 30,000-baht pizza oven. There are about 10 pizza options, starting at just 40 baht for a plain 10-inch tomato and cheese pizza. There are no ridiculous Thai hybrids such as *tom yum gung* or green curry pizzas on the menu.

Vegetable toppings are five baht each, while meats and seafood are 10 baht. I am pretty careful about ordering pizza in this country, so I decided to build my own with onions, a mix of green, red and yellow capsicum, sausage, salami, a black olives and mushrooms. A total of 85 baht.

I also ordered a “weightwatcher salad” at 35 baht, wondering with trepidation what to expect – as Western-style salads served by small Thai restaurants are all too often a letdown.

I was pleasantly surprised with the salad, which contained fresh iceberg lettuce, small cherry tomatoes, sliced grapes and cubes of pineapple and apple. Everything was fresh; the whole salad was sprinkled with minute-

At just 35 baht, the weightwatcher's salad (above) is both delicious and delightfully presented.

Right: the pizza in light and the crust is thin and crispy.

ly diced capsicum and garnished with three fresh slices of orange.

The dressing was a tangy mix of salad oil, red and balsamic vinegar and fine-chopped onions.

Refreshing and light, it was the perfect appetizer and left me wondering: with such an abundance and variety of fruit in this country, why is it so hard to find good, cheap fruit salads?

All pizza pies at P Pizza are of the thin-crust variety, though not so crispy that they break apart at first bite. The pizza itself had just the right amount of tomato sauce and cheese to let the toppings stand out, and these were all fresh and evenly distributed across the surface.

Notably, the tomato sauce was not too sweet, and the cheese was not that glutinous industrial goo you see on too many by-the-slice pizzas available at shopping malls on the island.

Perhaps the only letdown of my meal was the fact that I could only look longingly at the small cans of Heineken (35 baht) lined up behind the frost in the large glass door refrigerator, each seeming to call out “Why have you forsaken me?”

Sadly it was lunchtime; I try to hold off until the sun goes down before hitting the cool ones.

Asked about the name of the restaurant, K. Porn explained it was chosen because he, his wife and their young son all have names with the letter “P” in them.

Reasonable enough.

Things I would like to try on future visits include the grilled saba fish (70 baht), pork chops (70 baht) and sea bass fillet “meuniere” (70 baht). That next visit will likely come soon, as this restaurant is walking distance from my house and is an excellent vantage point for one of my favorite leisure activities – watching traffic pass while drinking beer with like-minded friends.

P Pizza House. 300/2 Yaowarat Rd, Samkong, on the inbound side near Samkong Chinese Shrine. Open daily 11 am to 10 pm. No delivery available, but orders can be called in at 076-217460 or 089-5864569.

CHEAP eats

BY
Stephen Fein

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Happily Ever After

Recent weddings in Phuket

Right: Miyuki Ohata and Anurak Look-aon celebrated their wedding at Red Onion restaurant at the Royal Phuket City Hotel on June 7, 2007.



Left: Rowena Jade Merrin and Dewi Evans were married in a Western-style wedding ceremony and party at The Mangosteen Resort & Spa April 30, 2007.

On February 13, 21-year-old masseuse Saijai Phromdaen was set on fire by a mentally unstable man and known paint-thinner sniffer at Patong's Loma Park. After two months at Vachira Phuket Hospital, where she underwent multiple skin graft surgeries and treatments, K. Saijai recently returned to work at the beach.

K. Saijai spoke to *Gazette* reporter **Supanun Supawong** about her ongoing recovery, both physical and mental, and thanked all the *Gazette* readers who donated to the Saijai Aid fund set up for her by Dr Jerry Hoss.

Almost two months after her release from Vachira Hospital, K. Saijai took a big step forward in her recovery a few weeks ago by returning to work, though it is something she is doing more out of economic necessity than as a therapeutic measure.

Surveying her badly scarred forearms and knowing that her face suffered even worse disfigurement, she is left to wonder if she will ever regain a semblance of her old appearance. At the same time, she is grateful for the comfort and support she has received throughout the ordeal, both from her husband and family as well as many kind-hearted strangers who have contributed to Saijai Aid.

"Even though I left Vachira Hospital about two months ago, I still suffer pain and itching where I am scarred on my arms and face. It doesn't hurt much when I shower, but I get a painful stinging sensation and swelling from exposure to sunlight.

"Doctors at Vachira Hospital advised me to avoid direct sunlight, I really don't have much of a choice. I have to work because I need the money," she explained.

"I also feel pain in my lips when speaking and I have to avoid opening my mouth wide," she said.

K. Saijai suffers some kind of pain most of the day, and at night as she tries to sleep. "I can-

not hold my daughter for too long or my arms start to swell. When I am asleep, I feel pain if I try to turn and sleep curled up," she said.

However, being able to hold her daughter Sairung "Ice" Tharnsaeng is a big step forward. The playful two-year-old, who witnessed the attack, was terrified at the sight of her mom after the incident.

"My daughter is used to my condition now. The situation is a lot better than when I was in hospital. At first she cried every time she saw me and she was afraid to come near, but now she is ok," she said.

Before doctors released her, they told K. Saijai that she would remain scarred for life and that there were no medications that could reverse the loss of skin she suffered from her severe burns. Nevertheless, she continues to buy scar-reducing salves and skin nourishing creams from phar-

macies in the hopes of returning her appearance as much as possible to what it once was.

"The doctors told me to come back in six months if there wasn't any further improvement, but they didn't

schedule an appointment," she said.

"I worry about my face the most, because now I have bright scars, which cause people to stare at me. This makes me feel self-conscious so I don't want to go out in public, but I have no choice because I have to work.



Saijai's face after doctors removed the bandages.

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"My mother always comforts me and provides support, which gives me the strength to go out and face the world," she said.

K. Saijai said the attack on her by 43-year-old Chumphon native Sombun Kaewkhaaw has left her in fear of mentally ill people. "I can still remember it like it happened yesterday and it still scares me," she said.

"An investigator with the Kathu Police questioned me after I left the hospital. I was told

that it would be difficult to prosecute the man who did this to me because he was diagnosed as insane at Suan Saranrom Psychiatric Hospital. They said he was suffering from paranoia.

"No relatives came to claim him or look after him. Perhaps they feared they would be held responsible for my treatment costs if they did. The last I heard, he was being held in a cell at Phuket Provincial Court," said K. Saijai.

Asked about her hopes for the future, K. Saijai said she hoped

kindhearted people would continue to donate enough for her to get the expensive surgery procedures she needs to give her a more normal appearance and reduce facial pain.

"I want to get better so I can work and save up enough money to send my daughter to daycare, where she can start learning with other kids her own age. Right now my husband and I cannot afford that, so she stays with us all day. My husband is working, but his salary is low. My

BACK TO WORK: Saijai (right), her mom Pennee and two-year-old daughter Sairung "Ice" Tharnsang at Patong Beach, where there are now far fewer customers than when she was attacked back in February this year.

mother helps us as well.

"I received 5,000 baht in assistance money from the Red Cross Society, along with help from others who know me and kindhearted readers of the *Phuket Gazette* who donated money [through Saijai Aid] and brought me food. I really want to thank everybody who helped me for all their kind support," she said.

K. Saijai said her husband, who is 22, has thus far been loyal to her despite her disfigurement, but that she worries whether or not the commitment will continue. "If my face stays like this, I don't know how long my husband can stay with me," she said.

"He works as a dishwasher at a hotel in Kata, where he makes 5,700 baht per month. We have lived together for five years, at my parents house in Chalong, where we are raising our daughter.

"My husband is still as good to me as ever, standing by me, taking care of me and lending moral support. He has asked me if my face will ever return to normal. I tell him I don't know. However, I do know that he feels embarrassed among his friends that his wife looks like this.

"I sense that he is afraid to take me out in public, but I don't feel angry or neglected about it. I understand that it's normal behavior. However, I'm not sure how long he can live with me in this condition and this worries me."

"I used to make about 1,000 baht a day giving massages in the high season, but I had to save money in order to cover all my expenses during the low season, which includes milk money and insurance for my daughter and sharing water and electricity bills

with my parents.

"But this has changed my life completely. Although I am finally back to work, there are few tourists around now because it is the low season and I lose a lot of work because of all the rain. What savings I do have I end up spending on the creams and ointments I need for my wounds. My parents help me with this too, which means we don't have enough to get my daughter into a daycare program.

"Sometimes I break down and cry when I think about how this terrible misfortune has happened to me. I often feel sad and dejected, but I am lucky that I have good parents and a husband who has stood by me. They always tell me my face will get better. Now I still think I have a 50% chance of having my face return to normal. I hope that it does, so that when I go to work people won't stare at me like I am strange," she said.

K. Saijai's typical daily routine these days involves getting up early and doing housework until about 10 am, then she goes to Patong to work – weather permitting.

"Sometimes it hurts me to massage my customers; I can't give a hard massage like I used to. I have had only two customers since going back to work a few weeks ago. They haven't seemed afraid of me, but curious as to what happened. When I explained, they felt sympathy for me and gave me nice tips," she said.

"I don't blame anyone or anything for what happened to me. I think it is just my own misfortune and I have to deal with it as best I can. I know I have to take care of my health and stay as strong as possible. I hope nothing bad like this ever happens to me again. I hope that my appearance improves close to what it was before and that I can work as hard as I used to."

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This week



MONSTER BASH: The informal 'Monsters' club rallied around Rerkdee 'Pui' Tammachod (in blue top) as she held her 37th farewell party on June 10. She will leave 'soon' to join her husband in Chicago.



ROLLIN' IN: More than 100 Phuket bikers rolled up for a free showing of Wild Hogs at Central Festival, including (standing, from left) Win from Born to be Wild MC, Jamrong from Kamala Riders, Rang from Free Wheels MC, Santi from Big Twins and (front, from left) Tom from Tattoo MC and Beer from Phuket Riders MC.



PLENTY OF MEMORY: Hualian Computer Co Ltd Managing Director Chen-Quian (center) hosts staff and clients at a celebration at The Metropole hotel for the grand opening of Hualian Computer's first branch in Phuket.



GETTING IT RIGHT: Journalists taking part in an Indochina Media Memorial Foundation professional development program put on big smiles after enjoying a John Gray SeaCanoe 'Hongs by Starlight' trip. *Gazette* Columnist John 'Caveman' Gray (rear, left) gave on-board presentations about reporting on ecotourism and disasters.



HANDOVER: Students and teachers from Rajaprachanukroh 36 School (Baan Kamala School), representatives from Diethelm Thailand and guests celebrate the handover of a the new four-story main building at the school paid for by Diethelm Travel Asia Ltd.



HIGH-PROFILE PITCH: (From left) Chairman of Kasikorn Securities Plc Rapee Sucharitakul; Total Access Communication Plc (DTAC) CEO Sigve Brekke; DTAC Deputy CFO Premon Pinskul; DTAC Chief Customer Services Officer Sunthi Mathavikul; and emcee Sanae Srisuwan were in Phuket to promote DTAC's June 22 initial public offering (IPO).



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BEHIND THE WHEEL

By Jeff Heselwood

There is always something slightly strange about driving an automatic version of an already highly-successful manual car.

Will it be in any way diluted? Will it lose performance in "power losses" due to the necessary torque converter? Or will the manufacturer manage to disguise its shortcomings in a new package?

As far as the new Quattroporte Automatic is concerned, none of the above is true – or even relevant. It is without doubt an amazing motor car: a sports car with all the amenities and convenience of a luxury saloon.

Make no mistake, the Quattroporte is a big car, along the lines of an S-Class or an Audi, but its sporting instincts place it in a class of its own. The gearbox is a ZF automatic – not the F1-style Magneti Marelli unit found in the Ferrari 430 or the 360 – but a fully automatic unit. It does, however, have steering wheel manual control paddles if desired.

When using the paddles with the system in sport mode, the performance is simply outstanding. With a top speed approaching 270kmh and a benchmark sprint time from standstill to 100kmh of under six seconds, there are few four-door saloons that can match the Quattroporte Automatic.

To rein in this performance, massive ventilated discs are fitted, resulting in a stopping distance from a speed of 100kmh of just 35 meters.

The power plant is Maserati's lightweight 4,244cc, 32-valve V8, delivering a healthy 400bhp (294kW) with a strong torque output of 460Nm produced at the relatively low engine speed of 4,250rpm. More significantly, around 75% of the available torque is produced at 2,500rpm.

The new six-speed ZF transmission is mated to the rear of the V8 engine, unlike the standard Quattroporte on which it is part of the rear transaxle. The result is a subtle alteration in the front-to-rear weight distribution, which is now an almost perfect 49:51, still offering the slight rear bias necessary on a large rear-drive car.

The interior of the new model is typical Maserati: luxury and style combined with classic lines and functionality. The dashboard centerpiece is the familiar trident oval clock, while the tachometer and speedometer are tastefully finished and of a sensible size; no massive tachometer as if to draw attention to the engine speed.

There are nine interior color options and five choices of wood veneer, including rose-

wood, walnut, mahogany, black piano and an obscure option called Tanganyika. The roof lining is a supple Alcantara, while the seats are sumptuous leather.

A complement of air bags is fitted, including side bags, while there are five headrests and a full set of lap-and-diagonal seat belts. Rear-seat passengers have their own climate controls, while the automatic air conditioning can be individually set for each front-seat occupant.

The styling of the Quattroporte by the legendary Turin-based Pininfarina design house has attracted a great deal of critical acclaim and it is rare for such a large car to feature such classic yet sporting lines.

Large alloy wheels and low-profile tires add to the overall impression, while the traditional Maserati grille topped by the trident emphasizes the long tradition of the marque. The trident logo, borrowed from their home town of Bologna, was adopted by the Maserati brothers when the company was formed in 1926.

The latest Quattroporte Automatic is the ultimate in luxury, but with its superb performance it can be rightly described

as a sports model with the convenience of a sedan. A high-performance machine with all the amenities and an outstanding example of automotive brilliance from Maserati.

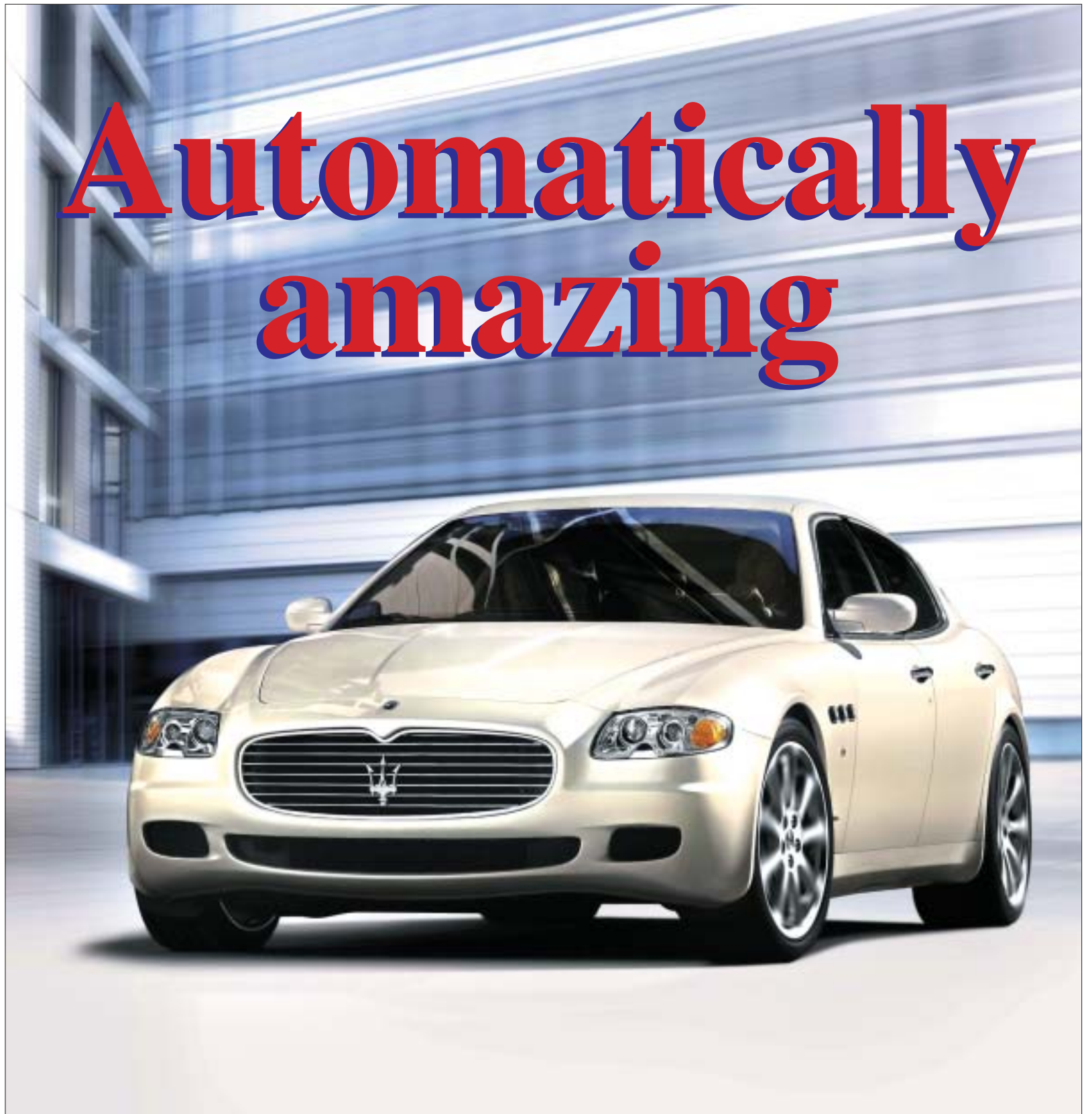
Maserati in Thailand is available only from Ferma Motor Thailand, which has a showroom at 262 Moo 4 Wibhawadi Rd, Bang Khen, Bangkok (Tel. 02-9005353, Email: ferma@ferma.co.th) and another showroom on the 2nd floor in the South zone of the Siam Paragon shopping complex (Tel. 02-6109444).

The Quattroporte Automatic will set you back about 11.5 million baht.

Jeff Heselwood can be contacted at jhc@netvigator.com

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Wet weather eye for beauty

By Supanun Supawong

Before heading out to work or for a night on the town, women across Phuket dab their eyes and faces with expensive makeup in the latest fashion, but by the time they make it through a Phuket rainy-season downpour, they look like they have either been crying or trying out for a job with Barnum and Bailey.

However, by choosing the right makeup, beauty is only a cotton swab away. Warangkana Wichai, branch manager of The Body Shop at Central Festival Phuket, says that women should match the makeup with the weather.

"The trend this rainy season is soft, subtle colors such as blue and gray, which are very suitable for the office. Cosmetics with shimmer in them, making your face sparkle and look bright, are popular, too," he says.

"A popular style for eye-shadow is the 'drama trick style', which highlights your eyes. This uses a base of white and gray. On top of that use a dark layer of blue on the bottom half of the eyelids and a lighter color on the top half.

However, Ame-orn Rerm-payup, general manager at Hanako Tokyo in Jungceylon, says that the popular colors this rainy season are not blue and gray, but a combination of pastels.

"The rainy season is a time to relax, so we use light, sweet colors such as pink and light green. Women still wear makeup in the rainy season, but many women wear makeup that is not appropriate. They should wear light colors.

"A light green tone eye-shadow is suitable for the rainy season because green goes well with the green trees that we see



Light green eye shadow can give you a fresher, brighter look for those dull rainy days.

so much during this season," K. Ame-orn says.

Layering eyeshadow colors is popular with pastels, too. Use a white highlight powder as a base and green eyeshadow on the bottom half of the eyelids, then cover with a light layer of brown eyeshadow, she recommends.

