

Phuket Gazette

Volume 14 Issue 30 News Desk - Tel: 076-236555

July 28 - August 3, 2007

Daily news at www.phuketgazette.net

25 Baht

The Gazette is published
in association with

The Nation

IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS: Ao Phuket information lacking; ICEC site update.
Pages 2 & 3

INSIDE STORY: Drowning deaths prompt fears over beach safety.
Pages 4 & 5

AROUND THE REGION: Are you an optimist or a pessimist?
Page 7

AROUND THE SOUTH: Emergency law extended in South.
Page 8

AROUND THE NATION: New cyber laws; Teachers warned; Dengue fever outbreak.
Page 9

PEOPLE: A day in the life of a Phuket butler.
Pages 14 & 15

TSOWNINGS: Confessions of a karaoke convert.
Page 17

LIFESTYLE: Hanging five with local beach bums.
Page 19

MAKING TRACKS: Do you prefer dogs or monkeys?
Page 28

SPORTS: A kayak adventure; Phuket Raceweek; International cricket; Darts.
Pages 34 & 35

PROPERTY: Gardening: Deep roots; Decor: Lighting up; Construction: Tah Chat Chai; Property Watch: Vacation time.
Pages 36-39

PLUS

QUEER NEWS 6; AROUND THE ISLAND 10; GOOD LIVING 13; HAPPENINGS 16; LIFESTYLE 18; STOOL PIGEON 20; AMBROSIA'S SECRETS 21; TAKE A BREAK 23 & 24; BOOKS, DIARY 25; EDITORIAL, LETTERS 26; PERSPECTIVES 27; HOROSCOPES 29; COMPUTERS 30; BUSINESS AND MONEY 32 & 33; CLASSIFIEDS 40-51.

Transport Office sets plans for new bus station

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

RASSADA: The Phuket Provincial Transport Office (PPTO) has agreed to buy 10 rai of land near Supercheap on Thepkasattri Rd to build a new inter-provincial bus station.

The existing bus station, on Phang Nga Rd in Phuket City, will be used for only local buses, vans and songtaew, most of which now leave from Ranong Rd.

PPTO chief Chatchawarn Ngarmtup told the *Gazette* that his office has a verbal agreement to buy the 10 rai at 80 million baht from local businessman Sin Wongcharoen.

The site, now vacant, is next to the Ford warehouse on the inbound side of Thepkasattri Rd, a few hundred meters south of Supercheap.

The Department of Land Transport has ordered K. Chatchawan to complete the purchase by the end of this month, but he fears this may not be achieved as the PPTO is awaiting final approval from higher levels of the Ministry of Transport, K. Chatchawarn explained.

"In the meantime, the best I can do is finalize the sale contract and wait for final approval from the ministry," he said.

The location for the new bus station is appropriate because it is centrally located on a main road on the outskirts of the city, K. Chatchawarn said.

He added that Phuket City Municipality will be asked to move local transport routes from their current terminus near the



The bus station in downtown Phuket City will be used only for local buses, vans and songtaew once the new station, near Supercheap, is completed.

fresh market on Ranong Rd to the existing bus station.

Moving the main bus terminal has been discussed for years as a way of reducing traffic congestion in town caused by the large buses needing to navigate the narrow streets of the city center.

One tour operator, who did not want to give her name, said she has seen the number of buses and pollution steadily increase over the past few years, but the number of tourists using the buses has remained stable.

She said that she would certainly move to the new bus station, but hopes that more

amenities will be provided for tourists, such as ATMs or a bank service that the tourists often need to access once they reach Phuket.

Kanokporn Petchmuang, a tourist arriving in Phuket from Roi-Et, said she wasn't particularly pleased with the current bus station, but was concerned that the new station is further from the city center.

She makes three trips annually to Phuket and said she wants to be near downtown when she arrives.

"I don't want to have to spend even more on transportation once I'm here," she said.

All-English radio station launches in Phuket

PHUKET CITY: Phuket now has its first all-English radio station, 90.5 Phuket Gold FM, broadcasting from the Radio Thailand office near Phuket Rajabhat University.

The launch was announced at a press conference at the China Inn restaurant in downtown Phuket City July 18.

90.5 Phuket Gold FM is managed jointly by Bangkok-based KOOL...EST Co Ltd and monthly lifestyle magazine *Phuket Bulletin*.

A press release distributed at the launch announced that programming would be positioned as a "touristainment radio", also targeting the local expatriate community.

Music segments will feature Western music hits from the 1970s, '80s and '90s, along with local tourism industry news and national news by Radio Thailand.

Listeners can expect to hear songs by such artists as Eric Clapton, Elton John and The Eagles.

Speaking at the launch were MR Rujayapa Abhakorn, Managing Director of Bangkok-based KOOL...EST, *Phuket Bulletin* Managing Director Chaoyot Pinpradab and Radio Thailand acting Director Weerapong Waitayawongsakul.

While other radio stations on the island have had limited segments in English, 90.5 Phuket Gold FM will be the island's first all-English radio service, broadcasting daily from 8 am until midnight.

Listeners in parts of Krabi and Phang Nga will also be able to receive broadcasts.

The service will start with a music-only format, with other features to be added gradually over the next two months.

WINE & DINE Dinner with Live Band from Philippines
Reservation: Pls call (076) 234-495



Phukana

open MON to SAT HAPPY HOUR 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

6 Mae Luan Rd. Phuket Town



John Chatteris drowned in heavy surf at Nai Harn Beach July 18.

Rawai resident drowns at Nai Harn

NAI HARN: John Chatteris, founder of Atsumi Healing Center in Rawai, drowned while swimming at Nai Harn Beach July 18.

Ian Lenton, who works at the center, told the *Gazette* that Mr Chatteris, 61, went to the beach with his family at about 5 pm.

Although red flags were posted at the beach, indicating that the surf was unsafe for swimming, Mr Chatteris entered the water and soon began having difficulty swimming in the strong waves.

He was pulled from the surf and rushed to Vachira Phuket Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

No other members of Mr Chatteris' family were injured.

An author, teacher and natural therapist for 20 years, Mr Chatteris was a master shiatsu therapist. He cofounded the Shiatsu Centre in South Australia and opened the Atsumi Center five years ago.

Mr Chatteris, an English-born Australian, was also an accomplished musician.

His funeral service was held at Wat Chalong July 25.

Local trumps Phuket Perfect video competition

KARON: Danny Avison of Rawai has won the Phuket Perfect video competition, held by Phuket-based property developer C9 Hotelworks as part of the launch of its PhuketPerfect.com website.

Entrants submitted videos of their concept of the perfect Phuket lifestyle to win a one-week stay in a Movenpick Residence.

From January to mid-June, the Phuket Perfect website generated more than 2,500 hits, averaging more than 100 a day.

C9 Hotelworks Managing Director Bill Barnett said, "We also wanted to do something more than just highlight the Movenpick Residences. We wanted to illustrate Phuket as an idyllic lifestyle and investment choice."

"It was not just about our products, C9 Hotelworks and our supporters also wished to get more valuable international exposure for Phuket as a destination."



Movenpick Residence Sales Manager Ann Hanson hands Danny Avison his award for winning the Phuket Perfect video contest.

Locals 'uninformed' of Ao Phuket project

By Janyaporn Morel

PHUKET CITY: A public opinion survey conducted by researchers from the Prince of Songkla University (PSU) found that 86% of people who stand to be affected by the proposed Ao Phuket development plan said they knew little or nothing about the project, drawn up by the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB).

After being brought up to date by researchers about the details, however, some 55% of those surveyed said they would prefer to scrap the plan, which involves reclaiming land in Phuket Bay to build facilities including a hotel, marina, shopping complex, trade exhibition center and 10,000-seat arena.

The research team, led by Dr Aree Tirasatayapitak and Kamontorn Prompitak of the PSU Phuket Campus Faculty of Service Industries, presented

their findings to Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Ratthasima at a meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall on July 13.

The study of the potential social impact of the 70-billion-baht project, commissioned and paid for by the province, will be presented to the NESDB along with other impact studies required by the agency before it can put the project before Cabinet for funding approval.

The NESDB will commission its own environmental impact study of the project, which would comprise two islands, one for a marina and the other for meetings, incentives, conventions and exhibitions, or MICE, facilities.

