

# Phuket Gazette

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# Toddler killed in botched robbery

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

RASSADA: A two-year-old girl and her nanny have died after they had their throats slit in a botched burglary by two local youths on the evening of June 22.

Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Col Chalit Tinthanee last night announced that the attackers, a 15-year-old student at Phuket Technical College (PTC) and his 17-year-old friend, entered the house of PTC teacher Narisorn Phueng-rang in Baan Kabout about 5 pm.

Once inside they were confronted by the nanny, Dang Panthip, 40. She said she did not have anything of value for them to take and began to shout for help, and K. Narisorn's two-year-old daughter, Nitchanart, began to cry.

The robbers, afraid someone would hear the commotion, hit Nitchanart on the head with a knife holder, which only made her scream louder.

To quiet the child and the nanny, the youths then slit both their throats, Col Chalit said.

K. Dang's daughter then walked in on the robbers, but managed to escape the burglars and remember their license plate



Phuket's trash incinerator apparently poisoned 3,564 square meters of submarine fish baskets near Saphan Hin June 23, when all of the fish in the 396 baskets were found dead. Officials said the water in Klong Koh Kui and Koh Phee had low oxygen levels and high concentrations of ammonia and phosphate. It is estimated that 6.6 million baht worth of fish were spoiled. Authorities are discussing how to compensate the fish owners.

number.

She called the police, and around 7:30 pm a police officer arrested the youths near Saphan Hin.

Nitchanart died on the way to the hospital. K. Dang survived

the journey, but later died from the injury.

Col Chalit said the teenagers had confessed to charges of murder with intent.

The police have not released the suspects' names.

## Beachcomber's nightmare found in Nai Thon

NAI THON: Police are hoping to establish the identity of a headless and badly decomposed human corpse discovered washed up on Nai Thon Beach June 19.

Sub Lt Thianchai Duangsuwan of the Tah Chat Chai Police Station told the *Gazette* the gruesome discovery was made at about 10:30 am on the stretch of beach in front of the Naithonburi Beach Resort.

"Although the head and

legs were missing, we can identify it as that of a man. It was badly decayed and appears to have been partially eaten by marine animals," Lt Thianchai said.

Photos of the corpse, prominently displayed on the front page of a daily Thai language newspaper, showed that the corpse was clad only in a pair of light blue underpants.

The only flesh remaining was from the lower abdomen

down to the knees.

"There were no cut marks or other signs that would indicate foul play," Lt Thianchai said.

From the man's size it is more likely he is Asian and not Caucasian, police said. Lt Thianchai estimated the man died about two weeks ago.

"We suspect he may have been a crew member on a fishing boat," Lt Thianchai said.

- Natcha Yuttaworawit

## Charearn told to vacate SorPorKor land plots

BANGKOK (*The Nation*): The Supreme Court on June 21 upheld an Appeals Court verdict and ordered Phuket businessman Charearn Thavornwongwongse to vacate four plots of *SorPorKor* land for landless farmers covering roughly 16 rai in Kamala and Kathu Districts.

According to the court, K. Charearn could no longer be considered a farmer because he owned various businesses.

He is the managing director of Tilok Company, which operates three hotels in Phuket under the Thavorn Group name, including the flagship 150-room Thavorn Grand Plaza Hotel in the heart of Phuket City.

Tilok's other assets in Phuket City include a crocodile farm on Chana Jaroen Rd, originally set up as a tourist attraction but now only raises crocodiles commercially.

K. Charearn, who was not present at the court ruling, has 36 other plots of land covering more than 60 rai, the court noted.

K. Charearn's lawyer, Benjama Abhaiwongse, said his client would respect the court's decision, but would ask the Agricultural Land Reform Office (ALRO), the plaintiff in the case, to let him lease the four plots.

K. Benjama said K. Charearn had acquired and used these plots since 1957.

They remained rubber plantations and fruit orchards, he said.

The ALRO has filed several lawsuits to evict wealthy people from *SorPorKor* land that had been earmarked for agricultural use by landless farmers.

There are five cases before the Supreme Court and three others pending at the Court of Appeals.



# Hotel worker killed in crash

KARON: Nakamura Masakazu, 41, a circus entertainer at Club Med, died after he was run over by a tuk-tuk on a hill near Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort early on June 19.

Mr Masakazu was riding a rented Honda Dream motorbike in heavy rain around 6 am when he lost control on a downhill section of the road from Patong to Karon, Lt Col Sanguan Muangtham, duty inspector of Chalong Police Station, said.

"His helmet came off when he hit the pavement and his body slid across the center line, into the path of an oncoming tuk-tuk driven by Suree Phankhor. He died at the scene," Col Sanguan said.

Suree, charged with careless driving causing death, was released on 50,000-baht bail, he added.

A statement released by Club Med said that Mr Masakazu joined Club Med six years ago and was organizing the resort's circus entertainment at the time of his death.

"It is very hard to find words to express such a big feeling – the loss of a great organizer, good

friend and a real gentleman. The entire management team will always keep the memory of his smile and humor, his energy and commitment," said Club Med Phuket General Manager Alessandro Cordogli.

Further south in Kata, Lamphun Kotpanna, 27, from Sakhon Nakhon, died after her motorbike was hit by a pickup truck on the steep hill near the Marina Phuket Resort on June 25.

Sayan Thammapan, of the Phuket Ruamjai Rescue Foundation, told the *Gazette*, "She was riding her blue Honda Sonic motorbike on the hill, which has a very steep slope, about 9:30 pm."

He added that witnesses said that a pickup truck being driven at high speed hit the motorbike from behind then sped off.

"She suffered head injuries and her neck was broken. She died at the scene," K. Sayan said.

"No witnesses can remember the license plate number, color or make of the pickup that hit her," he added.

– Supanun Supawong

## 2 tonnes of kratom seized in raid

THALANG: Police seized about 2,000 kilograms of kratom leaves at a house in Thalang June 21.

Lt Col Kritthana Poothiluecha of Thalang Police Station told the *Gazette* that police acted on a tip-off to raid the home of motorcycle taxi driver Jin Meechai in Sri Soonthorn.

In the back yard of the home, located behind Wat Tha Rua, police found 12 kratom trees ranging in height from 10 to 15 meters.

"Jin confessed to selling kratom to construction workers so they could work harder. He planted the trees and started selling it years ago. Police found them and cut them down," Col Kritthana said.

"I think this is the biggest kratom bust we've ever had. However, we are following his connections to investigate whether we can make more arrests," Col Kritthana said.

Jin, 53, was charged with possession and sale of kratom.

Native to Thailand, kratom leaves act as a stimulant when ingested.

– Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

# Office thief caught on CCTV

By Janyaporn Morel

PHUKET CITY: Provincial bureaucrats will sleep better at night, following the June 21 arrest by Phuket City Police of a man wanted for stealing valuables from government offices on the island.

At a press conference yesterday, Phuket City Police Station Superintendent Col Nos Sawetalek presented 30-year-old Prayuth Kruakaew as the thief, along with four laptop computers, three mobile phones and cash in baht, US dollars and Chinese yuan as evidence.

Three men – Nopparat Phakdee, 23; Phurin Eiamtrakul, 20; and Peerapat Kongchuay, 23 – along with one woman – Thanasak Chaisaengsri, 22 – were charged with receiving the stolen property.

Prayuth's arrest followed a report to police by officials at the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (OrBorJor) offices, where images of Prayuth with office property in hand were captured on closed-circuit television cameras (CCTV) on June 2.

Col Nos said Prayuth had confessed to stealing laptop computers, mobile phones and cash



Prayuth Kruakaew (right) was arrested June 21, three weeks after CCTV cameras at the OrBorJor's offices had caught him in the act.

left unattended at government offices.

Police said that Prayuth had also admitted to roaming the corridors of schools, municipality offices, student dormitories, and patient wards at Mission Hospital and Vachira Phuket Hospital in his quest for valuables to pilfer.

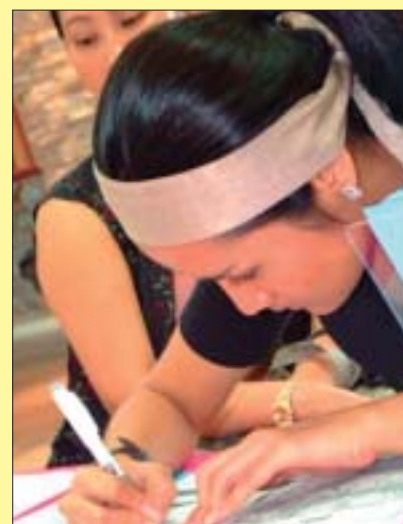
Prayuth's modus operandi was to arrive in a rented Jeep at

## Beauty applied

PATONG: Twenty-four beauties from throughout Southern Thailand signed up at Jungceylon on June 24 to enter the Miss Thailand World 2007 beauty pageant organized by Thai TV Channel 3 and BEC Tero Entertainment.

The applications were collected by Miss Thailand 2005 finalist and Miss Chinese International 2006 runner-up Thanida "Ginny" Karnchanawat.

The final round of the contest will be held at the Bangkok Convention Center on August 4. In addition to the seven million baht in cash and prizes, the winner will also be Thailand's representative for the Miss World 2007 pageant in Sanya, China, on December 1.



foundation at Phun Pol Night Plaza, in Phuket City.

"Burglars broke into the New Life Foundation at 74/123 Phun Pol Night Plaza. They scaled a wall at the rear of the building, then removed louvers to enter a work room on the second floor.

"The burglars pried open work desks, making off with about 90,000 baht in cash they found there," Lt Col Ampolwat Saengrueng told the *Gazette*.

"Although we have fingerprints and footprints of the burglars at the scene, and I have interviewed all the people who work at the foundation, we have yet to determine a prime suspect," said Col Ampolwat.

Police couldn't find any witnesses to the break-in, he said.

In another break-in at building with a religious affiliation on the same night, persons unknown made off with Jatukham Ramathep amulets worth a total of about 10,000 baht from Wat Sapam on Thepkasattri Rd.

Yuwadee Yuthitham, a volunteer worker at the temple, told the *Gazette*, "Burglars pried open a glass cabinet that contained Jatukham amulets. We have already reported this to Phuket Police Station," she said.

Police officials in Ranong report that they have arrested a suspect in the theft of the amulets, but are awaiting further evidence and reports from Phuket.

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# Police smash ya bah ring after car chase, shootout

By Sompratch Saowakhon

KATHU: On a night of rain, gun-fights and car chases, police smashed a major *ya bah* (methamphetamine) ring on June 19, arresting five people and seizing 1,384 *ya bah* pills and 115,000 baht in cash as evidence.

The operation started with a routine drug bust on June 18 in front of Rungtawee Mansion in Kathu, where Maj Chalermchai Hemsawat of the Phuket City Police and his team arrested Rungsan Pongtrakul for possession of two *ya bah* pills.

Upon questioning, Rungsan named his supplier as Sayam Jamjantra. Undercover police arranged to buy 20 *ya bah* pills the following day from Sayam on Soi Irawadee Ketho, in Kathu.

As Sayam was being placed under arrest, police noticed a red tuk-tuk nearby making a hasty retreat from the scene. In heavy rain, a patrol car gave chase. The driver of the tuk-tuk fired two shots at the patrol car, the occupants of which returned fire.

The tuk-tuk driver managed to get away, but his vehicle was seen parked in front of Sritrang Romyen dormitory. Once spotted by police, the man tried to flee on foot by scaling a wall and running across a rooftop.

The rooftop gave way, sending the man crashing to the floor of the house, much to the surprise of its occupants. Saying he was in a hurry, the man gave them his Thai ID card as collateral and promised to return the next day to repair the damage.

The man escaped, but the family turned over the ID card to



Some of the evidence seized in the series of drug busts on June 19.

police, who identified him as Pornchai Limpanich, who was still at-large as this edition went to press.

Already in custody, Sayam named his supplier as Ketchakart "Kim" Kitpunwong, a resident of SB Park Mansion on Soi Thida. Police found the man in the parking lot of the apartment complex, where they searched his body and uncovered a fully-loaded Glock 17 semi-automatic pistol and 100,000 baht in cash. A search of his room uncovered five bags of *ya bah*, each containing 200 pills.

The alleged leader of the drug ring, also a resident of SB Mansion, then happened to pull his car into the parking lot while police were still there.

The man, Suwit Kaewnit, rammed the patrol truck police used to block the exit. Officers then shot out one of his tires and took him into custody. A body search uncovered 200 *ya bah*

pills, 15,000 baht cash and a book containing a list of customers.

A search of Suwit's room uncovered a .32 automatic pistol with seven bullets, aluminum foil, packs of drinking straws and other equipment commonly used to package *ya bah*.

Police also arrested Suwit's roommate Noppateep Petrak, whom they suspected of being a drug user.

A more thorough search a few days later uncovered 164 more *ya bah* pills in a bag taped underneath the television set.

Maj Chalermchai said the gang members used rented cars to drive to Bangkok, where they bought up to 10,000 pills per trip. Once in Phuket, they could sell the drugs at 500 baht each, he added.

All the suspects were then remanded in custody at Phuket City Police Station except from Sayam, who is being held at Tung Tong Police Station.

# Dutchman arrested for office hold-up

PHUKET CITY: A down-on-his-luck Dutchman was arrested June 22 for the June 15 robbery of the management office of Phuket Villa California.

The man, Jeroen De Valk, 35, allegedly made away with 74,000 baht – but not before CCTV cameras recorded his motorcycle license plate number.

On June 15, a man dressed in black walked into the offices of Phuket Villa California on Chao Fa East Rd with a replica gun and demanded money. Rung-ruedee Engchuan, the lone office worker at the time, ran for cover while the man searched through the office, eventually making off with the money.

Col Chalit Thintanee, Deputy Commander of Phuket Provincial Police, said that although the man's face was not visible in the CCTV recording, the license plate was clear and led to the arrest of De Valk.

At a press conference after the arrest, police said De Valk



Jeroen De Valk (pictured) was arrested for staging a holdup with a cigarette lighter 'gun'.

Photo by Yongyot Preuksarak

has lived in Thailand for six months, bought a house on credit and set up a clothing store with a Thai woman – but the store was not making money.

The gun used in the hold-up turned out to be of the variety used for lighting cigarettes, not shooting bullets.

– Sangkhae Leelanaporn

# Motorbike thieves nabbed

PHUKET CITY: Police have busted a gang of motorbike thieves, including their leader, who have allegedly stolen about 50 motorbikes over the past four months.

Pol Col Nos Svettalekha, superintendent of Phuket City Police Station, told the *Gazette*, "The leader of the gang is Krittanai 'Max' Buapeng, 36, from Krabi. We followed him for about four months" before his arrest June 20.

"He had about 10 henchmen who stole motorbikes for him. They stole only Honda bikes, and even stole bikes to order. The motorbikes were sent to Burma through Ranong," he added.

"We arrested his gang in two raids, arresting about five people each time: one raid was at Kapoe in Ranong and the other was while gang members were passing through the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint.

"Over the past four months they stole about 50 motorbikes," Col Nos said, adding that only seven had been recovered.

Col Nos said that all gang members had confessed to the thefts. A court date had yet to be set, he added.

# Body found in Klong Bang Yai

RASSADA: The body of a man aged 20 to 30 was found floating in Klong Bang Yai near the Chokthawee fish raft in the port area around noon on June 24.

Capt Krurg-rit Ritnuang of Phuket Police Station told the *Gazette*, "When we lifted the body out of the water we saw that his trousers were lowered as if he had fallen from a boat while he was going to the toilet.

"We found two wounds, on

his shoulder and his neck, but they do not look like they caused his death, so we have to wait for the result of an autopsy," Capt Krurg-rit said.

"No person has been reported missing in the area and we have already questioned local fishermen.

"The man was about 165 centimeters tall and he looks more Burmese than Thai," he added.

– Natcha Yuttaworawit

# Chinese tourist drowns in strong Patong surf

PATONG: Strong waves claimed the life of Chinese tourist Wing Wong, 40, who drowned at Patong Beach about 1:30 pm June 25.

Sub Lt Naruwat Puthawiro, duty investigator of Kathu Police Station, today told the *Gazette*, "He and his friends were swimming at Patong Beach. Although I have yet to question his friends, at that time there were strong waves. I suspect that Wing Wong was probably tired and drowned.

"His body is at Patong Hospital, waiting for relatives to collect for his funeral," Sub Lt Naruwat added.

About 1:30 pm June 24, a female Korean teen-

ager swam into difficulties and had to be rescued from the strong surf at Kata.

An official at the Phuket Tourist Rescue Center told the *Gazette* that the young woman was swimming with about four male friends. "While they were swimming, the girl was caught in a dangerous rip tide and she started struggling and disappearing below the surface, and she took in some sea water."

"We rescued her and took her up to the beach. She was in shock but still conscious. Although she seemed not to be in a serious condition we took her to Phuket International Hospital," the official said.

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Unlike the breakneck pace of development that has seen areas of Phuket's west coast turn from backwaters to boom towns, much of Phuket's east coast has only begun to surge in recent years as new projects and developments discover its untapped resources.

One of the areas that has seen the biggest growth is Pa Khlok, where tax revenue jumped from about 4 million baht per year from 2001 to 2004 to a whopping 30 million baht in 2006 alone. Growth isn't slowing in 2007, as developers push to move forward with the area's next major development: the planned Yamu Marina.

The marina project by The Yamu company – a subsidiary of Campbell Kane – will have berths for 39 boats and will be a part of a hotel and villa development covering 100 rai in Ban Yamu.

Not all residents of Pa Khlok and Ban Yamu see the development of the marina as a boon to the area, however, and the village has become largely divided into two factions on the issue. Following a meeting with the governor and environmental surveyors, the marina project has been put on hold.

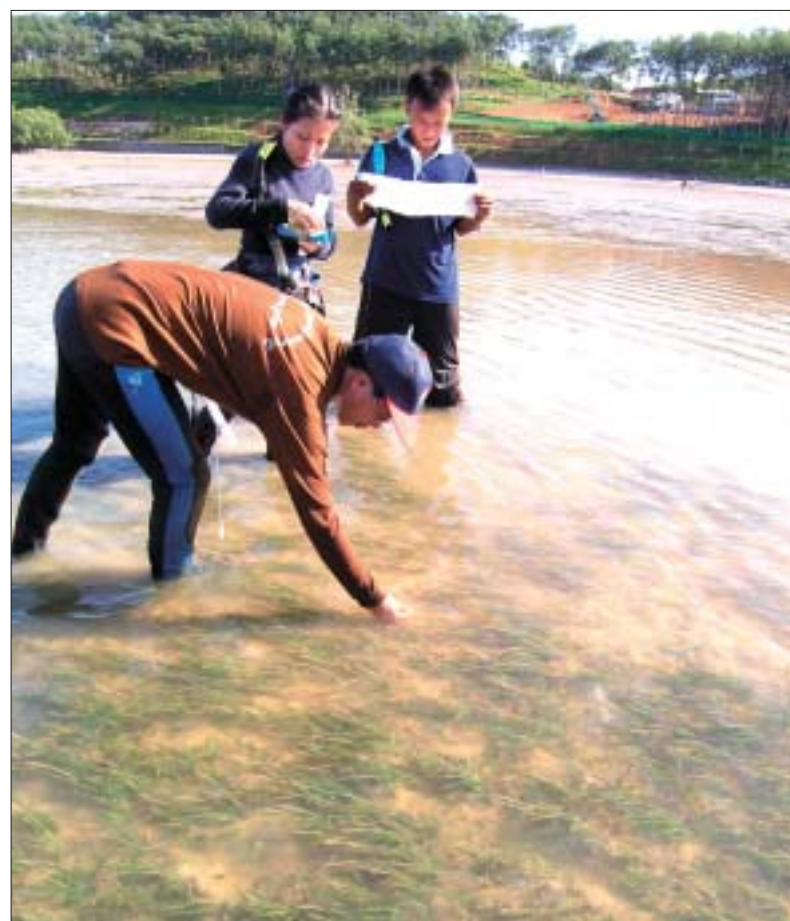
At a meeting with representatives of the two factions of villagers, the company, environmental groups and government officials on June 12, Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit said, "This case will take a long time and it requires a permit first. The best way to go about that is to have The Yamu company, *OrBorTor* (Tambon Administration Organization) Pa Khlock and the involved officers go down to the village and come to an understanding with the leaders of both groups of villagers. It is also important that the company reconsider the environmental effects again closely."

Panya Sampaorat, President of *OrBorTor* Pa Khlok, explained that development trends

# Yamu marina on hold

Controversial plans to build a marina at Yamu Bay have been put on hold until further notice as Governor Niran Kalayanamit calls for all sides in the dispute to reach a consensus agreement over the project.

*Gazette* reporter Sompratch Saowakhon traces the evolution of the face-off at the bay.



ABOVE and LEFT: A team from the Phuket Marine Biological Center checks sea grass at Yamu Bay as part of their Environmental Impact Assessment on building the marina.

in Pa Khlok have a surprisingly short history.

"Within the last three to four years, Pa Khlok has seen about five residential projects, a golf club, a hotel and a factory spring up in the area," he said. "The villagers around here did not have a very good source of income before that. Their quality of life was poor, but now their lives are improving thanks to these businesses."

But whether the villagers really want to risk their heritage and coastal-resources for a more tourism-dependent lifestyle seems to be a matter of disagreement. One small group of resi-

dents remains highly vocal in their opposition.

On April 20, a group of these disgruntled villagers met with Vice-Governor Worapoj Ratthasima, representatives of The Yamu and other local officials to state their objections to the project. They primarily opposed the potential impact on local fisheries and the re-routing of a road that forces them to drive around the project site rather than directly to their houses.

V/Gov Worapoj responded by commanding the Phuket Provincial Land Transportation Office (PPLTO), Phuket Provincial Fisheries Office, *OrBorTor* Pa

Khlok and villagers come to an understanding within 15 days.

The demand did not succeed, however. The May 3 meeting between Vikanda Tongnuekang, a representative from Andaman Environmental Consultants, Yamu company representatives and the group of villagers ended in a stalemate, with no consensus or common ground found.

The very next day, Anusorn Somboon, village chief of Ban Yamu, held a meeting in Ban Pa Khlok with 66 villagers, K. Vikanda and Yamu company representatives. At that gathering, villagers demanded that the pier

project be stopped and the original road to Ban Yamu restored. K. Vikanda released results from an April survey of 200 villagers, showing that 75% of the villagers responded in favor of the project while just 17% were against it.

The 66 residents at the meeting expressed disbelief. They said they had not heard of the survey and were skeptical that so many of their fellow villagers could possibly be in favor of the project.

"Almost all of the villagers oppose the project," said K. Anusorn. "After we met with Gov Niran and he informed us

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# as negotiations continue

about the project, he said he wanted to hear results in seven days. V/Gov Worapoj was put in charge of all public hearing issues related to the project," he said.

Unlike village chief Anusorn, *OrBorTor* President Panya said that the villagers had good reason to support the plan, which he says will contribute further to the *OrBorTor*'s bountiful coffers and create even more jobs.

"Last year the government received 30 million baht in taxes and we used 10 million baht of that to help improve the quality of the villagers' lives. This year we expect to receive 29 million baht and we will continue to promote job growth, support education for the children and support the religious and cultural growth of the village.

"In the future we hope to also develop the Pa Khlok road, the view at Yamu Bay and put in more electric cables for the villagers.