The two makeup specialists also agree that powdered cosmetics should be used instead of creams. Cream-based eyeshadow smears too easily in the wet weather, they say.

"Women with small eyes should paint more heavy-handed with the eyeshadow to help make

their eyes look bigger. Paint gray on the lower half of the eyelids, then use an eyeliner pencil to highlight the eyebrow, then redraw it again with an eyeliner," K. Warangkana says.

"Women who have big eyes set far apart can correct it by painting heavily at the outside corners of the eyelids," he adds.

"Eyeliner pencils should always match the color of the hair, and solid eyebrow pencils should be used instead of liquid pencils to fill in eyebrows, as rain can make liquid pencil lines run.

"Eyebrows should be drawn within the lines of the natural eyebrows, and the end of the eyebrows should be trimmed to give them a good shape, especially as thin eyebrows are popular now.

"Then, with the pencil, draw a little longer than the end of the eyes. That will look beautiful, and top it off with mascara to make the eyelashes look longer," K. Warangkana says.

Mascara is the most obvious culprit for rainy-season woes,

and smeared lines can leave misleading signs of a broken heart. While that may inspire sympathy, looking like a panda probably isn't worth it.

K. Ame-orn says that mascara plays a big part in making a women's eyes stand out. "Under your eyes, use a dark brown eyeshadow and a shimmer to make your eyes look bigger. Then draw your eyebrows and brush your eyelashes with mascara," she says.

"Of course, use a rain-resistant mascara and choose a type of mascara that best suits your eyelashes. For example: if you have short eyelashes, use an eyelash-extending mascara; if you have thin eyelashes, use a mascara that thickens them.

• Hanako Tokyo, ground floor, Jungceylon, Patong. Open daily 10 am-10 pm. Tel: 076-366073.

• The Body Shop, 1st floor, Central Festival Phuket. Open daily 11 am to 10 pm. Tel: 076-249595.

Legendary Australian music promoter Michael Chugg, better known as "Chuggie", raised the bar for private parties on the island on June 16 with his 60th birthday bash at Sai Taan in Cherng Talay.

Most likely to be remembered as the party of the year, the event saw live on-stage performances by Leo Sayer and Brian Cadd.

Projected on a large screen by the stage were birthday wishes from Australian and international celebrities, including legendary Aussie actors Bryan Brown and Jack Thompson, with the first to wish Chuggie happy birthday being Australian classic rock icon Richard Clapton.

Guests were greeted by Laguna's resident baby elephant Lilly, and the party started in earnest after moving speeches by his children Lucas, Sophie and Nicholas.

Fellow Aussie music icon Molly Meldrum literally graced the stage, in costume as more of a Molly Monroe...or possibly a Marilyn Meldrum.

For non-Australians on the island, Chuggie is a living legend in the Australian music industry – not just for his achievements in music and entertainment promotion, but also for his work in raising funds for children's charities.

In true Chuggie style, each guest was charged 1,000 baht a head with money going to the Life Home Project, the Phuket Has Ben Good to Us foundation and Asia Center Foundation.

Chuggie was also recipient of the Ted Albert Award For Outstanding Services To Australian Music at the APRAs in June 2005. The award reads:

"With over 40 years experience, Michael Chugg is one of the most prominent, respected and colourful promoters within Australian music and around the world.

"Considered to be a pioneer of the Australian music industry, he has been responsible for organising and promoting tours and events by such an huge array of

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Lucky Chuggie



Left: With peroxide blond hair, husky voice, sleeky silver gown – it must be MM... Molly Meldrum, that is.

Above: Sons Nicholas, left, and Lucas join Chuggie onstage.

Right: Chuggie enjoys the jokes, mostly directed at him.

Below: Leo Sayer gets some help with a song.



international artists that it would be impossible to list them all.

"And his fundraising efforts have been nothing short of legendary."

An impressive fireworks display concluded the party with enough gusto to match Chuggie's larger-than-life style.

Below: Andy Penders, of ESPN Star Sports Football Crazy fame, and family.



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What to do with your pocket money

All at
SEA



By Teddy Tucker

For the inconsequential sum of US\$ 160,000 (5.6 million baht) per week you too can enjoy a life of elegance, where every whim is satisfied without asking, on board *Taipan III*.

But when planning your budget don't forget to hold a little in reserve for fuel, food and booze, little things can add up if you aren't careful. Those three items can get your tab dangerously close to US\$ 200,000 for the week.

A bit over the top you might say? Maybe not. *Taipan III* is a yacht extraordinaire and probably well worth every *satang* you would spend on a week of leisure and pleasure...if you can afford it. The 51.6-meter (172-foot) yacht fits well into the definition of a "superyacht" in size, as well as in service and hospitality.

Yacht Manager Kerry Sugden says, "Anything you want is laid on, you don't have to ask for anything". The goal of the crew is to anticipate your needs and provide for them before you can ask, he says.

Built 25 years ago as the Royal Yacht for the Emir of Bahr-



EMIR BAGATELLE: Main picture shows the Sky Lounge with its echoes of Star Trek.

Top: *Taipan III* gleams white against the ocean.

Above: Plenty of room for romping in the master suite.

ain, *Taipan III* was later bought by Taipan Inc, who carried out an extensive refit and put her to work as what Kerry calls "a small seven-star hotel". Her primary work includes hosting sem-

inars, corporate training sessions and rewards for high-achievers, but she also does a little chartering for...uh, well, that's confidential.

Comfortable staterooms that would make most five-star resorts envious are standard. The accommodation deck has a master stateroom with a king-size bed, its own foyer, sitting and dressing areas, and his-and-her bathrooms.

A VIP stateroom is provided to assure no egos are slighted, and while slightly smaller and sporting only a queen-size bed and one full bath, is still quite sumptuous. Five twin-berthed state-

rooms, one with a full bath and the others with showers, round out the deck. A total of 12 guests can be accommodated.

A formal dining salon, main salon, lounge and bar, along with two "powder" rooms and the galley are located on the main deck. The bridge deck houses the "Sky-lounge", gymnasium, pilothouse, boathouse and a fully equipped office for guests who need to do a little work on the go.

More than just a few toys are provided for comfort and pleasure. The sun deck Jacuzzi, an 1840 Steinway baby grand piano, a hydrotherapy bath, a jukebox and a video library are all

available for the stay-on-board types.

The more active folks have their choice of a 25-foot sport boat with twin 150hp Yamahas, a 17-foot rigid inflatable boat (RIB), two jet-skis, full sets of snorkel gear, tow rings, fishing gear and much more.

Two huge 1220hp Mirlees Blackstone diesels cruise *Taipan III* at a comfortable and relatively efficient 10-12 knots, using about 350 liters of fuel an hour when on the move, or 50 liters an hour while at anchor. When fully fueled the cruising range is 5,000 miles, so the world is truly your oyster.

There's no doubt this formerly royal yacht can provide a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience. It is all about getting life done right – and living like an emir – if only for a week.

Though she is based out of Yacht Haven Marina, you can't charter *Taipan III* in Thailand, but she does work out of Malaysia, Singapore and Burma – or a host of other regional countries for a "small" repositioning fee.

For more information about the *Taipan III* contact Wolfgang Riessbacher at Faraway Yachting via email at: info@faraway.net Tel/Fax: 076-289656 or 081-8951826.

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Spa MAGIC



By Sangkhae
Leelanapaporn
Cape Spa

As I'm approaching and entering the Cape Spa I think to myself that it looks more like an expensive, elegant villa than a spa. There is a mix of traditional Thai and modern design, high ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows and stunning views of the bay. Though the spa opened earlier this year, the hotel it's located in – Cape Panwa Hotel – has been a Phuket standard for 20 years.

Spa Manager Wanphen Daloonpate certainly has the credentials to set up the spa; she has experience from 16 spas over the past six years and in many of those locations she was the pre-opening manager and helped to design the spas and menus, train staff and get the spa off the ground.

She said the response she has received about Cape Spa thus far has been positive, especially about the design. She says the guests love walking around the building and admiring the style and color tones. They say it makes them feel at home.

The large spa building has two levels providing four therapy rooms, three Thai massage rooms and a foot massage room.

"We have a lot of returning guests, some come every day during their stay. It is part of the trend toward healthy living and taking good care of yourself," K. Wanphen says.

Some 90% of the guests at the spa are from the Cape Panwa Hotel; the others are from hotels in the area. Another interesting trend, she says, is that most guests come for treatment as couples.

The most popular therapy is the Full Moon Anti-Stress treatment that takes 70 minutes and costs 1,000 baht, plus tax and service (++). It includes a foot scrub and head, shoulder and back massage that ends with a warm herbal compress.

"Another favorite of the guests is the Aroma Foot Soak, which is a part of every therapy treatment. Treatments start with 10 minutes of soaking and scrubbing their feet under a large bath tap," K. Wanphen says.

Services at the spa include massages, body scrubs, facials, warm milk baths and mud treatments. Packages that mix and



Even the view from the Cape Spa is soothing. The spa, at the Cape Panwa Hotel, has beautiful sea vistas.

A FRESH FACE

match run from 70 to 300 minutes and 700 to 7,500 baht++ , respectively.

The spa menu is quite large in size and printed in big font, so it is easy to shop for the experience I want, and the reception area has oils set out so I can sample their fragrances.

I choose the Sensitive Facial (70 minutes, 2,000 baht++) and head off with therapist Duangjai Tantiroj to the treatment

room, where we begin with the signature Aroma Foot Soak. She first cleans my feet with salt, then a scrub and finally applies a gel with orange fragrance.

The soft music playing in the spa lulls me into relaxation as K. Duangjai starts the facial with multiple steps of cleansing, scrubbing, massaging and applications of toning gel and moisturizers.

When an hour has passed

the masseuse massages my arms and legs to bring me back to earth. K. Wanphen tells me to not use makeup for 12 hours to let the moisturizer penetrate the skin.

Wow! I feel so comfortable and my face is so soft...if I had more time than this and I wasn't worried about all the work back at the office...

The Cape Spa's hours are 10 am to 9 pm daily, for reservations please call 076-391123, ext 204. The spa is located at the Cape Panwa Hotel, Sakdidee Rd on Cape Panwa.



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NIKON : COOLPIX S8/SL	9,990	7,990
NIKON : COOLPIX S5	11,500	9,990
NIKON : COOLPIX P4	12,500	9,990
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CANON : PWS A430/R	4,990	3,990
CANON : IXUS 55	9,669	7,990
CANON : PWS A700	11,900	8,990



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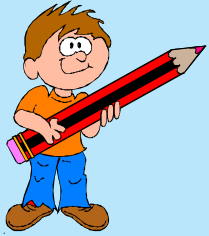
All net revenue from ticket sales will be donated to His Majesty The King's charity projects.





Puzzles

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.



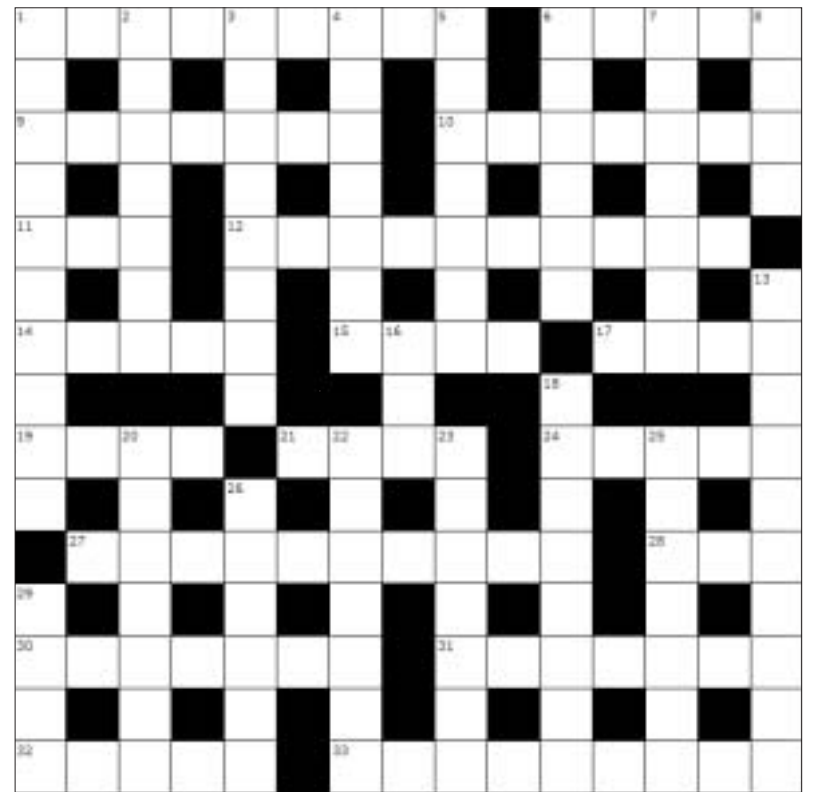
The Cryptic Crossword

ACROSS

1. Digger, cave rat and ox cavort. (9)
6. Dribbles, almost closes eyes. (5)
9. Free hated reverse. (7)
10. Achievement: her pinion. (7)
11. A 50 I add to boxer. (3)
12. Credit note particles took mat to funerals. (10)
14. 8 x 2 down, perhaps. (5)
15. Admits he possesses. (4)
17. Lairs of the French cardinals. (4)
19. Spot eastern agent. (4)
21. Shoots at vessels. (4)
24. Fib about slightly slick material. (5)
27. Funeral officer may leap barrel – that's odd! (10)
28. Frozen bit of acidic element. (3)
30. Dodged a vacuum, Ed. (7)
31. AI leaves Australia for another country. (7)
32. Requested a desk be shifted. (5)
33. Discussion of Diana's route. (9)

DOWN

1. Dear Don and Eve, confused but tried... (10)
2. Musician, note the Spanish itemization. (7)
3. Long Live Bangkok for liveliness! (8)
4. Underwater thug? (7)
5. Stop, ref! Precipitation! (7)
6. Eastern European AI's gone back to Victor... (6)
7. ...hence an odd way to improve. (7)
8. Dry prophet, they say. (4)
13. State firmly: "Smash Easter vase." (10)
16. Point at temple. (3)
18. AI has wall painting outdoors. (8)



Compiled by Tortuus. © 2007

20. Bird peck and swallow a company. (7)
22. Went to excess for Latin poet taking road to east. (7)
23. Points out the best and lets out piercing cry. (7)
25. From street I take three rights about east to get to soup-tender. (7)
26. Dueled badly, but escaped. (6)
29. A gas wheel (it's a long story). (4)

Scribble Space



su | do | ku
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

V. EASY

24

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.

EZ TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Arachnophobia is the fear of what?
2. Bo Peep, Woody, Nemo, Buzz Lightyear. Which is the odd one out?
3. Americans celebrate Independence Day on July 4. Independence from whom?
4. In which ocean would you find the Marianas Trench?
5. What makes the trench remarkable?
6. What is the capital of Indonesia?
7. Black bear, polar bear and sun bear. Which is the smallest?
8. How many red balls are used in the game of snooker?
9. Which two Beatles are still alive?
10. Magic Johnson, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Clyde Drexler were all famous for what?

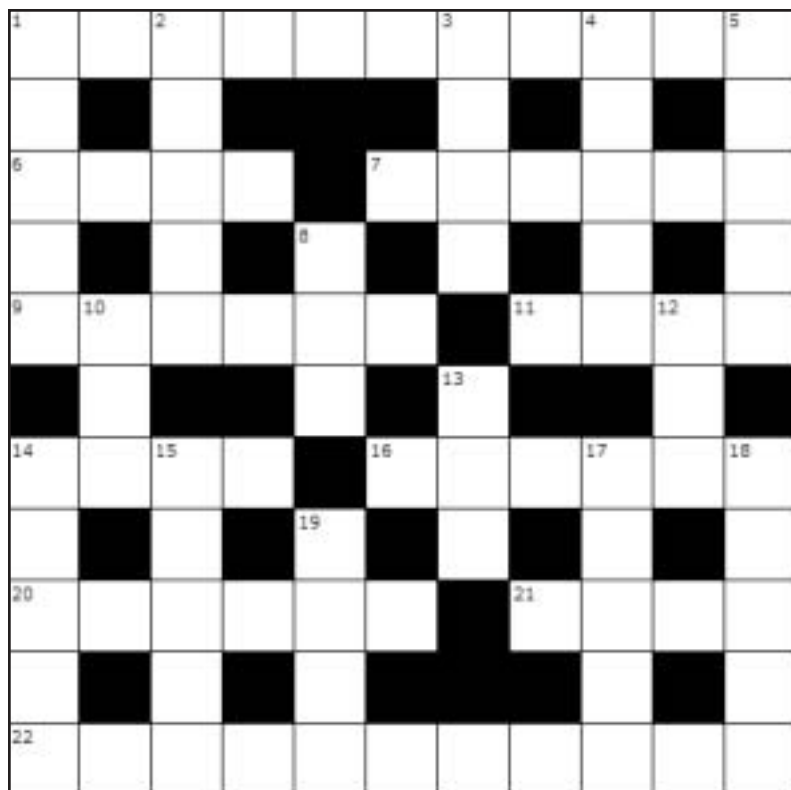
Answers on next page

Rhyme Time

The words or phrases described below all rhyme with 'maze'. What are they?

1. Snooker table fabric.
2. Sentence part.
3. Applause.
4. Part of a project.
5. Disturb one's composure.
6. Fit windows.
7. Methods.
8. High times of yore.
9. Tear down to ground level.
10. Astonish.

Answers on next page



Quick Crossword

ACROSS

1. Stage presentation.
6. Leave out.
7. Leg joints.
9. Hansel & * * * * *
11. * * * Williams, crooner.
14. Center of the Earth.
16. Manner of speaking.
20. Major Indian city.
21. Molecule component.
22. Teenagers.

DOWN

1. Part of a fork.
2. German river.
3. Lion's hair.
4. Stocking material.
5. Student's writing.
8. A hundredth of a thousand.
10. Brazilian city, in short.
12. Bear's lair.
13. Top fighter pilot.
14. Dangerous snake.
15. * * * & Juliet.
17. Consumed.
18. New York newspaper.
19. Person from Copenhagen.

Solution below, right

Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



1. What was Bing Crosby's real name?
2. Who was rated by Balanchine and Nureyev as the greatest dancer of the 20th century?
3. What did Nat King Cole die of?
4. Singer and actor Leon Franklin Slye was better known by what name?
5. Who was married (in succession) to Nancy Barbato, Ava Gardner, Mia Farrow and Barbara Marx?
6. Who was the first recording artist to have 10 records sell more than a million copies each?
7. How many "Road to..." movies did Bing Crosby make with Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour?
8. One more "Road to..." movie was planned but never made. What was its title?
9. Why wasn't it made?
10. Who said, "I feel sorry for people who don't drink. When they wake up in the morning, that's as good as they're going to feel all day"?
11. Singer Andy Williams owns a theater in Branson, Missouri. What is the theater called?
12. Which singer was nicknamed "The Singing Bus Driver"? Did he actually drive a bus at any time?
13. How did Sammy Davis Jr lose his left eye?
14. Who officiated at Davis's wedding to Altovise Gore in 1970?
15. Which crooner first sang under the name Joe Bari?
16. What was singer Engelbert Humperdinck's real name?
17. Which singer performed the title music for the James Bond movie *Thunderball*?
18. Singer Barry Manilow once complained that his helicopter-commuting neighbors stopped him sunbathing in the nude. Who were the neighbors?
19. Which singer had a trial with UK soccer team Brentford and also worked at one time as a grave-digger?
20. Paul Anka was born Canadian. But to which country does his ancestry trace?