The two islands would be connected by three short bridges to the mainland, one to the north at Rassada Harbor, one to the south onto what is now protected mangrove forest at Laem Nambor and the third off Saphan Hin.

The researchers surveyed 1,500 people from three prov-

inces whom they thought would be affected by the project: 900 in Phuket and 300 each from Phang Nga and Krabi.

Target groups included government officials, local politicians, tourism industry operators and members of the general public.

The survey canvassed opinion on possible social impacts of the project, including job creation, economic development, and the effect on local culture, education, public health, safety and security.

Researcher K. Kamontorn reported that 86% of those surveyed didn't know enough about the plan to make an informed decision about it.

After being given an overview of the plan, however, most of those interviewed thought the project could provide jobs, but many were concerned about the possibility of low-season unemployment.

Other concerns about the project's potential negative social impacts included a possible increase in the cost of living, deterioration of the local culture, insufficient public health services and public utilities, and increases in traffic congestion, crime and other social problems.

Free YRock Music Camp at Laguna

CHERNG TALAY: YRock's Summer Music Camp, one of Hong Kong's most popular youth events, will make its way to Laguna Phuket from August 6 to 11.

The event will provide opportunities for young people to exhibit their talents in a music camp comprising free daily workshops between 3 pm and 5 pm. Workshops will be open to any act, talent or audio-visual crew.

Like-minded teens will be able to meet band members, create music and perform live, giving budding musicians a glimpse of what it's like to pursue a career in the music industry.

Classically trained musicians will have the chance to showcase their skills through the Clock workshop, focusing on a fusion of classical music and rock.

YRock will culminate with a concert from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm on August 11, featuring guest performances by artists involved in the workshops and 2006 YRock Asia Pacific International Teenage Music Challenge winners Ghost Souljah and Dani & Maren.

For more information email Belinda Howard at belmike@netvigator.com or visit www.yrock.com.hk

PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR
ON THAILAND RESORT PROPERTIES

CBRE
CB RICHARD ELLIS

Your desire to own an exclusive home
in Thailand's coastal paradise
is no longer a dream.
Make your ideal choice
from our selection
of spectacular
resort residences.

Phuket • Phang Nga • Krabi • Samui • Hua Hin • Pattaya

www.cbre.co.th

phuket@cbre.co.th

076 239 967

THE TROPICAL PHUKET FUNCTION CO., LTD.

We Offer

- + Airlines Ticket Booking
- + Worldwide Hotel Booking
- + In Bound and Out Bound Packages
- + Function Management
- + Event Organization
- + Wedding Planning
- + Seminars and Conferences

Tel : +66 (0) 76 254 540 / 254 964 | Mobile: +66 (0) 85 882 7008
Fax : +66 (0) 76 524 057 | www.phuketfunction.com

ICEC site proposals fail to hit pay dirt

By Janyaporn Morel

PHUKET: Three sites have been proposed for Phuket's International Convention and Exhibition Center (ICEC), but none afford the sea views long considered a 'must' for the project.

Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit, who heads the committee that will decide the project site, heard the proposals on July 23.

Phummisak Hongsyok said his firm Anuphas & Sons Co Ltd was prepared to allot 165 rai of its 1,600-rai Chao Fa City project off Chao Fa West Rd. The area, which is already home to the company's Honda dealership showroom, was offered as a site for the ICEC in July 2003.

K. Phummisak, a former Phuket City mayor and current member of the National Legislative Assembly, pointed out that the site is centrally located near Central Festival Phuket.

The newly-paved Muang Chao Fa Rd ensures quick access to Kathu and the site is in a "yellow zone", which allows structures up to 23 meters tall, said K. Phummisak.

Anuphas & Sons is prepared to invest about 2 billion baht to build the center and allow other firms to invest, either by renting or through a joint venture, he said.

Bangkok-based Chonthicha Property Co Ltd offered 150 rai on Luck Kongsri Rd in Rassada, near the Phuket Provincial Juvenile and Family Court.

The site is accessible from Thepkrasattri Rd and the Sapam-Samkong road.

The company is prepared to accept all government conditions and develop the land under a sale

or rental agreement, said its representatives.

Chonthicha is prepared to invest in the project's construction, either alone or in a joint venture. The company has 250 rai in the area and is prepared to offer more land if needed, they said.

Tri Eagles Co Ltd, a subsidiary of Three Dolphins Group, whose holdings include Mom Tri's Boathouse and the Trisara resort, proposed a 30-year lease of 155 rai near Thalang Chanasuk Memorial Field in Thepkrasattri.

The site offers easy access to the airport and luxury hotels, and independent water supply from tin mines, the representative said.

The flat terrain would make it easy to install infrastructure and utilities, she added.

Tri Eagles did not specify whether the firm is prepared to invest in construction.

In closing the meeting, Gov Niran said that two plots of government land at Mai Khao were still being considered.

However, while both plots offer impressive views and easy access to the airport, critics have argued that the sites are too far from the island's major population centers.

As it has been ING Funds' willingness to fund the project in Mai Khao that has sparked the latest surge of interest in the project, Gov Niran asked ING Funds' representatives at the meeting to discuss with landholders the possible joint development of the project and to submit detailed plans within 30 days.

The committee will then take another 30 days before recommending a site to the Ministry of Tourism and Sports for approval.

Police bust Patong extortion racket

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PATONG: Kathu Police arrested four men on July 18 for allegedly attempting to extort 100,000 baht from the Thai-Nepalese owner of a tailor shop.

The four suspects were presented to the media at a press conference at Kathu Police Station the following day.

They were identified as 40-year-old Burmese national Chom "Johnnie Lek" Bunyawej, the ringleader, and his three accomplices: Pansak "Bow" Poon-Noo, 24; Jareon "Chang" Pedthong, 29; and Udon "Don" Jaiwang, 36.

All were listed as residents of Nakhon Sri Thammarat Province except Udon, who is a resident of Phuket's Wichit District.

According to a press release and statements by the intended victim, the extortion began when Pansak called Jiwan "Jim" Raithai, Managing Director of the "G Armani" tailor shop on Soi Kepsup, on July 14 and threatened to kill him if he did not pay 100,000 baht – or if he talked to police.

Rather than give in to the extortionist, K. Jiwan notified Kathu Police after the first phone call and a plan was laid to snare them.

Police Region 8 Deputy Commissioner Maj Gen Santhan Chayanon and Kathu Police Superintendent Col Grissak Songmoonmark told the press that in the first telephone call Pansak told K. Jiwan that he had been hired by a third party to shoot and kill him for a contract price of



The men arrested in the sting were identified as (from left): Pansak "Bow" Poon-Noo, Jareon "Chang" Pedthong, Udon "Don" Jaiwang and ringleader Chom "Johnnie Lek" Bunyawej.

200,000 baht, half of which he had already collected as a down payment.

In subsequent calls K. Jiwan was told that if he paid the 100,000 baht remaining on the contract he would not be killed.

On July 17, the extortionist instructed K. Jiwan to provide him with a new debit card that he could use to withdraw 100,000 baht.

At 1 pm on July 18, K. Jiwan and his wife deposited 3,000 baht in the Siam Commercial Bank branch at Jungceylon, where the new debit card was issued.

About 5 pm, he was instructed to drop the card with a security guard near the entrance to the parking lot at Supercheap and to tell the guard that someone would be by soon to pick it up.

Chom waited at a distance under a tree in front of the nearby Godzilla restaurant while Pansak and Udon went to pick up the debit card.

After Pansak put the card in his pocket, police moved in and arrested all four men without incident.

After the press conference, attended by some 50 members of the ethnic Nepalese community in Phuket, K. Jiwan told the *Gazette* he was certain that all the threats were issued by the same

man, K. Pansak.

K. Jiwan also told police that since the arrest of the four men he has received more threatening phone calls warning him not to speak to police about the case.

"I'm still afraid of this gang because I'm still getting threatening calls even after they were arrested. Police told me that if I need help I can call them any time," he said.

Pol Lt Col Boonlert Onklang told the *Gazette* that all four suspects were charged with extortion.

Chom and Udon have denied all charges. Pansak admitted making threatening phone calls to K. Jiwan, while Jareon admitted only that he had earlier traveled with the other three from Khao Lak to Phuket, but denied knowledge of any extortion racket.

Jareon and Udon were released on bail, but Pansak and Chom were also charged with using a fake ID and remain in custody.

It was too early to say how alleged extortion was related to the results of the July 7 meeting, he added.