"We still don't have enough electricity and water, but we have supplied electricity to 98% or 99% of the villagers. We will continue to cooperate with Phuket Provincial Irrigation Office to install pipes to bring water to villagers who lack it."

Last March, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation chief Aroon Kerdson told the *Gazette* that Pa Khlok was the part of the island which faced the greatest water supply problems during the dry season.

On May 29, some 200 villagers in favor of the Yamu marina plan showed their support by staging a banner-waving rally outside Phuket Provincial Hall. With representatives of The Yamu company conspicuously present, but claiming to have no influence over events, they pre-



Yamu Bay is home to some of the most extensive seagrass beds in Phuket. Local residents worry that the dredging required for a new pier would bury the seagrass, disturb marine life and threaten the local fishing industry.  
*Image courtesy of The Yamu Company*

sented to Gov Nirana a document stating their support. Provincial Chief Administrative Officer (Palad) Piya Bharatasilpin accepted the document on the governor's behalf and urged the crowd to leave the area.

Group leader Bangsod Densiri, 56, said, "We came here to show our support for the Yamu marina project. Nobody put us up to this. We came by ourselves because we want Yamu to enjoy the benefits of development, just as parts of the island have," he said.

"Phuket is a tourist destination...but the development is happening very slowly at Baan Yamu.

We want the project to give villagers more jobs, more money and a better life," he said.

In yet another tit-for-tat, on June 13 another contingent of villagers, this time only 20-strong, arrived at Phuket Provincial Hall to show their opposition and await the outcome of a hearing about the marina. They held up a banner reading, "Please oppose the disgraceful Yamu marina project, which will destroy lives and resources."

Instead of opposing the project, the officials at the meeting accepted the complaints and said that a decision would have to wait.

Part of the stated reason for the delay is an environmental impact study of the ecological diversity of the area.

According to a survey, Pa Khlok has a total of 1,800 rai of seagrass, including 10 rai in Yamu Bay, near where The Yamu wants to build their pier. The single largest expanse of seagrass in Phuket waters, it has four species of seagrass that support a wide variety of animals, including the dugong, which is highly endangered in Thai waters.

Yamu Bay also has 75 rai of coral, according to a government survey. The survey estimates that while only 25% of that

coral is still alive, the rest provides a habitat for other marine life.

While the pier will not be built directly upon either the coral or the seagrass, its construction will require the dredging of about 30,000 cubic meters of marine clay from the sea floor. Such dredging could cause suspended sediment to settle atop coral and other marine species, potentially damaging or destroying it, the survey group stated.

At a mangrove planting ceremony held June 21, Managing Director of The Yamu Ian Henry said that the damage to the area has already been done. If anything, the project stands to improve environmental conditions in the bay, he maintains.

"I don't think that people realize that marinas create sea life, and the barnacles come in," he said. "Both this and the marina helps to bring sea life back in and increase the fishing as well, so they can come down and fish."

"To be honest I think if you ask people in the village they are happy, they are the ones who come to us with ideas."

"We coexist now, so it's important that they let us know what they want to do."

Despite his enthusiasm, the plan has stalled for now – though it seems likely to proceed after still more negotiations are held. V/Gov Worapoj said the provincial officials are waiting for those negotiations to take place before the permits are issued.

"Both the for and against groups live together here, so we must reach a consensus," he said. "I cannot predict the course of events, but in time the entire community must reach a single conclusion. When it does, the provincial officers will proceed following their advice."





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## Queer News

# It's no yolk! Egg theft ring cracked

NAKHON RATCHASIMA: Accounts of police breaking up rings of drug dealers, armed robbers and teenage motorcycle thieves are a fairly common occurrence in Thailand these days.

Officers from Chalermprakiat District Police had a more unusual task at hand on June 20, however, when they managed to crack a ring of egg thieves who had been terrorizing chicken coops across Khorat.

The gang came unstuck when a security guard at Jakkarach Chicken Farm reported that there were six suspicious characters spotted carrying trays of eggs near the farm fence.

When police arrived, they found the six loading eggs from a hiding place in the woods onto waiting motorbikes. When they saw police, the thieves fled in all directions. Two managed to make a clean escape, but Thanuphon Chotithonglang, 22, Wiwat Riamphit, 22, Aekachai Phengphin, 22, and Arayathai Taophali, 23, were all arrested. Police also seized 1,739 chicken eggs and three motorcycles as evidence.

Thanuphon confessed to police that there were six members of the gang, who divided up duties among themselves. Two would sneak into the farm and move trays of eggs to the fence. Two others would move the eggs to a hiding place in the woods, where the remaining two members would guard them. After they had collected enough eggs, they loaded them onto their motorbikes and made their escape, Thanuphon explained.

Col Phinij Phongphamon, Superintendent of Chalermprakiat District Police Station, said theft cases were increasing due to the poor state of the economy. The suspects in this case worked selling SIM cards for a telecoms company. Some were already married with children, he said.

As some of the gang had previously been egg farm employees, they knew how the operations worked – and how best to exploit them.

After the thefts, the gang would divide up the eggs. Some were eaten, the rest sold at discount rates in nearby villages, Col Phinij said.

They had targeted a number of farms in Chalermprakiat and Jakkarach districts, he added.

The four were charged with trespass and theft. Police are still hunting for their two accomplices.

Police said that they would return the eggs to the farm rather than keep them as evidence – as they were worried about them going rotten while the legal system processed the case.

Source: Kom Chad Luek

## STAMPS

On July 2 Thailand Post will launch a series of four new special-edition stamps, each featuring an image of a famous Thai temple. The set will be Thailand Post's second stamp series featuring temples.

The temples featured are all located in the Bangkok area and are of historical significance: Wat Rajarorasaram, Wat Rajapradit Sathitmahasimaram, Wat Rajabopit Sathitmahasimaram and Wat Suthatthepwararam.

The stamps have a face value of five baht each and measure 45 millimeters by 28mm.

Only one million of each set will be produced. These will be available at

30 baht per set, including an attractive first-day-cover envelope.



If you're going to dump garbage by the road, at least do it with a sense of humor, like the cheeky chaps who have been dropping their unwanted and unmentionable bits and pieces next to the road on Kamala Hill.

The warning sign, erected by Kamala Tambon Administrative Organization states, "Do not leave trash here. Offenders will be fined 2,000 baht. If you see [anyone dumping here] call 076-385640-3." Our guess is no one saw them...

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# 'Voluntourism' days are over

**K**hao Lak is having a very different rainy season this year, since most volunteers and tsunami-help organizations have packed their bags for good. Several shophouses that had been rented out to such organizations are now vacant.

While volunteers had filled restaurants and local pubs during past low season evenings, there is now a vacuum that might financially hurt several Khao Lak-based businesses. While there are more low season tourists around this year, the "voluntourism" days are definitely over for Khao Lak.

Not everyone is sad about this fact. Too many times I have overheard local expats complaining about the (in their eyes) "useless" volunteers who, "instead of inspiring locals to take matters in their own hands, went ahead sweating it out building houses for tsunami victims, while the 'poor victims' sat next to the construction site playing cards and having a good time over a bottle of *lao kao*."

A never-ending story is the one about too many longtail boats being built by volunteers to help tsunami-affected fishermen. Many of these boats were sold by locals shortly after receiving them to make a quick buck. Even today donated longtail boats that have never been in the water can be found rotting away alongside Khao Lak's roads.

It is obvious that very few help organizations were able to provide useful long-term support to proverbially "teach the man to fish" and equip locals with the skills and knowledge to land long-term, well-paid jobs to support their families.

One of these very rare useful organizations is the Eco Tourism Training Center (ETC), located on Bang Niang Beach, which is managed by Reid Ridgway. Here, locals are trained in diving skills up to the level of dive master, while enhancing their gener-



**MONEY FUN:** A small step for the SCB, but a big step for Khao Lak. Despite rain on the premier opening Monday, it was all smiles in the new SCB branch. Inset: the exterior of the new branch.



**ANDAMAN COASTING**  
By Franky Gun

al understanding of nature protection and awareness. All former ETC students have found well-paid jobs in Thailand's dive industry and four of them have

become certified scuba diving instructors.

The best thing is that ETC's worldwide media coverage has brought hundreds of tourists interested in the project to Khao Lak, making the center a win-win project for everyone in Khao Lak. Since the ETC depends on student sponsorships, the center constantly needs new donors, I encourage you to find more information about the project at [www.etcth.org](http://www.etcth.org)

Build me up. While the resurrection of Khao Lak has been hailed a successful recovery story, the region is busy following up on

that promise. The reconstruction of the Khao Lak Laguna resort, which will open for business this year, is an important step forward as it is the first big upmarket resort visitors will see on their left-hand side when entering central Khao Lak as they arrive from Phuket International Airport.

Before the reconstruction started, the area where the Khao Lak Laguna resort once stood was an open expanse of plain red

dirt – not an inviting sight for first-time travelers to Khao Lak. Now this gash has been restored and will provide 150 rooms towards Khao Lak's goal of 5,000 rooms open for the coming high season.

Yet another gap on Nang Thong Beach has been filled by the reconstruction of the Nang Thong Bay Resort II, which will also open its doors this coming November.

The construction of a new shopping complex has started opposite the Nang Thong supermarket. The billboard shows a two-story glass palace with a futuristic design. While the location of the Nang Thong Park Plaza is perfect for business, the remaining question is whether shop rental prices will be reasonable or not.

Banking on it. Another big step forward for Khao Lak can be added to the ongoing success story: on June 25 a shiny, new purple Siam Commercial Bank branch opened in central Khao Lak, next to the Sub Aqua dive shop on the right-hand side of Petchkasem Rd, when driving towards Bang Niang Beach.

The new SCB branch occupies two shophouses and, in combination with their already existing mini-branch at Khao Lak's southern end, makes SCB the largest operating bank in Khao Lak, surpassing previous leader Bank of Ayudhya.

*Franky Gun is an expat writer, artist, designer, scuba diver and businessman who left Germany in 1991 to live in Thailand. He moved to Khao Lak in 2001 and still calls Khao Lak home. Franky can be contacted via email to: [avalon@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:avalon@loxinfo.co.th)*

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# Bombing kills district chief

A powerful roadside bomb in Pattani killed three officials, including a district chief and a high-ranking security officer on June 19.

Mai Kaen District Chief Chayaphat Raksoyos, Col Surasak Phosutha from the Internal Security Operations Command (Isoc) and Ahama Laharn, a Mai Kaen defense volunteer, were traveling in the same pickup truck when a 15-kilogram bomb exploded on the roadside, killing them instantly.

Three other officials were injured in the blast.

Police said the bomb was set off by an electrical wire that extended into a wooded area off the paved road.

The officials were returning from Tambon Lohsaithong, where insurgents had set fire to an elementary school the night before.

The same day in Yala's Yaha district, traveling vendor Marohsatee Loniji, 36, was shot dead while his wife, Yuwahe, also 36, was seriously injured in an attack by suspected insurgents.

A day earlier, Mahyeng Cheteh, 56, was shot dead by gunmen using AK47s as he returned home from evening prayer at a mosque in Tambon Kawa in Narathiwat's Sungai Padi district.

On June 22 three 14-year-old boys were killed and about 10 other people injured in an attack on a teashop in Yala.

Police said suspected insurgents opened fire on the teashop in Baan Thamnob Village Bannang Sata district about 9:10 pm.

The three people killed were identified as Rusalan Ruding, Marolima Senglaroh and Imrol Sengsoh.

Five schools in Songkhla's Saba Yoi district and one school



Mai Kaen District Chief Chayaphat Raksoyos, Col Surasak Phosutha from the Internal Security Operations Command (Isoc) and Mai Kaen defense volunteer Ahama Laharn were killed when their pickup truck was blasted by a roadside bomb in Pattani June 19.

in Yala were also victims of arson attacks that day. Insurgents also detonated a bomb, destroying two power poles on the Yala-Bannang Sata road in Muang district.

**School strife:** More than 500 parents and students of a school in Nakhon Sri Thammarat marched in protest June 20 against the school director's order to have each student buy at least one Jatukham Ramathep amulet produced on behalf of the school.

The rally began at 7 am with protesters verbally attacking Seri

Sripakphraek, director of Phra Phrome Phitthayanusorn School, through loudspeakers.

They accused him of questionable ethics and demanded his resignation.

The protest ended when K. Seri arrived and said that he would apply for a school transfer.

The parents said that K. Seri and his wife had ordered the production of 500 amulets using the name of the school without permission from the parents-teachers' association.

They said his order to make each of the 500 students buy an amulet at 599 baht was very inappropriate.

A student said K. Seri had also ordered each student in the upper high-school classes to sell 50 certificates for regular amulets, and another 50 certificates for a special Jatukham Ramathep edition that would soon be produced at 1,499 baht in return for a 20% sales commission.

Parents of those in the high-school classes initially complied with the order, given June 15, but later changed their minds and mobilized to remove K. Seri.

K. Seri has been trans-

ferred to a temporary post at a regional education office in the province.

At the request of the parents, the school's board agreed to stop producing the amulets using the school's name and replaced some of the teachers who were close to K. Seri and involved in the production of the amulets.

**Nasty novice:** A thirteen-year-old novice monk has been arrested for the June 18 murder of an 11-year-old boy during a robbery at a shop in Phatthalung province.

"Nui" (not his real name) was arrested June 21 by Phatthalung Muang District Police in his native Yala Province as he was trying to re-ordain as a novice monk at a temple in Yala City.

According to police, Nui then confessed to having stabbed to death Natthawon Temdee in the grocery store owned by the victim's grandmother.

Nui also confessed to stealing 5,000 baht in cash and a Yamaha Mio motorcycle from the store. He is now being held at Phatthalung Juvenile Observation and Protection Center.

Natthawon's body was found in the shop's toilet, he had been stabbed more than 10 times. Next to the body police found a monk's robe and a 40-centimeter-long Sparta knife.

Nui reportedly told police that he had originally intended to rob the store with two friends, but they had second thoughts and backed out leaving him to commit the crime alone.

**Anonymous ashes:** Police in Phatthalung are trying to identify the body of a man found burned beyond recognition near an irrigation canal June 17.

At the scene, police led by Lt Col Suranan Chopngam found a pile of ashes containing human remains. Next to the ashes police collected four 9mm bullet cases, a pair of flip flops and a scorched wrist watch.

The remains were taken for examination at Phatthalung Hospital. Doctors said that they were likely to be from a 35- to 40-year-old man between 165 and 170 centimeters tall.

Witnesses reported seeing a pickup pull up at the scene followed by the sound of four gunshots. They then saw flames rise up and the pickup speeding away.

Police say they believe there were at least two killers and they are likely to have tricked the victim into getting into the truck with them before driving him to a remote spot to kill him and dispose of the evidence.

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

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**T**he National Legislative Assembly (NLA) has passed a bill that removes any loopholes for a man or a woman to escape being charged with rape.

When the draft law is enacted, a woman can face rape charges and a husband can be punished for sexually violating his wife.

Current law defines a rapist as "a person who rapes a woman who is not his wife," thus tacitly granting impunity to a husband who rapes his wife.

In the bill, the definition of rape has a broader scope and includes female offenders. Many NLA members insisted there was evidence that a female could rape a male. The definition is also broad enough to convict homosexual rapists.

Under current laws, no female defendant can appear before the courts to face rape charges.

Natee Teerarojjanapongs, director of the Thai Political Gay Group, said many gay men were raped by women known as "fag hags".

The term, which originated in the US, refers to women who associate mostly or exclusively with gay men either because they like their company or are sexually attracted to gay men.

"After the rape takes place, these women demand that the gay men marry them to show responsibility. Some gay men agree to the demand," he said.

The bill has prescribed a jail term of up to 20 years in prison and a maximum fine of 40,000 baht for a convicted rapist.

Debit by degree: A total of 2.67 billion baht owed by students to the Income Contingency Loan (ICL) fund has not been paid, fund manager Thittima Wichairat said.

K. Thittima called on the 1.8 million students involved to make an effort to repay their loans before July 5. If they can not, they should contact ICL offices or Krung Thai Bank, which granted the loans, to discuss debt leniency plans.

A total of 2.7 million students have obtained around 230 billion baht in loans from ICL since its establishment in 1996. Overdue payments will be subject to a 12% fine for those that are a year late, and 18% for two years late.

Suwimol Jiraphatsakul, a senior KTB official, urged ICL debtors to keep in constant contact with the bank to benefit from its leniency options rather than face lawsuits.

Perilous pineapple patrol: A wild elephant from the Kui Buri National Park in Prachuap Khiri Khan attacked and severely injured a farmer guarding a pineapple orchard.

Pracha Kasemsukpaisan, 44, sustained broken ribs and a broken pelvis, but is recovering following surgery. He managed to crawl 500 meters to make a cell-phone call to his brother for help after the attack.

# NLA closes loopholes in law on rape



**TIE ONE ON: A group calling themselves the 'Love Thailand - Don't Quarrel Network' recently hit the streets of Bangkok distributing yellow ribbons. They encouraged those they passed by to display the ribbons to show their solidarity in hoping for a return to peace and harmony in Thai society.**

K. Pracha said he was at a makeshift hut guarding his 16-rai pineapple orchard in Tambon Hat Kham the night of June 18 when he heard a noise and discovered a big elephant foraging. He shone a spotlight at the elephant and drove it away.

He was patrolling the orchard again at 5 am the next day when the same elephant suddenly charged him and stomped his torso and pelvis. After the elephant retreated, K. Pracha struggled for two hours to reach his hut to call his brother.

It's official: After three years, a Karen man acquitted in 2004 of shooting up a school bus in Ratchaburi has won his fight for Thai citizenship.

Following evidence checks and witness interviews, Kaeng Krachan District Chief Chuchat Petchprathumkamol on June 19 added Zaw Bi's name to the household registration of Bang Klob villager Niran Pongthep, with whom he built a shared home.

This automatically granted

Thai citizenship to Zaw Bi, who was born on Thai soil to a Thai mother but had no documentary evidence to prove it.

Authorities would consider granting citizenship for his wife and children later on, the clerk said.

Zaw Bi became well-known after he was acquitted in March 2004 of controversial murder charges over the shooting of a school bus at Ratchaburi in 2002.

Even parents of the victims had said he was innocent and was being used as a scapegoat by police.

Dangling dolls: Though some motorists feel the authorities would do better to focus on other traffic violations, the Chiang Mai Transport Office will crack down on the recent trend of drivers hanging cute dolls underneath vehicles by fining offenders up to 2,000 baht, effective July 1.

Chiang Mai Transport Chief Chanchai Kilapaeng said that hanging dolls underneath vehicles - done following the

Japanese belief that any evil spirits on the road will possess the dolls instead of harming the drivers - might cause road accidents and was against the law.

Chiang Mai motorist Natthan Wongleukiart, 24, urged the authority to do something more productive, such as cracking down on cars playing loud music and drivers using mobile phones or dodging vehicle tax.

Rapist arrested: Police in Chiang Mai on June 24 arrested an electrician for raping and robbing a Japanese woman in her home in April.

Hang Dong police also ar-

rested Angkhana Jaikhajad, the wife of suspected rapist Suthas, on a charge of knowingly possessing valuables stolen from the unnamed rape victim. The crime took place late at night at the victim's home on April 22.

Valuables worth 92,000 baht and a motorcycle were stolen.

Police said Suthas had confessed to the crimes and that the 25-year-old, also wanted on previous charges of theft and robbery, had recently been released from prison on a drug-related conviction.

Angkhana confessed to illegally possessing the valuables but said she knew nothing about the robbery and the rape.

Crackdown looms: Advertising billboards, placards and banners nationwide will be strictly regulated to ensure efficient consumer-protection measures and provocation-free content, PM's Office Minister Khunying Dhivadee Meksaewon said on June 22.

Provincial authorities and the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) will soon coordinate with the Office of the Consumer Protection Board (OCPB) to work out measures to impose strict regulations on advertisers.

A large percentage of billboards erected alongside inter-province roads and city streets had obstructed views, causing a risk of accidents.

Many signboards also carry sexually oriented material, which is potentially against the law.

The measures will be jointly regulated by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (Onep) within the next six months.

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



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# REVVIN' AROUND TOWN

By Sompratch Saowakhon

After 30 years of serving Bangkok bike lovers, renowned big bike specialist Teera Motorcycles has opened in Phuket.

Rawat "Alex" Piyanantapat, manager of Teera Motorcycles and son of the business founder, K. Teera, explained, "My father started the business nearly 30 years ago and it has remained a family business ever since. We have put forth total dedication to our craft since we started and this has allowed us to build a loyal customer base."

K. Alex shares his father's lifelong passion for big bikes. "I was born to ride big bikes," he said. "When I was a kid I helped my father in the workshop, and he taught me everything about looking after big bikes – how to care for and respect them."

"When we opened the shop here six months ago, we knew we would face challenges just like any other new business but we were confident that our name recognition would ease the transition," Alex said.

"We chose this location because of its accessibility. The shop can be traveled to quite easily from all parts of the island and allows our customers to avoid the tourist areas that get congested during high season."

"It was not our goal to open a shop in a busy area such as Patong. We aim to provide efficient service to our buyers and not to serve as a shopfront for sightseers."

"Perhaps a bike shop that is a startup company would be well-suited to choose such a location, as it would provide high visibility, but our deep roots in the Thai market have allowed us to



Rawat 'Alex' Piyanantapat, Manager of Teera Motorcycles, with a Kawasaki ZX-10R at the new Phuket shop on the bypass road. After 30 years of success in Bangkok, K. Alex and his father K. Teera decided it was time to roll into Phuket.

move away from such a locale and focus solely on meeting the needs of our customers," he added.

"Our customer base here in Phuket is roughly 80% foreign-

ers who have bought bikes in the past and about 20% Thais and first-time foreign buyers, as well as, customers who have placed orders through the Internet."

"This is our second shop and we chose Phuket to serve this established market. Many of our customers have bought property here and, in the past, we have received requests for us to open a shop here. Now, we can provide them with the service they want

at a location that is much more convenient for them," he said.

Teera Motorcycles stocks three styles of bikes: sports, cruisers and choppers. Engine sizes range from 250cc to 2,000cc and the prices start at 50,000 baht and extend up to one million baht.

The shop carries only Japanese models, including makes such as Kawasaki, Suzuki and Honda.

The main branch in Bangkok has more than 70 motorcycles in its inventory, though the Phuket branch currently has only about 30 bikes in stock.

Due to arrive after this interview, is the shop's first Kawasaki ZX-14, which its makers claim is the world's most powerful production motorcycle. The ZX-14 will go sale at about 700,000 baht, said K. Alex.

Already in stock is the ZX-14's baby brother, the ZX-10R resplendent in all black and complete with a price tag of 550,000 baht.

K. Alex said the shop prefers to wait and understand the specific requests from its customer base before bringing in more cycles. "If we already have the model desired in stock in Bangkok, we can have it delivered, and if it is new to market then we can import it for you."

"If it is a limited-edition, fully-restored model from the 1930s, then we can do our best to meet your needs, but it may take some time," said K. Alex.

The shop also imports brand-name parts and accessories, so it can supply the necessary parts to keep your bike running strong or the custom stylings to make your hog stand out from the others.

Teera's efficiency in meeting customers' orders is aided by the respect it shows to its competitors and the shop's willingness to assist them when needed. K. Alex said that his shop can fulfill a competitor's request if the product is in stock. They sell it to them at cost and it allows them to obtain their goods immediately instead of having to wait for a shipment to arrive.

Likewise, when Teera Motorcycles needs a part, the favor is usually returned. This style of business has been a trait of the company since its inception and K. Alex explained that it is just the nature of their family to act this way.