Answers below

Puzzle Solutions

Rhyme Time Answers

1. Baize; 2. Phrase; 3. Praise; 4. Phase; 5. Faze; 6. Glaze; 7. Ways; 8. Good old days; 9. Raze; 10. Amaze.

Solution to this week's Cartoon Puz z le



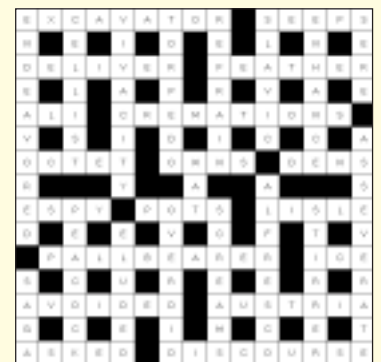
EZ Trivia Answers

1. Spiders; 2. Nemo (the rest are characters in the cartoon movie *Toy Story*); 3. Britain; 4. North Pacific; 5. It's the deepest location in the earth's crust - nearly 11km below the sea's surface; 6. Jakarta; 7. Sun bear; 8. 15; 9. Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr; 10. Playing basketball.

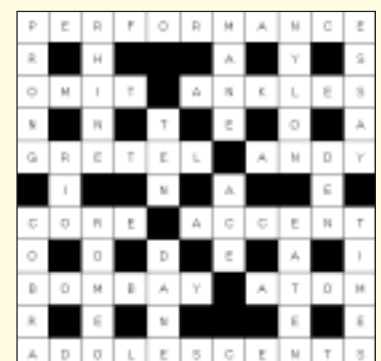
Monster Quiz Answers

1. Harry Lillis Crosby; 2. Fred Astaire; 3. Lung cancer; 4. Roy Rogers; 5. Frank Sinatra; 6. Perry Como; 7. Seven; 8. *Road to the Fountain of Youth*; 9. Bing Crosby died; 10. Frank Sinatra; 11. The Moon River; 12. Matt Monro. Yes - the No 27 from Highgate to Teddington in London; 13. In an automobile accident; 14. The Rev Jesse Jackson; 15. Tony Bennett; 16. Arnold George Dorsey; 17. Tom Jones; 18. Ronald and Nancy Reagan; 19. Rod Stewart; 20. Lebanon.

Cryptic Crossword



Quick Crossword



Sudoku

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

The Cold War proved hog heaven for a German-speaking British MI6 spy. His masterpiece, *The Spy Who Came in From the Cold*, set in the Berlin Wall era, proved the benchmark for all spy thrillers to follow. The author, of course, was John LeCarré, who went on to pen the Smiley trilogy that encapsulated all the moral ambiguities of the Cold War.

With the fall of the Berlin Wall, LeCarré was set adrift and floundered for a while, though *The Little Drummer Girl* was a masterful exposition of the Arab-Israeli conflict at the time of the Lebanese invasion. *The Tailor of Panama* started off great, but fizzled in the end. But now LeCarré has discovered the miseries of Africa and his well-researched *The Constant Gardener* took on the big pharmaceutical companies in Aids-stricken Kenya. He has followed up with *The Mission Song* (Little, Brown and Company, New York, 2006, 339pp). This is his 20th novel, and at age 75 he remains at the very top of his form.

This time he takes on the big mining companies lusting after the riches of the war-torn eastern Congo region of Kivu. Bruno Salvador, known as Salvo, grew up as a mission kid, son of an Irish missionary and a beautiful Congolese woman. In his youth he mastered the plethora of languages in the region: Swahili, English, French, Kanyarwanda, Lingala, Bemba and Shi. Dispatched to a Catholic boarding school in England, where he was groomed by the aristocratic Brother Michael to become a professional interpreter, he was soon recruited by the MI6 as a listener of phone conversation among various African terrorists.

While working for the intelligence bureau he becomes in awe of his spy-

The spymaster scores again at 20



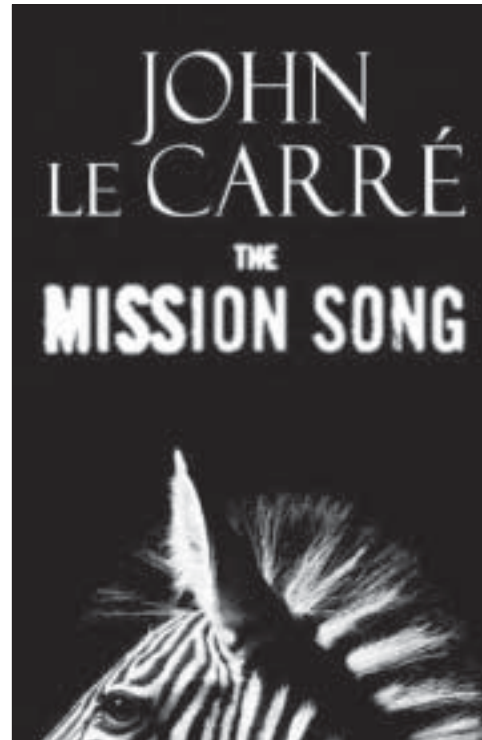
Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

master boss, Mr Anderson, who resembles his mentor Brother Michael:

"Like Michael, he is a man complete, at once tall and bearish, the features as permanent as lava stone, every movement an event. Like Michael, he is a father to his men. He is somewhere in his late fifties, you assume, yet you have no sense that he was yesterday a dashing lad, or tomorrow will be on the shelf. He is rectitude personified, he is constabular, he is the oak of England. Just crossing a room he takes the moral justification for his actions with him. You can wait an eternity for his smile, but when it comes you're closer to God."

Salvo is 29, married to a famous tabloid journalist, Penelope, who is on the make in every sense of the word. He has



no moral problems betraying her with a beautiful Congolese nurse named Hannah from "the region of Goma in North Kivu, by tribe a Nande". Two nights into their torrid romance, he is summoned by Mr Anderson for a secret mission to a mansion on an island in the North Sea.

Hannah regards an elderly Congolese intellectual, Mwangaza ("The Enlightened One") as the potential savior for Kivu, which has been wracked by a civil war that has cost two million lives. Mwangaza arrives on the island to meet with three local warlords to get together to seize the government of Kivu, throw out the Rwandan invaders and open the country for mining by an unnamed syndicate that will, in turn, provide arms and mercenaries. Salvo's job is to listen in to their taped conversations and report back to his handlers.

Warlord One is the noble Dieudonne, of the Munyamulenge, a pastoral tribe related to the hated Tutsi of Rwanda. Warlord Two is Honore mour-Joyeuse, a rich French-educated dandy and millionaire of the Shi tribe who will lead the urban insurrection that will spark the coup. Warlord Three is a very nasty character named Colonel Franco, an old Bembe warrior of the fanatical Mai Mai sect who believes his magic rituals will turn his enemies' bullets into water.

"And we should not be fooled by 'Colonel,'" Salvo notes. "We're not talking cleaned-and-pressed uniforms, salute-your officers, red flashes, medal ribbons and the like. We're talking feathered head-dresses, baseball caps, monkey-skin waistcoats, football shorts, tracksuits and eye make-up ... We are also talking random, feckless murder, rape galore, and a full range of atrocities under the influence of everything from leading-edge witchcraft to a gallon or two of Primus beer laced with palm wine."

Salvo soon learns that the plot to liberate Kivu is a sham, concocted by a greedy consortium of mining interests. Back in England, reunited with Hannah, he desperately tries to alert the government and press to the impending catastrophe. This is the plot of the last third of the novel and it races to a surprising conclusion. At this point, there is no way you can put the book down.

The Mission Song is much more than a thriller. It is a dense, vibrant, panoramic drama about some of the most passionate and complex moral issues of our times: the thin forces of civilization against the overwhelming powers of greed, chaos and barbarism.

PHUKET DIARY

www.phuketgazette.net/calendar

June 23. Final Triathlon in Silk Series 2006-2007.

The final race in the six-race Silk Triathlon Series 2006-2007. The evening of the 23rd will see a wonderful prize-giving ceremony at the Silk Bar and Restaurant located at the Surin Plaza where the Series Junior Champion and Senior Champion will be announced.

Saturday's races will be hosted by the JW Marriott and will begin at 8 am. Event starts with a Splash 'n' Dash (750m run, 3km bike and 50m swim), followed by the Juniors (1.5km run, 6km bike and 250m swim) and Seniors (5km run, 20km bike and 350m swim).

For more information contact Hugo Jones at 081-0782024; email: info@triballisticclub.com; or check out the website at: www.triballisticclub.com

Every Sunday at the Mangos-teen Resort and Spa.

Specialty brunches featured every Sunday, with a BBQ brunch on June 24. The brunch begins at 11 am and runs until 3 pm. Only 499 baht net, with the first 20 bookings each week paying just 399 baht net. With a half-bottle of wine, the charge is 950 baht net. For more information contact Christophe Lopez at 076-289399 or email info@mango-steen-phuket.com

June 30. Wine Tasting at the Wine Connection.

Wine tasting with a tapas buffet and live music from 7 pm to 9 pm at the Wine Connection in Bang Tao. 350 baht.

For more information, please call Pascal at 087-8896074.

June 30. Men in Mind, Secret Night.

Fancy-dress dinner party and a solo performance by Kuck Wannasak Sirilar of a Thai version of *Men in Mind* at the Hiranyikara Spa.

Event begins at 6:30 pm with a complimentary mask and purple cocktail. Dinner, at 7 pm, is by Chef Tawee from the Kata Thani Phuket Beach Resort. The performance begins at 8 pm and is followed by a "Secret Party" from 9 pm to midnight.

Tickets are 400 baht and include dinner and two drinks. For more information contact K. Sophita at Tel: 081-3700202 or send an email to: info@hiranyikara.com

July 1. A Touch of Jazz Romance.

Join us at the Beach Club of the Kata Thani Hotel for an evening with Danish Queen of Jazz Katrine Madsen and her award-winning Jesper Bodilsen Trio. Tickets, priced at 1,000 baht, include a light cocktail and are on sale now.

Call Khun Jib at 076-236555 to book for home delivery or enjoy a 20% discount if you pick up

your tickets at the *Phuket Gazette* offices on or before June 24.

Sponsored by Kasikorn Bank and major international airlines and hotels, this event is organized by the Nation Multimedia Group and Hitman. All net revenue will be donated to HM The King's charity projects.

July 15. Meditation Retreat.

Free monthly meditation retreats are offered on the third Sunday of every month from 1:30 pm to 3 pm at the Wang Kung restaurant behind the King Rama IX Park in Phuket City.

The sessions will include an introduction to meditation, relaxation exercises and meditation practice, as well as a question and answer period.

Instruction is provided by English monk Phra Nicholas Thanissaro and people of all nationalities and religions are welcome to attend.

For more information call 081-3704005, 089-6476424 or 087-2838185; email: mananya@hotmail.com or poolsuk@asianpremier.com; or check out the website at: www.meditationthai.org

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For a product list please contact:
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Email: salespmi@intermar.org

The Phuket Gazette
- Since 1994 -

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Amphur
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A well-run race

For the second year in a row the Laguna Phuket International Marathon was a resounding success; everyone involved in the event deserves a congratulatory pat on the back.

By successfully merging public and private interests, the organizers of the marathon again brought some very positive international attention to our island.

With international media coverage, well-arranged and executed events and an increasing pool of runners, the marathon brought in just the type of publicity and quality tourists that Phuket needs.

A perennial goal for agencies such as the Phuket Provincial Administrative Organization, Tourism Authority of Thailand and Governor's Office has been to increase sports tourism in the province. In recent years they have made great strides by hosting major events including the marathon, which draws high-quality, fitness-minded tourists to Phuket.

Figures released from Laguna Phuket show that this year the marathon attracted 4,000 participants, including 1,500 runners. Among those attending were an abundance of families and even a few celebrities, including Charlie Webster and Andy Penders from ESPN.

Both were major assets to the marathon. Andy set an example by taking his family on the five-kilometer charity walk; Charlie not only finished second in her age category in the 21-km half marathon, but also led the children's run and cheered the youngsters over the finish line – a class act indeed.

The next step in bringing more people like this to Phuket is already underway in Mai Khao, where initial work on a 70-million-baht sports complex recently began.

When completed, the facility should help groups like Team TBB, the triathlon team training on the island, and draw more international groups to enjoy Phuket's warm weather, great food and relatively low cost of living as they prepare for international sporting events.

The complex will allow Phuket to realize more of the great potential for sports tourism it so obviously holds.

The initial plan for a privately-funded sports training center was presented in January of 2006, when it received a warm response from then-Phuket Governor Udomsak Uswarangkura. Although the project has since been scaled down significantly, there is still plenty of potential for expansion in Mai Khao, where the Treasury Department controls over 2,000 rai of land.

Seeing the packed hotel rooms and smiling faces that the marathon inspired, let's hope the provincial authorities sprint back to the negotiating table to get our sports center built as soon as possible.

– The Editor

The Phuket Gazette

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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.

Kamala speedway is a disaster

I have stayed in Kamala for almost five years now and receive regular visitors from overseas. We all commend the reconstruction along the beach road and the adjacent park after the tsunami, but the main road is a total disaster.

Almost daily, I witness dangerous situations where heavy traffic occurs or young people on motorbikes rush through at high rates of speed.

They could have constructed a nice avenue with speed bumps, extended pavement on each side and a median with trees.

Instead, they have created a four-lane highway straight through what is supposed to be the town's center.

TF
Kamala

Palai wall? Yes please

The article by Marque A Rome castigating the building of a retaining wall and pier at Palai Beach showed all the romantic imagination that his name suggests. However, logic and forethought were sadly missing.

To me, the Palai area has an almost unique opportunity to become one of the most important leisure- and tourism-related business areas in Phuket for Thais and farangs alike. It was partly for that reason that I bought a house in the area.

Almost totally undeveloped at the moment, it already has one of the island's most popular attractions in Phuket Zoo, has

some of the best seafood restaurants in Phuket and is part of the region's most ideal natural harbor – Chalong Bay.

It is situated about 15 minutes from Phuket City, the coast has much better road access than the dreaded Chalong Circle area, and it is adjacent to the picturesque Klong Moo Dong and mangrove forests, and as already mentioned, has the advantage of being a "blank canvas". But enough of the advertisement for Palai.

What I fail to understand is, after seeing the improvements made to the sea-front at Patong, Karon, Kata, Nai Harn, Chalong, Rawai and other areas, by the building of sea walls, promenades or jetties, anyone could possibly criticize a similar plan for Palai.

Hopefully this will be the first stage in enhancing the natural beauty of the area while making more practical the use of its natural advantages.

There is plenty of space for the creation of a launching slipway for pleasure boats, parking and many other tourism-related projects.

I for one hope to see the Great Wall of Palai finished as soon as possible and I'm sure that even Marque A. would admit, "Rome" wasn't built in a day.

Chris Garnett
Soi Palai 2

Low-cost airlines helping development

I enjoyed Bill Barnett's low-cost travel article [Gazette, June 16-22 issue].

I would be remiss of me if I did not point out, however, that

the transportation infrastructure provided by the low cost/budget airlines was an important ingredient to the success of property developers.

Not only is pricing an important factor, but so is providing service to locations on a schedule that meets the demands of the people traveling on the route.

This was recognized by several low cost carriers as a requirement and was an important item adding to their market segment acceptance.

Destination Air is currently beginning services to locations not easily accessible or convenient by road or boat.

The scheduled shuttle service will provide property developers – and tourists and residents too – with the ability to travel to locations previously regarded as inconvenient or possibly too time-consuming to reach.

Between Phuket and Ranong, the options are a four- to five-hour van trip or 30-minute seaplane flight.

Between Phuket and the Koh Lanta-Trang area, a five- to six-hour van/boat transport or a 20-35-minute Ko Lanta/Ko Mook jump.

Please keep the Property Watch information flowing. It is a solid insight to the trends and thinking in our community. As goes the land, so go the people.

The demographics of Phuket are changing and your articles continue to allow us to have an insight to the changes and maintain pace.

Pat James
Managing Director
Destination Air Shuttle

Letters conveying views and suggestions are published here. Those seeking comment from government officials and/or business owners are published in *Issues & Answers* at www.phuketgazette.net.

Mega-projects, superstores and MICE

The private sector idea to construct a man-made island to serve as a marina catering to super-yachts [Gulu Lalvani's plan to build "Zoran Island" off the coast of Koh Kaew], has drawn a good deal of positive exposure to Phuket's tourism industry.

However, a land reclamation project on this scale is unprecedented for Thailand, even though it has been done in other countries. For this reason, I think it will have to overcome a great deal of bureaucratic and legal hurdles if it is ever to become reality.

There would be numerous issues to consider, including the impact on the environment and on the way of life of the local community. However, as we strive to develop Phuket as an Asian marine tourism hub, this type of project would be a step in the right direction.

It would be great if we could encourage billionaires such as Bill Gates to spend time here – as this would improve our image and attract more investment. Currently, we lack the facilities to cater to the largest superyachts, which can exceed 100 meters in length.

I have seen land reclamation projects that include Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibition (MICE) facilities, particularly in Dubai. However, the situation is quite different there because they have huge investment budgets, administration systems that allow for rapid decision-making, and less restrictive foreign investment and ownership laws.

Anti-marina protests: It worries me that so many different interest groups are getting involved in the debate over whether or not to allow marina development projects, some presenting me with petitions asking me to stop con-

The Governor's Letter

In his sixth letter to Phuket's expatriate community, Governor Niran Kalayanamit talks about the numerous "megaprojects" proposed for the island and why he wants large retail chains to voluntarily suspend their expansion in Phuket until the government promulgates a new Retail Business Act.



struction. I am not referring solely to the proposed marina at Cape Yamu, but also [Phase 2] of the Chalong Marina project, the final form of which still has yet to be decided upon or approved.

I always try to ensure that a comprehensive series of public hearings are held on such projects, but with so many opposing views it is difficult or impossible to reach a compromise that will keep all sides happy.

I listen to both sides carefully. Investors tell me they strictly follow all Thai law and regulations and that the projects will stimulate the local economy, providing jobs for local residents. Those opposed say the projects will change their way of life and harm

the local environment by destroying mangroves and coastal fishery resources.

We have to consider both sides of the issue and reach a fair conclusion that is in harmony with provincial development plans.

MICE: Similar to the controversy over marina developments is that of building a facility capable of hosting large Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) events.

We should have a large MICE facility somewhere in Phuket, because over time we have lost many opportunities to host groups for lack of such a facility.

I have received many calls

from overseas event organizers wanting to arrange large meetings, road shows or big exhibitions – with the number of attendees ranging from 4,000 to 10,000 people. We have to consider all the benefits being able to host such events could bring, both to the province and its people, and the nation as a whole.

The only place on the island currently capable of hosting large gatherings is Surakul Stadium [which is designed for sporting events and is inappropriate for most MICE activities].

Like the marina developments, however, the issue seems to get bogged down in discussions and disagreements, such as whether or not we really need such a facility and – if we do – where it should be sited.

With the price of land in Phuket, I think it will cost at least three billion baht for such a facility, including land acquisition and construction costs.

We have private sector interest in investing in a large MICE facility [ING Funds (Thailand)], but they need government support with basic infrastructure requirements, especially when it comes to using public-sector land to reduce overall investment costs.

The minimum amount of land needed for such a facility would be about 100 rai. I think the best location would be in Mai Khao, where the Treasury Department controls three plots of land totaling about 2,000 rai.

Work recently began there on a sports complex being built with 70 million baht in initial government funding. Having the two

projects side-by-side would be beneficial to both; there would still be land available for further development in the future.

However, in response to private sector concerns raised in the meeting chaired by Sports and Tourism Minister Suwit Yodmanee on May 28, it has been decided to allow other private sector groups 60 days to come up with alternative proposals. After that time has elapsed, the provincial committee [chaired by Gov Niran – Ed] will decide which proposal to adopt.

Mega-retailers: We don't know when a new Retail Business Act will be promulgated by the government or what form it will take. In the meantime, we must continue to regulate businesses through existing regulations.