Chalong Marina plans under review

CHALONG: Plans for the second phase of construction of the Chalong Marina Project may be revised by the Marine Department's Technical and Planning division after a bitter dispute with local residents and workers.

The first phase of construction of the controversial marina, which involves building 44 of the originally-planned 210 yacht slips, will be completed by September 30 at a cost of 70 million baht, said Kitipong Waksukri from the Marine Department.

Three different construction plans for Phase 2 were proposed at a public hearing at Muang Phuket School.

The 130 attendees reacted coldly to the five-hour explanations delivered by consulting engineers, with great choruses of approval erupting whenever someone attacked the proposals.

Concerns raised about the marina were that it will damage the environment, will not be able to accommodate large yachts and will not benefit small operators.

make your home mould free!

Tubular Cupboard Heaters that work on low wattage, black heat and create circulation for the prevention of mould and moisture in cupboards.

Zee Zee Interior

feeling good inside...

300 mm
450 mm
models available.

ZEE ZEE INTERIOR 424,428,428,430,432 Srisoonthorn Rd, T. Cherrng Talay A. Talang, Phuket, Thailand. 83110. Phone No. 076-326046.

Tilleke & Gibbins
INTERNATIONAL PHUKET LTD.

ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS
Bangkok • Phuket • Vietnam

Tilleke & Gibbins International Phuket Ltd.
Plaza Del Mar,
1 Moo 1 Pasak-Koktanod Road
Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110 Thailand
Tel: 076 318 251 - 5 Fax: 076 318 256
Email: phuket@tillekeandgibbins.com

My Health is Good... (Touch Wood)

If all you have to protect your health is superstition, may we suggest a more concrete alternative? Lawton Asia's Premier International Healthcare plans.

Choose one of our flexible, comprehensive, cost-effective plans for you and your family, and you will be covered worldwide.

Call our Premier Hotline now: 02 654 1170

Or go to our website www.lawtonasia.com and get an instant online quote.

Premier International Healthcare is underwritten by a leading international insurance group.

LAWTONASIA

LAWTONASIA Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd.
200 Royal Victoria Tower, All Saints Place,
87 Victoria Road, London, W1B 5AA, UK

Recent drownings

Since June 25, three tourists have drowned at Patong Beach, one at Bang Tao Beach, and on July 18, John Chatteris, founder of Atsumi Healing Center in Rawai, drowned at Nai Harn Beach. Despite red flags, warning signs and close surveillance by lifeguards, swimmers continue to get into trouble when braving the currents along Phuket's west coast beaches.

Many of Phuket's beaches have temporary warning signs to alert tourists of dangerous rip currents. A rip current is a stream of water moving under the surface from the shoreline out to sea that forms when incoming waves push water towards the shore and the backwash is pushed sideways until it can find a channel back out.

The dangers to foreign tourists are usually a result of overconfidence. When beachgoers see waves smaller than those they may have come across in places like Hawaii and Miami, they underestimate the power of the water. Although the waves in Phuket may be small, the beaches are prone to rip currents, said Panu Maswongsa, Phuket Tourist Association (PTA) vice president and executive assistant general manager of Patong Resort Hotel.

"The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) should be involved when it comes to warning tourists of the dangers of Phuket's beaches," he added.

Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) has taken steps to increase beach safety by funding a year-round beach guard project. Pairoj Chandang, 34, is one of the beach guards from the *OrBorJor* project. He is responsible for the south end of Kata Beach.

K. Pairoj told the *Gazette* that in his 10 years working at Kata Beach, he has rescued nearly 300 people and seen three swimmers drown.

Working from 9 am to 6 pm

Water safety has become a major talking point in Phuket after a spate of four drownings over the past five weeks. Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit insists that authorities are doing the best they can, but Phuket Lifeguard Club President Prathaiyut Chuayuan says many members of the local beach guard are insufficiently trained. *Gazette* Chief Reporter Sangkhae Leelanaporn and trainee Anand Singh report on the dangers of Phuket's waves and the lifeguards who are charged with keeping swimmers safe in the low season.

every day, K. Pairoj arranges the warning signs that tell swimmers how far they can safely swim out to sea and which areas are considered "risk areas", as denoted by red flags. During the monsoon season, tourists need to be rescued almost every day, said K. Pairoj.

K. Pairoj's job is demanding and he risks his life daily. "My family has asked me many times to quit this job, but I still keep doing it because I was born here and I love to rescue people. The salary of 8,000 baht a month is not much at all for such a dangerous job, but doing it makes me happy," he said.



"My family has asked me many times to quit this job, but I still keep doing it because I was born here and I love to rescue people," says Kata lifeguard Pairoj Chandang.

The three most dangerous beaches in Phuket during monsoon season, said K. Pairoj, are Kata, Karon and Nai Harn.

"At Nai Harn Beach the hotels help with their own lifeguards to look after the guests as well as the beach guards arranged by *OrBorJor*," he added.

A bigger sign at Kata Beach warning tourists about the dangers of rip currents would make K. Pairoj's job a lot easier because the small sign currently in place does not convey the message effectively enough, he said.

"We use whistles if we see tourists swimming in a rip current. At the beach, we help those who

have nearly drowned, but when they are out at sea we can't get too close because they are still in shock and will often hug us and we might drown together. We use the rescue equipment and try to pull them back to shore," said K. Pairoj.

"If hotels and media were to help together by announcing to their guests about how dangerous Phuket's beaches can be, then that would help us and could save many lives. Local residents don't swim during monsoon season because they know that it is so dangerous," he added.

Phuket Lifeguard Club is an NGO that was established in 2003

to provide information and material about beach and water safety to the public. Prathaiyut Chuayuan, club president and sports manager at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort, said, "We have a duty to inform people about life-saving techniques. We receive most of our material from beach guard associations in Australia.

"We have around 20 highly qualified beach guards all over Phuket. These individuals are the elite of trained beach guards. They have trained other beach guards in Phuket, Krabi, Phi Phi Islands and Phang Nga. We do not receive government funding, so we have to find sponsorship," he added.

"We want to work with government agencies to help train beach guards. We sent the government department responsible [*OrBorJor*] a letter offering to

Broadband • VoIP • Wi-Fi • Computers • Networks

Stay Connected

Pacific Internet Broadband

Direct Broadband from Singapore

- Hotel Broadband Solution
- Villas Broadband Solution
- Property Development Solution
- Business Broadband Solution
- Condominium Broadband Solution
- Personal Broadband Solution

islandTechnology
Innovative Digital Solutions

Tel : (66)76 322 095-7
www.islandtechnology.com

* Price for July - October

Thermage
Face only 40,000 B.
Face & neck 60,000 B.

BOTOX
start at 5,000 B.

Restylane
10,000+ B.

Phuket Laser Center

LASIK
Laser Vision Correction for both eyes 66,000 B.

Laser Teeth Whitening
8,500 B.

Phuket Laser Center
Patong Beach
186/11-12 Thaweewong Rd.
Tel. 076-296-221
Mobile 085-069-4757
Open : Mon-Sat 10AM-8 PM
email : infolaser@phuketlaser.com
www.phuketlaser.com

SECURITY SYSTEM SPECIALIST

A world of security solutions

be safe today not sorry tomorrow!

Call for a free quotation on the Security needs of your home and business.

Alarm Systems, Fire Alarms, CCTV systems, Home Automation & Door Entry Systems

WWW.GUARDIANALARMS.INFO
WWW.G4S.COM

kris.darweduwe@th.g4s.com For Security systems
Mobile: 08-19586305, Phone: 076-262101
chris.benn@th.g4s.com For guard services
Mobile: 08-58144584
Phone: 076-262101, Fax: 076-262104

raise safety concerns

train their beach guards in a four-week program. We even offered to pay for all the expenses, but we did not receive any response so we had to drop the request," said K. Prathaiyut.

"Phuket's beach guards have no recognizable standards and are not properly trained in lifesaving techniques. We were ready to provide them with recognized international qualifications, but they would not accept it. After that, most of our training programs were concentrated around Krabi and Phang Nga," he added.

K. Prathaiyut said that the PTA should print pamphlets in different languages for placement in every hotel in Phuket.

Sometimes tourists are to blame when they do not pay attention to safety warnings, but often it is the responsibility of the beach guards to prohibit tourists from going swimming if they know the water is dangerous. Beach guards have to be stern in order to uphold public safety, he added.