"The Phuket shop has been opened by myself and two of my brothers. We have all relocated here from Bangkok to see that the operation will run smoothly. We feel that it will take at least one year to fully assess the market and understand the areas we need to develop more strongly."

"When we have a stronghold on the business, we would like to bring in a new manager from the Phuket area and our experience of having lived here until that point will allow us to effectively communicate our vision during the transitional phase," K. Alex explained.

Teera Motorcycle. 107/39-40 Chalermprakit Rama IX Rd, Rassada, Phuket. Contact Alex at Tel: 086-4704978. Fax: 076-526078. Email: rawat@TPmotorcycle.com Website: www.tpmotorcycle.com

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# Quick, call the doctor!

Does any of the following sound familiar? He feels shivery, sweaty and weak. His body aches all over. His nose is streaming, his head thumping, and he really shouldn't go to work, but...

Yep, my partner has a cold. And it doesn't really matter at what time of year this happens, it is highly likely as a result that the other members of the family will also acquire runny noses.

But none of ours will be nearly as bad as his. Evidence of this life-threatening condition is strewn all over the house – scrunched up used tissues, packets of pills and the odd half lime left over from his lime/honey/hot water concoction.

In case anyone fails to appreciate his suffering, he wears a flimsy dressing gown all day and insists on everyone evacuating the bathroom so that he can stew in the bath.

When he finally manages to speak, it's in a cartoon "at death's door" kind of way, as if he has shut down the back of his throat.

What is it with men and their tendency to ham up minor ailments?

Most males would have it that this is a wild generalization – and an utterly sexist one to boot. Everyone has his or her own pain threshold and gender doesn't have anything to do with it, right?

My friend Sarah would disagree totally. Her partner David has a shoulder problem, probably caused by clutching the phone between his shoulder and ear at work.

"I'm sure that the pain is genuine," Sarah says, "but what gets to me is the fact that he simply refuses to see the doctor or an osteopath. He just mooches about the house with this pained-eyebrow expression."

In an effort to stop the moaning, Sarah asked an aromatherapist friend to come around and give him a massage.

"My friend told him she thought he might have some slipped vertebrae. Was he upset? Hardly. David was simply delighted to discover that something else was wrong with him."

Another friend, Lucy, reports that her partner Tony never has normal complaints such as tiredness or food poisoning – he has to have chronic fatigue syndrome or gastroenteritis.

"One time he was convinced that he had Weil's disease. He'd read about it in the paper, and all the symptoms were there."

Lucy pointed out that Weil's is usually contracted by coming into contact with rat urine, for example from swimming in ponds or canals. And Tony hadn't been anywhere near stagnant water. Maybe he was just taking the piss?



"He still managed to convince his doctor that he had it, and spent three days in the infectious diseases hospital in north London. When I visited him I had to wear a surgical mask. It turned out to be 'flu.'"

But while the menfolk glo-

ry in their partner's undivided care and attention when they are feeling lousy, I have learned not to expect the same level of "Tender Loving Care" should I – gasp! – dare to feel unwell.

Me: "I've got a pounding headache."

## AMBROSIA'S

ambrosia@phuketgazette.net



## SECRETS

Him: "Have you written your column yet?"

When I showed him the gravel embedded in my knee – an injury caused by falling over while I was out for a run one night – he actually yawned.

I'm sure that when I had chickenpox, and was walking around sporting 900 unsightly scabs, he deliberately speared his hand while adjusting his car seat, causing an ant-sized injury which "gushed blood" during his 40-minute drive to work. Apparently he even nearly stained his shirt.

My friend Jo's partner has had three full body scans, even though no one has ever discovered anything remotely wrong with him.

After giving birth to their daughter, Jo had a whole load of stitches and was in such pain that she was offered a private room at the hospital.

When the consultant popped

his head around the door and asked, "Are you feeling more comfortable now?" it was her partner who weakly responded with, "Yes, I'm much better, thanks."

All most of us want when we are feeling poorly is to have our illness acknowledged. That is why, perhaps, my partner is sniffing and coughing in bed – as if he's afraid I will forget he's there. The next time that weak voice comes from the bedroom, asking for a glass of water and something to read, I try to be a bit more sympathetic.

What, I ask him, made him feel better when he was sick as a child back in cold old England? Chicken soup?

He tells me that his mother would make him boiled eggs with plain toast soldiers and a concoction called switched eggs – raw eggs, milk, sugar and a shot of brandy or sherry swizzled together in a glass. And it tasted lovely. He would lie on the sofa in front of a roaring fire, reading comics or watching TV.

"Being ill," he says gleefully, forgetting his cold for a moment, "was brilliant."

Let's hope he takes more vitamin C next year.

*Ambrosia Sakkadas, a UK-born Greek Cypriot and graduate of Central St Martins College of Art & Design in London, is an artist, designer and newspaper columnist. Her first novel, 'Greek Girls Don't Cry', is available from amazon.com*

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Billie Holiday was the first great jazz vocalist and everyone who sings jazz stands on the foundation she built. Critics often like



# FROM DENMARK



The internationally-acclaimed, Danish-native Katrine Madsen will bring a touch of Scandinavian jazz flavor with her when she makes her first appearance in Phuket at the Beach Club at Katathani Phuket Beach Resort on July 1.

quently toured in Asia but this is my first time in Thailand. Hitman, a Bangkok-based record label, is behind everything and they are doing a wonderful job. I expect it is going to be a great experience.

## What can we expect the from the performance?

I look forward to presenting both my music and my stellar musicians to the Thai audience.

My backing band is the Jesper Bodilsen Trio which consists of Bodilsen on upright bass, Stefano Bollani on piano and Morten Lund on drums. Together we will take you on a musical journey.

## What songs will you be performing?

I will be showcasing songs from my two latest albums, *Supernatural Love* and *Close To You*, in addition to some new material we have written. "Can't Buy Me Love" and "August Roses" will definitely be performed at the concert.

## Do you have a message that you wish to share with your audience?

Hello to all my fans in Thailand from both myself and my band.

We are excited and looking forward to performing in Thailand and experiencing your culture for the first time.

Let's enjoy the company of each other and make the event an unforgettable one.

*Tickets for the concert, if they have not sold out by the time this is published, may be bought for 1,000 baht from the offices of the Phuket Gazette or from the Katathani Hotel.*

to compare and I have been compared to other vocalists like Carmen McRae, Sarah Vaughan,

Diane Krall and Shirley Horn. In my opinion, these vocalists possess quite different styles.

Perhaps I am a mix of these various styles and fall somewhere in between.

## What are you feelings about performing in Phuket?

I am thrilled! I have fre-

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# This week



**HELPING OUT:** Above, Thai supermodel and actress Khemanit 'Pancake' Jamikorn (center) helps Chevrolet dealer Kriengsak Jarunonwiwat (right) present this year's new models at Central Festival Phuket.

**ON TOUR:** Right, Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit and Phuket Vocational College students and teachers welcome students and faculty from the Robert Schuman School in Baden-Baden, Germany, during their recent visit to Phuket.



**FARAWAY FAN:** (From left) PGTV News Anchor Able Wanamakok, PGTV Editor Nattamon Meesin and Phuket Gazette General Manager Niladaa 'Jib' Mastanawattanukul show off gifts from visiting PGTV fan Jim Lauderdale from Hawaii.



**GETTING TO KNOW YOU:** British International School students belt out a tune to entertain students from Satree Phuket School, Phuket Wittayalai School, Chalermprakiat Somdej Phra Srinakarin Phuket School and Kathu Wittaya School during the Asean School Tours Project program to raise student awareness of Asean and its goals.



**ANYONG HASEYO:** Korea tourism notables (from left) Byungil Yeom, general manager of Korean Air Admin & Passenger Sales in Bangkok; Sung-Ghil Kang, director of Korea Tourism Organization in Bangkok; Rangsiman Sudhibutr, executive director & GM of Sun Moon Tours & Travel in Bangkok; and Baek Jowgbum, station manager of Korea Air at Phuket International Airport gather for Seminar Korea 2007 to promote Thai tourism to Korea.



**SELAMAT DATANG:** Tourism Malaysia (Phuket Office) Marketing Executive Siwalai Rodnakkared (3rd from left) leads a group of Phuket media representatives on a tour of the Istana Negara King's Palace in Kuala Lumpur to help familiarize them with Malaysia as a tourist destination.

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# FASHION CRIMES REVISITED

Readers may recall my claim to be a fashion guru (see "Accessory to a Crime of Fashion", February 10 *Gazette*). That claim has since been threatened.

A recent article presented new fashion mandates for men who want to be "with it" in today's constantly changing world. First came a *diktat* that nose hairs must be trimmed.

I breathed a sigh of relief through my carefully trimmed nose hairs. For years I've been sticking a small pair of scissors up into my nostrils and clipping the hairs which grow there in luxuriant profusion. Usually I stab myself in the process.

I have often thought that I should let my nose hairs grow and braid them. I could even dye them. That would be a fashion statement worth noting. But now I know.

Braided nose hairs—even dyed ones—are *verboten*, so I must continue stabbing myself in the nostrils with those little scissors.

Next came a dictum that chilled my blood: no flip-flops, ratty shoes or backpacks.

But a little thinking convinced me that this prohibition doesn't apply to me. I don't wear flip-flops or ratty shoes. I wear rubber shower sandals with a strap over the instep. They aren't actual flip-flops, and they don't qualify as ratty shoes either. So I escape censure on that issue.

Same with backpacks. I don't carry a backpack, except when I'm traveling. I carry a nerd bag, which is a shoulderbag containing my nerd necessities.

I gather that carrying a nerd bag has become fashionable for men nowadays—only they don't call it a nerd bag. They call it a man bag. But let's face it, guys: if you carry any kind of bag, you're a nerd. So "nerd bag" is the right name. I'm glad that the nerd bag has won the approval of the fashion police.

Next came five commandments which I finessed with skilled ease:

1. "It's not enough to buy a decent suit. Take it to a tailor so the suit fits your body." A suit! Ha. Only a moron, or a mindless ro-

botic slave to the corporate monoculture, would wear a suit in Thailand's horrendous heat. I've been here 20 years and I've never owned a suit. So this stricture doesn't apply.

2. "Learn to cook one edible meal and make one decent drink." Huh? For what? My neighborhood in Bangkok hosts an abundance, nay, a superfluity, of fine sidewalk restaurants and stalls, all of which serve superb food and drinks. In the unlikely event that

I should wish to invite a lady friend for dinner, I would whisk her off to a sidewalk Isarn restaurant for a delicious meal of beer and *som-tam*. Depending on how much beer we drank, it would probably cost me under 100 baht. So stricture #2 does not apply.

3. "Your socks — they match your pants, not your shoes." Socks? Who wears socks? To wear socks with shower sandals would be *tres gauche*, *n'est-ce pas*? The author of the



**TSOWNdings**  
By S. TSOW

article should be scolded for his utter absence of class.

4. "Within 10 minutes of setting foot in your place, a woman will always use the bathroom. Wipe yours down before she arrives." No woman with a functioning brain would ever set foot in my place, which I affectionately refer to as my sty. If she did, she sure wouldn't want to use the bathroom. Should she feel the need for such an amenity, I would gallantly point her outside to a discreet corner in the alley.

5. "Carry a handkerchief every day. Use it when you sneeze or blow your nose."

Now, here's an area where I really shine. I do carry a handkerchief, and whenever I sneeze or blow my nose, I do so into it, usually loudly and violently, and often at the table after biting into an excess of mouse-turd chillies.

People dining with me have been known to wrinkle their noses, retch and flee to the bathroom when I proudly wrap the ensuing excretions up in my handkerchief and carefully put it back in my pocket. That's what you do with a handkerchief, so it must be OK.

Having survived this assault, I'm confident that my status as a fashion guru remains secure. I'm just waiting for the plaudits from the masses.

You can send your plaudits to fashion guru S. Tsow, a.k.a. "Mr. Trendy," at [stsow@yahoo.com](mailto:stsow@yahoo.com)

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# BUMMIN' AROUND

By Janyaporn Morel

**G**irls, what are you gonna take when you go to the beach? Phuket residents Ann-Sofie Stendahl and her business partner Susanne Nilsson know it's not just a matter of picking out the right bikini.

They have created Andaman Beach Wear Design to launch a new women's beach fashion brand, Dharma Bum, offering complete ensembles of beach fashion items.

"Our idea is to have the total concept of everything a woman needs on and around the beach. This doesn't mean just a bikini, it means some necklaces to wear while on the beach and something on her head, like a hat," says Ann-Sofie.

"You might need some sandals and a lovely sarong, too. It also means what you wear in the evening when you go to a restaurant; you'll need to have a nice dress," she adds.

"The brand name Dharma Bum comes from the contradiction of trying to be a better person and doing good things, which is the meaning of dharma, while doing absolutely nothing, like a bum, hanging out on a beach all day eating pineapple.

"There is a sense of spiritual adventure and alternative punk to the name. The name stands for a philosophy: it's okay to look good while doing nothing all day, as long as your thoughts are to be a better person," Ann-Sofie explains.

Dharma Bum offers a collection of silk and cotton dresses and blouses, beach bags made from water hyacinth and leather, leather shoulder bags and necklaces, as well as bracelets and rings fashioned from silver, "power" stones and leather and cotton pieces.



ton pieces.

Ann-Sofie brings fashion sense with her from her experience as a costume designer in the

movie industry in Sweden and Spain and as a designer and buyer for international company H&M Co Ltd, which has shops all over Europe as well as in the US and Hong Kong.

"We designed everything ourselves with a unique style. Our collection is 'hippie chic' and

'classic trendy'. We are aiming for women between 26 and 60 years old who are fashion-aware without being slaves to an ever-changing fashion carousel.

"They are also aware of quality and appreciate the finer details," Ann-Sofie says.

"Everyone wants to do good

**DHARMA BUMS:**  
Ann-Sofie and Susanne show off a couple of their creations.

things, and we are trying to build a brand from the beginning and we want to grow, but meanwhile we are also trying to support our suppliers.

"Our primary suppliers are people in Phuket and some are from Northern Thailand," she explains. "We try to help them have better lives by having regular orders from us.

"As a small company, we can't solve the world's problems but we can help the people who make our clothes and accessories. By choosing the right small local producers, we can make a big difference in a few people's lives," she says.

Dharma Bum's pre-launch was held recently to show its concept to people and the shop is expected to open in early October at the Ayara Surin project in Cherng Talay.

Dharma Bum clothing includes traditional details that have been reincarnated from a previous life and although pricing is above the norm for local market products, it is still reasonable, says Ann-Sofie.

"Our garments have been designed to last a lifetime, but if a customer gets tired of wearing them, we ask them to send them back. After all, even a T-shirt deserves eternal life," she adds.

For more information, call Ann-Sofie Stendahl or Susanne Nilsson of Andaman Beach Wear Design Co Ltd at 089-9710031 or 084-8529522.

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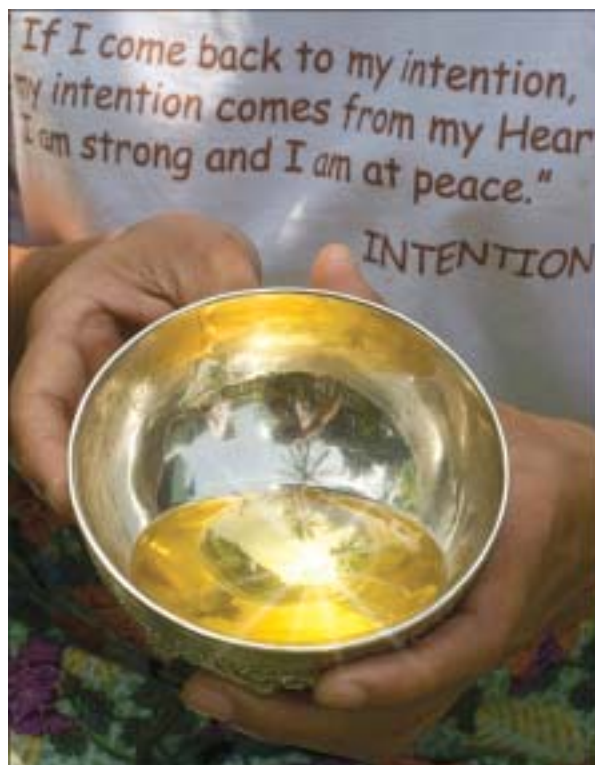


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Puzzle rings (above) are perennially popular, while a big chunky emerald (below) can make others green with envy.



More and more men on Phuket are opting to accessorize with jewelry, and not with gauche chunks of gold, but with stylish rings and cufflinks made by global fashion houses. Beyond choosing base metals, Phuket's men are also sporting items set with precious stones. Here, the *Gazette's* Natcha Yuttaworawit takes a look at what's behind Phuket's men's jewels and investigates what constitutes a matter of taste.

# JEWELRY FOR GENTLEMEN

**D**iamonds have long been considered a girl's best friend, but in recent years men have been eager to make that friendship a mutual one. The male population on Phuket is no longer pigeonholed into simply buying jewelry for their significant other; they are now seeking out fine selections for their own keep-sake.

However, men who adorn only themselves with precious gems and stones will likely live in a lavish solitude, so be sure to keep your female companions in mind and remain altruistic when you go on your shopping spree.

Addy Khong Kheaw, the assistant sales manager of V. Multi Gems International Co Ltd, said, "More men are now wearing jewelry as a way to accessorize both their casual attire and their business attire. The tastes range from those who like to add a subtle touch to their outfits to those who opt for a more luxurious line of wear that readily identifies them as a high-class individual.

"Common selections from individuals include their birthstones, such as sapphires for September, which carry a meaning of wisdom, rubies for July which relate to a feeling of contentment, emeralds for May intended to bring about successful relationships and a variety of other gemstones with specific meanings for the other months."

Popular choices for the business-class set include brands such as Bulgari and Versace, which offer a refined, elegant

style while remaining suitable for the workplace. These designs are largely dependent upon the individual, but a common style is a gold ring that features a small diamond stud mounted on it in a fashion similar to that of an engagement ring.

The taste for businessmen is quite different from that of teenagers who wear jewelry. The difference lies in the quality of their purchases, which takes into account both the value and the brand of a piece.

The 30- to 40-year-old population sees their jewelry as both a reflection of their personal style and an investment into a collection of lasting pieces. Teenagers often choose jewelry based on availability and selections are more suited to their budget.

K. Addy said that Asian men tend to buy 24-karat platinum necklaces while European men prefer 18-karat gold necklaces. Cufflinks and bracelets are also favorites of both groups and each can offer an understated accent to your outfit.

A vast wealth of jewelry styles are available for choosing and can be customized to suit personal tastes. So men, don't be afraid to shine beyond the preconception that limits accessorizing to the female population.

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# The devolution of Man

It's always difficult to generalize. Actually, it's extremely easy to generalize, that's why there's so much of it going on and why, generally speaking, most of it is so wrong. But generally it seems that Phuket is witnessing the exciting gestation of several new species of men.

There have traditionally been two main genders going about their business on this blessed planet. One gender is a sensible, grown-up sort of being, who reproduces, tends to be kind and loving, likes to settle down, make a home and adores Karen Carpenter. The other is male.

Males have it hard, because no one makes it clear to them what they are here for. They do have a tangential relationship to the glorious process of continuing and evolving our species, and some of them can even be inveigled into home-making for short periods of time. But after a while, they always get bored and go off and invade Austria or something – in fact, anything to get out of doing the dishes.

Males also tend to get their hands on as many females as they possibly can, unless of course they happen to be gay, in which case they do exactly the same thing, but with lots of other males.

There have been endless theories as to why this should be so. The main one holding sway at the moment is that it's just men's fault. Males are genetically pre-programmed to spread their seed, while females are programmed to get at least one of their precious supply of eggs fertilized, then settle down to the 20 or so years it takes to bring a human infant to maturity in the



**ANDAMAN**  
By SOAPBOX SID  
**RANT**

role of say, an orthodontist, or a logistics supply consultant.

But there's a bit more to it than just these biological coordinates. While it's probably true that males are sexually pre-programmed to behave with, let us say, great generosity of spirit and substance, the bigger issue is that doing so takes up only a small fraction of the time and energy that the average male has available. So when not out looking for sex, males are confronted with the far bigger problem of looking for identity.

With females, sex and identity tend to come in a nicely packaged two-for-the-price-of-one offer. For males, no such luck.

This quest for male identity has taken some weird forms around Phuket recently. A popular one we might title *Homo Viagra*. It involves an overpowered motorbike, preferably a Harley, leather gear, bandanna and a long-haired girl riding pillion, wearing heels and a micro-mini.

Nothing wrong with this, you might say, except that the male

in question is often of grandfatherly vintage and severely challenged in the hair department. It's all so unoriginal, and this is an identity that should have been given a thorough tryout by the male in question about 40 years earlier, and either found to be functional and therefore adopted, or simply abandoned.

Another common identity often seen on the beach itself is all a bit scary. We could perhaps

call this one *Homo Homo Ladyboyis*.

It involves a muscularly-honed male who, through a combination of endless high-load reps in the gym and steroid shots, has produced bronzed muscle clusters on top of the original well-known muscle groups that all the rest of us normal males possess. Close-cropped, dyed-blond hair and lots of piercing complete the ensemble.

Again, nothing wrong with this, other than that this type of male's chosen partner is frequently none other than a blatant ladyboy in bikini and the obligatory high heels, even though he/she is

on the beach at the time.

For our final encounter with new manhood we have to venture down to Patong on a Saturday night while wearing full body armor.

Here there is an abundance of a truly horrific type of new male we could label *Homo Knuckle Sandwichus*. They go about in loosely attached packs and wear T-shirts with welcoming slogans such as "Born to head butt".

These happy-go-lucky lads are always looking for a scrap with anyone stupid enough to catch their eye, or say something provocative, like "Hello".

On the sexual side of things they can sometimes be seen being dragged down Soi Bangla at closing time by packs of ladyboys, who can be just as vicious as their new-found par-amours when occasion demands it.