However, we have asked all large retailers to pay taxes to the local administrative bodies in which their branches are located, because it is unfair if they just pay taxes though their headquarters in Bangkok and leave local administrations to deal with the garbage they produce. [As suggested by the Phuket Chamber of Commerce. See 'Tesco rejects tax accusation', page 33, for one retailer's reaction] Some large retailers have already taken action on this matter.

We have also asked the large retailers to voluntarily curb their expansion in the province until the new Retail Business Act goes into effect, especially in regard to the opening of small convenience stores at petrol stations.

**Niran Kalayanamit,
Governor of Phuket**

Compiled by Gazette Chief Reporter Sangkhae Leelanaporn.

I am due to renew my retirement visa on June 29 and have read that the medical certificate is no longer required.

Will you please tell me exactly what I need to bring with me to the Phuket Immigration Office on June 29.

Don Aleman
Phuket

**Pol Capt Krissarat Nuesen of
Phuket Immigration Office,
replies:**

Retirees who request a one-year permit to stay must satisfy these qualifications:

1. Hold a valid non-immigrant O visa.
2. Be 50 years of age, or older.
3. Have income from one of these sources:

3.1 Pension, Social Security, Interest or Dividend of not less than 65,000 baht per month.

or

3.2 Have not less than 800,000 baht deposited in any Thai bank account (savings or fixed-term account) for not less than three months before the application date.

The account name must be only in the applicant's name or may be a joint account in the name of the applicant and his/her registered married spouse only.

or

3.3 The applicant's total income derived from 3.1 expected to be received over the 12-month period being applied for PLUS the money deposited in a Thai bank account for at least three months must not be less than 800,000 baht.

Supporting documents required:

1. Application form (TM7),

Issues & ANSWERS

them through the website at www.phuketgazette.net/issuesanswers/submitissue.asp

which is provided by Immigration office.

2. A recent 2 x 2-inch photos of applicant.
3. Copy of passport (copy of face page and page with most recent Thai visa).
4. Evidence of income:

- 4.1 In case of applicant ap-

plying for permit to stay on the basis of receiving income while staying in Thailand (as listed in 3.1), the documents must be issued by the original source less than one month before the application date.

The applicant must show proof that money received from the above sources is spent in Thailand, such as Thai bankbooks and evidence of Thai credit card and cash card transactions.

4.2 In case of applicant applying for permit to stay on the basis of having 800,000 baht in a Thai bank account, applicants must provide a letter from the Thai bank and a copy of the bankbook showing the three months before the application date, proving that there is 800,000 in the account.

If the account has the

spouse's name, applicant must provide a copy of the marriage license.

4.3 In case of applicant applying for permit to stay on the basis of a combination of income and money deposited in a Thai bank account (see 3.3), applicants must show documents according to requirements listed in 4.2 and 4.3.

5. The Immigration Officer reviewing the application reserves the right to ask for additional documents.

Note: Any documents filed in languages other than Thai or English must be translated into Thai or English and the translation and the information the documents contain must be verified as accurate by the embassy or consul of the applicant's home country.

Also, when applying in person the applicant must bring ALL original documents.

One-year permits to stay for retirees

A thing called LOVE

This week, let us ponder a headache-inducing question: What is love? At first blush, it should be an easy question to answer, right? Love, after all, is a universal human condition – the inspiration for literally millions of songs, poems, sonnets, novels, movies and paintings.

Everywhere you go you are confronted by love in real life and in the media – at the cinema, on the bus, in clubs and bars and at home with your parents. But for all the talk about it, what is it? How do you define love? How do you know when you have found it? Over the thousands of years we have had to figure it out, many attempts at definitions have been attempted – but still we are left wondering.

For one thing, true love is a rare gift. It's the sort of love you find between a mother and child, or the love between so-called "soul mates". An emotion that surpasses superficiality and mere physical attraction, love can withstand the barbs and arrows of hardship.

Everybody strives for it, but not so many people manage to attain it. For one thing, in this impersonal world of emailing, text messaging, speed dating and websites set up specifically to facilitate infidelity (yes, really), the idea of true love has been cheapened, manipulated, packaged, processed and exploited to such an extent that no one really knows what it is anymore – nor how to go about discovering it.

For teenagers, the idea of true love tends to develop out of romantic notions gleaned from childhood fairy tales and Disney movies.

Young girls dream about it using a Barbie doll as themselves and a Ken doll as their Prince Charming who, with his dazzling good looks, will ride up out of the blue one day and sweep them off their feet.

In Phuket, of course, it is more likely to be white tuk-tuk or a jet-ski because horses, particularly white ones, are slightly harder to come by.

By the time you become a teenager, however, the idea of true love – and the accompanying talk of marriage vows and falling in love at first sight – starts to sound slightly cheesy. This is particularly true when you are engulfed by a wave of hormones and physical attraction suddenly seems so much more important than deep, meaningful connections.

As anyone who has lived through that time in their life knows, the perceptions and judgments of a teenager are not always based on the most prudent qualifications.

When teenagers first meet someone of the opposite sex, they don't think about that person's moral character or how incredible it is that they both love the same bands and the same movies and that when they look at one another it is as if they've always known that person's face.

No, they're surreptitiously checking their teeth in any available reflective surface for leftover bits of Belgian fries. They are drooling over the hot boy's muscles or that cute girl's swishy shiny hair while their mind is racing for a way to orchestrate a kiss.

Perhaps because of this hormone-driven lust it's very rare for teenagers to find true love under the lip gloss and hair gel and tanning lotions.

It does happen though. One British girl found the love of her life, a farmer's son – a cliché but true – when she was 15 years old, left him for three years to go to university by decree of her disapproving parents, and then returned to marry him and have three children. She was lucky. She found love, but more importantly, she recognized it when she



Youth 'n ASIA
By Amy
Van de Castele

found it, despite being very young and "naïve".

But, how did she know? How can you tell when it is true love and not a mere mix of hormones? Well, there are some crucial clues in your own and your partner's behavior that can indicate true love.

For example, do you still find yourself thinking your partner is the most beautiful person you've ever seen, despite the fact they've recently piled on five ki-

los? Do you find yourself watching a funny movie at home, then wishing he or she was beside you to share the laughter? Do you know how your partner will answer a question before he or she even has a chance to speak? If so, that makes the posing of questions pretty pointless in the first place, but oh well ...

And as for the supposed "one", does he or she still constantly call you beautiful, even though you've been seeing each other for two years? Does he or she give you that special smile that makes his or her eyes crinkle at the corners and you heart melt like chocolate left out in the tropical sun?

Is your partner willing to help you stumble home after a night out on the town, mopping up the Bacardi rum-and-cokes that decide to leave your body through the same portal they entered it? If so, then your partner probably loves you very dearly and he or she is a keeper.

That sort of love, the kind romantics label "true" love, because of the purity and depth of the emotion, while being rare, is also surprisingly durable. It can weather the most cruel of blows, the harshest betrayal, the nastiest insult.

It's an emotion that outlasts lust and those first few months of heady romance and carries you into a comfortable, steadfast relationship when you can stop dieting – because let's face it, what's the point when you've already snagged someone?

Some people might mourn the loss of the excitement of that initial attraction; that giddy period when you scrawl your crush's name over all your school books and draw clouds of hearts around it – if you're a girl anyway. But if you do, then you're probably not truly in love the way your partner deserves.

What you have to remember is that looks and attraction fade away, leaving you high and dry – alone with a pint of Ben and Jerry's.

But true love can give you companionship, safety, contentment and laughter for years to come.

Once you've found it, it's well worth hanging on to – although admittedly, the sweet and selfless love of a pint of ice cream does take some beating. But let's face it, how many love songs can you write to a tub of frozen cream? And more importantly, is it going to write any back about you?

Where can I learn hairdressing?

Dear Momma Duck,

Is there a school here that teaches hair and beauty techniques for Thai people?

Matt

Dear Matt,

In Phuket, there are several places that teach hair and beauty techniques to Thai people. In my opinion, the best one is Somsak Hair Salon at 87 Patipat Rd, Phuket City. (Tel: 076-218342 or 081-7979020).

Several courses can be started at the convenience of the student. Prices are reasonable, at 15,000 baht for an eight-month course and 12,000 baht for a six-month course. They also offer a three-month refresher course at 10,000 baht for those who have some basic knowledge of hair and beauty techniques and would like to improve their knowledge.

This place has a good reputation and always takes trainees to different schools to provide students with free hair cuts. K. Somsak always helps poor children in many schools around the island.



Momma DUCK

By Wanida Hongyok
momma@phuketgazette.net

Another hair and beauty school you might consider is Hair World at Phun Pol Plaza (Tel: 076-221923).

For something less expensive, my own hairdresser recommends the hairdressing course at Phuket Vocational School on Rattanakosin 200 Pi Rd in Saphan Hin. The telephone number there is 076-224283.

Courses there last three

months and you just can't beat the price of 150 baht. When a student finishes this course, he or she can become an apprentice in a beauty salon and work there to gain experience. Then she could take a hair beauty course with Somsak Hair Salon to improve her knowledge. At least she now has some basic knowledge and by taking this course she would be able to improve her skills.

I don't pretend that this list is at all comprehensive or even up-to-date, but I hope it at least points you in the right direction.

As you have probably noticed, there is no lack of beauty salons, barber shops and other places offering beauty treatments here in Phuket. In fact, while much is made of the island's popularity as an emerging "spa" tourism destination, the haircare industry has been doing much the same thing for a long time – with high-quality services at only a fraction of the cost charged in most Western countries.

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In The Stars

by Isla Star

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Keeping your head above water has been draining a lot of energy so far this month. Luckily, you can look forward to an easier time ahead. Finances will be subject to a boost of some kind before the end of June and a personal achievement will also be celebrated. If your birthday falls during the next couple of days, expect life to be a breeze during the year ahead.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): If you can't decide about a career dilemma, you will receive a sign from the stars before the end of this month. You are advised to disregard advice from a Leo friend as their relevant experience is limited. A tricky property issue surfaces mid-week; it's vital that you do some serious research before signing any agreements. Wear the color burnt sienna to be taken seriously.

LEO (July 24-August 22): Overconfidence could hinder your progress this week. Many of you who truly believe that you are king of the jungle will find out that you are not as indispensable as you believe. Sunday and Monday are days when you'll be more vulnerable, so delay meaningful conversations until later in the week when your emotions will be on a more even keel. The last week of the month will bring some lucky financial days.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Love plays a major role in your life this week. Those born under the sign of Virgo who have been determined to take a new affair slowly will throw caution to the wind. A trip taken together will indicate clearly

whether this relationship has a concrete future. At work, you could be offered promotion, but at a price. Thursday is the best day for making serious decisions regarding the long-term future.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): If you have been trying to get noticed, you will be glad you kept on trying. If this concerns a work matter, expect to receive a tempting offer before the end of the month. Personal relationships are likely to be subject to some stormy clouds midweek, when you discover that someone has been economical with the truth. A Piscean is nurturing a romantic dream and you are playing the starring role.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Many of you will be preoccupied with health concerns this week. If you haven't been listening to your body telling you it's high time to take a rest, a physical ailment is likely to cause trouble. Try to get away for a change of scenery and the chance to look at all the demands you make on yourself objectively. The heat is on if you're ready for a relationship with Cancer.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December

WHAT DO THE HEAVENS HOLD IN STORE FOR YOU THIS WEEK?

21): Realizing a dream is forecast for those of you who refused to stop believing that it would somehow happen. Skeptical friends will certainly have reason to eat their words this week. A supportive Gemini will appreciate joining celebrations of your good fortune. An Aquarius may not be sure of the depth of your interest; if you aren't sure either, take time to consider. The number 8 can bring luck on Tuesday.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): It will be all systems go during the final week of June. Unexpected visitors claim your attention – you should resist any pressure to give up more of your time than is sensible. Ongoing questions relating to business must not be ignored in the hope that they will somehow just go away. Another Capricorn would like to benefit from your lack of attention. The color watermelon red enhances your cool demeanor.

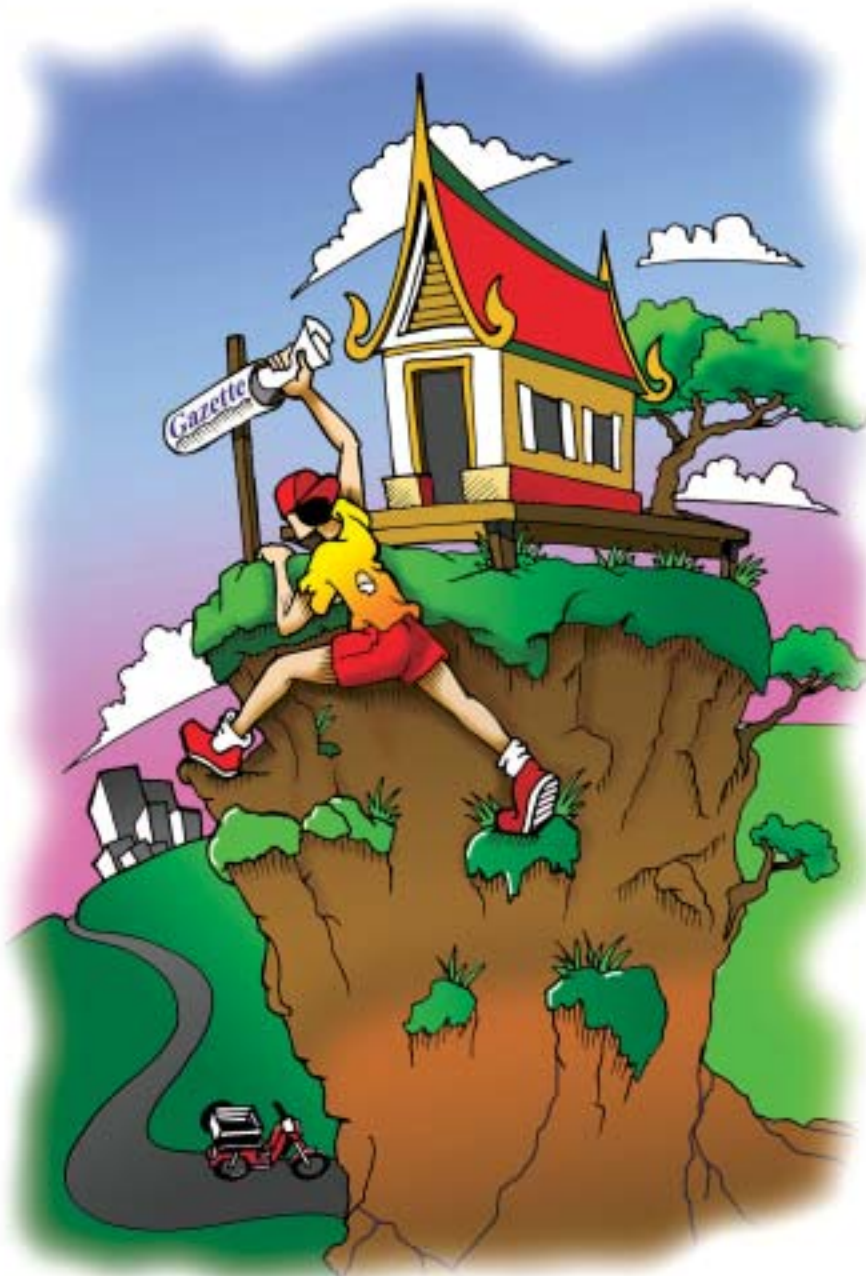
AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Swings and roundabouts is the theme of this week. While the outlook for work is generally positive, there will be a financial downturn on Monday and Tuesday. Avoid making major commitments on these days. Those of you who have recently embraced

the single lifestyle will be cheered this weekend by a sizzling encounter with Aries. The number 4 can bring luck next Thursday.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): You make a move that takes others by surprise this week. The reputation of many of you is about to go up a notch in the business world; you can expect some interesting offers to be made next month. In the meantime, continue playing the same game and your financial situation will certainly improve. Where romance is concerned, if you can't take the heat it may be time to get out of the relationship.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): A sequence of events is about to begin that could lead you to new goals. The last week of June will include some golden days, relating to both financial and personal interests. An estranged lover comes back onto the scene, but it's likely that your passion has waned in the meantime. Romance takes a backseat for the time being as you find that other areas of life hold the promise of greater fulfillment.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): A relaxing end of the month is just what you need to re-charge batteries and take stock of what has happened during June. Creative juices finally start to flow for those who have been frustrated by a lack of innovation. Wednesday is the most auspicious day for meeting the right kind of people, but you will mostly be content with your own company this week. The color light amethyst encourages quiet reflection.



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QI am still confused with Vista, since changing over from Windows 98SE. I relied on Norton Pro to fix all of my registry problems on the old computer. Now, I ran one of those free download thingies that's supposed to check your registry. It said there are 614 problems with my new Vista registry. I uninstalled the program without running their fix.

I have your *Vista All in One Desk Reference For Dummies*, but can't find where or how to fix registry problems. I am a 64-year-old female dummy who hates changes and this is such a big change. Would Norton be advisable on Vista? I don't want my computer to have a nervous breakdown. Do you have any advice for me? Thanks for writing your books...they are helpful.

RM, Nai Harn

A Those free-download registry scanner thingies are designed to do exactly one thing – extract money from your pocket. With few exceptions, they're crap. Pure and simple.

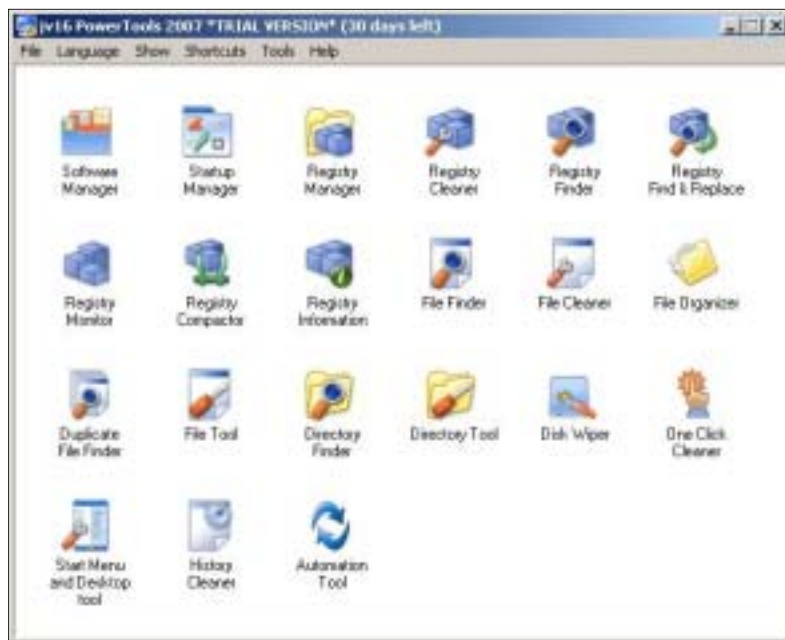
The only ones I would unleash anywhere near a real PC are EasyCleaner (free from personal.inet.fi/business/toniarts/eccleaner.htm) and JV16 Power Tools (about 1,000 baht from www.macecraft.com), but I doubt that either of them will do anything at all to measurably improve your computer. The registry cleaners you see hyped on websites don't even come close.

I don't know of any major problems with the Vista registry. You might have a few unnecessary entries, but those are nits.

In my opinion, Norton is overkill – and it's expensive, and intrusive. Same with McAfee. Here's what you really need to protect your (Windows XP or Vista) computer:

- You need a hardware firewall. If you have a router or an ADSL line, you already have

Scrubbing down the registry – or maybe not



GEEK TWEAK: One of the few registry cleaners worth its salt, JV16 Power Tools may make your system run a little bit faster and more reliably. On the other hand, it may not.

a hardware firewall. It's built into the router box.