K. Prathaiyut also said that there have been no cases of drowning-related deaths at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort's beach.

K. Panu of the PTA believes that the recent drownings could have a negative impact on tourism in Phuket.

"We can put up all the signs and warnings we want, but if the tourists choose to ignore them and not follow the safety rules there will inevitably be some losses. With the arrival of the annual monsoon season, all businesses and hotels in Phuket traditionally assist in warning tourists of the dangers of Phuket's beaches and informing them about the signs and flags and what they mean," said K. Panu.



Red flags at Kata Beach warn tourists not to swim, but many holidaymakers ignore the advice and enter the surf regardless.

K. Pairoj, who works on this section of beach, said tourists need to be rescued almost every day.



"For example, if there are red flags up on beaches then it is strongly recommended that people avoid swimming in the sea. We also advise tour operators to take extra care when using sea transport during the monsoon season and to check whether all the safety procedures have been followed," he said.

Hotels and tour operators have been very helpful in looking after the safety of tourists, he added.

Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit told the *Gazette* that authorities have all the necessary precautions and warning systems in place.

"We are not being lax with safety standards. Tourists who

drown at beaches go swimming despite warnings against it, and in the most recent cases they were swimming outside the swim zones. We have beach guards on duty all the time, but during the monsoon season the sea is very rough. The authorities have asked hotels to help inform their guests about beach safety," said the governor.

On July 11 to 13, the Rotary Club of Laguna Phuket teamed up with Avoca Beach Surf Life Saving Club from Australia for a free one-day course of lifesaving training at Bang Tao Beach, near the Dusit Laguna Resort.

The event was conducted by six experienced Australian train-

ers and attended by local beach guards, hotel operators, government agencies and other organizations concerned with beach and water safety in Phuket.

Trainees learned basic first aid, how to deal with different types of injuries and dangerous currents in surf zones, such as rip currents. They also learned how to escape from a rip current.

In the event of a swimmer becoming caught in a rip current, lifeguards advise against fighting it, as the powerful currents will easily exhaust even the strongest swimmer. Instead, lifeguards advise that a swimmer should try and conserve energy by trying to float and waving for help if possible.

Rather than swimming back

to shore against the current, swimmers in trouble should swim out of a rip current in a direction parallel to the shoreline. When out of the current, they can then swim at an angle back to the shore.

Rip currents often appear as calm water, thus luring unsuspecting swimmers into them. The relative calmness on the surface is the result of a fast moving flow beneath. The color of the sea may also be different than surrounding water, often appearing light brown and muddy from the sand that has been churned up from the sea floor.

"The sea in Phuket is beautiful, but what is underwater is what scares me," said K. Pairoj.





 <p>Chom Tawan Penthouse / Resale "Beautiful Home in an Island Paradise" (Bang Tao Beach)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Superb location ensures that it is sufficiently secluded to offer maximum peace and privacy ◆ A resort style communal pool and covered parking ◆ Fresh breezes and the smell of the sea which is only a 3 minute walk away ◆ An impressive master bedroom suite and two further en suite bedrooms and a guest WC ◆ Building area 246 sqm, living & dining area 42 sqm ◆ A full size open-plan kitchen and dedicated utility area 	 <p>Blue Canyon Country Club, Rental / Resale "Lifestyle Living in Stunning Golf/Sea View" (Mai Khao Area)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To own an apartment in one of the world's most famous & exclusive golf club and resort ◆ Located only 10 minutes drive from airport ◆ 3 bedrooms duplex to renowned design by interior designer ◆ All units have beautiful golf course views with some units having partial sea views ◆ Long & short-term rental is available ◆ Life-golf club membership included 	 <p>Allamanda Apartment, Rental / Resale "Attention All Investor" (Bang Tao Beach)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1 & 2 bedrooms with en suite bathrooms and private terrace ◆ Living room with private terrace, dining area and kitchen ◆ Common swimming pool ◆ Perfect holiday apartment ◆ Access to hotel facilities ◆ Minutes from the beach ◆ Management by Allamanda Laguna Phuket ◆ Rental Pool System
---	---	--

The local office with a global network
Please visit our website for more selections:
www.knightfrankphuket.com

Other professional services available:
Consultancy/Property Management
Villa Management/Valuation

Amous Lee-General Manager
+66 (0) 84844 8108
amous.lee@th.knightfrank.com

Phuket Office
+66 (0) 7631 8151
info@knightfrankphuket.com

Queer News

Conman captured at cockfight

KAMALA: After a two-month search, a local trickster who conned a 55-year-old woman out of a million baht in a land scam was finally arrested – at an illegal cockfight in Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

Lt Col Monsak Srisuwan from Kamala Police Station said that Phuket City Resident Benja Wongdara had been trying to sell a plot of land.

K. Benja told police that on May 13 a man introducing himself as Sitthipong went to her house, saying that he had a client interested in buying the property for 5 million baht.

K. Benja accepted the offer and on May 18 received a call from Sitthipong asking her to prepare one million baht, which he said was to cover the transaction fee for the sale of the land, said Col Monsak.

On the same day, Sitthipong drove K. Benja, her friend Chutharat Sae-Tan and the million baht in cash to a hotel in Kamala, where a

rendezvous with the supposed buyer had been arranged.

The buyer, however, was nowhere to be seen. Instead, K. Benja was told to wait in a room where a group of five men and women were gambling. The group lured K. Benja into gambling with them and she lost all her money, she told police.

Police did not reveal what game K. Benja had been duped with.

Annoyed at being swindled, K. Benja went to Kamala Police Station where she explained her ordeal. A warrant was issued for Sitthipong's arrest and the 40-year-old schemer was eventually caught by police at a cockfight in Nakhon Sri Thammarat Police and taken to Kamala Police Station on July 13.

Col Monsak warned that there are other tricksters out there waiting to prey on unsuspecting victims. Citizens should report any suspicious behavior to their local police station, he said. *Source: Nation Channel*



Soi Sri Sena, on the edge of Phuket City, seems to be a favorite place for dumping garbage these days. This lovely pile of plastic, papers and various unmentionables is just behind the defunct Phya Thai hospital.

**TRASHING
Phuket**



BEL AIR PANWA

LUXURY WITHIN REACH



BEAUTIFUL 2-3 BEDROOM FREEHOLD CONDOMINIUMS AT PHUKET'S EXCLUSIVE CAPE PANWA
BREATHTAKING SEA VIEWS OUT TO PHI PHI ISLAND • STARTING FROM 9.1M BAHT
PERFECT INVESTMENT IN HIGH GROWTH AREA • LAST FEW UNITS AVAILABLE

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT DAVID: +66 (0) 89 908 6168

EMAIL: sales@belairpanwa.com WEB: www.belairpanwa.com

BEL AIR PANWA CO., LTD. 89/9 MOO7, SAKDIDET RD., WICHIT, MUANG, PHUKET 83000 THAILAND

The cash register is half full

With three months to go before the high season starts in November, at this time of the year Khao Lak residents usually split into two camps.

The optimists celebrate "halftime" by brushing up their businesses for the coming high season while the pessimists, with their glasses half empty, hang out in small groups in dark places, sulking and indulging in self-pity instead of gearing up for action.

The funny part is that these pessimists always find someone or something to blame for their misery. The bad part is that they can be very convincing. I try my best to stay away from pessimists and their regular haunts, but as life goes, negativity can hit you without warning.

My latest encounter with Mr Pessimist was at a local 7-Eleven with an endless rant about the slow reconstruction on Bang Niang Beach. He gave me such negative vibrations that I needed to go home and watch an episode of Monty Python to drag myself out of that hole.

A day or two later I received an email from a Singaporean client saying that a big feature about Khao Lak and the Tab Lamu golf course will be published in an upcoming issue of one of Singapore's leading golf magazines. That finally knocked me back into happy mode again.

The good news is that the Khao Lak low-season pessimists are becoming fewer year by year. However, a few will always remain and those are the people who will never be happy, regardless of how much they have – a segment of the species that is unfortunately all over the world.

School's out: More good news is that it is currently school summer break in Europe and it appears that attractive travel packages to Khao Lak provided by leading European travel agents have really done the job.

There are more tourists in Khao Lak this low season than in previous years. Visitors from Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Scandinavia still make up the highest number of visitors to Khao Lak, followed by Asian, British and American Khao Lak-lovers.