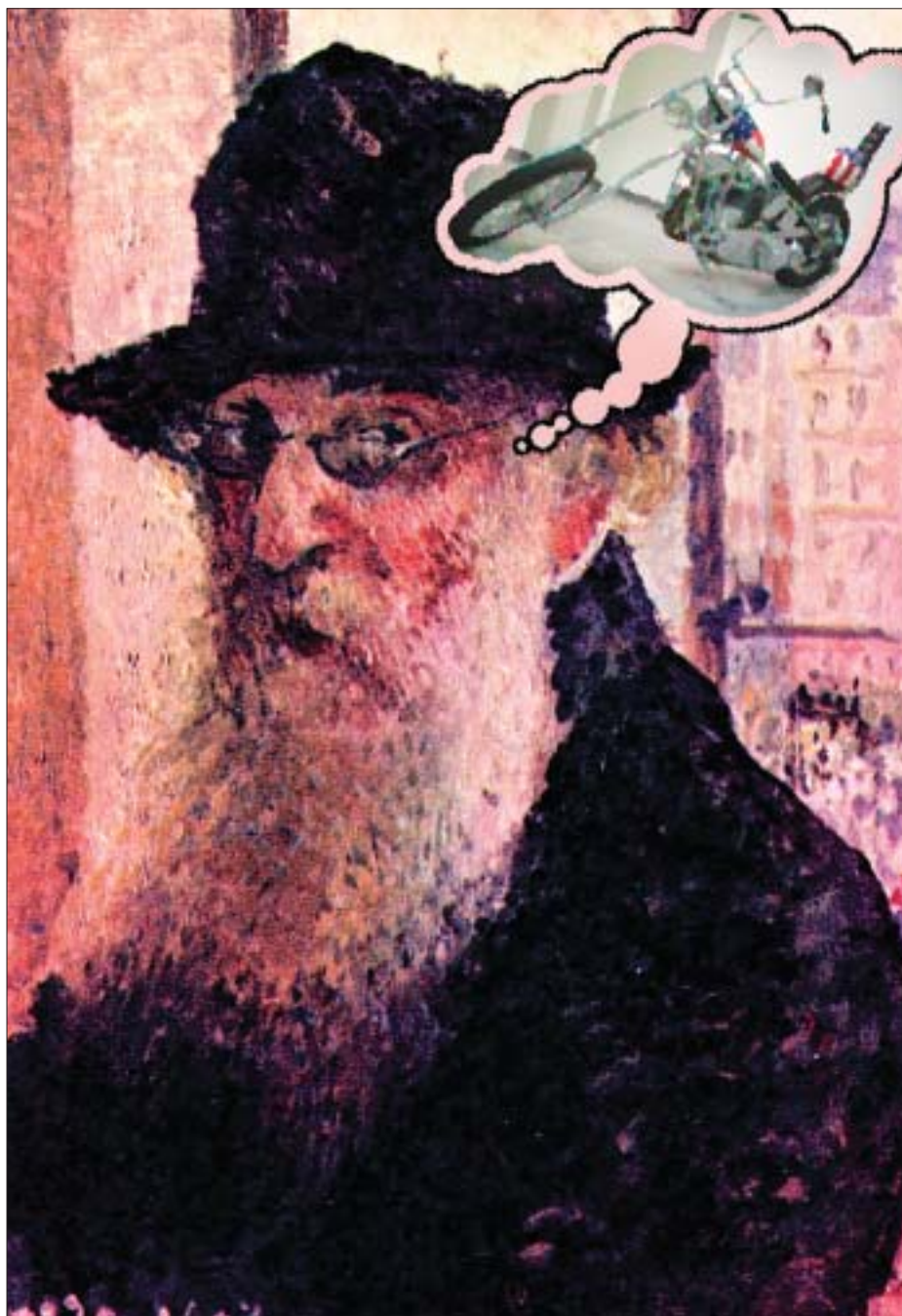
From this brief survey you can see that the search for male identity is a confusing minefield and things would be so much easier if nature gave clear instructions, as are supplied to most females.

But nature, or to use her full title, Mother Nature, is very much female and without question she is a cunning and brilliantly intelligent force.

It's not just coincidence that males are continually seeking to find their identities while out and about trying to spread their seed. In fact it is all a carefully-formulated plan of Madame Nature's.

Men need women not only as mates, but as the Australians would say, as MATES. They need women as much to define them and tell them who they are, what to wear and which motorbike might best suit their haircut, as they do in order to enjoy a good night's post-coital kip.

That is unless they happen to be gay. But then, it's always difficult to generalize.



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TOYOTA'S AVANZA: comfy, spacious and affordable – but only one airbag.

# FAMILY RUNABOUT

A modest-yet-versatile people carrier that is fast becoming popular on the roads of Phuket is the Toyota Avanza. It is surprisingly spacious and, probably best of all, very affordable.

Powered by a 1.5-liter DOHC engine, the Avanza is never going to set the road afire but it can reach speeds in excess of 160kmh, and it achieves excellent fuel economy. Maximum power is 107bhp (78kW) while the torque output is a respectable 140Nm at 4,400rpm.

Mated to either a five-speed manual or four-speed automatic transmission, it is necessary to use the lower ratios to achieve brisk acceleration, particularly up and down some of Phuket's hills.

The interior is well appointed, with rear seats that fold down individually or completely flat to form a huge luggage area. While not luxurious the Avanza is comfortable and versatile. It accommodates seven passengers in three rows of seats, and there are many storage compartments throughout the cabin.

Three-point seat belts are fitted to the outer seats of the second row of seats, as well as the front seats, while the middle seat of the second row has a lap belt.

A reader recently wrote in saying he was "surprised Toyota only fits one airbag to the Hilux pickup", reviewed in this column in mid-May. Well, once again Toyota appears to be penny-pinching and the Avanza has only a driver's side airbag.

In this age of safety consciousness, it does seem a little strange that a simple protective device such as a passenger-side airbag, and even side and curtain bags, are omitted from a popular

family runabout. The European Hilux has dual airbags, but the Thai-built version does not; even as an option. Airbags have been proven to save lives and the latest dual-stage bags even detect the severity of an accident and inflate accordingly. Perhaps someone at Toyota would care to comment?

Toyota has recently overtaken General Motors to become the world's most prolific automaker. In the first quarter of 2007, Toyota's sales were up by 9% on 2.35 million vehicles compared with GM's 2.26 million.

The Japanese manufacturer is on course to achieve sales of 9.4 million vehicles this year, with GM in second place on 9.1 million.

However, Toyota is doing rather less well in Formula 1. Having entered the top echelon of the sport in 2002, it has yet to win a race let alone the world championship. The Cologne-based team reputedly has the largest budget of any F1 team, rumored to be north of 17.25 billion baht a year.

Ralf Schumacher is now the highest-paid driver following the retirement of his brother at the end of last season. Team-mate Jarno Trulli earns but a fraction of Schumacher's take-home package, thought to be in the region of 620 million baht a year.

Ralf's contract is up at the end of this season, but it is believed that Toyota regards him highly enough to extend it for a further three years.

Grand Prix insiders are at a loss to know why, as rarely does the younger Schumacher demonstrate any race-winning ability and there are plenty of younger – and cheaper – drivers who

could and perhaps should take over the Toyota seat for 2008.

But back to the humble Avanza. It is well equipped: a decent audio system, complete in-dash CD player; rear screen wip-

er and the latest new-fangled dials, of which Toyota is so proud.

This little Toyota is imported into Thailand rather than being built here – unlike the Hilux, which is assembled at Toyota's

plant outside Bangkok – but it is an exceptional value with prices starting from 569,000 baht.

Jeff Heselwood can be contacted at [jhc@netvigator.com](mailto:jhc@netvigator.com)



By Jeff Heselwood

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# The Cryptic Crossword

## Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid below are the names of 20 past presidents of the USA. The words may read vertically, horizontally or diagonally. They may also read right-to-left or down-to-up. Score: 10 or more, good; 15 or more, very good; 20, excellent.

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

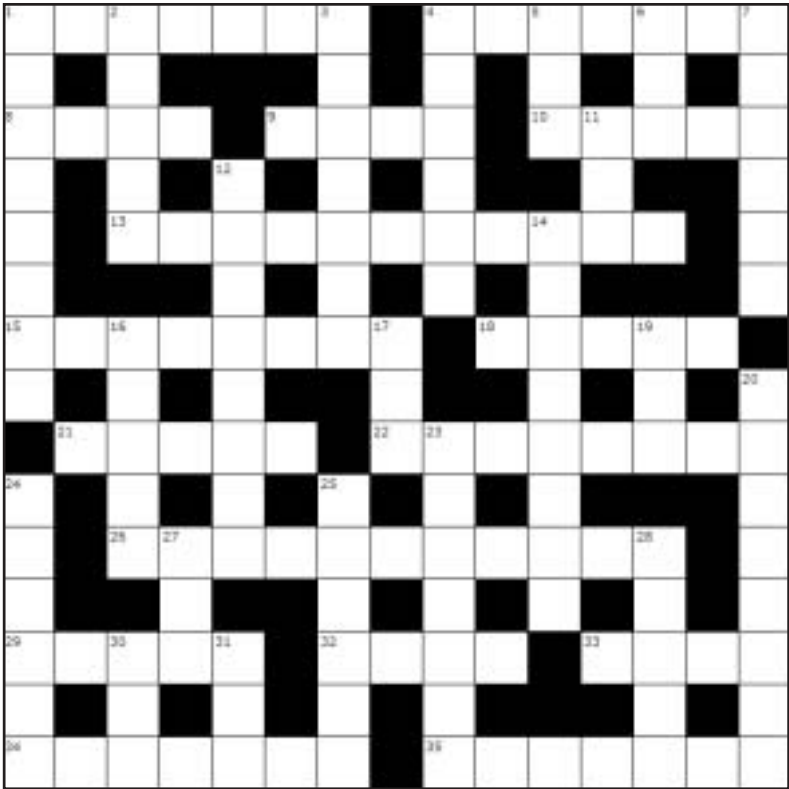
Solution on next page

### ACROSS

1. Was private eye? Sh! Has nasty sense of humor. (7)
4. State: scratch on lair. (7)
8. "Pronounced reed," said Red. (4)
9. Tum's turned by filth. (4)
10. Information for eleven guardian spirits. (5)
13. Mirror-like cat returns in amazing show. (11)
15. Clothing for southwestern consumers. (7)
18. See native in a month. (5)
21. Upper leg hit note badly – to hospital! (5)
22. Send down about the French door. (8)
26. In Crete, Ann and a confused old person. (11)
29. Kisses shirt openings. (5)
32. Go back to the French and stare with lust. (4)
33. Bar a returning Middle-Easterner. (4)
34. State for what reason, oh Ming! (7)
35. Cask is one for a country. (7)

### Down

1. Prison official's battle clothing. (7)
2. Swipes temple in liner. (5)
3. Hear bad actor use spoon on rodent. (7)
4. Notice Ted's up and so on – maybe. (6)
5. Harass old horse. (3)
6. She's got a couple of points. (3)
7. Sir! A thousand close to junction. (6)
11. Give ear a twist. Period. (3)
12. Note GNP – a strange military building. (8)
14. Clothing for Thai monkey on lake. (8)
16. Morality of the thick-



Compiled by Tortuus. © 2007

17. Address of 7 down. (3)
19. Bend South Africa into a different state (1,1,1)
20. Brat ever broke bone? (8)
23. Ball rest back around Paul's shoulder decoration. (7)
24. Fish the minimum immediately. (6)
25. Big gorilla is after me in
- skinned. (5)
27. The Spanish letter for a thousand moose. (3)
28. No precursor to Titanic; they're typical. (5)
30. Boss of 100 takes eastern circle. (1,1,1)
31. Mask is partly sports equipment. (3)
- the drink. (6)

Solution on next page

## Scribble Space



## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

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.

## Rhyme Time

The words or phrases described below all rhyme with "bean". What are they?

1. Monarch.
2. Anger.
3. H G Wells novel.
4. Irish lass.
5. Uncountable.
6. Beach essential.
7. Evening before All Saints' Day.
8. Cooking style.
9. Preventive medicine.
10. Groom elaborately.

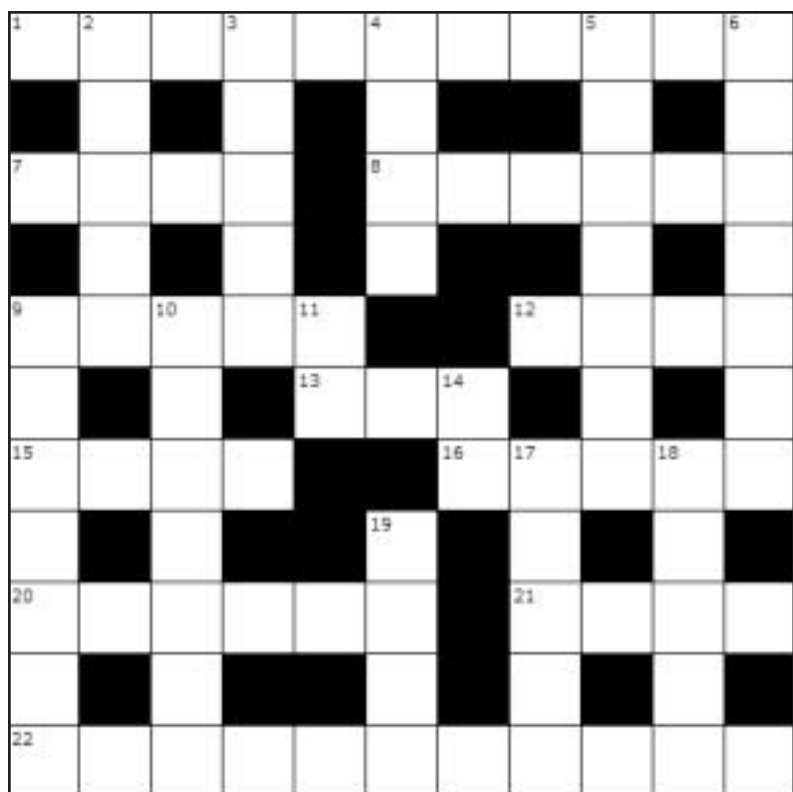
Answers on next page

## EZ TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Snare, bass, slide and kettle. Which is the odd one out?
2. What is the capital of Denmark?
3. Monument Valley is in which two US states?
4. Stratocumulus and cumulonimbus are types of what?
5. Which is the largest type of fish?
6. Who was the 2006 Formula 1 champion driver?
7. Vinson Massif is the highest peak in which continent?
8. In which year did George W Bush become US President?
9. What kind of animal is a racer?
10. Where would you find your radius bone?

Answers on next page





## Quick Crossword

### ACROSS

1. US national park.
7. Soccer player's aim.
8. 1984 author.
9. Educate.
12. Smell.
13. Conclusion.
15. Operatic song.
16. Very fat
20. Edible tuber.
21. German name.
22. Phone books.

### DOWN

2. Run away to marry.
3. Pale purple color.
4. Sheep product.
5. Past the payment date.
6. Make bigger.
9. Caught.
10. Flier.
11. Male pronoun.
14. Perform.
17. Bread maker.
18. Suit material.
19. Heavy shoe

*Solution below right*

## Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



1. The first of their kind, they were gas-powered and installed outside the Houses of Parliament in London. What were they?
2. In which year was the first photographic image posted on the World Wide Web?
3. What was the first novel written in Spanish?
4. In which year was a soccer World Cup match decided by a penalty shootout for the first time?
5. Who was the first person to swim the English Channel?
6. Highwayman Nicolas Pelletier was the first person to be executed by which method?
7. In which year was Aids officially recognized as a medical condition?
8. Which was the first skyscraper, and how many floors did it have?
9. Who was the first woman in space and in which year?
10. Last year, Tormod Granheim was the first person to ski down which slope?
11. Who were the first (and so far only) people to descend the 10.9 kilometers to the bottom of the Marianas Trench?
12. Who was the first African-American to be elected governor of a US state?
13. In which year did Australia first get a prime minister?
14. What was the name given to the first atom bomb ever exploded?
15. The first aircraft hijacking took place in 1948. Which airline did the aircraft belong to?
16. In which year was the first "spam" email sent out. In which country?
17. Whose murder was the first to be captured live on TV?
18. In 1946, Micheline Bernardini was the first person to do what?
19. Annie Londonderry was the first woman to cycle around the world. In which year was that?
20. How long after canned food was invented was the first can opener introduced?

*Answers below left*

# Puzzle Solutions

## Monster Quiz Answers

1. Traffic lights; 2. 1992; 3. Don Quixote; 4. 1982, the West Germany-France semi-final; 5. Matthew Webb; 6. The guillotine; 7. 1981; 8. The Woolworth Building in New York, 57 floors; 9. Valentina Tereshkova, 1963; 10. The north face of Everest; 11. Jacques Piccard and Lt Don Walsh; 12. Douglas Wilder (Virginia, 1989); 13. 1901; 14. The Gadget; 15. Cathay Pacific; 16. 1971, in the US; 17. Lee Harvey Oswald, by Jack Ruby; 18. Wear a bikini; 19. 1895; 20. 30 years.

## EZ Trivia Answers

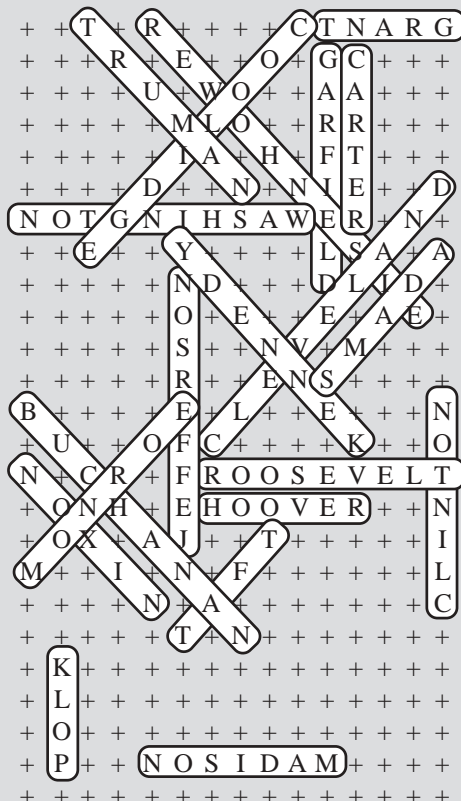
1. Slide - the others all all types of drum; 2. Copenhagen; 3. Utah and Arizona; 4. Clouds; 5. The whale shark; 6. Fernando Alonso; 7. Antarctica; 8. 2001; 9. A snake; 10. In your lower arm.

## Rhyme Time Answers

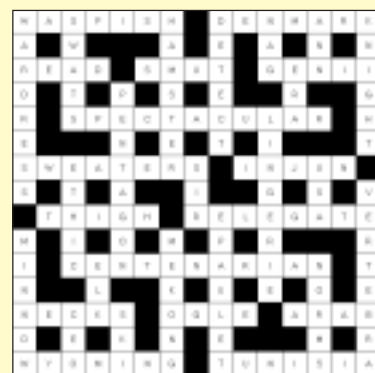
1. Queen; 2. Spleen; 3. The Time Machine; 4. Colleen; 5. Umpteen; 6. Sunscreen; 7. Halloween; 8. Cuisine; 9. Vaccine; 10. Preen.

## Hidden Words

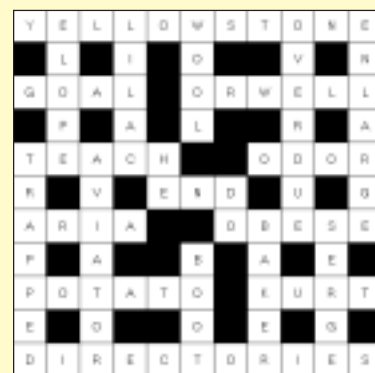
### SOLUTION



Solution to this week's Cryptic Crossword



Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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



# LEONARD LOSES IT

Novelists are conveniently classified into two groups: literary and commercial. John Updike, Philip Roth and Joyce Carol Oates write for the ages. The late Harold Robbins, Leon Uris and Joan Collins write for money, lots of it. But there are gray areas. How would you classify Arthur Conan Doyle of Sherlock Holmes fame? Or Arthur C. Clarke or Isaac Asimov in science fiction? Or John LeCarré, for that matter?

A crime writer who is so good that he teeters into literature is Elmore Leonard. Years ago, distinguished literary writers were polled by the *New York Times* about whether they ever read commercial fiction. The name that came up most often was Elmore Leonard.

Pushing 80, the author of 43 novels, Leonard started out as a writer of Westerns, then moved to modern-day crime thrillers.

In the process he honed his craft to the point where his hip conversational style, and especially his dialog, became instantly recognizable. Other comical crime writers such as Carl Hiaasen are obviously in his debt.

His great early crime novels worked on an axis between southern Florida and Detroit, his hometown.

In his previous novel, he moved back in time to Depression-era Oklahoma. His latest, *Up in Honey's Room* (William



## Off the SHELF

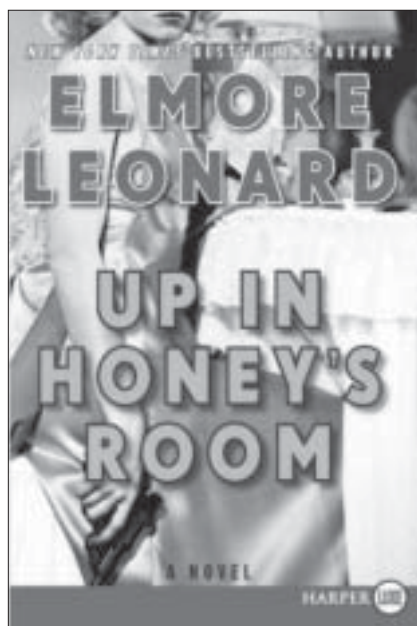
By James Eckardt

Morrow, New York, 2007, 292pp) takes place during World War II.

The hero of his previous book, *The Hot Kid*, Deputy Federal Marshall Carl Webster, famed killer of bank robbers, is sent from Oklahoma to Detroit to catch two German POWs who have escaped during the last days of World War II.

Now there's great Elmore Leonard and good Elmore Leonard but never bad Elmore Leonard – until now. *Up in Honey's Room* is just awful. It's written in a parody of the famed Leonard style. The main problem is that the villains of the piece, a Nazi spy ring, are such a weak and foolish bunch. Leonard's normally very good with villains but these are so dim and witless you just don't care whether they get their comeuppance or not.

This is not to say that the novel doesn't have a slam bang opening and a couple



intriguing opening chapters. The old man hasn't lost his touch there. The novel starts with a phone call between Honey Deal in Detroit and her sister-in-law Muriel back in her hometown in Kentucky.

Honey describes in very funny terms the husband she is about to abandon, a German-American named Walter Schoen, a humorless Nazi supporter who believes he is the twin of Henrich Himmler. The date is November 1939.

Six years later, she's visited by FBI agent Kevin Dean, who's on the track of a Nazi spy ring. Carl Webster comes into

the picture chasing two escaped German POWs. And so the plot is set.

Carl enlists Honey's help in finding Jurgen Schrenk, a tank veteran of the Afrika Korps, whom he believes Walter Schoen is hiding. The other POW, SS Major Otto Penzler, improbably enough, skips off to Cleveland with a Jewish black market art dealer. They meet in a department store bookshop and the dialog goes like this:

He said, "Tell me your name."

She said, "I'm Aviva Freeman."

"Really?" Otto said. "You're a Jewess?"

"And you're a Kraut, a Nazi?"

"I'm an officer in the SS," Otto said, wanting to smile.

Aviva said, "Oh dear."

There's plenty of great dialog in this book but the flimsy plot hinges on a hare-brained scheme by Walter Schoen to crash a private plane into Franklin D. Roosevelt's Little White House in Georgia on Adolf Hitler's birthday but Roosevelt dies beforehand.

The plot is further frittered away by aimless dialog among minor characters, including Countess Vera Mezwa Radzykewycz, the Ukrainian head of the spy ring, and her murderous transvestite lover Bohdan Kravachenko.

And so you trudge on to the end, just waiting for it to be over. This is a page turner in the worst sense.

## PHUKET DIARY

[www.phuketgazette.net/calendar](http://www.phuketgazette.net/calendar)

### June 30. Wine Tasting at 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, 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.

The 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 email: [info@hiranyikara.com](mailto: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.

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.

For more information or to book tickets for home delivery 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.