- Everybody needs to turn on the Windows firewall, but you undoubtedly have it going already.

- Everybody needs a good anti-virus package. I recommend AVG Free, which is free for personal use. Details are in all of my books, or you can start at free.grisoft.com

- Everybody should run Windows Defender, which is also free. If you have Windows XP, you need to download it from www.microsoft.com/athome/security/spyware/software/

default.msp. If you have Vista, it's already on your computer.

- You should use Firefox instead of Internet Explorer (www.getfirefox.com) – it's free and it co-exists with IE, with no problems at all.

- You need to keep your computer updated with the latest patches from Microsoft and other software manufacturers. If you're intimidated by the thought of getting your own fixes on your own time, and you trust Microsoft to produce reasonably trustworthy patches, go ahead and tell Windows to automatically install updates (click Start, Control Panel, Security Center). But if you're as jaded as I am, it would behoove

you to check out my Web site from time to time (www.AskWoody.com), and see what's crashing where and how before you blindly allow Microsoft to clobber your machine.

If you want to spend money on something, get Webroot Spysweeper at www.webroot.com. It's a spyware package that's a good adjunct to Windows Defender.

If you think there's a lot of garbage left on your new computer after you've tried to take it all off, take a look at PC Pitstop at www.pcpitstop.com. The folks there really know what they're doing and the software's both tenacious and inexpensive.

If you commonly go surfing to sites that are a bit on the gray side of the fence – including, most emphatically, sites that advertise those “free” registry cleaners – turn on the advanced Phishing Filter in Firefox (click Tools, Options, Security and check the button that says

KHUN WOODY'S COMPUTER

“Check by Asking Google about Each Site I Visit”) or Internet Explorer 7 (click Tools, Phishing Filter, “Turn On Automatic Website Checking”).

If you do turn on the advanced phishing filter, be aware of the fact that Google and/or Microsoft will keep records of every site that you visit. Unfortunately, that's how it works – ain't nothing you can do about it.

CAT SPEEDS

Starting on June 8, I experienced some extreme slowdowns on my CAT ADSL line. You know, the line that commonly runs at 1,200 to 1,600Kbps down.

By the afternoon of Friday, June 8, I could barely top 100Kbps. Two days later I recorded 170Kbps. (All of these numbers measure performance to high-speed centers on the US west coast, using the free meter at www.dslreports.com/speed

test?loc= 97) The line went down on Monday afternoon, and bobbed up and down a few times afterwards.

I wrote to the folks at CAT and they explained that the main fiber-optic line connecting the CAT office in Phuket with Bangkok (and thus on to the outside world) was cut in Surat Thani around noon on Friday, June 8.

I noticed that the speed was back up to snuff on the night of June 13 when I downloaded the Release Candidate of Windows Home Server, a 1.4 GB file. But I've had mixed results since then.

I submitted a suggestion to CAT that they maintain a simple hot line recorded message about network status, preferably bilingual.

Don't know about you, but I would even welcome an SMS message saying something like, “The fiber-optic line was cut and Internet access times will be slow until Thursday.” It will be interesting to see if CAT reaches out to its customers with status reports that reflect reality.

BANDWIDTH ENVY

A friend of mine wrote from the States saying that he downloaded that same 1.4 GB Windows Home Server file in less than 10 minutes, using his new Verizon FiOS system, which costs 1,300 baht per month (details at www22.verizon.com/Content/ConsumerFiOS).

For 1,300 baht per month, he gets 15Mbps down (really), with a free wireless router, free ESPN 360, Disney Connection, and ABC Now news. That's ten times the speed of the CAT ADSL line (when it's running at its fastest) for half the price.

GROUP THERAPY

I was bowled over by all the people who showed up for our first PC Group Therapy session last Sunday. I'll have more details next week, including answers to several well-directed questions. In case you missed the announcement, the idea's pretty simple: let's get a bunch of computer people together in the same place at the same time, and help each other solve problems. There's an incredible pool of computer talent here on the island. Why not tap into it?

If you have a computer question, I would like to invite you to join me this Sunday between 10 am and noon at my Sandwich Shoppe in Patong. Bring your questions. Bring your problems. Bring your computer. And your sense of humor.

If you can't make it this week, not to worry. I'll be there next week, too. And the next.

When he isn't writing computer books and magazine and newsletter articles, or knocking Microsoft around on his website, Woody Leonhard (woody@khunwoody.com, www.askwoody.com) runs Khun Woody's Bakery and the Sandwich Shoppe in Patong.

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ON THE MOVE



Bangkok native **Badin-theasch Suwannalamai**, 35, has been appointed branch manager of Hualian Computer Co Ltd in Phuket. He is a graduate of Ramkhamhaeng University in industrial economics and worked for more than 12 years in the computer division of Yellowtech International (Thailand) Co Ltd in Bangkok and in their sales department for three years. Previously he was a supervisor at McShore Thailand Co Ltd in Bangkok.



Subulporn Ruengthon, 26, from Surat Thani, has been promoted to sales and marketing manager of Harrison Public Co Ltd after more than a year as a sales executive with the company. She is a graduate in marketing management from Bangkok University. She has several years experience in the hotel and tourism industries and previously worked in marketing at Glory Worldwide Travel on Koh Samui.



Wesley Baxter, 27, from England, has been appointed sales manager of the new condominium project Karon Hill by Topland Co Ltd. He graduated from Bristol University in the UK with a degree in business and first came to Thailand in 2003 to teach English in Koh Samui. He later took a position at Satee Phuket School and also worked in the human resources department at the Dusit Laguna Resort.

Airport gets top-level backing for extra funding

By Janyaporn Morel

MAI KHAO: During a meeting with members of the National Legislative Assembly (NLA) June 11, Deputy Director Wg Cmdr Wicha Nernlop of the Phuket International Airport (PIA) detailed plans in preparation for what is expected to be a record-setting season of tourists.

The PIA will expand the curbside area on the upper deck to accommodate a glassed-in X-ray room, parking will be rearranged to allow more cars and the arrival lounge will grow by a third to meet the increase in tourists, Cmdr Wicha said.

During the meeting with NLA's Committee on Industry and Tourism, led by Committee Chairman Adm Prasert Boonsong, Cmdr Wicha said that he expects the number of passengers at PIA to increase nearly 20% over 2006.

"We estimate that in 2007 it will rise to 5 million passengers, because we can compare the

first five months of the 2007 fiscal year (Sept 2006 - Jan 2007) when the numbers increased to 2.9 million, from 2.4 million during the same period last year," he said.

There were a total of 29,012 flights in 2006, and during just the first five months of fiscal 2007 the airport has seen 19,438 flights, an increase of 32.6% over the

same period.

With high season coming, Cmdr Wicha said that the airport is expecting the number of flights to double from 2006, with a significant rise in charter flights.

In order to cope with the large increases, PIA is seeking funding to add eight or nine additional airplane parking places.

The airport will expand the upper deck so the X-ray machines, which all passengers are required to pass their baggage through, can be moved outside the terminal area and into a glassed-in enclosure.

"We have spoken about expanding the curb about 2.5 meters, which will make the road

on the top floor more narrow, so we will move the tour group check-in to the new expanded area on the ground floor," he said.

To ease passage through the departure lounge, Cmdr Wicha said that additional check-in counters will be added to increase the total from 33 to 45. PIA will also expand the arrival lounge to increase the capacity from 900 to 1,200.

Cmdr Wicha said that easing passage through Immigration will be a key goal of the improvements as well. "The Immigration counters are very busy in the peak hours during the high season and this is a critical area. By November we will increase the number of counters by six to create 18 check-in points."

Adm Prasert agreed that Immigration needs to be improved and said that the check-in process is the area the NLA receives the most complaints about PIA.

Cmdr Wicha said security

will also be boosted, and the airport hopes to add 50 more CCTV cameras to the existing 120 already in place, as well as expand the control room where the camera feeds are viewed.

"We have connections with Phuket Provincial Police and the National Intelligence Agency and they usually provide information that we may need. The Royal Thai Police also support us through manpower by taking police officers from Tah Chat Chai Police Station and posting them in the airport. There are also about 10 border police officers posted here," he said.

Explaining the challenges PIA faces, Cmdr Wicha said that the rigorous budgetary procedures and red tape are top concerns for the airport.

In response the NLA members said that they would take the airport's concerns back to the Ministry of Finance to try to ease the budget approval process.

They also gave advice for improvements Phuket could make, including starting up direct flights from Japan to Phuket again after they were halted following the 2004 tsunami.



SUPPORT: NLA Industry and Tourism Committee Chairman Adm Prasert Boonsong will present the airport management's concerns to the Ministry of Finance.

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All a matter of trust

Many expatriates living in Phuket have lived in quite a few countries before coming here. Many of these expats have acquired assets in several of these countries and have retained them as investments.

Looking after such a geographically spread-out estate may be manageable during a lifetime, but what happens when the owner of such assets dies?

Without proper planning serious problems can arise for a widow who may not have any understanding of business or for offspring who are still minors. In many cases, expatriates would be better off using an offshore trust to avoid complications.

But what is an offshore trust; indeed, what is a trust?

A trust is a legal entity that can hold and manage assets including companies, property, bank accounts, stocks and shares and anything else an individual may own.

The trust is governed by trustees who may be either individuals, banks, accounting firms, legal firms, insurance companies, trust companies or any of a variety of other entities.

If a trustee is a professional corporate body, it has a legal obligation to manage assets professionally. If it does not, then it is liable for any costs or losses due to its negligence.

The advantage of such a

trust is that it is simple because all the assets of the settlor, the person who sets up the trust, are held in the trust's name and the trust is based in one location.

Nearly all offshore trusts are situated in tax havens such as the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. For non-residents, these are true tax havens and no death duties or tax is paid.

Choosing the right trustee, the person who manages the trust, is important. I recently heard a good tale that illustrates this point. A Thai lady with two young children lost her husband. The deceased husband was originally a resident in Hong Kong where he owned property and a business, however he also owned properties in Britain.

The husband left a will that put all his assets into a trust after his death. He had wanted all but one of these properties sold by his trustees and the capital invested in a trust that would provide sufficient income for his widow and children.

Although he was an attorney, he had made a terrible mistake. He gave absolute power over his estate to friends whom he had appointed as trustees.

The deceased had owned a

nice house in Phuket, but with a large mortgage. The trustees decided that his widow must rent out this house in Thailand and move to one in Britain.

The trustees were deaf to her pleas that she had never been to Britain, couldn't speak English very well and that neither she nor her late husband intended that she should ever stay in the UK.

The lesson here is that appointing individuals as trustees is dangerous. Apart from other problems, there is a good possibility of fraud. If our attorney had appointed a corporate body as trustees his wishes would have been carried out faithfully.

Apart from any other consideration where individuals have been appointed trustees, there is always the potential problem of death or severe illness interrupting their ability to serve as trustees. Some security may be found

in the use of a "protector".

The protector has veto rights over the trustees who must obtain the protector's signed confirmation of their every action.

The drawback is that this can add unnecessary delays. I dealt with one case where the trustees were unable to act for six weeks because the protector was traveling in the US and nobody knew his itinerary.

One of the cheapest ways to form an offshore trust is by using the services of a trust company that is owned by an offshore insurance company. This reduces the cost of establishing and maintaining a trust by a very substantial amount.

It also allows for smaller amounts to be placed into a trust. Most corporate trustees will otherwise refuse to accept assets worth less than about UK£ 250,000 (about 17 million baht). I recently came across a well-known international bank that will not manage a trust unless the assets exceed US\$ 3 million (about 120 million baht).

Apart from the advantages, trusts can be very useful instru-

ments to protect assets in the case of divorce. With an offshore trust, you retain control of the assets, including the right to withdraw all the funds from the trust.

There are many different types of trusts. In most cases, expats will select an offshore discretionary trust as it is the most flexible. But, as with all aspects of personal financial planning, it all depends on the individual situation. One of the advantages of an offshore discretionary trust is that the trustees are guided by a letter of wishes.

During the lifetime of the settlor, this document can be changed at anytime to include or exclude beneficiaries or the terms in which they can benefit. It is not necessary to have this document drafted in legal terminology. Trustees simply want clear instructions that are not ambiguous.

Richard G Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service. He can be reached at Tel: 076-381997, Fax: 076-383185, Mobile: 081-0814611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th



MONEY TALKS

By Richard G Watson

Tesco rejects tax accusation

PHUKET: Tesco-Lotus has defended itself against Phuket Chamber of Commerce (PCC) critics by issuing a press release stating that it paid 18 billion baht in taxes in Phuket in 2006 alone.

Tesco was responding to a remark by PCC President Eam Thavornwongwongse that PCC members believed that large retailers were able to avoid local taxes because their corporate headquarters are in Bangkok.


Tesco's press release said that in 2006 the Phuket branch paid more than 18 billion baht to the provincial revenue office in sign tax, property tax and VAT.

"This is because we have every intention of being a good member of the Phuket community. Meeting our tax obligations in full is one way of demonstrating our sincerity to the community and local authorities," he said.

"In fact, at the national level, we are one of the top-ranking companies who contribute the highest tax revenues to the Thai government.


"Therefore, we are ready to discuss this matter in more detail with the Phuket Chamber of Commerce so there will be no more misunderstandings," Dr Darnp added.

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OrBorJor tourney has prize for every game

Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr, president of the Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) on June 23 posed for a photo with football players on the Phuket Wittayalai School team (blue strip) and the Muang Thalang School team (in orange).

The two teams met during a match in the OrBorJor U League Cup 2007, a tournament that will extend until September 21, with games played

at Surakul Stadium. There are eight teams in the tournament and a total of 56 games will be played to determine the winner and recipient of the 10,000 baht final trophy.

Teams paid a 20,000 baht entry to the tournament and they will receive 1,000 baht for each win along the way. Muang Thalang School bested Phuket Wittayalai School 2-0 in their match.

Golf for youngsters

CHERNG TALAY: Kids-Tee-Off (KTO) will be hosting the KTO Junior Challenge golf tournament for players between 6 and 17 years old at Laguna Phuket Golf Club on September 5-7.

The 54-hole international tournament, sponsored by the children's golf clothing manufacturer KTO, will have five age divisions and is open to both boys and girls. The course will be shortened providing age- and gender-appropriate tees to maintain the pace of play.

Tim Haddon, Director of Golf at Laguna Phuket Golf Club, said that the sponsorship of a children's sporting event is important to develop young players' skill.

"To have the chance to play competitive golf at the very early

stages as a junior can not only give a young golfer a taste of competition but can be the very thing that shapes champions. The KTO Junior Challenge 2007 is a very clear step toward finding the next generation of talented young Asian golfers."

The tournament registration is US\$ 285 (about 9,362 baht) per player, and includes caddy and greens fees, awards luncheon and extras. Players must hold a handicap card from a recognized golf club.

The registration forms are available at the KTO website www.kids-tee-off.com/tour_home.htm or for more information, send an email to ktchallenge@kids-tee-off.com

Registration will close at midnight July 31.

Hospitals play for charity

PHUKET CITY: Players from Bangkok Hospital Phuket (BPK), Vachira Phuket Hospital, Patong Hospital and Phuket International Hospital (PIH) fought it out in a day of futsal and basketball at Saphan Hin on June 16 to increase cooperation between the institutions and to raise money for charity.

Vachira beat Patong 6-2 to win the final of the futsal competition, while BPK beat PIH 9-2 to win the third-place playoff.

PIH bounced back in the basketball competition, beating Vachira 68-61 to win the tourney. BPK placed third, beating Patong 26-18.

The hospitals held the event to strengthen their relationships, promote health and harmony and to raise money for a donation of sports equipment to Yaowawit School for underprivileged children in Phang Nga. The equipment will be delivered June 30.

PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

A kicking for Dog's Bollocks

PATONG: Playing at home in Round 10 of the Patong Darts League, an inspired Queen Mary side-swiped all three points from first-place Dog's Bollocks when former Scottish international Billy closed out the beer leg with a cool 97 finish (T19, X20).

In another upset, Beach House snatched two points by beating Shakers on the road, 5-4. Shakers, who salvaged a point by winning the beer leg, now sit in a tie for third place with Queen Mary.

In the only other match played, Offshore found the board at Simply Red very much to their liking, whitewashing the newcomers 9-0 and remaining sober enough to take the beer leg as well.

Send match information to darts@phuketgazette.net for inclusion in this weekly roundup.

June 12 results: Queen Mary* 5 Dogs Bollocks 4; Shakers* 4 Beach House 5; Simply Red 0 Offshore* 9 (* = winner of beer leg).

Standings: 1. Dogs Bollocks (19 points); 2. Offshore (17); 3.= Shakers, Queen Mary (15); 5. Piccadilly (11); 6. Beach House (10); 7. Simply Red (4); 8. Valhalla (2).

June 26 matchups: Piccadilly v Queen Mary; Offshore v Beach House; Simply Red v Valhalla; Dogs Bollocks, Shakers = byes (Home teams listed first).

Run Paradise!

"We hope everyone enjoyed the most popular destination marathon in South East Asia right in the heart of Thailand, in beautiful Phuket."

The organizers of the Laguna Phuket International Marathon wish to thank all participants, sponsors and the people of Phuket for making the event a huge success.

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American Brent Christian Roeger, pictured here just meters from the finish line, won the Laguna Phuket International Marathon and set a new course record June 17.

American wins Laguna Marathon in record time

CHERNG TALAY: Amid sporadic downpours and Phuket's wet season drizzle, American Brent Christian Roeger won the second Laguna Phuket International Marathon June 17 with a time of 2 hours 45 minutes 44 seconds, setting a new course record.

Phuket resident and Hash House Harrier "Fast" Eddy Ou, originally from the US, was second across the finish line (3:11:10), followed by Seppo Rosnell from Finland (3:15:37).

Nicola Green from the UK was the first woman to complete the marathon, completing the circuit in 3:16:46, followed by Lai Chee Yong from Singapore (3:50:46) and Diana Finkel from the US (3:51:03).

Thai Niwat Oytip won the 21km half marathon with a time of 1:21:14. Anthony Seakins from the UK finished second (1:22:25), followed by Dominic Yu Ho Chung from China (1:22:36).

The top three female finishers in the half marathon were Vivian Tang from Singapore (1:29:05), Gillian Caskka from the UK (1:33:29) and Pauline Mulroy (1:36:51).

More than 3,000 athletes from 40 countries took part in the events, which also included a 10km fun run, a 5km walk and a 1km kids' run.

The races started early

morning with the marathon runners leaving the start line at Laguna Phuket at 5 am. The half marathon started at 6 am, followed by the 10-km fun run at 6:30 am and the walk at 6:55 am. The kids' run started at 9 am.

The walk, introduced to the event this year, saw a large turnout of teams from local businesses and organizations, many of which wore team colors and had pledged to raise money for charity. There were also many individual entries, bringing the total number of participants in the walk to 500.

Sports celebrities Charlie Webster and Andy Penders, football presenters for ESPN STAR Sports, and Japanese "eco-marathoner" Hajime Nishi also joined the event.

Charlie, a former professional 800m runner, competed in the half marathon then led youngsters on the 1km run. After crossing the finish line with the race winner, Charlie stayed by the finish line to cheer on youngsters over the final few meters.

Andy Penders and Hajime Nishi took a more leisurely approach to the races with Andy joining the walk and Hajime staying true to his eco-marathon philosophy by taking time to enjoy the beautiful scenery and chatting with crowds along the course.



Above: Energetic ESPN presenter Charlie Webster (right, in red top) joins the kids' 1-km run. She had already completed the 10-km fun run. Below, the start of the men's 21-km half marathon, which was won by Niwat Oytip (4th from right, in yellow singlet No 1460).