Although many of Khao Lak's businessmen hope for a Phuket-like "Russian wave" to arrive in Khao Lak, I believe they are hoping in vain as Khao Lak's rudimentary nightlife simply does not match their demands.

Blowing through: Strong winds and heavy rains caused minor damage and flooding in Khao Lak during the first two weeks of July. On Petchkasem Rd, close to the Khao Lak Sunset Resort, a broken tree damaged a main power line. Thankfully, it was re-



COMING UP FOR AIR: Reid Ridgway (back, left) of the Ecotourism Training Center in Khao Lak poses with the second group of students to graduate from the center. The students held a graduation party on July 21. All of them have made the PADI Dive-master grade and five are attending an Instructor Development Course to make a bid for Open Water Scuba Instructor.

southern end of Khao Lak.

While the Khao Lak Center project seems to have ground to a halt, with several units still unoccupied and up for sale, it is questionable whether the new project near Home Pro, aiming at the same group of customers, is such a good idea.

Cashing in: Although Khao Lak is not getting a superstore just yet, another 7-Eleven right in the center of Khao Lak has just opened, bringing the total of "say-when" in the area to six. The new 7-Eleven is next to Wet Zone Divers, on the west side of Petchkasem Rd.

With 7-Elevens shooting up like bamboo, and several long-established minimarts, it seems unlikely that any of them will now be reeling in substantial profits.

paired as soon as the storm subsided.

A large branch fell onto a serpentine part of the highway, causing an accident. The driver of a pickup truck carrying bricks for construction tried to steer around the branch, lost control and went into a ditch. Fortunately no one was hurt in the accident.

There are rumors that a fishing boat sank in a storm off Koh Phra Thong, north of Khao Lak, but I was unable to confirm this at the time of writing.

The weather has fortunately improved, treating our truly appreciated low-season guests to sunny days, calm seas and stunning sunsets.

Redundant abundant: The clearing of a huge tract of land



ANDAMAN COASTING
By Franky Gun

next to the new Home Pro on Petchkasem Rd led to much speculation about what was to be built there. The most popular rumor was that a Big C or Tesco-Lotus store will take root.

This potential development would have boosted Khao Lak to a never-before-seen high as it

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 now calls Khao Lak home. Franky can be contacted via email: avalon@loxinfo.co.th



**Albatross
Lufthansa
City Center**

Airline ticketing/Hotel bookings/Tours
Open 7 days a week, 9am - 9pm
Tel: 076-270958, 081-2711270 Fax: 076-270950
email: abpoffice@yahoo.co.uk

would have attracted thousands of visitors from neighboring areas, including Takuapa and other populated areas of Phang Nga.

But nothing more is planned for there than another typical housing project, similar to the Khao Lak Center project that's behind the market and bus station at the

PERMA
PERMA AWNING SYSTEMS



Perma Ibiza - Retractable Awning



Perma Seatel - Vertical Awning



Horizons (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
Phuket Sales & Services: 076-264-090
Sales Direct: 081-719-4795, 081-970-1980
Email: phuketsales@horizons.co.th
www.horizons.co.th

Govt extends emergency rule in the Deep South

On July 17 the Cabinet extended enforcement of emergency law in the restive Deep South for three more months following the expiration of the previous term on July 20.

The extension enables security officials to contain violence in the region, said Deputy Government Spokesman Natthawat Sutthiyothin.

The emergency law, in force since 2005, allows officials to detain suspects without charge for up to 30 days. About 350 suspects have been rounded up and detained under the law during the past few weeks.

Double trouble: A bomb at an intersection in Yala on July 17 killed one police officer and wounded at least 20 people, including three journalists who were at the scene to report a blast about 30 minutes earlier, police reported.

The second blast ripped through shophouses and convenience stores at a major intersection outside the train station. The bomb also destroyed several motorbikes that were parked next to a taxi stand for passengers traveling on the Yala-Betong route.

The second bomb was believed to have been targeted at police and forensic officers who were called to the scene after the earlier, much smaller bomb.

Reporters said that authorities were ill prepared as they checked the scene. No firefighters or medical personnel were on hand. The blaze from the bomb set one officer from an ordinance unit on fire.

The use of the "second bomb" tactic by insurgents has become common in the violence-plagued region, where more than 2,300 people have been murdered since January 2004. Insurgents often use one bomb to lure the authorities to a scene, where they then trigger a second blast, police said.



More than 100 widows have joined the Rotanbatu Project, a handicraft scheme set up in Narathiwat to help them financially after the deaths of their husbands in the Deep South.

The first bomb was hidden inside a crash helmet and placed in a motorbike basket. The second, much more powerful bomb appeared to have been set off remotely after officers arrived at the scene.

Pol Sgt Subin Pruekmongkol, who was caught in the blast, later died at Yala Hospital.

Two other police officers suffered serious injuries, while three local reporters suffered minor injuries. Some 13 passers-by also suffered minor injuries.

The double bomb attack shattered the upbeat mood of officials in Yala after there had been no bomb attacks during the previous three weeks. A month-long sweep in two violence-prone districts had resulted in the detention of more than 350 suspected insurgents and sympathizers.

Critics say the sweep was largely for public consumption as all insurgents fled Banang Sata and Krong Pinang districts on the first day of the operation.

and doctors were brought in July 20 to assist six villages affected by flash floods in Surat Thani's Phanom district.

Moo 8 villager Sanong Eiadphol, 43, said she had never witnessed floods like it in her 10 years there. "Before the flood, it rained cats and dogs for three hours," she said. "Luckily, my husband and I took electrical appliances off the floor and we managed to shut down the electricity."

"Thank goodness the flood lasted only 10 minutes. We decided to stay in our house because it was a strong flow – and we were right."

Phang Nga province was also hit by flooding July 20.

Senior Meteorological Department officer Mon Chaimoon-suk asked villagers to observe run-offs. If the run-off becomes reddish it could mean flash flooding from the hills.

Lucky find: Police in Satun investigating the murder of a contractor found shot dead in his car early on July 21 made an unexpected discovery when they found another body from

an unrelated case in a passing car.

Thung Wa District Police received a report of a body in a car by the side of the road in Tambon Pa Kae Ba Hin. Police, led by Duty Officer Lt Pairot Wijitbanjong, rushed to the scene and found the body of Thonsak Onsrikaew, 46. He had been shot twice in the neck in what police believe was a business-motivated killing.

As they were taping off the scene, officers directing traffic noticed that the driver of a black Mitsubishi car was acting suspiciously. An officer, thinking the car may be stolen, indicated for the driver to pull over.

The office questioned the driver and passengers and noticed that the passengers spoke Thai with a foreign accent so he asked to search the car. The driver was reluctant to open the car boot, but finally complied. In the boot officers found the body of a man bound hand and foot and stuffed into a fertilizer sack.

Police arrested the driver, Jatuphong Ngusatun, 45, and his three Burmese passengers; Ong, 40, Tek, 22 and Mong, 20. All four were then charged with murder and concealing a body.

Police said that the body was that of another Burmese man, Bo, 40. He had been shot five times in the back.

Lt Pairot said that one of the officers just happened to notice Ong acting nervous as he slowed down to pass the crime scene.

All four men confessed that they killed Bo after he got drunk and tried to rape a local divorcee, Lt Pairot said.

They were on the way to hide the body when they were stopped, he added.

Bad Joke: A man in Nakhon Sri Thammarat's Chaweng district was found shot dead early on July 15.

Duty Inspector Lt Col Surachai Prasopjan from Chaweng District Police Station found the body of Jaray Rungreuang at the side of the road outside a house near Chaweng train station.

He had been shot three times, in the head, chest and stomach, with a .38-caliber pistol.

Police reported that before the shooting, K. Jaray had been talking with a friend known as "Joke" after they had returned from work. Witnesses reported hearing a violent argument followed by three shots.

Police are now hunting for Joke.

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

APEX
profound Beauty

A Beautiful Solution for All

Welcome to Apex Profound Beauty where you can find our quality skin care treatments and state-of-the-art technology.