### Every Sunday. Brunch at the Mangosteen Resort and Spa.

Specialty brunches every Sunday, from 11 am to 3 pm, with a Belgium brunch on July 1. 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 call Christophe Lopez at 076-289399 or email [info@mango-steen-phuket.com](mailto:info@mango-steen-phuket.com)

### July 5 to 8. Food & Beverage Show 2007.

This year the annual F&B Show will be at Central Festival Phuket. Great shows and competitions on stage from leading hotels in Phuket and Southern Thailand from 11 am to 6:30 pm. Products and equipment for hotels, spas and restaurants will be on display. Call Saksorn Sangsuk at 081-7885194 or email: [moos4fb@hotmail.com](mailto:moos4fb@hotmail.com) Website: [www.phuketfbclub.com](http://www.phuketfbclub.com)

### July 11 & 12. Free Professional Life Saving Training.

The Rotary Club of Laguna Phuket and Australia's Avoca Beach Surf Life Saving Club are offering free full-day courses

(one for beginners and one for advanced) of life saving training at the Dusit Laguna Resort on July 11 and 12.

The training is suitable for individuals, government agencies, private firms, hotels and more.

For details contact K. Gem at 076-362999 or to apply email name(s), occupation(s), organization and contact details to [dlppr mgr@dusit.com](mailto:dlppr mgr@dusit.com)

### July 22. Meditation Retreat.

A free meditation retreat is on offer from 1:30 pm to 3 pm at the Phuket Kalyanamitta Center, formerly known as the Wang Gung Restaurant, located behind Suan Luang Park in Phuket City.

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](mailto:mananya@hotmail.com) or [poolsuk@asianpremier.com](mailto:poolsuk@asianpremier.com); or visit [www.meditationthai.org](http://www.meditationthai.org)

### July 19 to 22. Evason Phuket Raceweek.

Four days of top-class yacht racing with reliable monsoon winds and five nights of great beachside parties at the five-star Evason beachside terrace.

Raceweek is organized by Image Asia Events and is held under the auspices of the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand and the Ao Chalong Yacht Club. For more information contact Grenville Fordham at 081-894-8122, email: [gren@image-asia.com](mailto:gren@image-asia.com) or visit [www.phuketraceweek.com](http://www.phuketraceweek.com)

### July 22. Mission Hills Invitational 2007.

Don't miss the annual special event of Mission Hills Golf Club sponsored by Club Car and the Tourism Authority of Thailand.

The entry fee is 2,500 baht per player, including caddy fee, cart fee and buffet dinner. The registration closing date is July 15.

Registration from 10 am; shotgun start at midday; and buffet dinner begins at 6 pm. Great prizes will be awarded to the best players.

For more information email: [info@missionhillsp Phuket.com](mailto:info@missionhillsp Phuket.com)

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## Rollin' on

As regular *Gazette* readers know, Phuket is a gold mine for a lucky few – and heartbreak for many others.

Just as in the boomtowns of America's Wild West, the all-out rush for wealth on the island has come at a steep price: mostly environmental degradation and a breakdown in social structure.

Although no part of the island has escaped this trend, nowhere is it more pronounced than in Patong, where trinket vendors share the sidewalks with prostitutes, touts, beggars, sex tourists and families on package holidays.

The big winners in Patong have been a very small segment of its population, mostly local landowners who have seen their family fortunes skyrocket to levels unimaginable a few decades ago. On the other side of the coin, look what has become of their banana plantation paradise.

In any boomtown vices such as gambling, prostitution and theft tend to be rampant – in Patong they are actually part of the draw.

In his farewell to Patong after two-and-a-half-years as Kathu Police Superintendent, Col Teeraphol Thipjaroen [ see First Person, facing page] outlines his accomplishments, while admitting the need for more improvements.

Known as a tough-yet-fair cop during his 12 years with Phuket City Police Station's Traffic Division, it is not surprising that Col Teeraphol used that experience to improve the traffic situation in Patong, first by banning vehicular traffic from Soi Bangla at night and then with the introduction of a one-way traffic system.

While such changes may have seemed easy to bring about to the casual observer, they are no small achievement in a place like Patong, where the vested interests of a powerful few have time and again trumped the needs of the millions of tourists who visit each year and find themselves without access to such basic facilities as free public toilets or reasonably-priced public transport.

With that in mind, perhaps it is fortunate that Col Teeraphol's replacement is Pol Col Kritsak Songmulnak, whose last post was as Superintendent of the Tourist Police Region 1 office in Bangkok.

Responsible in that position for the safety of tourists at locations as The Temple of the Emerald Buddha and the infamous Khaosarn Rd, little is known about him in Phuket thus far, except that he speaks English very well.

While that is positive news for Patong, it will take more than linguistic skill to maintain and build on Col Teeraphol's successes.

In the meantime, bar owners in Patong will no doubt be keeping close watch to see what crackdowns, if any, the new police chief will unleash to mark his arrival.

– The Editor

**The Phuket Gazette**

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

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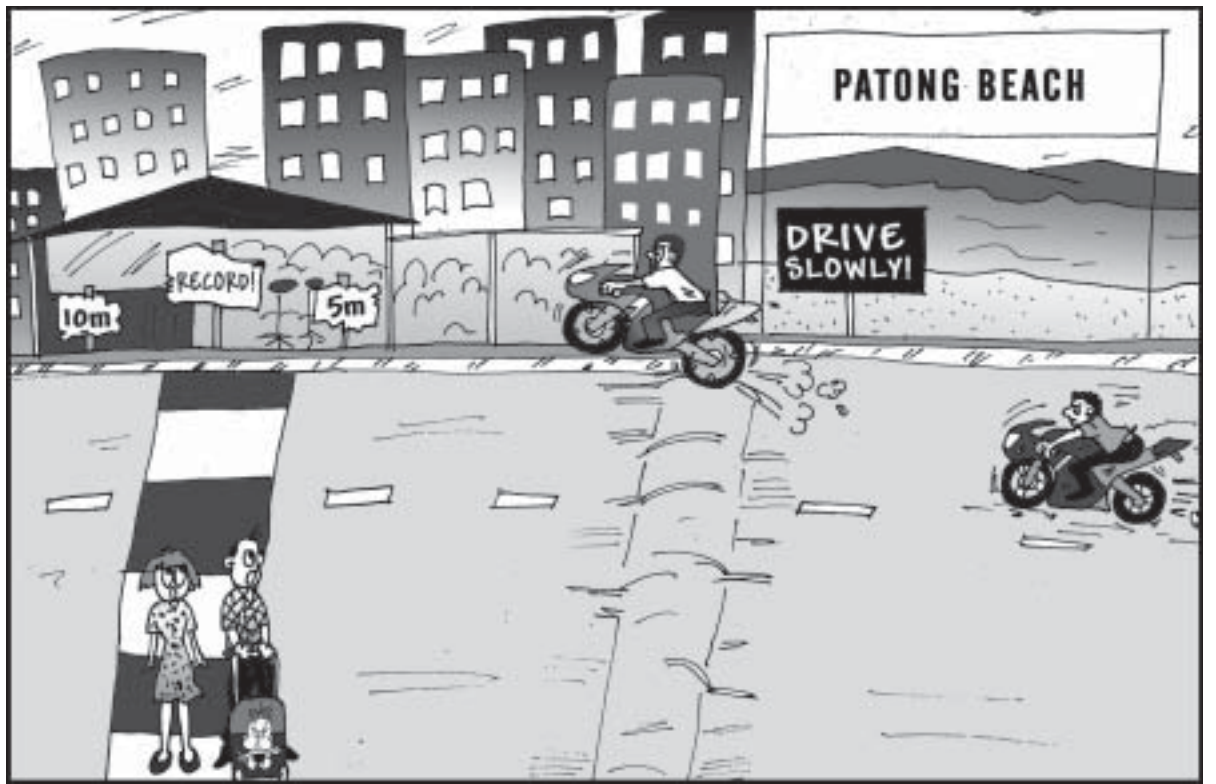
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## Letters

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.

### Rave review for Andaman Ranter

I just finished reading Soapbox Sid's column comparing Buddhist thought with Thai driving.

I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed it. It was very clever.

He treated the subject of Buddhism with respect and a pretty obvious knowledge of the subject, and he treated the subject of Thai drivers without the usual expat bitchiness.

I look forward to reading more of his stuff.

Steve Rosse

### What happened to our blackout?

Two weeks ago, a truck mounted with loudspeakers cruised through our neighborhood in Phuket City, blaring that the water and electricity would be non-functional from 9 am until 4 pm the next day.

The racket woke up our daughter from her nap. To prepare for the imminent one-day drought, my wife diligently filled pots and jugs of water for use for the next day. I hooked up my backup power supply so that we could have a small amount of reserve electricity in case of an emergency. Thus prepared we waited to face a day without TV, electric fans and all the other conveniences of modern life we tend to take for granted.

The following day nothing happened. The water and electricity worked perfectly all day. Is this place so screwed up that it can't even conduct planned outages properly?

Heavens Spent  
Phuket City

### Pizza perfection

I read with relish your dining columns every week hoping to find a tasty morsel sandwiched within your pages, and boy did I find the sweetmeat last week. P's Pizza on Yaowarat Rd proved to be a sumptuous – and cheap – dining option for this ravenous reader, so I want to thank you, Stephen Fein, for your excellent find.

The pizza was crisp, delivered quickly and made professionally. Equally important, the beer was cold, the street view unhindered and the waitstaff and owner professional and helpful.

I know I will return again soon, and will wait with hungry eyes for your next cheap eat.

Dr Fell  
Phuket

### Taking safety to the streets of Phuket

I read with interest your story about stepped-up security measures at one local school (see "Kajonketsuksa steps up school security", *Gazette* issue of June 23).

While schools should take such measures to protect their children from stalkers, miscreants and fellow students and teachers who might harm, cases like that of Virginia Tech student-from-hell Seung-Hui Cho are one-in-a-billion occurrences and impossible to predict or prevent.

To protect our students here in Phuket, a much better place to start would not be on the school grounds but on our public roads. This would mean taking a hard look at school transport.

Hardly a day passes when I don't see uniformed students

hanging by one arm from speeding pickups, tuk-tuks or even perched precariously on motorbikes, invariably without helmets.

It seems that in Thailand it is only after a tragedy that common-sense steps are taken to prevent a recurrence.

Why not be pro-active and prevent them in the first place? If we don't, I am afraid it will only be a matter of time before a real tragedy will occur.

Concerned parent  
Wichit

### Baby murder harks back to Bulger boys

I was sickened and saddened to read about young Nitchanart, who at just two years old had her throat slit by teenagers [ see News pages, and "Toddler killed in botched burglary", *Gazette* online June 23] .

My heart goes out to Nitchanart's parents, and to the family of Dang Panthip, the nanny who died after also having her throat cut by the boys.

Memories of the Jamie Bulger case in the UK in 1993 came back to haunt me. I can only pray that the two teenagers who murdered Nitchanart do not receive the same "Western justice" as Jon Venables and Robert Thompson have – they have been released after serving only eight years of their jail sentence and one of them is reportedly going on to university to further his career prospects.

There are reasons why I have chosen to call Phuket my home. That events like this do not happen here is one of them.

Disillusioned  
Chalong

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



# Patong's top cop moves on

I started working here in Patong in October, 2004. It was my first time working in the capacity of superintendent and I didn't expect to have to change the administrative system at the Kathu Police Station very much, as it was already regarded as one of the best and most important stations in Police Region 8.

Before I was stationed here I worked for 12 years with the Traffic Division of the Phuket City Police, so I was already very familiar with Phuket.

Patong's problems are similar to those in other parts of Thailand where the tourism industry has boomed. The local population and their elected officials have trouble adjusting to the fast pace of development and the rapid influx of capital. In such cases there will always be some opposition, especially from people who cannot adjust their visions and ideas.

In the past, Patong was a very quiet area. People went about their lives in a quiet, peaceful way. There were very few restrictions and little law enforcement was required.

Unlike now, when traffic has become a problem, there were no problems with car and motorcycle rental operators lining up their vehicles along the beach. Parking was not much of a problem, because there weren't many vehicles on the road.

After the increase in the number of tourists visiting and lack of parking, people look at the vehicle rental operators and ask: 'Why do they get the right to have reserved parking?'

After two and a half years as Superintendent of Kathu Police, Col Teeraphol Thipjaroen, 47, was recently transferred to serve as Superintendent of Krabi's Koh Lanta Police Station. Here he reflects on his trials, tribulations and successes while working in Patong.



The situation is similar on the beach among beach chair operators. In the past, locals noticed tourists coming to the beach had nothing to sit on and had little protection from the sun, so a small cottage industry sprang up to cater to their needs. Now that industry has become big business, with competitors vying for space on the beach.

These are just two of the more obvious problems arising from Patong's rapid development, but there are others and it is up to the police not simply to enforce the law with an iron fist but to work together with the community to create a new vision that everyone can live with.

When I started to working here I knew there were many problems and conflicts and I realized that the best solutions wouldn't come solely through strict law enforcement. It would also required a deep understanding of how the problems and conflicts developed in the first place.

When I was transferred here, I tried to work with all sides and not pick a fight with any single party. I would say we have made good progress in some areas and that the overall situation has improved, but there is still a great deal of work left to do in other areas.

In my first year working

here, Patong was hit with torrential downpours and flooding. Then came the tsunami. I knew that making Patong recover would be a huge undertaking.

Many people hate police, but when the crisis hit it proved that we were willing to work hard with no benefit to ourselves in return. We get no special benefits, not even a personal gasoline allowance, yet we are always happy to come to the assistance of local residents and tourists alike.

During the tsunami, I stayed here in Patong for three months straight, never returning home and taking part in all the post-tsunami activities and events.

It was tiring, because we had so many VIPs coming here and we had to provide security for them as well as help in the recovery. Before the tsunami, we were able to tackle problems as they arose without too much difficulty, but after the tsunami there seemed to be no end to the number of orders the police were assigned to carry out.

Anyway, I am proud of how well we did during those very trying times.

Another accomplishment I can point to upon leaving is the successful transformation of Soi Bangla into a pedestrian walkway by night. It had been talked about for years before and everybody said it could never be done because so many people with vested interests were against it.

In fact, Soi Bangla should have been established as a pedestrian walkway [by night] long before we were able to successfully do so in 2005. Pedestrians need to be able to walk safely through the area at night. Also, banning motorcycles from the street after dark improves security and minimizes the risk of someone planting a bomb.

No less than two days after I blocked Soi Bangla to traffic,

motorcycle taxi and and tuk-tuk drivers staged a protest. They parked their vehicles around the police station and complained that their livelihoods had been adversely affected because they could no longer pick up fares on Soi Bangla as they used to.

It was true that I was focused solely on security matters and had forgotten to consider how their interests would be affected by the change.

I apologized to them for that, then we all sat down together and quickly worked out designated zones exclusively for tuk-tuk and motorcycle taxi parking. I don't think they are a 'mafia', they just wanted a workable solution to the problem.

The last big change I established during my tenure was introducing the one-way traffic system, which had also talked about for years but never successfully implemented.

After it started, traffic began to flow more freely, the number of accidents fell and there were fewer problems with parking. Still, there were many who were opposed to it, but we managed to address some of their concerns once again through a series of meetings.

Finally we held a survey and learned that 60% of the people were in favor of the new system. We also asked for public input on how to make further improvements to the new system.

It is a big change and that is why it has taken some people time to adapt. We need to improve signs, road markings and other infrastructure to support it, but I think one-way is here to stay. We need to have it and there is no need to conduct an endless series of public hearings about it.

Patong can continue to improve, but we need strong and brave people in order to implement the needed changes.

People might look at my record and say I didn't achieve much, but I have been able to introduce some new measures that nobody in the past had been brave enough to push through.

Others might look down on my achievements as limited only to traffic control, but I am satisfied with my overall management and leadership record in a number of areas.

Patong cannot change overnight, so we need to adopt a series of reasonable improvements over time.

In the end, however, the success or failure of Patong rests with the people who live here.

My new assignment is in Koh Lanta, which resembles Patong as it was 15 years ago. I will do my best to use my experience here in Patong to help it develop in the best way possible.

— Compiled by  
**Sangkhae Leelanapaporn**

## Are giant birdhouses legal?

More than two years ago, a friend of mine bought a house in Rawai thinking it would be a good investment.

However, somebody has now decided to build a 15- to 20-meter-tall ugly green structure to attract and farm swiftlet birds in order to harvest the birds' nests for profit.

This is a residential neighborhood and I can't imagine that zoning for this type of structure would be allowed by the local authority.

There will be bird droppings everywhere if birds are attracted to this structure, and the building is extremely tall and very ugly.

It will affect property values in the surrounding area and I can't imagine why someone would want to build this monstrosity in a residential neighborhood where it will detract from the appeal of the neighborhood.

Did the local authorities authorize a permit for this structure?

### Issues & ANSWERS

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If so, what were they thinking?

Did they know that a birdhouse was being built in a residential neighborhood?

One for the birds  
Rawai

Aroon Solos, president of Rawai Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*), replies:

Rawai *OrBorTor* is responsible for issuing building permits in Rawai.

I have not heard about this before, and I did not know that we have such a structure in our area.

I have heard that these are

allowed in some provinces, such as Nakhon Sri Thammarat, because swiftlet nests provide a good income for local people.

It is not illegal to build a bird's nest tower in Rawai. However, I would really like to know where it is so I can send officers to inspect it.

If the structure contravenes building regulations, we can talk with the owner about fixing any problems.

Also, as the structure appears to be offending those who live nearby, we can talk with the owner about improving the structure so it looks more appealing.



# Planting the seeds of change

In the past six months my office has become a stop for travel academics studying the post-tsunami development of the Andaman Triangle of Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi.

These folks did their research before coming to Thailand, so they knew what to expect, but as thorough academics, they had to see the development of the area for themselves – and they were not impressed.

If this sounds gloom and doom, forget it. There is still hope in the form of the prestigious Thailand Environmental Institute (TEI) and the fact that about a dozen new Phuket and Phang Nga five-star hotels are from responsible chains including Shangri-La, Four Seasons, Raffles, Six Senses and Oriental.

I've known and worked with TEI's Dr Chamniern Vorratnchaiphan since the early 90s, inspecting most black water canals and undersized sewage treatment plants in Southern Thailand.

Dr Chamniern works throughout Southeast Asia, taking his Model Cities program to countries including Vietnam and the Philippines, but now he's emphasizing planning and ecotourism in the South with projects



Dr Chamniern Vorratnchaiphan of the Thailand Environmental Institute is currently emphasizing planning projects and ecotourism in the South with projects from Ranong to Songkhla and Satun.

from Ranong to Songkhla and Satun.

When I interviewed this old friend, I was skeptical whether Thais could practice and implement the Academic-Government-Private Sector-Local User model that was so successful for the Hawaii Marine Resources Master Plan, a late 80s effort that remains unchanged to this day.

Dr Chamniern disagreed,

rattling off example after example of how local Thais contribute positively to the planning process to the balanced benefit of all parties. It became obvious that resistance to planning in Thailand often comes from local bureaucrats and business people rather than local residents and users, just as in the West.

Less than three years after the tsunami, the lack of planning

in the Andaman Triangle is an international issue. This year's National Geographic Destination survey coincidentally includes both Phuket and Palawan, two locations dear to my heart. Typical of the Philippines, 80% of Palawan is a denuded environment in both land and sea suffering from nearly 500 years of abuse.

The other 20% is Puerto Princesa, a jewel of responsible development in a pristine municipality – and recently declared the Philippines' Top Destination.

I am currently in Princesa for this year's edition of the highly successful "Festival of the Forest".

When I mentioned at the pre-event reception that Mayor Edward Hagedorn eliminated illegal logging, illegal fishing and all forms of poaching along with maintaining a perfectly clean city in the Philippines' geographically

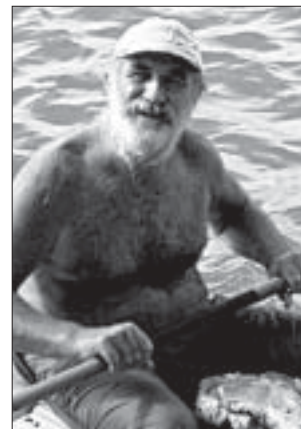
largest municipality for only 10 million baht per year, both citizens and politicians replied in concert that maintaining environmental integrity isn't a question of being able to afford enforcement – the real issue is that "we" cannot afford *not* to plan and protect the environment no matter what the cost – especially in tourism destinations.

The highly regarded TEI reads this concept loud and clear, and Dr Chamniern is available to help develop the "Four Publics" planning concept that he claims works just as well in Thailand as in the West.

If we expect quality tourists to keep on coming, and protect nature, send Dr Chamniern an email of support at [chamniern@tei.or.th](mailto:chamniern@tei.or.th)

At the end of the day, the Andaman Triangle can't afford not to. Time is running out.

## THE GRAY AREA



By John 'Caveman' Gray

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**In The Stars****by Isla Star**

**CANCER** (June 22 – July 23): If your birthday is on the coming days, look forward to a more exciting year than the one just passed. If you're ready to embrace a more challenging lifestyle you will be pleased by what lies ahead. Hiding in your shell will no longer be an easy option. Where affairs of the heart are concerned, Virgo would love to be your ray of sunshine.

**LEO** (July 24 – August 22): Personal relationships take precedence during the first week of July. Leos who believe that a past relationship was well and truly over could have another thing coming when the person concerned makes a surprise appearance. You would be wise to follow your heart and not listen to friends' advice as jealousy could be a key factor. The number 2 is lucky this weekend.

**VIRGO** (August 23 – September 23): Your mental powers are strong towards the end of next week; delay important business appointments until at least Wednesday to ensure the planets are on your side. A mysterious stranger captivates you on Sunday; love is well-starred for most of July. Spend time sorting out papers this weekend in preparation for an official appointment. Lime green enhances your ability to charm even the trickiest snake.

**LIBRA** (September 24 – October 23): The astral atmosphere this week gives you an indication of how you should approach July. A flexible mindset and the ability to think on your feet go a long way toward having productive weeks. At work, you learn something potentially advantageous but discover that not all is what it seems to be. The number 6 can bring good fortune on Sunday.

**SCORPIO** (October 24 – November 22): Travel is likely to be tiring during the first part of July. To make your trip as easy as possible, minimize commitments and fit in as much relaxation as possible. There will be a positive side as you are forecast to meet someone special out of your usual environment. Maintain an air of mystery to intrigue this person. Wear sapphire blue to encourage this.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23 – December 21): Social contact brings mixed blessings this weekend. You are forecast to meet someone who was responsible for a work-related situation turning sour earlier in the year. Focusing on water under the bridge helps ease the encounter. Elsewhere, Aries has finally noticed your romantic interest and would like to get to know you better. Wear a piece of turquoise to encourage confidence.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 – January 20): July promises to be a quieter month, which allows you to take care of domestic concerns more thoroughly. Family relationships are well-starred and should bring great fulfillment. A reunion of some kind is forecast in the next couple of weeks. Wear soft lavender to encourage the feel-good factor.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21 – February 19): As much as you wish an ongoing financial disagreement would simply disappear, this will not happen. Make a move towards resolving this issue before it gets out of control. Tuesday is auspicious for arranging serious discussions. A new work prospect is due to surface, but you will not be able to make a decision easily. Show enough interest to remain in the picture.

**PISCES** (February 20 – March 20): Continue enjoying life as there are promising indications for yet more improvement in emotional and practical areas of your life. If you recently decided against relocation, you will have confirmation that this was the correct thing to do. Travel is subject to delays this weekend, but an attractive Leo makes the waiting game a lot of fun. The number 7 is lucky on Monday.

**ARIES** (March 21 – April 20): Observing without getting involved is required of you this week. You are likely to say things you will regret on Monday. Capricorn could be responsible for a tricky work-related situation, but you will never know for sure. The social scene should provide opportunity for you to be in the limelight this weekend. In relationships, take care not to give your partner cause for jealousy.