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Gardening

with Bloomin' Bert

A Brief History of Gardening 2: THE BEER STRIKES BACK

I'm not a fan of sequels. They're always a disappointment. You'll remember *Jaws* – that mid-1970s blockbuster that scared us all half to death. Especially when that head dropped into view behind the porthole in that sunken boat... Anyway, the film was superb, and went on to make millions.

Then somebody thought that *Jaws 2* would be a good idea. In the rush to try to cash in on an already successful idea, however, the filmmakers failed to remember that the film still had to be good. Unfortunately, it was terrible.

The big rubber shark they made for the second film by now looked a bit silly, and we'd probably become bored with that plastic fin approaching unsuspecting beach goers. We probably only looked forward to them being eaten to liven things up a bit.

Hardly the response the producers had in mind.

Generally, all "part twos" fall into the same category – and parts three, four and five, come to that. How many times was Rocky going to have to crawl out of the gutter and train himself up to become world champion? He did it once, fine, but once we knew the underdog was going to win at the end, it all got a bit boring.

Sensing that the world cinema-going population is becoming swamped with way too many over-hyped and under-achieving movie sequels, over the past few years Hollywood studios have been trying to distinguish their numerous part twos, threes and fours by giving them catchy subtitles.

It seems that the days of obligatory add-on digits such as Rambo 1-15 are long gone. In



SEQUELS: There used to be only about 10 varieties of heliconia. Hybridization has produced hundreds of new varieties.

recent years we've seen *Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle*, *American Pie 3: The Wedding* and

Legally Blonde 2: Red, White and Blonde. My personal favorite (movie title that is – the film was awful) is *Scary Movie 3: Episode 1 – Lord of the Brooms*.

I will admit that the title *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me* is a lot more interesting than *Austin Powers 2*, but what's even more fascinating is how the title got past the censors in the first place, given its somewhat lascivious origins. In fact, I wonder if this paragraph will even make it into the pages of the *Gazette*. We shall see.

Book sequels somehow get away with it, and I really don't know why. There have been numerous lawyer/detective/crime/thriller-type books recently that almost defy logic with regard to how many times the same characters appear in one book after the next – they're all very readable, somehow. Or maybe I'm just easily entertained.

Those who got as far as this page in the *Gazette* last week, nestled in just before the classifieds, may have caught a glimpse of *A Brief History of Gardening*. If Tom Clancy can get away with it, then I see no reason why I shouldn't continue where I left off last week.

It's now a week of beer later, but I vaguely remember chuntering on about explorers in centuries gone by moving plants from one part of the world to another. Some of them even had plants named in their honor; the vainer types probably named these plants after themselves.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out that the French explorer, Louis Antoine de Bougainville was one of the first to come across the incredibly widespread creeper that we now see all over the island and most, if not all tropical regions of the world, the bougainvillea.

Then there's Joel Roberts Poinsett, the 19th-century physician, botanist and American statesman. He was responsible for introducing the Christmas plant from its native home of the Pacific coast of Mexico to the rest of the world. Predictably, the official name for this bright red and green plant is the poinsettia.

The 19th century was a busy time for gardener-explorers. A nursery called Veitch, in the UK, sent its chaps out all over the place. Most famously, they were responsible for the unimaginatively-named *Victoria Amazonica*, a giant South American plant named after the British queen at that time. It's a decidedly weird pitcher plant that traps its insect prey in a giant cup before slowly dissolving and ingesting them.

This was when orchids appeared in the Western world. They were expensive then, and haven't reduced in price much since. A single orchid bloom in the UK is still well over a pound (nearly 70 baht); funny how you'd be disappointed if there weren't one or two stuck in the top of your cocktail in Phuket.


Our forefathers didn't seem content just to borrow their tropical discoveries from their native homes – they felt the urge to modify them too. The cordyline, plumeria, and hibiscus they brought back were soon hybridized into countless varieties that were sometimes unrecognizable as being related to the original.

This hybridization continues today. As an example, it's likely that as little as 20 years ago, Thai gardeners had no more than about 10 varieties of heliconia to choose from. Today there are hundreds; the colorful bracts are nowhere near as predictable as they once were.

Tropical plants are no longer reserved for the tropics – they're everywhere now. While gardeners in the Western world do their best to keep them alive, our problem here is more likely to be keeping them in check. Gardening doesn't get much easier than this.


As sequels go, *A Brief History of Gardening 2* doesn't have quite the same dramatic impact as *Rambo: First Blood Part II*, but at least I've done my bit to cash in. The fortunate part is that after last week's initial installment, it could hardly go much further downhill. I wonder if I can get away with saying shag again...?

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Sunbursts and sunsets

The Tex-Mex cuisine and margaritas at Coyote in Patong are every bit as good as those in the other Coyote restaurants in Hong Kong and Bangkok.

Just as impressive as the food, however, is the unique décor, which adds much-needed chic to Patong's beach road.

Coyote General Manager Tim Rawlinson told the *Gazette* that the restaurant, which opened January 1, is the largest Coyote yet. The main floor is 900 square meters with a small VIP lounge. Upstairs is an even larger room, with 25 tables, suitable for functions of over 100 guests.

The most popular seating by far is the second-floor terrace, accessed by an escalator beside Watson's Pharmacy.

The perfect place to sip two-for-one margaritas alfresco and watch the sunset, the terrace is a sturdy wooden deck with attractive canvas parasols covering each of the 14 tables.

Equally attractive are the waitresses, shapely and all decked out in tight jeans and jean jackets, midriffs ever-so-slightly exposed and heads covered with wide-brimmed cowboy hats – curvaceous and cute, but not over-the-top.

The terrace is high enough to completely overlook the beach road, with its tangles of electric wires and traffic chaos. A few minutes taking in the view and enjoying the sea breeze and the question automatically raises itself: why aren't there more places like this in Patong?

Words to describe the overall ambiance and décor inside Coyote might include cute and colorful, yet distinctive and rustic. Dominant colors inside are pale shades of orange and blue – very easy on the eye. Coupled with the cheerful service staff, the overall effect is informal but classy.

"Every time we open a Coyote restaurant, we want to stick



Coyote is an enormous restaurant, but the best seats are on the terrace overlooking Patong Beach – especially at night.

with our décor and color scheme. We want the same menu and drinks, but without having the look of being just another franchise. Our motto is 'Mexican With Attitude', so we work each locally, individually," Tim said.

The man responsible for the interior design is Irishman Micky Doherty, also a shareholder and managing director of Eclipse Managements, which operates all three Coyote branches.

A long-time resident of Southeast Asia, Micky has also traveled extensively through Mexico and the US southwestern states, sourcing distinctively Mexican and Tex-Mex décor: lighting fixtures, prints and bric-a-brac that lend an authentic touch and conjure up images of a Mexican hacienda – albeit a high-tech one.

In daytime, the sea and sky panorama of Patong Bay illuminate both the upstairs and downstairs in natural light though enormous glass walls.

At night, the lighting is impressive throughout. Along the 24-seat main bar, a set of track lights, one for each seat, gently illuminates the polished brass bar.

Ceiling beams, though made of concrete, are painted black, giving the look of strong timber beams. Below, the bottom of the bar is bathed across its length in gentle green, the source of which is hidden away.

Terracotta and ceramic are well featured along walls, while glazed images of sunbursts adorn glass surfaces. Solar and lunar images are a recurring theme throughout, from the company's logo to the lighting fixtures, also Mexican, which radiate individual shafts of light along the soft sandstone walls. The visual imagery is that of the Mexican desert on a cool starlit night.

Adding color to the walls are some 90 classic Mexican prints in frame, including advertisements for bullfights, movies and bawdy pitches for consumer products from a bygone era in a faraway land.

Currently, only the first floor and terrace are open, although the enormous upper floor is virtually complete and ready to open around October to handle the expected increase in guests with the approaching high season.

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Home of the Week

Nai Harn



Left: Rubber plantations form a backdrop to the garden.
Above: Plenty of tropical green extends a natural welcome at the front of the house.

FOREST AND BEACH

This week's Home of the Week is in the popular Nai Harn area in the southeast of the island, with its tropical bushland surrounds and proximity to one of the most picturesque beaches on Phuket.

The recently constructed property sits on a plot of 1,840 square meters in a much sought-after location, with landscaped gardens of palms and grassy areas as well as an kidney-shaped swimming pool and private sala.

The pool, measuring 11 meters by 4.5m, is saltwater, and thus requires little maintenance.

The home is accessed by a long gravel driveway lined on both sides by gardens and leading from the front gate to covered parking for four vehicles.

A short walk from the carport are the double wooden front doors, which open to the hardwood floors of the living and dining areas. The wood floors help keep the main living areas cool, as do the impressive high ceilings. These rooms also offer good views of and access to the gardens and pool area.

All five bedrooms have quality wood-frame windows that allow cool breezes to flow into the home. Residents may choose to remain cool by using the air conditioning or ceiling fans. Two of the bedrooms have en-suite bath-

rooms. Another two fully-fitted bathrooms serve occupants elsewhere in the house.

The fully fitted, Western-style kitchen features black-granite counter tops and a gas cooker that would please the most enthusiastic cook.

Making the large property complete are the private maid's quarters and laundry room.

The current owners have furnished the home in a Thai style that especially suits this property and have agreed to include all furnishings in the sale.

With rubber tree plantations providing natural surroundings, this property would suit a family that requires space and privacy. When home life is too quiet, most of the island's nightlife, fine dining and boating are just a short drive away.

Utilities include satellite TV, telephone lines, broadband Internet connection, well water with heating and filtration, three-phase electricity and a home-security system.

The property, which has Chanote title, is priced at 22.5 million baht and is available freehold or leasehold.

For more details contact Richard Lusted at Siam Real Estate at Tel: 076-288908, or visit the website at www.siamrealestate.com or email: info@siamrealestate.com




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Construction Update

by Janyaporn Morel

New Chalong center gets to the Point

Construction work on the commercial buildings in the first phase of Chalong Center Point, opposite the Chalong Police Station on Chao Fa East Rd, has begun and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Chalong Center Point will be a development of two commercial buildings, a serviced apartment building and a food center on about two rai of land. The site can be accessed from the Chalong Pier area at the rear as well as from Chao Fa East Rd.

"I would like to make Chalong Center Point a new meeting point in the area," developer Samran Jindapon told the *Gazette*.

The development is divided into two phases. The first comprises two buildings each of two stories. The buildings will have a total of 15 units of 120 square meters each. Phase one also includes a serviced apartment building with 40 units.

A food court will be built in the second phase.

"I have seen the change and development in the Chalong area, and see that the area can still grow as there are now many



FULL STEAM AHEAD: Center Point is poised to benefit from the Chalong marina project.

developers, both Thai and foreigners, coming to invest here.

"I'd like to make it a new venue for shopping. I want it to be a tourist center for people who come to Chalong and Rawai, and for people who pass through to Kata and Karon, too," K. Samran said.

He added that he expects Chalong Center Point to host businesses such as banks, gold and jewelry shops and restaurants.

"We designed the buildings to completely support the businesses, unlike other projects that design the second floor as a living area. I want the entire area

of the units to be used for commercial purposes," he said.

K. Samran said he expects to hand over the phase-one commercial buildings to tenants by the end of January. The 40-unit, serviced-apartment building is expected to be completed by the end of 2008.

"About 80% of the commercial units have been reserved. Rentals will be 10,000 baht a month plus key money of 150,000 baht per year for a minimum contract of 10 years. We also require a security deposit of 100,000 baht which we will return at the end of

the contract if there is no damage to the building," he said.

Chalong Center Point is designed in a modern style by local architect Urupong Prateep Na Thalung from Home One Design Co Ltd.

The buildings will be constructed of concrete with high,

wide windows on the front of the buildings.

All of the space in phase one is intended for commercial use and bathrooms will be provided on each floor.

Parking spaces and an access road from the project to Chalong Pier will also be provided.

"The emphasis of the design is to support commercial activity on both floors. This is a good location for businesses as the population in the Chalong area has increased and many new property estates are coming into the area," he said.

The serviced apartments are expected to support the marina project as there will be more tourists coming to the area and the food center in the second phase will help support the total development.

"I think that our project is in an prime location and business operators should get a quick return on their investment," he added.

For more information call the Chalong Center Point sales office at 089-7247187.





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condo. Sea view, foreign freehold. 550,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. For more info email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

KHO YAO YAI

2 rai, 1 million per rai, Chanote, water, electricity, close to the beach. Tel: 081-8928208.

4-STORY SHOPHOUSE

for sale. Located near Phuket City bus terminal. 4m x 12m. Price: 3.8 million baht. Tel: 084-6518028. Email: herbert.eisenberg@gmail.com Please visit our website at <http://eisrawai.wetpaint.com/page/Phuket+Townhouse>

HOUSE FOR SALE AT CAPE PANWA



Med. styled, fully furnished, bayview home. 3 bedrooms, 3 en-suite bathrooms. Living room with office area, Western kitchen, sala, maid's room, laundry and storage room. Infinity pool. Includes 2 cars. 2003 Honda CRV and 2003 Ford Escape. Must see this great deal! Price: 33 million baht. Please contact Liang for more information at Tel: 076-200707, 087-9312301 or via email: joyc_lean@yahoo.com

885 SQM PLOT IN BANG TAO

Flat, quiet, 3-phase electricity. Road, ready to build. 1.79 million baht. Contact Tel: 089-5903665, 089-5903665 or via email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

NEW PATONG VILLA WITH POOL

Very exclusive, completely furnished villa with swimming pool in best residential area of Patong. 2 floors, 3 bedrooms with aircons, 3 bathrooms, Jacuzzi, Western kitchen, dining area. Living area: 200sqm. Freehold land: 150sqm. Price: 8.5 million baht. Contact at Tel: 081-8928526. Please visit our website at www.phuket-besthomes.com for more information.

RAWAI SHOPHOUSES FOR SALE/RENT

2 new, connected shophouses in Rawai, on Wiset Rd. Living area: 200sqm. Freehold land price: 4.5 million baht. Financing possible. Tel: 081-8928526. For more details and photos, please visit our website at: www.phuket-besthomes.com

Land for Sale

Land for sale at Kathu 5 rai 50sq wah with Chanote title, good area, canal at the back. 5 minutes to Big C/Central. Perfect for private complex. 7 million baht per rai.

House for Sale House at Phuket Country

Club golf course, near club house. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, aircon, kitchen units with hob, hood, oven and dishwasher. Land area 175sq wah with Chanote title 7.3 x 12m pool & Jacuzzi. Nice & quiet. Beautiful Golf views. 17 million baht. Available for long term rent.

New Double shop for rent

New double shop unit First and second floor: open plan. Third floor: 3 bedroom or offices, 2 shower rooms. 3 telephone lines and 4 aircon. Good location opposite lotus. Corner unit leading to 450 condos. 80,000 baht per month.

Please contact:

Mr. Geoff Curry
Mobile: 081-8540061.
Tel office contact
K. Ning: 081-0803414.
Tel: 076-323214
Fax: 076-323215

URGENT SALE

House in Thalang near Mission Hills golf course, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms on 3.5 rai of land. Price: 12 million baht. Tel: 089-7298365.

HOUSE NEAR NAI HARN BEACH

2-bedroom, 2 bathroom fully-furnished house with swimming pool. 3.9 million baht. Tel: 076-388685, 085-6196680. Email: mike.smith2000@runbox.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.andamanthaiproperty.com/atp_property_420.htm

2 BEDROOM HOUSE

Kamala. Quiet location, nice garden. Air conditioning. Not far from beach. 1.45 million baht. Email for photo and info. Email: thai_hs@yahoo.com

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Property Gazette

AO POR LAND URGENT SALE



150rai, Chanote, panoramic sea view. From 2.3 million baht per rai. Contact for more information. Tel: 081-5597456. Email: se_rim@hotmail.com

KARON LAND FOR SALE



15 rai, Chanote, hillside, panoramic sea view, quiet area. Please call for more information. Tel: 081-5597456. Email: se_rim@hotmail.com

UNIQUE SEA VIEW



New seaview pool villa over looking Karon Beach. Build area: 450sqm, plot area: 950sqm. Chanote. Sale directly from Swiss owner. Tel: 089-5938690. Email: ruen_narayan@hotmail.com

LAND FOR SALE 58 RAI



Beachfront land on Ko Yao Yai (Long Island Phuket). Only 3.5 million baht per rai with Chanote + 1 rai on Kamala beach road with Chanote. Price: 35 million baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 087-6050365. Email: kim.wuzzup@gmail.com

KAMALA NEW VILLA



for sale/rent. 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2-car garage, studio apartment: 370sqm. Land: 750sqm. Price: 16.5 million baht. Call Boomer. Tel: 086-2878966.

HOUSE FOR SALE



Single house in Soi Bangrae, Chalong. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living area, kitchen and many more facilities. Great buy. 125 talang wah + 500sqm. Price: 6.5 million baht. Contact at Tel: 081-5395317, 086-6890769.

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Unfinished duplex with land for sale. Directly on 16th fairway. Tel: 087-5074395. Email: radrussell@gmail.com. More details available at <http://www.fairway16.com>

APARTMENTS IN KARON

One unit with 3 fully furnished apartments for sale. Please contact John Johannesen by email or mobile phone for more details. Tel: 081-8957957. Email: gymworld@loxinfo.co.th

RAWAI POOL VILLAS

for sale. Two 2-bedrooms at 6.5 million baht each. Tel: 081-8953979. Email: bdandy@tttmaxnet.com or for further details and info, please see our website: <http://poolvilla.wetpaint.com/>

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PATONG TOWER

condo. Sea view, furnished 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom condo, 2 balconies. Double bed, TV, fridge, air conditioning, pool, indoor parking. Price: 6 million baht. Call Tel: 086-7730046. Email: tamjai@yahoo.com

4 RAI FLAT LAND

Chanote title, square plot, access from 2 roads. 2km from Heroines Monument. 500m from main road. Price: 6.8 million baht. Please contact Tel: 084-0577505.

PATONG TOWER

condo. Seaview, furnished 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom condo, 2 balconies. Double bed, TV, fridge, air conditioning, pool, indoor parking. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 086-7730046. Email: tamjermjai@yahoo.com

CONDO FOR SALE

Patong studio rooms, fully furnished, aircon, hot water, kitchen corner, pool, parking area, 400 meters to beach. Call Tel: 081-4596090, 081-8411916.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Soi Namtok in Kathu, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, aircon, kitchen. Price: 880,000 baht. Tel: 089-8728188.

PHUKET PALACE

condo. New re-fit, fully fitted and furnished. Large swimming pool with waterfall, carpark. Price: 3.6 million baht. Call Tel: 087-2650118 or send email: ant_p_clark@yahoo.co.uk

LAND IN KAMALA

All with Chanote. 55 rai in the most exclusive area near Kamala center on flat land at 8.5 million baht per rai. Also, 6 rai with good sea view at 6 million baht per rai. 20 rai with best sea view in Kamala at 6 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

LAND IN NAI YANG

for sale. Chanote. Near beach. 2 rai: 7 million baht. 1 rai: 3.5 million baht, 6, 440sqm plots. 1.5 million baht per plot. Tel: 089-7241140 or via email: nong.phuket@yahoo.de

NICE LAND FOR SALE

1-3 rai, hillside land, 700m from international school, sea view. 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-4761327.