- Thermage
- Botox / Collagen
- Fraxel
- Laser Hair Removal
- Laser Rejuvenation
- Body Reshaping
- Facial Spa

We're recognized as the No. 1 health institute that performed the most Thermage procedures worldwide & No. 1 Botox performer in Asia Pacific

2nd Fl. Central Phuket Tel. 076 24021-3 1st Fl. Royal Garden Plaza Pattaya Tel. 036 710043-6
Bangkok Tel. 02 664 8817, 02 664 8813-4, 0 2668 1196-7, 02 662 8819-0, 02 050 0719
www.apexprofoundbeauty.com

Waterfall warnings: Warning systems that can detect flash floods have been installed at two popular waterfalls in Trang province where flash floods claimed 38 lives earlier this year.

Banthad Wildlife Sanctuary Chief Sanit Ongsudara said warning towers and a 45-meter central tower had been built at Sairung (Rainbow) and Prai Sawan (Heaven Wilderness) waterfalls.

Other devices will send warnings if groundwater levels rise more than 30 centimeters above average, K. Sanit said.

Meanwhile, relief teams

TPK
PACKERS & LOGISTIC
PHUKET THAILAND

- WORLDWIDE SEA & AIR FREIGHT / SERVICE & SHIPPING
- REMOVAL SERVICE
- DOOR-TO-DOOR
- PACKING & TRANSPORT
- HOUSEHOLD & TRANSPORT
- HOUSEHOLD & PERSONAL EFFECTS
- REMOVAL

TEL/FAX: 076-236463, 081-5693342, 086-9543544
E-MAIL: TTKPHUKET@HOTMAIL.COM, TPK_PACKER@HOTMAIL.COM

A new law effective from July 18 allows police officers or government inspectors to seize computers on private premises suspected of containing pornographic material or evidence in connection with either general criminal activities or cyber crimes.

The 2007 Computer-related Crimes Act also prevents unauthorized applications and access to other people's computers, as well as alteration, deletion or destruction of the information of others.

Impostors using others' identities to send slanderous messages, or those who flood information on discussion forums, are also subject to criminal penalties under the law, proposed and drafted by the National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (Nectec) and enforced by the Information and Communications Technology Ministry.

The Act subjects those circulating pornographic material or libelous content through emails to heavy fines.

It also requires Internet service providers (ISPs) to keep log files of bandwidth consumption and Internet traffic and records of individual users for 90 days.

Nectec Director Pansak Siriruchatapong said the Act, in theory, would provide benefits to the country as a whole.

However, he expressed concern about the capability of officials, who are required to have knowledge of computers.

Cheating teachers: State school teachers who have extramarital affairs will face increased disciplinary punishments, Education Permanent Secretary Jaruyaporn Thoranin has announced.

Current disciplinary punishment is a salary cut, but the new ruling would set up a fact-finding panel to look into alleged wrongdoings. If an allegation had grounds, a disciplinary investigation would be carried out, K. Jaruyaporn said.

If the inquiry deemed a teacher guilty, punishment could vary from dismissal from the service – with or without pension –

Thai police get new Net powers



WHITE MEAT PROTEST: A Caucasian member of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) strips down in front of a KFC branch on Silom Rd in Bangkok, urging Thai consumers not to support companies that buy chickens raised under inhumane conditions.

to the revoking of the offender's teaching license, she said.

The Committee for Teachers and Education Personnel agreed in principle to the tough new measures, but asked that they be compared with other agencies' regulations before being re-submitted for final approval.

Prime time: Most people support the government's plan to ensure that television programs containing sex and violence are broadcast after children have gone to bed.

The Abac Poll Research Center found a little more than 43% of Bangkok residents felt the move was appropriate, but almost 24% opposed it, saying parents should be the arbiters of their children's viewing behavior. The other 33% responded "no comment".

The survey asked 1,141 people aged between 18 and 60 about the 8 pm starting time for adult programs.

"Most respondents want television dramas before 8 pm to

deliver positive content by promoting good deeds, generosity, family ties, children's abilities and relaxation," poll director Dr Noppadon Kannika said.

Bus crash: A German tourist was killed when a Bangkok-bound bus from Phetchabun overturned in Ayudhya's Wang Noi District at 5 am July 17.

Police said the bus driver, Sanan Pongsiang, 35, told police that he dozed off, leaving the bus out of control.

The German tourist died at the scene and 23 other passengers were injured, police said.

Epidemic proportions: A total of 23,653 people have contracted dengue fever so far this year with 21 of them killed by the disease, the Public Health Ministry has announced.

Deputy Public Health Minister Morakot Kornkasem said the 23,653 cases had been recorded before July 7.

Of the cases, 8,177 were in central provinces, 6,816 in northeastern provinces, 5,282 in

southern provinces and 3,378 in northern provinces.

Bilingual blues: Culture Minister Khunying Khaisri Sri-aroon said the government is preparing a national plan that would have teachers advise students on correct language usage.

According to Association of Thai-Language Teachers President Kanchana Naksakul, speaking Thai with a foreign accent is a fashion, known as *ab baew*, or "abnormal and cute".

K. Kanchana is concerned that with the *ab baew* phenomenon some children will embrace Western values so much that they ignore Thai culture.

Some bilingual courses now put too much emphasis on English and students do not care much about Thai, she said.

Death of an NGO: The Wildlife

Fund Thailand under the Royal Patronage of HM the Queen announced its closure because the fund set aside to administrate the organization has dried up.

Wildlife Fund Thailand Acting Secretary-General Sirajit Waramontri informed the 40 nationwide officials that the Wildlife Fund Thailand board on July 9 agreed to terminate the fund's operations and the officials' employment effective July 27.

Schoolroom scourge: A total of 1,141 children have caught hand, foot and mouth disease during the first six months this year, the Public Health Ministry has announced.

Dr Prat Boonyawongwiroj, permanent secretary for Public Health, said the number of dengue victims was nearly twice that of the same period last year.

Of the victims, 399 were in southern provinces, 371 in central provinces, 187 in northeastern provinces and 184 in northern provinces.

The number included 191 children in Bangkok, where one school in Lad Prao was closed on July 10 after the disease was discovered there, he said.

Sugar surcharge: Public Health Minister Dr Mongkol na Songkhla urged the government to increase taxes for fast food, carbonated soft drinks and sweets according to their sugar ratio.

Following a meeting to plan a campaign against coronary heart disease to mark World Heart Day on September 30, Dr Mongkol said about 38 million Thais are at risk of coronary heart disease if this situation remains unchanged.

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

Care & Share

Cervical Cancer is preventable today.

Cervical cancer...the most common cancer found in women.

HPV Vaccine, the first vaccine developed to prevent cervical cancer, recommend for women who are 9 years and over with few or no side effects.

THB. 5,200 per dose
THB.15,000 for 3 doses*

*For preventing cervical cancer, 3 doses are required.

For more information, please contact "Women Health Center" or call 1719 ext.1020-2

12th Anniversary

โรงพยาบาลกรุงเทพ BANGKOK HOSPITAL

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Phuket - Thailand

Sports & Adventure Camp English Summer School

8th July - 4th August 2007

Leaders for Tomorrow

- ▶ Aged 8-15? Want to develop your English or be adventurous in a truly International environment?
- ▶ Want Fun, Sports, Activity and Excursions?
- ▶ Want to make new friends from all over the world?
- ▶ Want to enjoy the BEST that Phuket has to offer?

British International School, Phuket

Phuket Tel. 076 238711 Fax. 076 238750
Bangkok Tel. 02 6368991 Fax. 02 6368992
summer@bcls.ac.th www.bcls.ac.th/summer

By Nick Davies

Up with People, a US-based NGO with roots back in the flower-power days of the '60s, has over the years brought together some 20,000 people from nearly 90 different countries in its enduring mission: to spread good will and strengthen bonds between people in their communities.

Despite its long history, Up with People first came to Thailand in an official capacity only last year.

Having successfully completed several community projects in Bangkok, Chiang Mai and Lampang, the organization has now begun operating in Phuket and is currently meeting with some of the island's charitable organizations to establish projects for the team of volunteers who will be arriving next month.

Up with People's main aim is to conduct community service projects around the world, giving both volunteers and participants valuable leadership experience and the chance to discover and develop skills that will help them later in life.

The group plans to be involved in several community projects in Phuket and members are currently meeting with local community project leaders, such as the Lion's Club of Phuket Pearl, to organize activities for the group of young adults from around the world.

The volunteers, who will arrive on the island mid-August, will be assigned to work with the various charities.

Up with People will be focusing its charitable efforts on helping disadvantaged children on the island.