**TAURUS** (April 21 – May 21): Leave your worries at home this weekend and enjoy opportunities to meet new people. If you are tired of feeling discontented without knowing why, you will gain a fresh perspective during July. Romance is forecast to take root when Aquarius enters the scene, but ignore overtures made by a sly Sagittarian. Wear copper to enhance your earthy appeal.

**GEMINI** (May 22 – June 21): July should be a well-balanced month for you. Your natural skills in communicating ease the path of business so that progress is made with even the most difficult colleagues. If you just began a personal relationship, the person concerned will make a shocking statement this weekend. The number 5 can bring luck on Sunday.

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Microsoft has been touting its Office suite as a productivity enhancer for at least 10 years. On a consulting job for a huge multinational company that I finished one year ago, I was using Windows 2000 and Office 97 up to the very last day. Not one single time in two years did I say, "Damn, I wish I could upgrade to the newest version of Office to increase my productivity." And I probably used no more than 20% of the feature set either.

However, I did stumble across a productivity enhancer about six months ago: using two monitors (also called displays) on the same computer. I am still beating myself over the head for not discovering it sooner, and I know I'll never look back.

In essence, the viewing space is doubled and it's almost the same as having a display that is twice the width. When I have to write a report or produce a document for which I have to pull in information from many different files, it's maddening to have layer upon layer of documents to wade through on one screen. With two screens side by side, there can be a method to the madness and after you get used to it, you will develop positive, habit-forming organizational concepts to meet the structure.

For instance, I have two email programs open all day; Outlook and a Web browser with at least one Web-based email account. Since I glance at it from time to time, that goes on the second display, to the right of the first one where it doesn't clog up my main display.

When I am composing a document or writing up a report, I type in the main window while I keep all of my reference files opened and nicely layered in the right display. That way I can copy and paste with ease into my main document from the source files.

Also, if you are watching a video, a slide presentation or the

# DOUBLE VISION

## Higher productivity with two monitors



You can see from this picture what my dual monitor setup looks like. Of course, you won't normally want to split pictures across monitors, but I did it here just to prove that I wasn't cheating by using two separate computers.

progress of a sports game where you have to glance at it occasionally, this is a perfect candidate for the second display. For my work I have to watch training videos in LiveMeeting replays (Powerpoint slides with audio, and quite boring), so the secondary display is the perfect place for this, as I have no interruption to my main work.

I will describe how to set this up in Windows XP. I am using XP Pro, but I assume that the setup is almost exactly the same for XP Home, Windows 2000 or the newly-released Vista. I know it can be done in Linux and I have two laptops with different distributions (Fedora Core 6 and openSUSE 10.2), so if you have problems setting it up in Linux, shoot me an email at the address below and I'll do all I can to help

– but, as a Linux user, you know that jumping through a few hoops to get anything done is standard practice. In the Linux world, using two monitors is called "Dual Head". For Mac users, I profusely apologize for not being able to help you yet, but in the next month or so I will be getting OS X up and running.

The key is to have a graphics card that can support two displays or have two graphics cards. On a laptop, it's easy because all of them I know of have a second video card; even my circa-2002 Dell Latitude 2650 has a second video card and supports dual head monitoring. On a desktop PC, you will need a graphics card with two connectors (in technical jargon, called DB-9 female connectors) or two graphics cards. A second graphics card should be cheap to buy (1,500 baht), and with Windows' Plug'n'Play capability and driver support, it should be a piece of cake to install.

Last week, I picked up a secondhand 17-inch color moni-

tor at the first second-hand computer store I have found in Phuket City for 1,900 baht; if you are a bargain hunter and/or bartering expert (which I am not), you can get one for less. If you have the cash, you can spring for a flat-screen display but I find them far too expensive in Phuket. You'll be paying about 4,000 baht to save one square foot of real estate on your work area.

Back to the Windows XP configuration:

There are two ways to get to the configuration page: 1. The easiest: right-click on the desktop, click on Properties to bring up the Display Properties page, then click on the Settings tab; 2. Click the Start button, go to Settings, then Control Panel, then click on Display.

At this point, you have to have the second monitor's adapter cord plugged in and have it powered on, or your settings will not take hold when you enable it. You should see two squares with #2 grayed out. If you don't, then you aren't supporting two monitors and you need to call tech support (which these days means using Google search, which will be the subject of an upcoming article) and stop reading here. If you see two squares, right click on #2, click on Attach and a check mark should appear to the left of it. Click OK.

Next, if all goes according to plan, the wallpaper of your main display should be duplicated on the second display and you are in business. Now you can open programs and files, and move them from left to right on the second monitor.

The Windows taskbar remains on the main display (or, at least, I haven't tried to move it to the second display). If you are

one of those users who puts everything on their desktop, you can move icons to the second display, but when you go back to using it as a single display computer, I don't know if the icons will end up back on the first screen or not.

One habit I have is that before I power down the computer I set it back to single display, remove the second monitor cord, and power off the second monitor. You can leave the dual monitor setup as is and shut down the computer, but I've found that sometimes, on booting back up that the second display becomes the main display, making it very confusing and almost unusable.

One other advantage of dual monitors that I haven't mentioned is that you can set the display resolution of the second monitor to be different than the main display (in the same Settings tab page, select the second monitor and change the screen resolution). This is great if you have a game or educational program that recommends a certain display resolution, or if your eyes get a little tired at night – like mine do – so you can reduce the display resolution and make it easier to read documents. Plus, changing resolution on the second monitor saves you the pain of realigning all your desktop icons when you change resolutions back and forth.

I promise you that once you start working with two displays, you'll be hooked forever.

Ignacio Evans is an information security consultant based in SE Asia who tries to be in Phuket whenever he can. Email him with questions, complaints, or any other comments at iggy69.e@gmail.com



The key to setting up a dual monitor display is to have a graphics card that can support two displays, or use two graphics cards. Right-click on your desktop to get Display Properties, then click the Settings tab.

## PUSHING BUTTONS

By Ignacio Evans



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## ON THE MOVE

**Prapijit Thongma** has been appointed general manager of the Burasari Resort. She began her career in hospitality with Club Med in 1985 as a cashier and progressed to the position of regional front office product manager for the Asia-Pacific region. K. Prapijit has also worked at the Sofitel Central Plaza in Bangkok and on pre-opening teams at the Phulay in Krabi and the Central Krabi Bay Resort.



Phuket native **Werapun Limsettoe** has been appointed director of sales at the new Six Senses Erawan Resort at Koh Naka Yai. He is a graduate of the Les Roches Hotel Management School in Switzerland. Prior to joining Six Senses, K. Werapun held the position of director of sales at the Dusit Resort Hua Hin and later at the D2 Hotel in Chiang Mai. He brings with him over 15 years of experience in the hospitality industry in Switzerland and Thailand.



**Phitsinee "Apple" Detklarharn**, from Songkhla, has been appointed personal assistant to the director of Sri Panwa Phuket resort. She graduated from the Faculty of Service Industry Hotel Management program at Prince of Songkla University. During her education she trained as an intern in the F&B department at the Imperial Mae Ping Hotel in Chiang Mai and in the front office and housekeeping departments at the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket.



# Italian dental supply firm to set up RHQ in Phuket

By Semacote Suganya

**T**he dentistry market in Phuket has grown exponentially in recent years, mirroring the increase in discount medical procedures in Thailand.

To sustain and benefit from the growth of dental clinics in Phuket, the dental supply company Mectron has set up a regional headquarters (RHQ) in Phuket for selling and servicing its products in Asia.

The Italian-based company has offices across Europe and Canada, and now plans to open a Phuket branch in July to use as a supply hub for all of Asia.

Regional Manager of Mectron Asia/Pacific Norbert Emmerich said the company is keen

to take advantage of Phuket's status as a tourism and conference center for Southeast Asia.

Key to the decision to move into Phuket was its international airport and high-quality conference venues and hotels, which allow visiting clients to stay comfortably, said Mr Emmerich.

Mectron, founded in 1979, specializes in the manufacture and distribution of custom dental equipment.

Mr. Emmerich outlined the market plan for the new subsidiary, saying, "With any product, not just consumer products, you have to focus on more than just the product itself and the pricing; it's about after-sales service, the service behind the product.

"If you improve this service then your sales will increase like-

wise. All our competitors are doing it, and so we have to follow suit. We are launching the company in Thailand to serve the Asian and Australian market, and with our levels of service we are expecting to double turnover in two to three years."

But why choose Phuket as a location for the RHQ over other, larger cities?

Mr Emmerich explained, "I think Phuket is the ideal place to set up a subsidiary in Southeast Asia. It is expensive when our shipments come from overseas to Bangkok and then get sent on to Phuket.

"Also, we have found that our customers only complain if our products cannot be repaired by a local partner. This would normally mean they have to ship their equipment back to Italy, which nobody wants to do because it is so expensive."

With the low cost of setting up an office in Thailand, the financial burden is much lower than performing a similar operation in Europe.

"If you look at other companies such as Acer, Sony and Compaq, they have all launched services in Phuket because it is such an important market.



Norbert Emmerich expects to see turnover in Asia double in two to three years.

"To improve the quality of our product, we need to convince more people to start using it in the first place, which is what you see these other companies doing here. By being based in Phuket we will not just be serving the Thai market, but the whole region," he said.

"Our products have been available in the market for several years. Customer feedback has been good.

"People like our equipment and they like the technology we offer in terms of design, appearance and the working experience of the machines."

One of the products Mectron manufactures is bone-cutting units for micro-bone surgery, and several years ago the company invented new technology which uses ultrasound in surgery.

The advantage of using ultrasound for bone surgery is that the instruments are able to cut part of the tissue and bone without causing damage to any soft tissue.

This is especially useful if a surgeon needs to cut bone in a delicate area, such as near blood vessels, nerves or membranes.

Before ultrasound technology was available, surgeons used drills, which did not allow for a selective cut and would cut both hard and soft tissue.

The high technology and resulting high cost of the units offered by Mectron means that the company's customers tend to be large hospitals and dental establishments where there is a demand for delicate surgery.

Due to the specialized nature of the products, sales are not high in volume.

The ultrasound machine is used at both Bangkok Hospital Phuket and Vachira Phuket Hospital.

Private clinics in Phuket have yet to use Mectron products, although they are used by dentists in Chiang Mai, Haad Yai and Bangkok.

After one year in the Thai market, Mectron is likely to expand, said Mr Emmerich, because it is the only company locally offering this kind of surgical equipment.

With a subsidiary in Phuket also comes the ability to offer improved service to Southeast Asian and Australian clients.

Mectron's offices will be at Chao Fa East Rd 9/35 and 9/36, Chalongs Park View. For further information visit [www.mectron.net](http://www.mectron.net)

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The Japanese economy, the world's second largest, continues to grow. Revised gross domestic product (GDP) figures issued in June reflect that first quarter growth for 2007 reached an annualized rate of 3.3%. This means that the Japanese economy for that period actually outperformed both the US and the EU.

However, this is probably a flattering figure as growth appears to be slowing and the Central Bank, having raised interest rates to 0.5% earlier this year, is now assessing the situation before implementing any further increases, by August at the earliest. What was unexpected was that the April figures for industrial production saw output fall by 0.2%.

The yen is trading at a five-year low against the US dollar and at record lows against the euro. Japan enjoys a large current account surplus and the world's second highest foreign exchange reserves at almost US\$ 1 trillion (34.5 trillion baht), which makes the weak currency something of a contradiction, but low interest rates are keeping any attraction in holding yen at bay.

In addition, the Japanese domestic political situation is of some concern. Shinzo Abe, who became prime minister in September 2006, is being widely criticized for his poor management of the economy.

There is an increasing perception in Japan that the economic reforms undertaken by his predecessor, Junichiro Koizumi, have stalled and Abe is concentrating more on being a global statesman.

Abe is seen to be more interested in changes to the constitution and relationships with China than on issues such as pensions and continued economic reform. This has led to foreign criticism, such as the comment from Richard Jerram, an economist at Macquaries Securities, who stated that Mr Abe's economic policy was "notable by its absence".

Although not his fault, Mr Abe is being widely criticized for the loss, by Japan's Social Security Agency, of 50 million pension records. These records will, presumably, eventually be located but in the interim it has become a major news story in Japan.

While Abe is spending a lot of his time on changes to the constitution, a survey in early June found that 71% of respondents wanted the government to focus on pensions while only 25% rated the constitutional changes as more important.

The popularity of Mr Abe's government has declined sharply. In monthly telephone polls conducted by Japan's daily newspaper, *Asahi Shimbun*, Mr Abe's popularity has plunged from an approval rating of 63% last September to 24% in June.

His perceived mismanagement of the economy is mainly to blame. In fact, the number of respondents who do not support Mr Abe's economic policies have climbed from less than 20% last



In Japan, the man in the street cares more about pensions than changes to the constitution.

— Photo by Mniz

# Eyes turn to July bonuses to support Yen

September to more than 45% in June.

Elections are scheduled for July 22, when half of the seats in Japan's Upper House are contested. The ruling party, the LDP (Liberal Democratic Party) and its allies control 133 of the Upper House seats out of a total of 242.

Any major loss will see control move to opposition parties, which will make any legislative changes much more difficult. In addition, there is a concern that Mr Abe may have to take political responsibility and resign. This would cause an unwelcome period of uncertainty.

All these factors are helping to extend the life of the "yen carry trade", whereby investors borrow against the yen and invest the proceeds in higher-yielding currencies. The most popular currencies invested were the New Zealand dollar, Australian dollar, sterling and the US dollar.

The main players in these transactions were pension funds seeking higher yields and hedge funds, but increasingly this is spreading to the retail sector – the Japanese public. Nick Parsons, of National Australia Bank, says they will be closely watching

where Japanese employees invest their half-yearly bonuses, payable in July, as they expect another wave of retail investment in the "yen carry trade".



## MONEY TALKS

By Richard G. Watson

He noted that over the past two years the value of the yen has fallen from 11 South Korean won to 7.5 won. South Korea, as a major competitor of Japan, is increasingly concerned about the weak Japanese yen as it impacts severely on its competitive position.

The rush of funds from Japan is also causing problems "down under". New Zealand recently raised interest rates to 8% to fight a mixture of strong economic growth and inflationary pressures. This naturally led to a further inflow of Japanese capital into New Zealand's bond markets, resulting in the New Zealand dollar reaching its highest level since the currency was allowed to free float in 1985.

The central bank of New Zealand, called the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, has been selling the local currency to stem the rise in value, but with only limited success. The New Zealand dollar is now at levels that are starting to inhibit exports and threaten the country's vital tourism industry.

No doubt the Reserve Bank of New Zealand will also be watching where Japanese individuals invest their July bonuses.

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](mailto:imm@loxinfo.co.th)

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# TriBallistic ends with a flourish

By Janyaporn Morel

**MAI KHAO:** After six triathlons, John Douma and Teischa Jones were named Triathletes of the Year at the June 23 award ceremony for the 2007 SILK Tri-Ballistic triathlon series.

Douma, winner in the senior category, won a seven-day triathlon training camp with professional triathletes Team TBB, at the Bor Saen Villa resort in Phang Nga.

Teischa, the junior winner, received a Trek racing bike from Thalag Bikes.

The awards ceremony followed a final day of racing in the series. The race took place early in the day at the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa, with the competitors moving to the Silk Restaurant & Bar at Surin Beach for the awards.

The final race in the family-oriented series was a reverse triathlon with three categories: a Splash 'n' Dash with a 750-meter run, three-kilometer bike and a 50m swim; a Junior division with a 1.5km run, 6km bike and 250m swim; and a Senior division with

a 5km run, 20km bike and 350m swim.

More than 80 participants raced in this year's premier, and at the awards the top three athletes in each category were announced. The triathletes gained points throughout the six races of the season to win their awards.

Presenting the awards, Organizer Hugo Jones said that announcements about next year's series will be made on the group's website at [www.triballisticclub.com](http://www.triballisticclub.com)

## Final Results:

**Males, senior division:** 1. John Douma; 2. Jaray Jiaranai; 3. Richard Cracknell

**Females, senior:** 1. Timana Hossack; 2. Lizelle Van den Berg; 3. Michelle Hossack

**Males, junior:** 1. Marcus Gotz; 2. Philip Johansson; 3. Taj Jones

**Females, junior:** 1. Teischa Jones; 2. Melissa Kegans; 3. Emilie Kirstein

**Most Improved Triathlete:** Victor Kirstein

**Top Team Award:** Coffin Cheaters

**Triathlete With The Most Potential:** Josh Henthorne



Nick Dobyn crossed the finish line first during the June 23 race, a reverse triathlon at the JW Marriott resort.



The final race in the TriBallistic series was a reverse triathlon that included a Splash 'n' Dash race for the youngest athletes, seen here starting their race.



Top senior triathlete John Douma received a chance to train with international triathletes during a seven-day camp.



Teischa Jones stands with her new high-end Trek racing bicycle she won as top female junior triathlete in the six-race series.

## Phuket gets first badminton courts with rubber floors

**PHUKET:** Rubber-floored badminton courts have arrived on the island in the form of four deluxe courts at the new Andaman Badminton facilities off Chao Fa East Rd, near the Siam Commercial Bank.

Kanpitcha Srikijaroenchai, 25, the owner of the courts told the *Gazette*, "Our courts meet competition requirements. We

have four rubber courts and four cement courts. Our target is people who love to play badminton, especially company groups and students. Most of our customers come to play after work, about 6 pm and later.

"We are open every day from 10 am to 10 pm. The fee for the rubber courts is 150 baht per hour; the cement courts go for 100 baht per hour.

"Membership costs 1,200 baht per year. Members get a 20% discount and can reserve courts in advance with just a phone call," she added.

The club already has about 40 members and three coaches are on staff to help anyone age 5 and up improve their skills.

Fitness equipment and a restaurant are on the premises,

and badminton equipment is available for rent.

K. Kanpitcha said they offer yoga classes for 100 baht per class in the daytime, when the courts are not so busy. She is also looking for other activities to add to the menu, she added.

"Phuket has never had a privately-owned badminton club before. We know that many players want to play and not have to worry about hurrying off the court because other people are waiting for it. Here you can play as long as you want," she said.

For more information or to reserve a court call 089-6452848. Andaman Badminton is located at 106/1 Phattana Thongtin Rd, Tambon Taladnua in Phuket City.



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# TASARS taking over Ao Yon bay

AO YON: Sailors in Ao Yon be warned: 58 teams have confirmed entry to the G4S Tasar World Championships 2007 to be held on the bay from July 2 to 11.

Rob Douglass and his daughter Nicole, from Ulladulla on the New South Wales south coast, will be defending their title as champions in their 14-foot dinghy *Chukkel*.

The event has also attracted Jonathon McKee, who worked the mainsheet on *Luna Rossa*, the Italian entry in the America's Cup held off Valencia in December.

*Luna Rossa* knocked out early favorites for the cup BMW Oracle Racing, but were later

eliminated by runners-up Emirates Team New Zealand.

Jonathon will be racing in Phuket with his wife Libby on the helm.

Andrew De Bruin and Tom Basquin are Phuket's sole duo in the event. Basquin, at 15 years old, will be gunning for the Under-21 Junior Helm prize.

Robert Warnes, who is organizing the event, said that he rates the youngster's chances of winning pretty high. "He came in seventh in the junior nationals in Australia recently," he noted.

The first race of the day will start at 1 pm on July 4, and all are welcome to come and watch the racing, Mr Warnes said.



At least 58 two-person Tasar boats are scheduled to compete in the world championships in Ao Yon from July 2 to 11.

## ACYC: Scotty returns in style

CHALONG: Scott Duncanson on *Somtarn Express* returned to racing on Chalong Bay with a bullet in the Racing class in Race 6 of the Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) Keelboat and Multihull Race Series on June 23.

In standard wet-season sailing conditions with breezes of eight to 10 knots all day, cloud cover and some rain, Ben Copley's *Asia Spirit* placed second and Mike Downard's *Tua Lek* finished third.

Tim Milner on *See Krung Huk*, with Mark Pescott on board, won the Multihull class, with Bob Brindley's *X Cat Riot* finishing second and Chris Jung-erius on his Firefly 850 *The Frog* finishing third.

Tony Swain-Dudman on

*Onyx* sailed well to take top honors in the Cruising class. John Fenn on *Four Winds*, in his first ACYC outing this year, placed second in the class, while Tony Kipps on *Wild Orchid* finished third.

The ACYC was the day sponsor of the event, and the Image Asia encouragement award went to Tony Knight of the ACYC for his perseverance in organizing the ACYC race series but only finishing in third place at best, regardless of his countless fine race starts.

The next ACYC race day will be on July 15. All are welcome to join regardless of sailing experience.

For more information call Tony Knight at 081-7470074 or visit [www.acycphuket.com](http://www.acycphuket.com)

## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

### Piccadilly get a bollocking

PATONG: Dog's Bollocks extended their lead atop the Patong Darts League table to a full four points at home with a three-point win against defending champs (*or is it chumps?* – Ed) Piccadilly.

Simon was the hero for Dog's Bollocks, with a 180 and several sharp finishes – including one in the all-important beer leg.

Meanwhile, over on Nanai Rd a highly favored Queen Mary side fell to host Beach House. As is so often the case in darts, it was double trouble for Queen Mary, whose ace Billy lost in the singles after building up a 300-point lead – and then went down in the doubles in similar fashion.

In a battle for second place, Shakers found the orange life preserver around Offshore's board

to be no distraction – swiping all three points on the road.

Send all match information to: [darts@phuketgazette.net](mailto:darts@phuketgazette.net) for inclusion in this article.

**June 19 results:** Dog's Bollocks\* 5 Piccadilly 4; Beach House\* 6 Queen Mary 3; Offshore 4 Shakers\* 5 (\* = winner of beer leg).

**Standings:** 1. Dog's Bollocks (22 pts.); 2. Shakers (18); 3. Offshore (17); 4. Queen Mary (15); 5. Beach House (13); 6. Piccadilly (11); 7. Simply Red (4); 8. Valhalla (2).

**July 3 matchups:** Beach House v Piccadilly; Valhalla v Offshore; Simply Red v Shakers; Queen Mary and Dog's Bollocks have byes (home team first).

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## Gardening

by Bloomin' Bert

# Masochist of the floral world

I'm not the most patient of souls. In fact as the years progress, I find more and more things irritating: screaming kids, rap music, 125cc motorcycles with big-bore exhausts, anyone that thinks it looks hip to make one of those W signs with their fingers, those pickups belting out several kilowatts of sound to inform us of the latest sale at Big C, and so on.

I'm fairly sure that annoyances get more annoying as you get older. Does that mean I'm turning into my father? A scary thought, but I'm sure that if I had teenage kids I'd be bursting into their bedrooms screaming at them over the 150-decibel music asking them to "turn that damn noise down".

I find that some accents from various parts of the UK grate too. Apologies to Birmingham readers, but that accent doesn't do you any favors. Somehow the Brummie accent makes the speakers sound as if they're a few bricks short of a full load. I'm sure they're not, but that high-pitched back-of-the-throat 'aw-royt?' favorite of theirs hardly makes them sound like Mensa candidates.

Some regional accents are fine. Scousers (ladies and gentlemen from Liverpool) are usually comedians, and most utterances from Geordies (Newcastle) are often hilarious. Try saying 'Kaw-a-sak-i' in a Geordie accent without smiling. You can't.