1 RAI KAMALA LAND

3.7 million baht. House, garden, electric, water, free to build. 2.9 million baht. Tel: 076-292596, 086-2678477. Email: tourmichristian@hotmail.com

SEAVIEW LAND PLOTS

Bang Tao. 3-phase electricity, top sea view. Starting at 3.9 million baht. Contact us for additional details. Tel: 086-267-0157, 089-5903665. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

NEW HOUSE FOR SALE

Beautiful, modern, European style. 3 large bedrooms with aircon, 3 en-suite bathrooms, huge terrace and living area, garage, laundry room, safe and alarm system. Plot of 600sqm. Quiet area. Built by European contractor. Only 10.5 million baht. Please contact Tel: 084-8441486. Email: meeuwissenpaula@hotmail.com

SPA & RESORT

37 million baht. A peaceful place of 3 rai, 900sqm in Ao Nang. 9 villas of Thai-Bali style, blissful open-air bathtub, tropical garden, herbal steam & Jacuzzi pool, international restaurant. Tel: 081-4236906. Email: sunsetap@ji-net.com

CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

8 minutes to Laguna, Baan Jo, 150 talang wah or 600 sqm. Full Chanote, very nice area, good location. Asking price: 1.1 million baht. Contact at Tel: 081-0415646. Email: khunraf@hotmail.com

LAND ON KOH MAPHRAO

East side, street access, electricity, water. Approx. 1 rai, ready to be built on. Price: 3.9 million baht. 7 rai next to Swiss resort. Price: 2.9 million baht per rai. Call Tel: 081-8918930.

3.5 RAI FLAT LAND

Chanote title, square plot, 500 meters from Thepkasattri Rd, Thalang area, 1 rai. Price: 2 million baht. Please contact for info at Tel: 084-0577505.

NICE HOUSE

2-story detached house with Western-style kitchen, dining room, living room, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 aircon, carport, garden, fully furnished. Only 3.2 million baht obo. Contact Tel: +31-64-6098573. Email: shd1@planet.nl Visit our site: <http://home.planet.nl/~duang000/house.htm>

HOUSE WITH POOL

2 levels, 3 bedrooms, large living room, 2 bathrooms. Price: 4.6 million baht. Contact Tel: 084-8516121.

PATONG 3-FLOOR

shophouse. Best location, 100 meters to the beach. Built-up area: 270 sqm. Ground floor: restaurant with new, fully equipped kitchen, WC, aircon, ADSL Internet. 1st floor: 2 bedrooms, teak wood floor, bathroom with new whirlpool, WC, 2 aircons, balcony. 2nd floor: 2 rooms, 1 aircon, bathroom, WC, balcony, UBC, ADSL, TV. Price: 12 million baht. Please call Tel: 081-8914844.

2-STORY HOUSE PHUKET TOWN

5m x 20m, Soi Romanee. Price: 3.8 million baht. Contact Tel: 084-0577505.

CHEAPEST BEACHFRONT LAND!

1.6 million baht per rai. Will sell from 5 to 22 rai. Contact for additional details. Email: admin@thaisunshine.developments.com

NEW HOUSE FOR SALE

in Thantong Villa 7. Townhouse with 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms on Chao Fa East Rd opposite Villa California. Price: 1.9 million baht. Contact Khun Jeab. Tel: 084-6890760. Email: a_manasanan@hotmail.com

CONDOS FOR SALE

Condos with fantastic sea views and hill views in Patong Tower for sale. Only a few minutes to Patong Beach. Contact Tel: 076-341871, 081-5697616. Email: sales@phuketislandrealestate.com

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Property Gazette

DREAMHOUSE FOR SALE



in Chalong on 715sqm of land with private pool. 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, Western-style kitchen, 7 aircons, dual carport and much more. Perfect for families. A must see. 16 million baht ono. Contact Tel: 081-8926251. Send email: mrsouza@hotmail.com More photos and details can be found at our website: www.phuketdreamhome.com

LUXURY IN NAI HARN



New luxury, detached villa with private swimming pool, only 2 minutes from Phuket's best beach. Set in a quiet and prestigious location in the southwest of Phuket. Offers complete privacy on a level plot of land. Four bedrooms (all en-suite), lounge/kitchen. Private swimming pool with outdoor shower/bathroom. Double garage. Built by a renowned local developer and fully furnished to an exceptional standard. Ready to move in. 21.5 million baht. Tel: 087-2982028. Email: timothy.ross@financialadvice.com.sg

LUXURY VILLA NATAI BEACH



358sqm, sea view, 2 mins from the beach, 15 mins to airport, 2 bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, Western kitchen with high-quality appliances, fully furnished with designer furniture, 2 home theaters with plasma TVs and UBC, ADSL ready, 1-rai garden with swimming pool. Must see! Contact for more information about house and land. Tel: 081-0863309. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.janepropertyphuket.com>

UNIQUE POOL VILLA



Simply place a deposit on this well-designed, Thai-style pool villa at Tewana Village in Chalong now and choose your own materials for kitchen, bath, pool and more to make it truly your own. Due for completion in August, this 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom villa has a large curved pool with a separate guest sala. 240sqm of living space on 400sqm Chanote land plot with jungle views. Western management. Just minutes to Central Festival or the beach. Freehold or leasehold. Price: 8.5 million baht. But hurry up, there is only one! Sole agent: Tewana Village. Contact Tel: 089-5930986. Email: tewanavillage@gmail.com

Properties For Rent

HOUSE FOR RENT

Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cable TV, ADSL. Price: 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-9732917.

STUDIO APARTMENT

Modern apartment off Nanai Rd. Fully furnished including TV, DVD, large fridge, hot water, fan, aircon and kitchenette. From 7,500 baht per month. Internet an option. Tel: 087-2650652. Email: gisbert1@gmx.net

RAWAI VILLA



Beautiful, new 2-bedroom villa with private pool. Close to both Rawai and Nai Harn beaches. Fully furnished, air conditioning. 35,000 baht per month. Pool and garden maintenance included. Minimum 6-month lease. Call Tel: 081-9701716.

4 BEDROOMS WITH POOL

New 4-bedroom, 4-bathroom house at Loch Palm Country Club. Partly furnished, directly on the 9th fairway in a fresh, clean environment overlooking lake. Tel: 081-9390176, 081-9390176. Email: beaver@tstf.net

HOUSE IN CHALONG

2 bedrooms, 1 aircon, 1 bathroom, kitchen, living room, phone line. Please contact for additional information at Tel: 081-5379878, 089-7298472. Email: suvittrai@hotmail.com

NEW CHALONG HOME

Furnished, 2-bedroom home for rent with telephone, UBC, and aircon. Please contact for details and pricing information. Tel: 089-6521473.

RAWAI BEACH VILLA

Long-term rent, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, UBC. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-9408914, 086-6865567.

PALAI, GREENHOUSE BIG GARDEN

Fully furnished, 2 aircons, 2 bedrooms, hot shower, living room, kitchen, garage. Price: 11,000 baht per month. Palai area. Contact for more information. Tel: 081-8924311.

HOUSE FOR RENT

at Land & Houses Chalong. By the lake. New house, 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircon, UBC, ADSL. Please contact Tel: 081-8953649.

RAWAI BEACH STUDIO

Furnished, kitchen, aircon, UBC, ADSL. 5,000 baht per month. Contact K. Noki at Tel: 086-9408914.

LUXURIOUS VILLA FOR RENT

3-4 bedrooms, sat TV, Internet, big pool, 2 levels, nicely furnished. Please call Tel: 084-8516121.

1-BEDROOM CONDO

in Patong Tower. Newly renovated in a beautiful modern style. Best location in Patong area. Long-term rent only. Price: 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-1238320. Email: deherder@hotmail.com

COMMERCIAL CONDO 600SQM

Individual building located on the bypass rd near Tesco Lotus. Includes a penthouse with 2 en-suite bedrooms, Western kitchen and big living room. Fully furnished. 25 million baht. Tel: 076-355067, 081-7977210. Fax: 076-355067. Email: scsptk@loxinfo.co.th

HOUSE FOR SALE

Beautiful Sino-Portuguese house in center of Phuket Town. Already restored, ideal for restaurant, guesthouse or business. Tel: 081-9700121. Email: tikky2@mac.com

BEAUTIFUL 3-STORY

building. 5 aircons, 3 rooms on second floor, third-floor apartment with kitchen and bathroom. Price: 6.2 million baht. 600 meters from Chalong circle on Chao Fa East Rd. Tel: 081-4763242. Email: davidbul@loxinfo.co.th

BLUE CANYON CONDOMINIUM

One of the best condominiums at Blue Canyon Country Club now for sale. Freehold. 265sqm. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large terrace. Includes active golf membership. 16.5 million baht. No agents. Tel: 081-9708304. Email: amy@my-rooms.com

CONDO FOR SALE

Renovated Rawai condo, furnished, aircon, TV, freehold. Price: 700,000 baht. Contact Tel: 084-1899868.

DUPLEX HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, parking. Gated community, fully furnished. Only 1.8 million baht. Call Tel: 02-9570053, 081-4040018. Or via email: contactmalisa@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at http://www.phuketsecondhand.com/post/detail.php?post_id=3523

RAWAI POOL VILLA

Two 2-bedroom pool villas for sale at 6.5 million baht each. Contact for additional details. Tel: 081-8953979. Email: bdandy@tttmaxnet.com Please visit our website at: <http://poolvilla.wetpaint.com/>

LAND IN TRANG

4.5 rai in Trang. Perfect location for future business. In front of main road, opposite university. Please contact K. Tan for more info. Tel: 076-296658, 089-6513479. Email: tannynanny@hotmail.com

HOUSES AND CONDO

Two-story houses in secure estate. Only minutes from golf course, large land plots, 3-4 bedrooms, starting from 5.9 million baht. Also a luxury two-bedroom condo with sea views in Patong. Over 240sqm of living space, Jacuzzi in master bathroom, communal swimming pool. Price: 12.9 million baht. Tel: 076-288908. Fax: 076-383646. Email: patrick@siamrealestate.com

LAND FOR SALE

9 rai for sale at Pasak Soi 8, Cherng Talay. 2.7 million baht per rai. Please contact for more information and details. Tel: 076-282808, 086-9519198. Fax: 076-282346. Email: heypiassy@hotmail.com

CLUB LERSUANG, SURIN BEACH

Modern, very well-furnished, 2-bedroom apartment in small block with pool. Close to the beach. Prices starting at 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-8882022. Email: slees@slees.com

HOME FOR LET/SALE

On quiet, private estate by Central. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, hot/cold water, 5 aircons, Western kitchen, fully equipped and furnished, laundry, office, ADSL, UBC, 24-hr security, 2 carports. Tel: 085-3449976. Email: kurtzhod@yahoo.co.uk

RAWAI STUDIO

for rent. Cable TV, aircon, fridge, equipped kitchen. Brand new. Price: 400 baht per day. Tel: 084-1899336.

HOMES NEAR BIS SCHOOL & MARINA

Many luxury houses in one locale. Call Tel: 076-239839, 081-8779292. Fax: 081-2963413. Email: prakaisriroj@hotmail.com Please visit our website at: www.gracegardensphuket.com

KAMALA BEACH

New apartments and houses for rent or sale. Fully furnished. Price: 15,000-30,000 baht. Tel: 084-3059606.

BOAT LAGOON HOUSE

Exclusive, fully furnished, 2-bedroom townhouse. UBC & aircon. Long-term lease: 25,000 baht per month. Contact for more information at Tel: 081-8921732.

AMAZING SEA VIEWS

Spacious 3-bedroom villa set in tropical garden. Lounge, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, swimming pool. Big driveway, Cape Yamu area. 10 mins to BIS. 40,000 baht per month. Contact for more information at Tel: 086-2796283.

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

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Property Gazette

RAWAI, NAI HARN

Large, luxury house for sale. 6 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, large swimming pool and lake, big garden, large outside living area. 65,000 baht per month. Minimum 1-year, up to 30-year lease. Sale price: 15 million baht. No agents. Please call Tel: 081-3971835.

B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-6923163.

FREEDOM APARTMENTS

Near Patong temple. Soi Khuan Yang. European-style kitchen with fridge. Fully furnished, aircon, fan, cable TV, hot/cold water bathroom, high-speed wireless Internet. A must see! Price: 9,500 baht per month. Please contact for additional information at Tel: 084-8450541, 081-8914561.

SHANTI LODGE

Do you need a place to live in Thailand? Secure, furnished with Wi-Fi, pool & maid service. Low season rates from 5,000-8,000 baht per month or with equipped kitchen at 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-280233, 081-5363134.

PANWA BEACH HOUSE

View, deck, sunsets, close to beach, 1.5 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, kitchen, hot/cold water. Long-term rent: 8,500 baht. Tel: 084-0571420.

RAWAI SEAVIEW APARTMENT

New deluxe studio. Full kitchen, cable, DVD, great view, furnished. Long-term rent: 6,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-0571420.

BEACHFRONT

house for rent. 1-4 bedrooms. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-381181, 076-381189.

RAWAI FLAT

for rent. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Internet, cable TV, fully furnished. Please contact for more information at Tel: 081-6067410.

3- TO 4-BEDROOM KATHU VILLA

for rent. Pool, 4km from BIS. Lake, golf and valley view, quiet, on a private hill. Gated with security guard + maid. 2 luxury Thai-style villas for rent with 300sqm each. All amenities in top-class surroundings. Internet, UBC, yearly lease at 65,000 baht per month. Please contact Tel: 087-2698492.

100SQM STUDIO

for rent. Furnished, beautiful views that overlook a lake, golf course and Kathu valley. Private and quiet location, pool, Internet, UBC. Long-term rent: 16,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information at Tel: 087-2698492.

PATONG APARTMENTS

Choice of two units at Beverly Hills, both 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, sat TV, etc. Apartments in lovely condition, in desirable area. Pool-side sea view: 35,000 baht per month. Hill view, long-term rent: 25,000 baht per month. Contact Kevin at Tel: 085-0717134. Email: robinsonkevin@mac.com

NEW BUILDING

2 units for rent. Opportunity for only minimart opposite Kathu waterfall. Please call Tel: 087-2799500.

PATONG APARTMENT

Close to Bangla and the beach, 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, 160sqm over 2 floors, great entertainer's pad, groovy style. Long- or short-term rent from 45,000 baht per month. Contact Peter. Tel: 087-8817600.

PATONG RENTALS AVAILABLE

A number of listings that may appeal to you. From 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-7196088 (Eng), 089-6498703 (Thai). Visit: www.gardenislandphuket.com

KATA LUXURY APARTMENT

Furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, Western teak kitchen, huge terrace. Long or short term. Starting at 25,000 baht per month for long term. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-5926890. Email: north8west98@yahoo.com

LUXURIOUS VILLA FOR RENT

3-4 bedrooms, sat TV, Internet, big pool, 2 levels, nicely furnished. Please call Tel: 084-8516121.

1-BEDROOM CONDO

in Patong Tower. Newly renovated in a beautiful modern style. Best location in Patong area. Long-term rent: 18,000 baht per month. Contact at Tel: 087-1238320. Email: deherder@hotmail.com

RAWAI VILLA

Beautiful new 2-bedroom villa with private pool. Close to Rawai and Nai Ham beaches. Fully furnished, air conditioning. 35,000 baht per month. Pool and garden maintenance included. Minimum 6-month lease. Contact for more information at Tel: 081-9701716.

2-BEDROOM FLAT

Beautiful space, fully furnished. Fully-equipped Western kitchen. Air conditioning throughout. Private access to swimming pool. Elevated view of Patong. Quiet and secure. Rental price includes both water and UBC TV. Contact for more info. Email: simon@coppingerproperties.com

SURIN BEACH APARTMENT

Modern, luxurious ground-floor Lersuang apartment. 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, pool and parking. European kitchen with bar! 35,000 baht per month. Minimum rental of 6 months. 400m to the beach and restaurants. Tel: 089-1925186. Email: slees@slees.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

at Land & Houses in Chaleng. New house by the lake. 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircon, UBC, ADSL. Please call for info at Tel: 081-8953649.

LAGUNA TOWNHOME

3 bedrooms, 400sqm, garden & lap pool, views of golf course. Price: 85,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. K. Amber Tel: 0892001681. Email: aabsxx88@truemail.co.th

HOME NEAR AIRPORT

8km to Phuket airport, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms at Garden Place, 115sqm. 13,500 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-3823237, 081-2976162.

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

for rent in Chaofa Thani. 9,500 baht per month. Nice garden. Please contact at Tel: 076-280440, 086-6831964. Fax: 076-280440. Or via email: franklee200@hotmail.com

KATHU TOWNHOUSE

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hot shower, 3 aircons. Fully furnished. Price: 17,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-5371515, 089-9222800 (Eng).

HOUSE FOR RENT/SALE

Villa 3, Soi 8/1. Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, hot water. Good price. Call Tel: 081-5376045.

184SQ WAH HOUSE

located on Mae Luan Rd, near Rang Hill. For rent as office, spa, restaurant or house. Please inquire via email: romeplace@hotmail.com

SEAVIEW APTS

for rent in Karon and Patong. Please contact for additional details and pricing information. Tel: 089-4912496. Email: jjc@gmail.com

CHALONG HOUSE

Nearly-new house for rent. 2 bedrooms, 2 aircons, fully furnished. Quiet street, close to everything. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-8485517.

PATONG CONDO

1-bedroom condo for rent in Patong. Fully furnished. 10-minute walk to beach and Bangla Rd. Long-term rent at 13,000 baht per month. Call Tel: 089-8726895.

SEAVIEW BUNGALOW

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, aircon. Price: 22,000 baht per month. Please contact at Tel: 081-6064279. Email: pichit_49@yahoo.com

RAWAI BUNGALOW

1 bedroom or 2 bedrooms, ADSL, cable TV, quiet location with large, furnished terrace. Starting at 8,000 baht per month. Please call Tel: 081-7196998.

PATONG TOWER CONDO A BEAUTY



Beautiful Patong Tower beach condo with stunning 280 degree panoramic views of the ocean, hill and town. Large outdoor patio and wrap around balcony. Completely renovated, Internet and washing machine. Available now. Please contact at Tel: (011) + 86-138-1634-4147. For further details, visit our website at: www.PatongTowerRental.com

RAWAI LUXURY VILLA

4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, European kitchen, large swimming pool, garden, ADSL, UBC. 70,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-7196998.

LARGE HOUSE FOR RENT

3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house for long-term rent. Telephone, UBC, garden, etc. Close to golf course & BIS school. Located on quiet private road. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8439579, 086-9402227.

PATONG CONDO

9th floor, Phuket Palace. Has everything. 17,000-20,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 083-3897023. Email: limoz@earthlink.net

STUNNING SEA VIEW

New house for rent overlooking Karon Beach. Pool, fully furnished. 20,500 baht per month. Please call Tel: 089-5938690 (English, German) or 087-8100150 (Thai). Email: rueen_narayan@hotmail.com

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Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-232398/9

Fax: 076-232398

Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

Fax: 076-211230

Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

Fax: 076-344523

41 Minimart

Srisoontorn Rd, Cherno Talay

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Contact: Jim Poulsen
Mobile: 081 891 3237
tel/fax: 076 206 260
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JET BOAT FOR SALE
Lots of fun! 5 meters, 120hp engine, seats 5. Includes bimini, trailer, cassette radio, life jackets, etc. Price: 325,000 baht. Tel: 087-2634560, 087-2676024. Email: mwd@nmwvtl.com

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For sale or charter, width 4.5m. Diesel engine, 320hp generator at 20kW. 30 person capacity. Great buy. Price: 950,000 baht. Call Tel: 081-9680571.

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with 2 double cabins and 2 single cabins. Built in 2007 with wood and epoxy. Call Tel: 087-8919620.

SEAJAY 3.7-METER
aluminium boat from Australia. Excellent condition with 15hp Mariner outboard. Price: 80,000 baht. Please contact Tel: 086-6827135.

34' FAST IMPORT
60 knots, V8 inboards, perfect condition. American-made. Price: 2.9 million baht. Call Tel: 084-8424861.