Two groups they plan to collaborate with are the Phuket Sunshine Village Foundation, which provides a home and education for orphans, and Child Watch, a charity that aims to prevent child abuse and raise aware-



FIRST STEPS IN PHUKET: The three Up with People volunteers (from left): Luis Petzhold from Brazil, Renée Rogers from the US and Margaux Hovine from France.

WHAT'S UP WITH PEOPLE?

ness of children's rights by providing child welfare and basic education.

The NGO will also be working with Life Home Project, the shelter for mothers with HIV that offers a safe and supportive community for the women and

their children.

While in Bangkok, Up with People worked with World Vision, which focuses on helping impoverished families. Another project on the agenda is to work with children whose parents are in prison.

Satree Phuket School, where Up with People's Phuket office is located, will welcome some 70-odd participants arriving by bus from Bangkok.

Preparing things ahead of the main group's arrival is a small team of volunteers who have already taken part in one or more previous projects.

Margaux Hovine, 19, a graduate from Sacre Coeur High School in Amiens, France, is the youngest on the team, but she already has a great deal of experience having traveled around the world with the NGO for the last six months.

She has been a vocal intern and admissions assistant and volunteered at a hospital in France for a year, singing for sick children. She has also done some volunteer work with handicapped children and after spending time in Phuket she will be working for three months as part of a Philip-

pinas set-up team with Up with People.

"Before coming here I knew very little about the country and culture and I was worried about my lack of English skills, but everyone has been so supportive," said Margaux.

'Being thrown in the deep end like this has been a very rewarding and positive experience.'
— Margaux Hovine, Up with People team member

"Soon after arriving, I was asked to go into classrooms and teach something, which was very daunting, but being thrown in the deep end like this has been a very rewarding and positive experience," she added.

Renée Rogers, 20, a student at the University of Arizo-

na in the US, has spent the past six months traveling with Up with People. Her responsibilities have included being an alumni relations/external relations intern.

"I've taken time out from my studies to volunteer here and I think it's the best thing I could have done.

"I've learned so much about myself and other people from so many different cultures and the experience will really help me with my studies and my career," said Renée.

Leading this team of enthusiastic volunteers as community relations coordinator, with a de-

cade's worth of experience on the younger team members, is Brazilian Luis Petzhold.

Luis initially joined Up with People in 2006 and traveled for six months with the organization, while also making a video documentary about his experience.

Before coming to Phuket, Luis helped with operations in Japan and Bangkok. Commenting on what the participants gain from the Up with People experience, Luis emphasizes the diversity of the benefits gained from working with people from so many different cultures.

"Each individual will develop life skills which they will certainly use at some point in the future. Although everyone's experience is unique, things like responsibility, leadership, organization and flexibility are skills they will all learn and add to their career toolbox," he said.

Last year Renée found herself sloshing about in mud, sawing and laying floorboards to help reconstruct facilities after the Katrina hurricane devastated much of New Orleans.

In six months Margaux has gone from being a shy girl with limited English vocabulary to being able to comfortably and enthusiastically converse with the media.

Once the students and graduates arrive, they need orientation for their temporary home, somewhere to stay and projects assigned to them.

Unlike many home-stay programs where students may spend several months with a single family, Up with People participants enjoy a travel itinerary that most Lonely Planet-toting backpackers would drool over, visiting several different countries and staying with up to 20 different families over a six-month period.

Phuket is just a brief stop on the volunteers' global itinerary, but while they are here they hope to make a difference to those less fortunate than themselves.

While helping out on their various assignments in the community, they'll also be co-ordinating and practicing for a stage performance put on for the families they will stay with.

The song-and-dance show will focus on international participation, global traditions and community service. Whether the participants are experienced thespians or have never been backstage, everyone will have a role.

With the main party of volunteers arriving between the August 17 and 25, many are still in need of homes to stay at while they are here.

Anyone interested in providing accommodation for the volunteers can contact Luis at the School Board Committee Room, Satree Phuket School on Damrong Rd in Phuket City.

Luis can also be contacted by phone at Tel: 089-4989750 or by email to: lpetzhold@upwithpeople.org

For more information about Up with People visit www.upwithpeople.org

<http://www.indochine-decor.com>

INDOCHINE
Manufacturer of Fine Contemporary Furniture and Decor

Indochine Decor Limited Partnership
32, 32/2 Moo 2, T.Orkang, A.Chingmai 50130,
Tel: 053 858125, Fax: 053 858125, Mobile: 096 8238228
Electronic Mail: <sale@indochine-decor.com>

HomePro Phuket

New Look New Style

For people of Phuket

to enjoy shopping for their home products more than ever before.

Celebrate the new look with... Shock Price products.

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก

LG

Refrigerator
model GR-B2071LQ
Temperature control set by
5 point digital sensors
LED digital display and
control panel
Regular 39,900.-
Get a Free discount
voucher of 5,000.-
value, a Free gift
worth 2,000.-

Only 5,817.- a month

SAVE 5,000.-

34,900.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก

HITACHI

Refrigerator
model HIT RZ440RX
STS 2D
Regular 24,900.-

Only 3,817.- a month

SAVE 2,000.-

22,900.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก

ESTETIK

Estetik concrete
kitchen

With a purchase of
a Built-in kitchen
• Get 5% discount
on participating COTTO,
RO ceramic tiles.
• Get 5% discount
on Electrolux appliances.
Free installation fee
with a purchase of SWEG
electrical appliance (selected
models only) and all models of
SWEG sinks/when you buy
kitchen accessories by Hobas

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



SIEMENS
Kitchen hood
model LC45650SG
Regular 17,900.-

Only 1,078.- a month

SAVE 8,000.-

9,900.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



Ceiling fan
without lamps
model R100
Regular 3,470.-

SAVE 971.-

2,499.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



PHILIPS
TLE 32W/54 bulbs
Regular 175.-

SAVE 26.-

149.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



Carduray picnic cushion
70x165 inch
Get a Free 20x20 inch
LINEN seat pad
worth 295.-

890.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



6 foot mattress
model Crystal Seal
Regular 75,800.-
Get a Free 3 seat
Sofa bed model Roma
worth 47,900.-
(limited supplies only)

Only 3,583.- a month

SAVE 42,900.-

32,900.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



6 foot mattress
model Otherfirm
Regular 23,900.-
Get a Free bed linen,
pillow, bolster.
(limited supplies only)

Only 969.- a month

SAVE 15,000.-

8,900.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



Glass wash basin
with counter
G1028
Regular 9,900.-
(price excludes
mirror & faucet)

Only 860.- a month

SAVE 2,000.-

7,900.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



KARAT
Toilet
model K2960X
Regular 2,990.-

SAVE 400.-

2,590.-

SHOCK PRICE
ราคาสุดช็อก



4 piece
bathroom accessory
model B26272
Regular 265.-

SAVE 50.-

215.-

To join the Grand Celebration,
Get a Free gift

worth 850.-



with every
25,000.-* spent
Get a Free
BBQ grill



worth 2500.-

with every
60,000.-* spent
Get a Free
all-purpose blender



worth 5,990.-

with every
125,000.-* spent
Get a Free
6.4q. SAMSUNG
refrigerator

KTC

make sense

Get up to extra 10%* discount
at Bedding department

When you charge the
payment through KTC credit card or pay through
Today - 29th August 2007

- Get 10%* discount when your total exceeds 100,001.-
- Get 5%* discount for total less than 100,000.-
- 0%* financing for 10 month installment
plan on mattresses, topboards, springboxes.
- 0%* financing for 4 month installment plan
on bedding set worth over 3,000.-

Conditions:
Discount privileges is valid for payment made through KTC credit card on Bedding products only / 10% extra discount only
applies to product value (excludes any service fee and other expenses) / Discount value cannot be exchanged for cash.

Get
10%* discount
for
a platinum card.

*under the company's terms & conditions and participating products.

27th July - 29th August 2007
HomePro Phuket at Lotus

HomePro
Home is HomePro
www.homepro.co.th



RICHMOND GROUP



THE FINEST PROPERTIES IN THE FINEST LOCATIONS

SPA, GYM, CAFÉ, BEACH CLUB UP TO 8% RENTAL GUARANTEE FOR 5 YEARS

Renowned for its first-class Phuket property developments and impeccable management service, the Richmond Group has become synonymous with exclusive residential properties that offer unparalleled lifestyle opportunities.