I've given up trying to decode the sounds that come out of a Glaswegian's mouth, though. I'm fairly convinced that they produce random noises at break-neck speed and spend their days nodding at each other in the streets and pubs of Glasgow, pre-

tending to understand. Indecipherable, but bearable.

And so, inevitably, we move on to the Welsh. Their accent is neither amusing nor charming, unfortunately. Is it just me that finds Welsh accents annoying? They're wonderful in Wales I'm sure, with all their singing in the valleys, but let's work on the exit visa situation.

And while we're on the subject of the Welsh accent, why is it that whenever I try it, the first couple of sentences come out OK, but then inevitably transform into a very poor attempt at Pakistani? Is it just me?

The English have a flower for their national emblem – the rose. A thing of beauty. The Welsh? They have two – the daffodil and the leek. I will concede that the daffodil has its charm, but a leek? A smelly vegetable?

I remember, in my school days, a couple of Welsh kids whose mothers insisted on pinning a leek to their lapels on St David's Day. We obviously made no comment on the stinking vegetable that accompanied them all day. You can imagine how gentle we all were, and how much we admired these fine Welsh chaps attending a Yorkshire school proclaiming their origins.

I suppose I should move on to the subject of plants at some stage, or I'm likely to be accused of yet another meaningless rant. Much as I hate to admit a fondness for something associated with the Welsh, one of the few plants I miss from my homeland is in fact the daffodil. Most of the others are either too boring or slow-growing, or just plain insignificant. The daffodil at least has some individuality about it.

Phuket is hardly the daffo-



Clivia miniata: Phuket's version of the daffodil.

Photo: Botanic Gardens Trust Sydney / Jaime Plaza.

dil capital of the world (it would probably be somewhere in those valleys attached to the west of England) but at least we have something that looks vaguely similar – the *clivia miniata*, or kaffir lily. The similarity is actually extremely vague, come to think of it. At least they both have that 90-degree flower-on-top-of-the-stalk thing happening.

Originally, clivia made its way over here from Natal, South Africa, where it grows naturally in shady, moist areas. The name of the plant isn't the most obvious. Most people probably even pronounce it incorrectly. It was given to the plant by a man named John Lindley during the mid-

1800s. Lady Clive (really!) was the Duchess of Northumberland then, and Lindley named the plant in her honor. You couldn't make this stuff up.

There are a few different species, but the *clivia miniata* is probably the most common grown here. Its dark green leaves are broad and strap-like and grow in a kind of arch, up to about 40cm long and three to four inches wide. Brilliant clusters of apricot-colored, funnel-shaped blossoms appear on strong stems arising from the center of the dense leaf clumps.

A general rule of thumb is that plants tend to be happier in open soil, rather than being confined to a pot. The *clivia miniata* bucks that trend completely, as it is much happier when its roots

are constricted by a small pot, for some bizarre reason. Try to resist the temptation to move the plant to a larger pot as you would do for most potted plants. This one's a serious masochist. If it were human it would probably be into things that should definitely be conducted behind closed doors.

Clivia roots are thick, fleshy and very well-equipped for water storage. On a mature plant, the swollen mass of roots often becomes so large that it will completely fill the pot, forcing the soil in the pot up and over the container's edge. Only when this begins to happen should a clivia plant be moved to a larger pot.

Unlike many other plants, clivias survive in bright or dim light and in soil that is moist or dry. They prefer well-drained, organic soil in bright light with early morning or late afternoon sun and shaded in between, as the leaves will scorch if they get direct sun. It may have masochistic tendencies, but heat isn't among its pleasures.

The ability of these plants to survive under conditions unsuitable for most other plants makes them extremely tough house plants and ideal candidates for people who like to have plants in their houses, but can't be bothered giving them much attention.

Clivias are most often propagated by separation of offsets, or the extra stalks that grow independently from the main plant, after the plants have flowered. When an individual offset has developed three or four leaves of its own, it can be cut from the parent plant (you need to include some roots too) and placed in small pots of its own.

Daffodils may not exactly be abundant here, but at least we make do with this distant relative. Those of the Welsh persuasion can be reassured that should they feel the urge to pin a *clivia miniata* to their chests at the beginning of March every year, we won't snigger at all. Well, not much, anyway. Dydd da to you.

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## Home of the Week

Patong



The strong Thai influence in the architecture of the home is offset by highly effective stone facades.

# STONE-FACED

**B**uilt in one of the quieter areas on the eastern side of Patong is this enchanting Thai-style detached house, finished using a variety of stones, including sandstone.

The plot is 82 square meters and is fully fenced. At the front of the plot is a private 32sqm swimming pool, which features a stone footbridge reaching over one end and a large sculptured water feature at the other end.

Through the remote-controlled decorative iron gate is undercover parking for one vehicle.

Inside the two-story dwell-

ing is an attractive living space with quality tiled flooring and wood-paneled ceilings fitted with fans throughout.

To the rear of the house is a large Western kitchen with gas cook top, wooden-door cupboards and panels, and granite counter tops.

An impressive wooden staircase leads upstairs to the two bedrooms, with the main bedroom overlooking the pool area; both have private en-suite bathrooms.

The property has three air conditioning units and a total of six ceiling fans to keep the home cool.

The home's convenient location allows easy access to the nearby beach, schools, golf courses and international hospitals.

Utilities include telephone, mains water with two water heaters and a septic tank.

Priced at 15 million baht with Chanote title, the property is available on either freehold or leasehold terms.

*For more details contact Richard Lusted at Siam Real Estate at Tel: 076-288908, or visit the website at [www.siamrealestate.com](http://www.siamrealestate.com) or email: [info@siamrealestate.com](mailto:info@siamrealestate.com)*

A carefully constructed rustic concrete bridge takes visitors across the swimming pool to the house.



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## Construction Update

by Janyaporn Morel



One of the four-bedroom standalone homes at Phuket Thani.



Bird's eye view of the project, with the commercial units ranked along the main road.

# Phuket Thani commercial units sell out

Work on the Phuket Thani project on 25 rai on Thepkasatri Rd, just north of the Heroines Monument, is now

50% complete. About 70% of the project has been sold and local developers Collage Height Estate Co Ltd and Siam Island Property Co Ltd expect to complete all

construction by the end of 2008.

The project has 46 three-story commercial units in eight blocks, 24 two-story home-office units in four blocks, 34 duplex

houses and 46 single houses.

Thawat Teowattanakul, president of both Collage Height Estate Co Ltd and Siam Island Property Co Ltd, told the *Gazette* that all commercial building units and duplex homes have been sold. Remaining for sale are 20 single houses and 22 home-office units, which have just opened for reservation.

"We have a good location; we are at the center of the island. Developments in Phuket City are already crowded and projects are now expanding into this area. We have a very attractive location for commercial buildings and our aim is to attract people who want to have their businesses facing the main road.

"We also wanted a nice view for people in the home offices and private houses," he said.

About 10% of the businesses have already opened, including dealers for air conditioning, construction supplies, golf carts and a fitness center.

Four of the commercial buildings face Thepkasatri Rd and the other four face the central road of the project. The units, each of 206 square meters, can be used for commercial and residential purposes as each unit has three bedrooms and three bathrooms. Prices range from 3.1 million to 3.5 million baht.

The home-offices have a total area of 190sqm, including three bedrooms and three bathrooms. Prices for these units start at 2.05 million baht.

The 34 duplex houses, which have sold out, have three bedrooms, two bathrooms and 110.6sqm of usable area. The one-story single houses come in two styles, with either three or four



The commercial units have already sold out.

bedrooms, and have 145.5sqm or 150sqm, respectively. Prices start at 2.32 million baht.

K. Thawat said that the success of the project's marketing comes from many factors, "First is our location as we face the main road and are located between the city and airport, which is good for the businesses that have bought units here.

"Second, we have provided good facilities for the project with a 16-meter wide main road and a nine-meter road within the community. We have also provided a good electrical system, an underground water-supply tank, a club house and 24-hour security.

"Third, and most important, is that we are sincere and give our customers confidence as we are local people. We emphasize a good standard of construction and use good quality materials.

"Also very important is that our prices are quite reasonable for the quality that we provide our customers," he said.

"There are now both commercial and local residents living here and the area will continue to grow as we can see a lot of estates coming in," he added.

For more information contact the Phuket Thani sales office. Tel: 076-313409, 081-8921911, Fax: 076-313410. The project is located at 59/11-12 Moo 5, Thepkasatri Rd, Srisoonthorn, Thalang, Phuket 83110.



  
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# Can Patong reinvent itself?

Everyone has an opinion on Patong. Either they love it or hate it, but there is never a lack of sentiment when the subject comes up. No matter what you think of the place, no one can deny Patong's significance to the tourism economy and its role as the meeting point for island visitors. Strategically, it remains a hub where north, south, east and west collide.

After the tsunami, the area started making noises about rejuvenation and was marked by overseas investment into projects, such as the impressive renovation of the Holiday Inn and the financial rehabilitation of Jungceylon. Local firms were active; Burasari acquired the Comfort Inn and expanded its well-regarded brand.

However, other projects did not move ahead, such as the Sofitel, located on one of the area's prime pieces of real estate at the north end of the bay.

In 2007, the pace of internationally branded hotels opening has been accelerating. There will be more than 1,500 chain-operated rooms coming on line in the next year, including the Millennium at Jungceylon (436 rooms), Mercure (249 rooms) and Ibis (250 rooms).

Perhaps the most-watched new project is the Park Hyatt Phuket, at Emerald Bay to the south of Patong. This stunning piece of property was controlled for years by Taiwan's Evergreen group and was sold to Thai and Hong Kong interests. The question on everyone's lips



## PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

has been, "Is Patong ready for a high-end luxury resort?" This will be a key indicator if the market can evolve to serve the upper-echelon segment.

Transactions remain a barometer of a healthy property market, and there have been two of note lately. First is Destination Properties' acquisition of the Grand Tropicana (400 rooms), which is understood to be under renovation and will be branded for the coming high season.

This is the latest move for Gary Murray's group, which bought the Felix Hotel in Karon and renovated and flagged it as a Ramada, along with Kamala Bay Terrace opening next year as an Alila.

While more recently acquired, the Surin Beach Resort and Kamala Bay Garden Resort are currently under renovation and will be internationally managed. Also of note was the sale



With Patong bursting at the seams, Kalim is next in line to see larger-scale development.

of the boutique Baan Yin Dee project to a company controlled by a Singapore-listed firm, which recently bought Bintan Lagoon Resorts.

Support facilities, such as dining and shopping attractions, are a key component of the development of any market. Jungceylon is well-placed to capture traffic from most hotels on the island. One key multi-outlet under development within the project is Singapore's Indochine group's tiered entertainment venue, bringing a variety of eating, drinking and lifestyle offerings.

At the Sky Inn, the 9th Floor restaurant with its impressive refurbishment attracts tourists and locals alike, and the regional Coyote bar and restaurant at the front of BanThai is adding to the list of chains with outlets in Bangkok that now see Phuket as a "must have" location.

The rate of property development in Patong has lapsed during the past five years, meaning there is a good amount of catch-up required. After years being dominated by lower-end products, Patong now has a few notable projects raising the bar, such as BYD Lofts and L'Orchidee's ocean-view villas.

Many industry watchers are waiting to see if, and at what level, a mixed-use residential or villa component will be offered at the Park Hyatt project. Ultimately, given the limited amount of developable land, it appears that Patong's future depends on either bringing down older structures, developing more dense projects or renovating existing products.

From a long-term perspective, and given the number of high-rise buildings already in the area, perhaps one option might be to zone certain areas of Patong to allow for new high-rise developments, taking a similar road of

development of the more sophisticated destinations, such as Waikiki.

Once there is no more undeveloped land, either redevelopment needs to be done or else there will be a geographical shift

to areas such as Mai Khao.


With Patong virtually bursting at the seams, Kalim looks poised to be a major area of activity over the next few years. Bart Duykers of Villa Santi recently said that both the boutique resort and its signature outlet, Gaya, with enviable sunset views of the bay, will open by this coming high season.

The multi-million-dollar Dijinnah Santi project is under construction and sales are moving, showing there is a market in that location for a 60- to 100-million-baht property. To be sited on the hills opposite is the Miora Resort, planned to be an all-suite, internationally managed hotel, as well as an up-market dining/bar complex next to Baan Chai Lei.

Patong will remain a source of conversation for a long time, be it good or bad. From a tourism and property perspective, the current trend towards upgrading and branding of products, new developments and the scale of international investment is positive.


Downstream, zoning and regulating growth are going to be paramount to reinventing the destination.

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Bill Barnett is managing director of C9 Hotelworks (c9hotelworks.com), a Phuket-based hotel and residential property consulting firm. With more than 20 years' experience in the region, he has played an active role in some of the island's biggest developments.



# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

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### HOUSE IN PATONG

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### SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE



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### CONDO FOR SALE

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### HOUSE FOR SALE

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### RAWAI BEACH LAND

500 meters to Rawai Beach, 100 meters to hotel and spa, 34.5m x 41m plot. 6.2 million baht. Tel: 081-0910964.

### RAWAI BEACH VILLA

400sqm land, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

### RAWAI BEACH

condo. Sea view, foreign freehold. 550,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. For more info email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

### CENTRAL WATERFRONT

Condo at Karon Beach, corner unit with sea view. 9th floor, 167sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, unit#9D. 12.6 million baht. Tel: 081-408-4991.

### 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. For more info, visit our website: http://eisrawai.wetpaint.com/page/Phuket+Townhouse

### 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

### HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT

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### CHALONG SHOPHOUSE

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### 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.

### PANORAMIC SEAVIEW LAND

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### KAMALA LAND PLOTS

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### CHALONG AREA

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### INEXPENSIVE LAND

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### RESORT ON PHI PHI

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### BEAUTIFUL NAI HARN



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### NEW SHOPHOUSES

near Bangla road. 12 new shophouses for sale in the heart of Patong. Can buy whole plot or separate. Very close to Jungceylon and Bangla. Walk to the beach in 10 minutes from the site. Must see! Tel: 076-239839, 081-8779292. Fax: 081-8779292. Email: prakaisriroj@hotmail.com

### 3.5 RAI FLAT LAND

Chanote title, 1 rai, square plot, 500m from Thepkrasattri Rd, Thalanga area. Price: 2 million baht. For more info, please contact Tel: 084-0577505.

### LAND FOR SALE

25 talang wah: 800,000 baht. 80 talang wah: 1.5 million baht. 90 talang wah: 1.8 million baht. Title deeds, close to Nai Harn Beach. Tel: 081-8921057. Email: angela\_prajantabut@hotmail.com

### CHEAPEST BEACHFRONT LAND!

1.6 million baht per rai. Will sell from 5 to 22 rai. Contact for additional details. Email: admin@thaisunshinedevelopments.com

### BEAUTIFUL HOUSE FOR SALE



51.47sqm, located in Chanakran Property Village, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Behind TOT Public Co Ltd (Chalong). Under construction and will be ready within one month. Price: 3.9 million baht. Contact for details. Tel: 081-9562406.

### 4 RAI CHANOTE LAND

Private access, two houses, underground infrastructure, stream, orchard. 7.5 million baht. Tel: 086-4705809.

### 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. Call Tel: 089-7241140. Email: nong.phuket@yahoo.de

### URGENT SALE

Khao Lak. Bang Niang bungalow-apartment resort. 8 bungalows with 2 rooms and 2 bungalows with 3 rooms. 6 x 12-meter swimming pool. Sauna and Jacuzzi, restaurant. All rooms with aircon, color TV, DVD player and ADSL. Parking available. Price: 9 million baht. Contact Tel: 076-346065, 081-8914844. Email: joerg@phuket.ksc.co.th

### BEACHFRONT POOL

house. 3-4 bedrooms from only 8 million baht. For more info, please email: admin@thaisunshinedevelopments.com

### COMMERCIAL BUILDING

New 3-floor commercial building. Good location and suited for business. Ready to move in. Soi Nanai 2, Patong. Price: 3.8 million baht. Contact Tel: 086-7432011.

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# Property Gazette

## 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

## 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

## OCEANVIEW LAND PLOTS BANG TAO

with infrastructure. Ready to build. 900-1,700sqm. Priced at 3.9 to 5.5 million baht. Please contact Tel: 089-5903665. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

## LUXURY VILLAS



Close to Laguna. Best negotiable price. Brand new. 1,100sqm land, 4 bedrooms, pool, lotus pond & garden. Contact K. Gai. Tel: 081-7344324. For more info, please visit our website: [www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com](http://www.phuketgreenlandvillas.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.

## NICE HOUSE

2-story detached house with Western-style kitchen, dining room, living room, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 aircon, carport, garden, fully furnished. Price: 3.2 million baht obo. Contact Tel: +31-64-6098573. Email: shd1@planet.nl Visit our website: <http://home.planet.nl/~duang000/house.htm>

## LAND IN TRANG

4.5 rai in Trang. Perfect location for future business. In front of main road, opposite university. Contact K. Tan for more information at Tel: 076-296658, 089-6513479. Send email: tannynanny@hotmail.com

## APARTMENTS IN KARON

One unit with 3 fully furnished apartments for sale. Must see. Please contact John Johannesen for pricing and further details. Tel: 081-8957957. Email: gymworld@loxinfo.co.th

## CHALONG HOUSE



for sale or rent in Land & Houses Chalong. New house with furniture, never occupied, very nice design, saloon, reception, office, kitchen, maid's room, 4 rooms (one with furniture, aircon, dressing room and bathroom with Jacuzzi). 6.9 million baht. Call Tel: 081-5693890.

## 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

## URGENT SALE

House in Thalung near Mission Hills golf course, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms on 3.5 rai of land. Price: 12 million baht. Tel: 089-7298365.

## 2-STORY HOUSE PHUKET TOWN

5m x 20m, Soi Romanee. Price: 3.8 million baht. Contact Tel: 084-0577505.

## HOUSE FOR SALE

Soi Namtok in Kathu, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, aircon, kitchen. Price: 880,000 baht. Tel: 089-8728188.

## LAND FOR SALE



Flat land, 119sq wah in Maneekram, located between Chalong and Central Festival. Full public utilities, quiet area. Please contact Tel: 084-8516115. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

## 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 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

## 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](http://www.phuketsecondhand.com/post/detail.php?post_id=3523)

## NEW TOWNHOUSE

with 2 floors on Chao Fa East Rd. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 6m x 12.5m, 19sq wah. Construction to be finished in Dec. 2007. Price: 1.6 million baht. Down payment of 354,000 baht with a 1.246 million baht bank loan available. Please contact Khun Jeab for more info. Tel: 084-6890760. Email: a\_manasan@hotmail.com

## 90% FINANCE OFFER



3-story modern home & office. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms located in Karon. Very close to the main road. Price: 4.75 million baht. Tel: 076-280801. Fax: 076-281067. Email: legalinsidesiamproperty@gmail.com

## 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.

## 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: [www.phuket-besthomes.com](http://www.phuket-besthomes.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

## LAYAN VILLAGE



20 rai: Few minutes from the beach, Chanote. For sale or looking for serious partner to develop. All infrastructure is in place, 2 public roads, electric, phone, Internet, office. Lake is part of the land. 2 rai: Chanote, lake view. 7 rai: Chanote, hillside with nice sea view, road access. Email for plot prices at: [danwea@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:danwea@loxinfo.co.th)

## 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.

## 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

## 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

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# Property Gazette

## 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-style 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 visit our website at <http://www.janepropertyphuket.com>

## HOUSE FOR SALE AT CAPE PANWA



Med. styled, fully furnished, bayview home. 3 bedrooms, 3 en-suite bathrooms. Living room, office area, Western-style 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 package deal! Price: 33 million baht. Contact Liang Tel: 076-200707, 087-9312301 or via email: joey\_lean@yahoo.com

## 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. Price: 16 million baht ono. Contact Tel: 081-892-6251. Email: mrsouza@hotmail.com Visit our website for photos and more details: [www.phuketdreamhome.com](http://www.phuketdreamhome.com)

## Properties For Rent

### HOUSE FOR RENT

Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cable TV, ADSL. 18,000 baht per month. Call Tel: 089-9732917.

### 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

### RAWAI BEACH VILLA

Long-term rent, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, UBC. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-9408914, 086-6865567.

### HOUSE FOR RENT

at Land & Houses in 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.

### 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.

### 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. Tel: 081-6067410.

### 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.

### AMAZING SEA VIEWS

Spacious 3-bedroom villa set in a tropical garden. Lounge, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, swimming pool. Big driveway, Cape Yamu area. 10 mins to BIS. 40,000 baht per month. Call Tel: 086-2796283.

### KAMALA BEACH

New apartments and houses for rent or sale. All are fully furnished. 15,000-30,000 baht. Tel: 084-3059606.

### 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 RENTALS AVAILABLE

A number of listings that may appeal to you. Prices starting from 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-7196088 (Eng), 089-6498703 (Thai). Please visit our website: [www.gardenislandphuket.com](http://www.gardenislandphuket.com)

### LUXURIOUS VILLA FOR RENT

3-4 bedrooms, 2 levels, sat TV, Internet, big pool, 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. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-1238320. Email: deherder@hotmail.com

### 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: gjsbert1@gmx.net

### 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

### 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: suwittrai@hotmail.com

## 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: tamjemjai@yahoo.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

## 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. Call K. Jeab. Tel: 084-6890760. Email: a\_manasanan@hotmail.com

## NICE LAND FOR SALE

1-3 rai, hillside land, 700m from international school, sea view. 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-4761327.

## KHO YAO YAI

2 rai, 1 million per rai, Chanote, water, electricity, close to the beach. Tel: 081-8928208.

## 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

## KAMALA LAND/ HOUSE

Land plot, 1 rai. Price: 3.7 million baht. House, garden, electric, water, free to build. Price: 2.9 million baht. Tel: 076-292-596, 086-2678477. Email: tourniechristian@hotmail.com

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To ensure clarity, please attach photo. Do not Fax!



# Property Gazette

## 3-STORY HOME/ OFFICE FOR RENT

Chao Fa Rd and Naka Rd. 2 mins to Central, Big C and Lotus. 2 bedrooms, 2 hot/cold water bathrooms, 2 aircons. 25,000 baht per month obo. 24-hr security, garbage collection, common area garden. Tel: 089-4742815. Email: noppakul@hotmail.com

## MISSION HEIGHTS

Large luxury house, fully furnished, 4 double bedrooms, all with en-suite bathrooms, maid/guest bungalow in large 120sqm gardens. Pool and Jacuzzi, 10 mins to airport, 10 mins to golf courses. Call for details and pricing. Tel: 076-528016, 089-2262612. Email: jim@jimmarsh.net

## HOUSE FOR RENT IN CHALONG

2 bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, laundry room, fully furnished, aircon in every room, carpark, communal swimming pool, tropical garden. ADSL and UBC satellite TV included. Price: 25,000 baht per month. Minimum 6-month lease. Tel: 087-1057320. Email: stefan@phuketit.co.th

## B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. Price: 8,000 baht per month. Contact for more information. Tel: 081-6923163.

## PALM GARDEN

New 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom in Thalang gated community. 24-hr security, swimming pool, furnished. 15,000 per month. Please call Tel: 081-8928208.

## 4-STORY BUILDING

for rent. 6 bedrooms, opposite Tesco Lotus. Contact for more information at Tel: 089-4743575, 085-9095191, 089-4744839.