36' DIESEL BOAT
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HOBIE 16 CATAMARAN
Good condition, fun beach boat for you and all the family. Price: 180,000 baht. Tel: 087-2795021. Email: bbee_1@hotmail.com

TWIN ENGINE SPEEDBOAT
Built in 2004. 8.8 meters (28'). Seats up to 20 passengers. 2 new (twin) Yamaha Enduro 115 engines. Newly renovated with new epoxy, new paint, new Garmin fish finder, GPS. New stainless fuel tanks and more. Price: 1.4 million baht or best offer. Tel: 084-6644050. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

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storage. Store your boat or car under cover and guard. Many services available. Delivery, pickup, cleaning, tuning and more. Email: brittsplace@hotmail.com

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w/outdrives. Perfect V8s, 370hp, inboard. 1 million baht each. Contact Tel: 084-842-4861. Email: brittsplace@hotmail.com

FISHING BOAT
business. Click our banner, Boating & Fishing help on the Gazette website for more information. Contact via email: makocraft@hotmail.com

BRUCE ROBERTS
Spray 35ft sailboat. Steel, good condition and fully equipped. Contact for specific details. Tel: 084-1121419. Email: g22lander@yahoo.ca

BOSTON WHALER
Length 5.20m, width 2.00m, depth 0.7m. Two 55hp Yamahas. Thai registration. 180,000 baht includes trailer. Good condition. Please call for more information. Tel: 087-885-9247.

63-FT LUXURY POWER CRUISER
Fully equipped, water maker, aircon, GPS, radar, life jackets, tender, full galley, bedding, towels, plus much more. All for a very low price. Must be seen. Contact for inspection at Tel: 668-19390176. Email: beaver@tstf.net

INDONESIAN WOOD BOAT
Thai-registered wooden boat for sale. 65ft long, 18ft wide, weighs 30 tons. Email: shaanxi.xian@vipmail.hu or p.atiss@freemail.hu

GFK SPEEDBOAT
for diving and fishing. Steppa 37 with flybridge, inboard toilet, storage room, sun deck, shower. Thai registration for commercial business up to 22 passengers. Completely renewed hull. Two 200hp Yamahas. Please contact for inspection at Email: iscoth@hotmail.com

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dinghies. Australian-built 59ers: 300,000 baht. 45% off new price. 29ers: 220,000 baht. 35% off new price. Like new condition. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-3970905. Email: phil@circumnave.net

Island Job Mart



Sheraton Krabi Beach Resort, a member of the renowned and fast growing Starwood Hotel & Resorts, is nestled discreetly next to the unspoiled Klong Muong Beach in the exotic Krabi province.

A host of five-star facilities and activities, the resort features 246 well-appointed guest rooms, an eclectic selection of bars and restaurants, spa, fitness center and a variety of water sports facilities. We are inviting suitably qualified local candidates to join our team in the following positions:

Financial Controller

Qualifications

- Relevant degree level qualification
- Must be able to fluently speak, read, write English and understand the primary language(s) used in the work place if not in English.
- Requires good communication skills both written and spoken
- Have a strong working knowledge of accounting principles
- Have a strong organizational and administration/tracking ability
- Must possess computational/analytical ability.
- Must possess computer skills.
- Knowledge of computer accounting programs, as well as budgetary analysis capabilities required.
- Ability to study, analyze and interpret complex activities and/or information in order to improve new practices or develop new approaches.
- Ability to make decisions with general policies and procedures available for guidance.
- Must be able to negotiate, convince, sell and influence professionals and/or hotel guests.
- Minimum 5 years experience in overall finance operations and management within a similar environment.

Interested persons are invited to send detailed resume and qualifications to:

Sheraton Krabi Beach Resort
155 Moo 2, Nong Thale, Muang, Krabi 81000
Telephone: 075-628000 ext. 1500, Fax: 075-628038
Email: Rewadee.Limkangwammongkol@sheraton.com



OPERATION OFFICER

French speaking. Job duty: will be responsible for the operation between Phuket receiving agent and suppliers both in Phuket & overseas. Require young, dynamic person with pleasant personality, energetic and hard-working with service-oriented skill and ability to work with internationally based clients. Must demonstrate proficiency in English & French communication skills and be computer literate. Ideal candidate would be a male or female Thai national and your own transportation would be preferable. Experience with hotel and tourism industries would be an advantage. Interested people, please send CV to info@phuket-receptif.com or walk-in interview at Phuket Receptif Co Ltd 100/23 Moo 5, Chalempriak Rama 9 Rd, T. Rasada, Muang, Phuket 83000 Thailand Tel: + 66-076-261195-6. Fax: + 66-076-261197 Website: www.phuket-receptif.com

DESTINATION AIR

sales representatives will be responsible for Destination Air Shuttle outside sales, marketing and public relations. Require young dynamic person with pleasant personality, energetic and hard working with sales-oriented skill and ability to work with international client base. Must demonstrate proficiency in English communication skills and be computer literate. Ideal candidate would be a male or female Thai national and be able to work in or from Phuket International Airport with your own transportation. Experience with aviation, hotel and tourism industries would be an advantage. Interested people, please send CV to email: hrda@destinationair.com

TIMESHARE REPS

& OPCs. Sales reps and OPCs needed. Minimum of 2 years experience. Foreigners okay. Tel: 081-1371001. Email: solitude001@aol.com

LOOKING FOR

kindergarten teacher for teaching 3- to 5-year-old kids. English native speaker preferred. Tel: 084-7144104.

Property Sales Staff

Green Heritage Group, a well-established property developer, marketing and sales consultant in the **Kata area**, is now looking for the following staff:

- **Sales Manager:** Foreign applicants, of either sex, should have a minimum two years' experience of property sales in Thailand and be effective closers. Excellent interpersonal skills in addition to fluent English and proficient computer skills are a must for this position.
- **Sales Executives:** Applicants should be Thai, female, with previous property sales experience. Excellent interpersonal skills in addition to fluent English and proficient computer skills are a must for this position.
- **Sales Assistant:** Applicants should be Thai, female, with an outgoing personality and some office skills. Proficiency in English and some computer skills would be an advantage, as would previous experience in the property industry.

Remuneration for all positions will be commensurate with qualifications and ability.

In the first instance, please email your resume to pnotley@greenheritagegroup.com with a photograph and expected salary.

BROKER/AGENT

wanted for health insurance company. We will be visiting on June 25-26 and monthly thereafter. Interested parties should contact either Tom Thomson at 089-6674777 or Chalach Mahachalalai at 081-9259126 to arrange for an appointment.

LAW FIRM

Looking for 2 Thai lawyers & 2 Thai secretaries who can speak French or English. For more details, please send resum via email: scphuket@yahoo.com

ADMIN & SALES

Seara International is looking for an administrative & sales assistant. Thai female with a good command of English. Please send CV to: cj@searasports.com or Fax CV to 076-355039. Call 076-355040 for details and more information.

3 FOREMEN

for Krabi. Male or female. Knowledge of interior and construction. Ability to speak English a bonus. Must be able to manage and control workers. Must also be self-motivated and highly responsible. Candidates with experience of AutoCAD are preferred, and a minimum of 3 years' experience in construction is required. Contact via email: krister@krabisunset.com

SALES & MARKETING

Manager. Shopping Plaza to open in Khaolak in 2008. Looking for a responsible, experienced person to handle the marketing and leasing. Tel: 65-82888593. Email: davish@espnstar.com

ESTATE SALES

manager in Krabi. Manage residential sales in Krabi region and, together with GM, plan and execute sales, marketing campaigns, exhibitions and social functions. Female or male. Should have experience in sales, and must speak and write English. Additional languages a bonus. Driver's license required. Must be able to work under pressure and have Internet and computer skills. Must also be self-motivated and able to work independently. Thai nationals preferred. Email: krister@krabisunset.com

WANTED

1. Babysitter (1 position)
2. English teacher (1 position)
3. Administrator (1 position)
4. Teaching a baby farang at home (3 positions). Tel: 076-239209, 084-1885828.

FITNESS STAFF

Thai nationals required for new fitness center and leisure club. Applicants should have good English skills & lively personality. Full training provided. Email: alun@eden-thailand.com

Position : Supervision and QC Manager, Assistant to the Director.

Qualification :

- Over 32 years of age.
- Education in engineering or property management field.
- Experiences in luxury villas management.
- Fluency in English, both writing and speaking.

Duty :

- Assist the Foreign Director in his task of coordination between the Maintenance Manager, The Site Manager and the Villa owners. Report regularly about specific need and unsolved questions.
- Ensure that all our villa owner benefit from the highest possible level of service.
- Ensure that the maintenance and repair works are made under a proper schedule, system and with diligence.
- Coordinate with villas owner and the site manager the schedule of maintenance and provide Quality control inspection after works.
- Control day by day villa maintenance works and planning.
- Control day by day common area maintenance works and planning.
- Control day by day other service such as cleaning, garden maintenance etc.
- Salary start from 30,000 up to experience.

Please send the resume with your photo to surasak@lorchidee-residences.com

L'ORCHIDÉE RESIDENCES

TRAINEE SALES ASST.

for real estate & property development company. You must be able to communicate well in English & be computer literate. Your own car & a phone are necessities. This is a permanent position and offers salary and bonus. Thai National only. Contact Tel: 089-6498703.

SMART THAI PERSON

wanted. Confident and responsible Thai national required to help small but busy and growing Patong-based company maximize its market potential. Responsibilities include traveling throughout Phuket and meeting both new and existing clients ranging from retail outlets to 5-star hotels. You must have a smart appearance and be able to work under your own initiative. Basic salary after training period is in excess of 20,000 baht per month (+ benefits) with high season target earnings of over 40,000 baht attainable for the successful applicant. Must have excellent command of both spoken and written English. Email: phuket.job@hotmail.com

HOUSEKEEPER

and butler required. Experienced housekeeper/butler required for private household. Applicants must be fluent in English and Thai. Email: cv@phuketocceanvillas.com

TEACHER WANTED

Native English teachers needed for public school & resort work. Must be experienced or 'A' grade TEFL/CELTA, reliable, enthusiastic & friendly. Send your CV to Brent at: eccpkt@ecc.ac.th

SALES & MARKETING

A position is available for a smart person to earn top money. Must be fluent in both Thai and English. Must hold a current driver's license. Knowledge of hotels and restaurants in and around Phuket would be an advantage. Applicants are invited to send full CV stating present and expected salaries, enclosed with a recent photo by email or contact via Tel: 085-7841691. Send email: nadir.66@libero.it

TEAM LEADER

and site supervisor. TCM Asia is looking for a site supervisor and team leader. Thai national, age 25. Strong leadership and problem-solving skills. BA in Mechanical Engineering or related field. Self-motivated and able to supervise other staff. Good communication skills, service-minded and well-organized. The position offers an attractive salary and additional benefits. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-9439834. Fax: 076-279088. Email: office@tcm-asia.com

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We are looking for open-minded people who are seeking a challenging role within their career. Join our extensive international team and work for one of the world's market leaders in real estate. Our Overseas Chain Of Estate Agents Network gives you the chance to enjoy both a successful career and a dynamic lifestyle. You will be working with our worldwide offices and global property exhibitions programme.

Opportunities Available:

► Office Manager

1 Position

The candidate should have experience in accounting, excellent in both written and spoken English. Fast learner and service-minded, strong analytical and problem solving abilities and proven team leadership skills.

► Listing Executive

1 Position

Thai Nationality. Excellent communication and negotiation skills, good team player, have your own car will be advantage. Must know Phuket Island very well.

► IT & Exhibition Co-ordinator

1 Position

The candidate should have experience in the Adobe Suite including InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator. Knowledge of printing industry would be advantage along with good general IT grounding.

► After-Sales Executive

1 Position

The candidate will be the liaison point between the developer and the client, responsible for seeing the client purchase through from signing the contract to the handover of the property, the applicant should be familiar with handling high-end market clients.

Email your CV with photo if possible to adminphuket@oceanestates.com

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SALES OFFICER

Layan Beach Resort & Spa Village is looking for a Sales Officer. Must be fluent in both Thai and English, possess good communication and presentation skills, be customer-focused with good leadership skills, the ability to motivate others and able to work under pressure. Car and driver's license required. Interested applicants are invited to apply in person or send a resume to: info@layanphuket.com. Call K. Orasiri at Tel: 076-313412-4.

HOTEL JOBS

We currently require 1 cook, 1 English-speaking receptionist and 2 waitresses. Email: info@club-coconut-resort.info Please visit our website for full details. <http://www.phukets.info/ccjobs.html>

STAFF NEEDED

for nightclub and high-class restaurant in Patong.

1. Waiter, waitress
 2. Doorman
- Must be service-minded and have good spoken English
- Male/female
Please call for more information at Tel: 084-0143121.

HEAD ACCOUNTANT

in Krabi. We seek a person who is able to implement and standardize the whole process of accounting. Experience of a minimum of 3 years in the same position, and/or with an accounting company, is required. Must also speak and write English; be loyal and fair; and be willing to take ownership of tasks and work well under pressure. Internet & computer skills are required, as is knowledge of QuickBooks. A driver's license is also required. Contact via email: krister@krabisunset.com

Staff Required

- 1 x Office Administrator

A luxury motor yacht charter company is looking for 2 English-speaking Thai national staff to fill the above positions. Office administrator - should have office experience and hold a driving license. Hostess - a background in five-star service is essential as is a fun personality.

Please contact prue@bawancruises.com or phone 081 8943 234 for further information.

HEVTA

HEVTA is looking for an active sales/dealer to sell uPVC window & door in Phuket & Samui.

- Age 25 to 35 years old
- Good command of English
- Computer literate
- Able to work on own initiative
- Able to drive & must have a car

Tel: 08-1846-1396, 034-824-729-30
Email: info@hevta.com

CHIEF OF MAINTENANCE

Maintenance expert who knows how to maintain the resort and how to lead a Thai team. Able to develop maintenance plans, preventive maintenance and budgets. Expat welcome if you are able to communicate with the Thai staff. Please contact for more details at Tel: 076-289399. Fax: 076-289389. Email: hajo@mangosteen-phuket.com Website: www.mangosteen-phuket.com

CONSTRUCTION

Inspector needed for a major Phuket property developer to oversee the construction of houses, villas and apartments. The Thai national must speak fluent English and have 3-5 years' previous experience in the field. Generous salary. Contact Tel: 081-5376886. Email: info@platinumresidencepark.com

CASHIER/ORDER

taker. Two years' experience in restaurant. English speaker. Please call for more information. Tel: 076-345024.

FREELANCER WANTED

Good research and writing skills needed. Native English speaker. Contact for more information. Email: gavin.wills@angloinfo.com

PILOT TRAINING

The International Aviation College at Nakhon Phanom University is recruiting cadets for training at European standards for commercial pilot license with instrument rating + MCC and ELT on an A320 simulator. Please contact for more information. Tel: 042-551120. Email: gcharles01@yahoo.co.uk For further details, please visit our website: www.npu.ac.th/iac/



DRAGONAIR

Dragonair, the affiliated airline of Cathay Pacific based in Hong Kong is now looking for the below position at Phuket Airport Office:

Customer Services Officers

Qualifications:

- Male or female aged below 30 with outgoing personality
- University graduate
- Proficiency in written and spoken English and PC literate
- Customer services oriented
- Substantial experience in airline industry especially airport operation is preferred
- Able to work on roster with odd hours when necessary and sometime work under pressure

Interested candidates are invited to send your written application with recent photograph and comprehensive CV to below address by Jul 6:

Personnel & Administration Manager
Cathay Pacific Airways Limited
11/F, Ploenchit Tower
898 Ploenchit Road, Pathumwan
Lumpini, Bangkok 10330

Or by email address: bkkpmt@cathaypacific.com

Hong Kong Dragon Airlines
Room 307, 3rd Floor, Phuket International Airport
Maikhaio District, Amphur Thalang
Phuket 83110

Tel: 076 351496 -7
Fax: 076 328352
www.dragonair.com

RECEPTIONIST

27-room hotel in Patong requires female staff. Good English skills a must. Please call for more information.

Tel: 081-8921621.

SECRETARY NEEDED

Experience preferred. Good English and computer skills required. Please contact at Tel: 087-0778454. Email: solitude001@aol.com

QUALIFIED TEACHERS

needed. Horizons Learning Center, an international school for mainly expatriate students, seeks qualified K/G1 and G2/G3 teachers to start in August 2007. Native English speakers with university teaching certification required. Experience preferred. Fun, friendly work environment, inquiry-based program, generous school holidays. Tel: 076-238756. Email: pamela@horizons-phuket.com

STAFF FOR INTERNET

in Rawai. Thai female staff wanted full or part time with computer skills and basic English knowledge. Good salary. Good opportunity. Contact Mr Rudi for more information. Tel: 076-288808, 081-090-9640. Email: info@phuket-car-rentals.com

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following positions:

Advertising Sales

- Thai national with an outgoing personality
- Good command of written and spoken English
- At least 26 years of age
- Driver's license and own car

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to ann@phuketgazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd
367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai,
A. Muang, Phuket 83000

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Articles For Sale

FULL SOUND SYSTEM

4 speakers, 1 EQ, 1 JBL subwoofer, 2 amplifiers, 1 crossover, 2 CD players, 100-model Pioneer, 1 Denon mixer. Only 2 months old. Price: 120,000 baht. Call Tel: 081-7977045.

2 CAKE DISPLAY UNITS

Like new condition. 30,000 baht each. Call Andy at Tel: 087-8905633.

3 LEATHER SOFAS

7,000 baht each. Contact Andy at Tel: 087-8905633.

BAR EQUIPMENT

Aircon, 2 large TVs, 2 sofas, bar stools, speakers and mixing desk, pool table. All for sale at cheap prices. Tel: 085-8094153.

MOVING OFFICE

Must sell aircons, pumps, tank, refrigerator, partitions, etc. All at attractive prices. Contact for more information. Tel: 084-6255179. Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

SECOND-HAND MAN

Towels, TVs, office chairs, sheet sets, cooking equipment, pillows and much more. Call for a list of all items at Tel: 083-2807152.

CRISTINA JACUZZI

Quarter ring, 1.3m x 1.4m. Price: 60,000 baht. Also have sauna equipment available priced at 2,000 baht. Please contact seller for inquiries and detailed information at Tel: 084-4454614.

SCANNER/COPIER/

printer. Epson Stylus cx3500 (color + black & white). Purchased last year, barely used. Basic operation guide included. May need an ink cartridge. Best offer. Please contact for more information at Tel: 089-9702260. Email: letaan@hotmail.com

DERUTA

collectible plates. A collection of eight hand-painted Italian plates by Antonio Ranucchia. Sizes are from 41 to 62 cm in diameter. Full details available on PDF file. First reasonable offer will buy. Email: info@axiominvestments.com

BRITISH COMEDIES

Have a number of "Only Fools and Horses" and "Vicar of Dibley" VHS video cassettes for sale. Good condition. Price: 100 baht each. Please email for a list of all titles. Email: gillian2307@yahoo.com

Bulletins

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Free 2 rounds of golf at Blue Canyon Country Club's Lakes Course
or
Free 4,000 Baht Dining & Shopping Gift Certificates
or
Free Mandara Spa treatment for 2 persons and lunch
or
Free 2 tickets to Phuket Fantasea dinner and show
or
Free 2 tickets to John Gray Sea Canoe Caves tour
or Best of all
Free 2 nights Accommodation in Deluxe Garden View Hotel Room





Fantasea

Sea Canoe

Visit our welcome center at
JW Marriott Phuket Resort and Spa
or call 076-338-200

for Free roundtrip transportation to and from your hotel.

This offer is sponsored by Marriott Vacation Club International as part of an advertising plan for its Vacation Ownership program. Attendance of a vacation club sales presentation lasting approximately 90 minutes is required for this offer, both husband and wife must attend the presentation together.

This program is void where prohibited by law. Additional terms and conditions apply.