**NEW CHALONG HOME**  
Furnished, 2-bedroom home for rent with telephone, UBC, and aircon. Tel: 089-6521473.

## VILLAS FOR RENT



Quiet residence in Rawai on Soi Suksan 2. Great location. Electricity not included, 220sqm, 3 bedrooms, TV, DVD, aircon, hot water, ADSL, Wi-Fi, swimming pool, French management. Price: 40,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information and details. Tel: 086-2773817. Email: myprojob@hotmail.fr Please visit our website: www.christianesblue.com

## BEACHFRONT ON BANG TAO

Beachfront apartment. Rare duplex, 2 bedrooms, 2 balconies, sea view, pool, parking, fully furnished, separate storeroom. Rent: 50,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-325301, 852-903 3379. Fax: 852-28651013. Email: cmcgee@netvigator.com

## HOUSE AND CONDO

Rawai location, 2 stories, 8 rooms, aircons, 170sqm, ideal for 2 families. Long-term rent: 2,800 baht per month. Condo with aircon. Rent: 5,000 baht per month. Please call for details. Tel: 084-4454614.

## 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.

## 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! Great price at only 9,500 baht per month. Please contact for more information at Tel: 084-8450541, 081-8914561.

## 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. Contact for more information. Tel: 084-0571420.

## NEW BUILDING

2 units for rent. Opportunity for only minimart opposite Kathu waterfall. Please call Tel: 087-2799500.

## 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

## 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. Call Tel: 081-9701716.

## 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

## PATONG TOWER CONDO A BEAUTY



Beautiful Patong Tower beach condo with stunning 280-degree panoramic views of the ocean, hills and town. Large outdoor patio and wrap around balcony. Completely renovated, Internet and washing machine. Available now. Contact Tel: (011)+ 86-138-1634-4147. For further details, visit our website: www.Patong TowerRental.com

## RAWAI LUXURY VILLA

4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, European-style kitchen, large swimming pool, garden, ADSL, UBC. Price: 70,000 baht per month. Contact for more info. 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. Price: 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8439579, 086-9402227.

## 2-BEDROOM FLAT

Beautiful space, fully furnished, fully equipped, Western-style kitchen. Aircon throughout. Private access to swimming pool. Elevated view of Patong. Quiet and secure. Rental price includes water and UBC TV. Contact for info. Email: simon@coppinger properties.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: sleeves@sleeves.com

## HOUSE FOR RENT

at Land & Houses in Chalong. New house by the lake. 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircon, UBC, ADSL. Call for information at Tel: 081-8953649.

## LAGUNA TOWNHOME

3 bedrooms, 400sqm, garden & lap pool, golf course views. Price: 85,000 baht per month. Contact K. Amber at Tel: 089-2001681. Email: aabsxx88@truemail.co.th

## HOME NEAR AIRPORT

8km to Phuket airport, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms at Garden Place, 115sqm. Price: 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. Call 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. Great location. Long-term rent: 13,000 baht per month. Contact 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. Contact Tel: 081-7196998.

## Agents for Classified Advertising

### PHUKET

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Fax: 076-280403

#### Earth Language School

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Fax: 076-232398

#### Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

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#### Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

Fax: 076-344523

#### 41 Minimart

Srisoontorn Rd, Cherng Talay

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# Boats & Marine

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This Cumberland 44' is pristine condition. It is Thai commercially registered and is already a successful charter boat. Available immediately - based in Phuket. Owner will purchase larger boat.

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Simpson Marine is a Platinum dealer, the highest level attainable in Azimut's worldwide dealer network, and has been named Best Service Centre for the last three years.

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Email: info@simpsonmarine.com

**PROWLER 9000**

**Before**

**After**

Hulls to be finished. Visible at Cata Thai showroom. Tel: 076-239111, 081-895-2126. Fax: 076-238974. Email: broker@asia-marine.net For further details, please see our website: <http://www.asiamarine.net/list.html?de=19887&cat=power>

**INDONESIAN WOOD**  
Boat. Thai-registered wooden boat for sale. 65ft long, 18ft wide, 30 tons. Send email: shaanxi.xian@vipmail.hu or p.atiss@freemail.hu

**JABSCO HEAD FOR SALE**

Jabsco head for sale. Recent model. All seals are brand new and in perfect condition. Can be seen in working situation. Currently at Yacht Haven Marina and moving to Boat Lagoon in two weeks. Please contact for pricing. Tel: 084-844-6246. Email: rogerg@seamarineservices.com

**20 METER POWER CATAMARAN**

with 4 double cabins (King size), 2 double cabins for crew and 2 saloons. 90% finished. Price: 49,000 Euro. Tel: 087-8919620.

**BOSTON WHALER**

Two 55hp Yamaha engines. Length 5.20m, width 2.00m, depth 0.7m. Thai registration. Price: 180,000 baht includes trailer. Good condition. Contact Tel: 087-8859247.

**HOBIE 16 CATAMARAN**

Good condition, fun beach boat for you and all the family. Price: 180,000 baht. Email: bbee\_1@hotmail.com

**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

**FERRY FOR SALE**

Length: 30m, Gross: 322 tons, 244 passengers. 12.2 million baht. Dock at Phuket. Call for more details. Tel: 081-4084991.

**FAST, FUN SAILING**  
dinghies. Australian-built 59ers: 300,000 baht. 45% off new price. 29ers: 220,000 baht. 35% off new price. Like new condition. Tel: 081-3970905. Email: phil@circumnave.net



# Island Job Mart



medical technology

Mectron S.p.A., a dental equipment manufacturer, founded in 1979 and based in Italy is present all over the world.

To meet the increasing demand for our products and services, we are looking for professional candidates to fill the following position at our new subsidiary Mectron Asia/Pacific in Phuket, Thailand.

## ► Assistant Marketing Manager Mectron Asia/Pacific

### Job description:

- (a) Promote and market the products to, and gather feedback on products from, all dental product dealers and distributors, dental schools, private and public dental clinics and government facilities located in Asia/Pacific
- (b) Coordinate the promotion and display of Products at all dental conventions and dental exhibitions in the Territory where Mectron Asia/Pacific attends
- (c) Review and verify customer complaints
- (d) Handle all dealer returns and credits with the assistance and approval of Mectron Asia/Pacific
- (e) Perform any other administrative functions and responsibilities requested by Mectron Asia/Pacific

### Preferred candidates are expected to be:

- (a) Thai Nationality with direct experience and knowledge in import and export business
- (b) Excellent knowledge of written and spoken English and Thai
- (c) University graduates in Marketing or Engineering, handling sales and marketing function
- (d) Ability to work in an international and multicultural environment
- (e) Fluency in PC skills, negotiation, communication, interpersonal, coordination and presentation skills
- (f) Dynamic, assertive, with positive attitude
- (g) Target - oriented, with flexible approach without losing principles of work

### How to apply:

Interested Thai Nationalities, please apply by sending your application to: [mectron.asia@ji-net.com](mailto:mectron.asia@ji-net.com), Mr. Norbert Emmerich.

Applications, treated in strictest confidence, shall include a personal letter, CV, names of referees, photo and current package.



[www.divesupply.com](http://www.divesupply.com)

**DIVE SUPPLY CO., LTD.** a leading sporting goods distributor (diving) based in Phuket, offers an opportunity for suitable and qualified professionals to live and work at this tropical island paradise. This long established company has its head office in Phuket plus four branch locations throughout the country and distributes the finest brands of diving equipment and educational materials. We are looking to recruit for the following positions:

### Chief Accountant (Thai National)

University degree in accounting, at least three years experience as chief accountant in all aspects of accounting, up to P&L, Balance Sheet, VAT, year end tax. Good at all taxation areas and up to date with current taxation standards and laws, able to deal directly with the Revenue Dept. Good all around attitude and self-discipline. Computer skills MS-Office, knowledge of MYOB an advantage, good written and spoken English, has a driving license and is a non smoker.

### Shop Manager (Foreign welcome)

Trained retail executive with degree, sales experience is a must; male or female, fluent in English, second language would be an advantage, computer skills for all basic software, Padi-Divemaster or up and familiar with current Padi standards and materials, at least two years Thailand experience, driving license, non smoker

### Warehouse / Distribution Manager (Foreign or Thai)

Degree and experience in warehouse management, logistic and stock control, fluent in English, second language would be a plus, computer skills for all basic software, good leadership qualities, hands on manager and ability to motivate others, has a driving license and is a non-smoker.

### Web / Graphic Design with IT – Support background (Foreign or Thai)

Experience in Maintaining and developing DS - Webpage's / online catalogue  
Creating of new graphic design for new products, packing, displays and brochures.  
Creating of newsletters, product information, trainings materials  
Answering and resolving PC software / network and hardware related problems  
Implementation of new PC software / hardware, PC user training for Dive Supply employees

Please send your application to: [Stefan@divesupply.com](mailto:Stefan@divesupply.com)

**Dive Supply Co, Ltd**

88/5 Patak Road, Chalong Bay, Phuket 83130, Thailand  
Tel: +66 76 383414-6, Fax: +66 76 281525, Email: [info@divesupply.com](mailto:info@divesupply.com)



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](mailto:bkkpmt@cathaypacific.com)

### Hong Kong Dragon Airlines

Room 307, 3rd Floor, Phuket International Airport  
Maikhao District, Amphur Thalung  
Phuket 83110

Tel: 076 351496 -7

Fax: 076 328352

[www.dragonair.com](http://www.dragonair.com)



## RESORT MANAGER

An experienced manager is required for a new serviced apartment resort opening in December 2007. The property consists of 96 serviced beachfront apartments with clubhouse facilities in Phuket.

The ideal candidate will need to meet the following criteria:

- Minimum 5 years experience of managing all aspects of international hotels/resorts
- Strong Marketing and Business Development Experience
- Bi-lingual English/Thai
- Be self motivated and hands on

Salary & Benefits will be commensurate with experience

Interested candidates should in the first instance send their CV by Fax or email to:

**Alfa Resorts and Management (Thailand) Co., Ltd.**  
434, 436, 438 Srisoonthorn Rd., T.Cherngtalay  
A.Thalang, Phuket 83000 Thailand.  
Fax: 076 270 138  
email: [dan@alfa-resorts.com](mailto:dan@alfa-resorts.com)

### 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 resum to: [info@layanphuket.com](mailto:info@layanphuket.com). Call K. Orasiri at Tel: 076-313412-4.

### PART-TIME

Teachers. The British International School in Phuket requires dedicated and innovative, temporary part-time teachers to work at our summer camp. July 8 - August 4. Bachelor's degree and ESL teaching certificate required. Tel: 087-2753614. Email: [preez@bcis.ac.th](mailto:preez@bcis.ac.th)

### KARON OFFICE

staff required for boat charter/cultural tour company. Thai with good English skills, sales & marketing experience, must have own transport. Tel: 081-0817163. Email: [gsmith100@gmail.com](mailto:gsmith100@gmail.com)

### TEACHER WANTED

Native English teachers needed for public school & resort work. Must be experienced or 'A' grade TEFL/CELTA, reliable, enthusiastic & friendly. Email your CV to Brent at: [eccpkt@ecc.ac.th](mailto:eccpkt@ecc.ac.th)

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Executive secretary will be providing secretarial service to the MD as well as handling administrative and HR functions for the office. Male/female, Thai nationality, with experience in the position required. High proficiency, English communication skills and computer literate. The candidate must be able to work at Phuket International Airport with own transportation. Interested persons, send CV to [hrda@destinationair.com](mailto:hrda@destinationair.com)

### IT MANAGER

Professional male or female, Thai nationality with strong general knowledge of IT systems. 5 years or more experience working in company environment. Duties include maintaining office server, Wi-Fi network and staff computers. High proficiency in English skills are required. For application, please send CV to [hrda@destinationair.com](mailto:hrda@destinationair.com)



# Island Job Mart

## 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, Chalemprakiat Rama 9 Rd, T. Rasada, Muang, Phuket 83000 Thailand Contact Tel: + 66-076-261195-6. Fax: + 66-076-261197 For additional details, please visit our website:

www.  
phuket-receptif.com

## mectron

medical technology

Mectron S.p.A., a dental equipment manufacturer, founded in 1979 and based in Italy is present all over the world. To meet the increasing demand for our products and services, we are looking for professional candidates to fill the following position at our new subsidiary Mectron Asia/Pacific in Phuket, Thailand.

### Chief Electrical Engineering

#### Job description:

- (a) Installation, maintenance and repair of dental ultrasonic equipment
- (b) Provide training and support to Asian/Pacific electrical engineering
- (c) Review and verify customer technical complaints
- (d) Handle all administrative warehouse maintenance

#### Preferred candidates are expected to be:

- (a) Thai Nationality with at least 2 years experience in electronic engineering
- (b) Good knowledge of written and spoken English and Thai
- (c) Be prepared to travel for training to Italy (1 - 2 weeks)
- (d) Ability to work in an international and multicultural environment
- (e) Basic Computer skills

#### How to apply:

Interested Thai Nationalities, please apply by sending your application to: mectron.asia@ji-net.com, Mr. Norbert Emmerich.

Applications, treated in strictest confidence, shall include a personal letter, CV, names of referees, photo and current package.

## Staff Required

### - 1 x Office Administrator

A luxury motor yacht charter company is looking for English-speaking Thai national staff to fill the above position. Office administrator - should have office experience and hold a driving license.

Please contact prue@tawancruises.com or phone 081 8943 234 for further information.

## RECEPTIONIST

27-room hotel in Patong requires female staff. Good English skills are a must. Please call for more information at Tel: 081-8921621.

## HOTEL JOBS

We currently require 1 cook, 1 English-speaking receptionist and 2 waitresses. Contact via email: info@club-coconut-resort.info

## TIMESHARE REPS

& OPCs. Sales reps and OPCs needed. Minimum of 2 years experience. Foreigners okay. Tel: 081-1371001. Email: solitude001@aol.com



simply superior business software

**Codex Asia Co., Ltd**  
**Phuket - Thailand**

The Codex Holding Group is a modern and innovative IT-Services Company based in Switzerland. Our main activity is the deployment of the ERP Software proAlpha® in Europe, USA and Asia. We currently have a staff of 75 located in Switzerland, France, Germany, Italy and Thailand. In order to satisfy our fast growing expansion, we are looking for motivated IT-Analyst-Programmers.

## ANALYST-PROGRAMMERS (5 Positions)

M/F - Full time - Thai national - Working place: Phuket

#### You have / You are:

- Thai nationality, 22-35 years of age, living or have relatives in Phuket or surroundings
- a solid IT-Qualification (Bachelor's Degree with high GPA or Master's Degree)
- a good command of both written and spoken English (German would be a plus)
- a strong knowledge of Databases (experience with the 4GL Progress would be a plus)
- experience with ERP Software Programming or ERP Business
- motivated, innovative, logical, team player and looking for a long term position
- geographically flexible and able to travel abroad for short periods

#### We provide:

- an attractive salary based on your previous experience and/or qualifications
- commission & bonus based on the quality of your work, your commitment & motivation
- yearly working trips to Europe or South-East Asia (Switzerland, France, SGP, China, ...)
- a professional training in the 4GL Database Progress (if needed)
- a modern, innovative and motivating job in the challenging ERP Business

Please note that all positions are located in Phuket, the successful applicants must therefore be prepared to live on the island. Candidates from Phuket or surroundings will have preference.

If this great opportunity catches your interest, please submit your application & curriculum vitae (in English with recent photo), stating your previous and expected salary to: asia@codex.ch.



Destination Properties Ltd, is a leading resort real estate developer and investor in Thailand with interests in hotels, golf resorts, and real estate developments in several key resort destinations throughout Thailand. The group owns the Hilton Hua Hin Resort & Spa, Doubletree by Hilton Golf resort & Spa, Sriracha Golf Club, Shambala Villas Samui, Alila Phuket, Ramada Karon Resort, and Destination Air. We are expanding and have the following openings for qualified candidates to be based in Phuket:

### 1. Project Manager - Expat

3 Positions

- Candidate should have a minimum of 8 - 12 years of experience working as project manager in construction projects.
- Experience in managing hotel / resort projects is a definite asset
- Good knowledge in project management is required
- Candidate should have a good command of English and computer skills
- Academic requirement: A degree in Civil Engineering, architecture or QS

### 2. Construction Manager

12 Positions

- Candidate should have a minimum of 7-9 years of experience working as construction manager or site manager in construction projects.
- Experience in managing hotel / resort projects is a definite asset.
- Good knowledge in site manager is required
- Candidate should have a good command of English and computer skills
- Academic requirement: A degree in Civil Engineering or Architecture.

### 3. Architectural Supervisor

15 Positions

- Candidate should have a minimum of 4-6 years of experience working as site architect on construction projects.
- Experience in hotel / resort project is a definite asset
- Candidate should have a good command of English and computer skills
- Academic requirement: A degree in Architecture or related fields

### 4. Project Accountant

1 Position

- Candidate should have a minimum of 4-6 years of experience working as project accountant on real estate or construction projects.
- Experience in hotel/resort project is a definite asset.
- In charge of one of our projects overseeing A/R, A/P, project reporting, monitoring budget, and financial draws
- Candidate should have a good command of English and computer skills
- Academic requirement: A degree in Accountancy or related fields

### 5. Site Administrator

1 Position

- Candidate should have a minimum of 3-5 years of experience in construction site administration.
- Experience in hotel/resort projects is a definite asset.
- Able to work as a team and good in document control knowledge
- Candidate should have a good command of English and computer skills
- Academic requirements: A degree any field

### 6. FF & E Coordination

3 Positions

- At least 2 years experience in purchasing of Construction / Interior for Hotel and Resort.
- Experience in work with contractor or developer is a plus.
- Good knowledge with FF&E items for Hotel / Resort
- Good relationship with supplier of FF&E items.
- Excellent negotiation and communication skills.
- Candidate should have hotel opening experience
- Able to work as a team and good document control knowledge
- Candidate should have a good command of English & computer skills



\*\*\*\*\*ALL POSITIONS TO BE BASED IN PHUKET\*\*\*\*\*

Attractive remuneration will be offered to qualified candidates. Please send your full resume and recent photograph to:

**recruit@destination-properties.com**



# Island Job Mart



## Hyatt Regency Phuket

A world-class Hyatt Regency hotel, introducing a distinctive style, elegance, commitment to service, and attention to detail will open soon on Nai Yang Beach.

We are inviting an outgoing, energetic, customer focused Thai national individual who possesses a natural flair for hospitality, creativity and passion for work for the following positions:

FRONT OFFICE MANAGER	INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER
HOUSEKEEPING MANAGER	MATERIALS MANAGER
LAUNDRY MANAGER	OUTLET MANAGERS
SPA MANAGER	CHEFS DE CUISINE
SECURITY MANAGER	STEWARDSHIP MANAGER

We would also be appreciated to receive your resume for other positions not listed above.

If you are interested, please send your resume and recent color photograph to:  
Director of Human Resources  
Hyatt Regency Phuket,  
93/3 Nai Yang Beach, Thalang, Phuket 83110  
TELEPHONE: 076 318 188 / 081 691 8207  
FACSIMILE: 076 318 189  
E-MAIL: hrphuket.humanresources@hyattintl.com



### LOOKING FOR GM

3-star Resort in Phuket, with 45 rooms, is looking for a highly motivated and ambitious GM with strong management and organizational skills. Able to make decisions, negotiate, convince, sell and influence professionals and hotel guests. Outgoing personality, fluent in English, computer skills are a must. Experience and/or interest in real-estate is an asset. Age not over than 35 years old, Thai/Foreign nationality. We offer a exciting and interesting job full of action and potential in a young and friendly environment. Interested persons are invited to send detailed resume and qualification with salary expectation to Khun Tara Ariyawongsophol, Director of Human Resources, at

Email:

taraariyawongsophol@hotmail.com

### 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. Please contact Tel: 089-6498703.

### Articles For Sale

#### LOVE ZEN SHOP

Hi everyone! If you like online shopping, check out my website inspired by all things Asian. There are designs on over 70 products, including T-shirts, hoodies, ringers, bags, mugs, mouse pads, cards, journals, keepsake boxes, clocks, buttons and magnets. You can also see a lot of my photography from around Asia, including Thailand. Thanks everyone for checking my site! Contact via email: ginaellen@hotmail.com Please visit my website: www.lovezenshop.com

#### LOW INPUT, HIGH OUTPUT

Automatic carwash machines for sale. Starting from 3.9 million baht. For additional details, please email: carwash\_phuket@hotmail.com

#### FULL SOUND SYSTEM

4 speakers, 1 Denon mixer, 1 EQ, 1 JBL subwoofer, 2 amplifiers, 1 crossover, 2 CD players, 100-model Pioneer. Only 2 months old. Price: 120,000 baht. Please 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.

#### MOVING OFFICE

Must sell aircons, pumps, tank, refrigerator, partitions, etc. All at attractive prices. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-6255179. Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

### Bulletins

#### PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

Closed for staff holiday in July. Return to work as normal in August. Inquires via email: phukethomemaintenance@yahoo.com

#### PIWC GALA BALL

Phuket International Women's Club announce the most prestigious event this year - the annual Gala Ball on Saturday, 24th November 2007 at the Indigo Pearl, Nai Yang Beach. Watch for more details - tickets will be in great demand. Contact Carol (087-4178860 or carol@aplusplussoftware.com) or Sue (087-2776948 or amulphy@loxinfo.co.th).

### Business Opportunities

#### KATA RESTAURANT

Small restaurant at the main road. Sell: 1 million baht. Rent: 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-9807570. Email: kata.restaurant@gmail.com

#### PHOTO LAB

High-end shop. Best photo prints for gallery. Up to 30 inches wide, unlimited length. Selling the business. Call for pricing. Tel: 081-6490415.

#### TRAVEL BUSINESS

for sale. Fully furnished office in a good location on Nanai Road. Great rent price. 18 motorbikes, 5 Internet-ready computers and 2 printers. Cheap living accommodation behind the shop. High season profit: 1 million baht, easily. Reason for selling: moving to another country. Asking 1.5 million baht. Contact Tel: 081-2729714. Email: meniOn@hotmail.com, cheeranant@hotmail.com

#### BEER BAR FOR SALE/

lease. Kata area. Furnished, full counter, office equipment. Great layout. Price: 550,000 baht. Contact Khun Nida at Tel: 081-6590439.

#### PHI PHI DIVE SHOP

for sale. Dive shop in good location near main road. 16m x 44m. Boat, 2 Bauer compressors, 20 sets of equipment. Contact Tel: 089-2902155.

#### SUCCESSFUL CLUB FOR SALE!

Located in Karon Plaza. Just completed 1.9-million-baht renovation in October 2006. New: glass, aircon, paint, bar, sofa seating, lighting, live music stage, tiles, tables, chairs, carpet, 3 Samsung 32" TVs, toilets and wireless Internet. 2nd story renovated with 3 bedrooms for staff or as guest rooms. 3rd story is nice 2-bedroom apartment with new kitchen, tiles, paint and patio. Too much to list here. Beautiful place and always full in high season. 4 yrs left on lease. Can renew for longer term. Buy now and get free rent until November 1. Why am I selling? I opened a new, larger H2O Club located in Patong and have no time to focus on this location. Lonely Planet gave this club an excellent review! Will sell for 3.5 million baht or best offer. Lease is 50,000 baht per month. Ready to move in and start planning for 2007 high season. Tel: 084-6644050. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

#### EARN BIG MONEY

in real estate. Invest 2 million baht and get a 100% return. Email: admin@ideacon.biz

## 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](mailto:pnotley@greenheritagegroup.com) with a photograph and expected salary.

## 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

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