Driven by a commitment to serve its homeowners with the very highest standards of excellence, the Richmond name is your assurance of a superb Phuket property investment.

Call us today!



Nathanial Bibby : Tel: +66 (0) 76 271 751 | Mob: +66 (0) 81 084 4114 | Fax: +66 (0) 76 271 542 | nathanial@richmondth.com



Please fax the form to 076-213971, or email subscriptions@phuketgazette.net
Or subscribe online at www.phuketgazette.net/subscribe.asp



Phuket Gazette SPECIAL DELIVERY

Weekly Gazette hand delivered to your home or office!

EVERY SATURDAY
ANYWHERE on Phuket Island
RAIN, SHINE (bird flu, whatever...)

1 year (52 issues): 1,560 baht

- ☐ Enclosed is my check payable to The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd
☐ Charge my: ☐ Visa card ☐ MasterCard

Surname (as appears on card)

Given name(s) (as on card)

Card #: _____

Expiry Date: _____
Month / Year

Security Code: _____
Last 3 digits
on back of card

Issuing Bank _____ Country _____

Signature _____ Date: _____
Day / Month / Year

Deliver to: _____
NAME (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

COMPANY NAME (if this will help us find the address)

Address: _____

TAMBON

AMPHUR

ZIP CODE

Tel: _____ Email: _____
(Required) (Required)

A way with the chicks

Phuket is certainly known for its good food and variety of restaurants, but it's not on every street corner that you meet a chef preparing gourmet fusion English and Italian food.

Thus the Phukana restaurant fills a niche that Phuket may not even have known it was missing.

Nattawut Kamenkij, 43, from Ayudhaya worked as a chef in the hospitality industry for more than 20 years before he began working at Phukana restaurant in Phuket City.

"I started my career in Northern Thailand, where I worked with a Thai chef specializing in Chinese cuisine.

"In 1989, I started working at the Amari Don Muang Airport Hotel in Bangkok. During the eight years I spent there, I gained an extensive knowledge of both English and Italian cuisines," said Nattawut.

"After taking the chef position at Phukana in April this year, I chose to enhance the menu by creating dishes that were a fusion of the two types of cuisines that are my specialty.

"One such dish that I enjoy preparing is Chicken Valdostana, a delicious entrée rarely seen on menus in Phuket. The dish features a pan-fried, lightly breaded chicken breast topped with delicately sliced prosciutto and a rich blend of cheeses.

"It is complemented with a side of pasta and drizzled with a flavorful pesto sauce," he said.

Chicken Valdostana

Ingredients

200g chicken breast
1 teaspoon plain flour
1/2oz white wine
1/2cup seeded and chopped tomatoes (tomato concassé)
30g pasta of your choice
Bread crumbs, one egg, salt and pepper, prosciutto slices, Parmesan cheese, mozzarella cheese

Method

Trim any excess fat, skin and cartilage from the chicken breasts. Tenderize the meat by gently beating it with a tenderizer or the flat edge of a knife until it has a soft texture.

Mix the white wine with a pinch or two of salt and pepper, and pour over the tenderized chicken breasts. Dredge the chicken breasts in the all-purpose flour, then soak in a scrambled egg and coat with bread crumbs.

Lightly oil a pan over medium heat and place the breaded chicken breast in the pan. Fry each side for approximately 3-4 minutes or until lightly golden brown.

Remove from pan and slice horizontally into two pieces. Top one piece with a slice of prosciutto



ABOVE: Phukana chicken wings make a delightful hors d'oeuvre and are a Phukana trademark. RIGHT: Chicken Valdostana blends English and Italian cuisine to create a savory dish that has been pleasing Phukana guests since it debuted.



to and tomato concasse. Place the other piece on top and dress the layers with the cheese sauce and mozzarella cheese. Serve with a portion of pasta. Lightly drizzle pesto sauce and sprinkle Parmesan cheese over the entire dish.

Cheese sauce

150g milk
30g all-purpose flour
100g mozzarella cheese

Method

Heat the milk over low heat and gradually add in the flour and the mozzarella cheese while stirring frequently. Continue stirring until the cheese has melted and all ingredients have become a thick, creamy sauce.

Pesto sauce

200g chopped sweet basil
100g parsley
50g garlic
100g parmesan cheese
550g virgin or extra-virgin olive oil

Method

Blend all ingredients until pureed into a fine consistency. Portions for each ingredient can be altered to suit your taste.

Sophitha Srilikul, 42, works with K. Nattawut and has been a chef in Phuket for 19 years. While K. Nattawut focuses on Western fare, she possesses wide knowledge of Thai delicacies.

She recommended the Phukana Chicken Wings appetizer to accompany the Chicken Valdostana. The appetizer is a well-known dish from Phukana and a favorite with guests.

Phukana Chicken Wings

Ingredients

6 chicken wings
1 tablespoon white soy sauce
50g red Thai chilies
2 teaspoons paprika powder

Method

Crush the fresh chilies and blend with the white soy sauce and the paprika powder. Let the mixture sit at room temperature for 10 minutes to thicken.

After that, lightly coat the chicken wings with the seasoning sauce and then pan fry in cooking oil for about 10 minutes on medium heat.

Serve immediately after cooking and garnish the dish with lettuce and tomatoes.

— Semacote Suganya

Patong Paragon Hotel
Hodan • Thailand

catch & grill
Sea Food

Offering an unparalleled dining experience featuring a cutting-edge menu, intriguingly prepared dishes, only the finest prime steak and the best in upscale, affordable, healthy seafood served with straightforward elegance and timeless style of local cosmopolitan flair.

OPEN NIGHTLY: 6 PM - MIDNIGHT.

"Located on North Patong Beach Road at Patong Paragon Hotel"

Hybrid Steakhouse and Sophisticated Seafood
BBQ from the Andaman

280 Prabamee Road, Patong Beach, Kathu, Phuket 83150.
Tel: 076-290555, ext. 7350, 7351. Email: fb@patongparagon.com

eat

NEW MENU

BREAKFAST
LUNCH
DINNER
8.00-24.00

GROVE GARDENS

WWW.GROVEGARDENSPHUKET.COM RESERVATIONS 076-30 26 00

Happily Ever After

Recently married in Phuket



LEFT: Yukiko and Koichi Inoue from Japan celebrated their wedding at the Evason Phuket and Six Senses Spa on May 25



RIGHT: Kelly Bett and Christopher Craig from Scotland were married at the Indigo Pearl Resort on June 28

Reading

It's a life bordering on the glamorous, brushing shoulders with the super-rich, but always on the sidelines. Being a butler allows people to glimpse and live alongside the upper crust, but also demands hard work and a sharp attention to detail to keep clients happy. For a good butler that can mean having everything ready before the client asks.

Gazette chief reporter **Sangkhae Leelanapaporn** spoke to Ekalak 'Aey' Bantap, a butler in Phuket, about the life and trials of being an attendant to the rich and, sometimes, famous.

The key to being a good butler is a form of mind-reading, according to Ekalak "Aey" Bantap, a butler at the Banyan Tree Double Pool Villas in Phuket.

To effectively cater to the needs of the wealthy clients that stay in the villa he manages, he must watch them closely and prepare whatever they may need before they can open their mouths.

Ordering food with their favorite seasonings, preparing the table and hotel room to their liking and overseeing the house staff is no easy task for one man. In fact, as Aey discovered, it can change a butler's life.

Aey began his service industry experience during his time at Rajabhat University Petchaburi where he studied management and worked as a front office trainee at the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket.

"I was lucky that they gave me the chance to work there. I started as a villa attendant looking after VIP guests at the swimming pool for six months and was promoted to be a guest service agent for a year, and then promoted to be the guest service manager, which I did for three years," Aey said.

After four years, he was starting to feel bored and applied

to be a butler, a role in which he could do a bit of everything, from housekeeping and food and beverage, to front office work and much more. "Butlers have to do everything and work hard to give guests that 'Wow!' feeling. Guests should not have to request anything," he said.

Many people want to work as a butler, Aey said, because it is an interesting job and the guests often tip very well. But it is not a job just anyone can do.

"You don't just apply to be a butler and start working – butlers are chosen after training and attitude is the most important factor. Qualifications for the job include good English skills, an exceptional attitude, a service mind – and you have to be willing to keep learning," he added.

Aey's most prestigious training came after he transferred to the Banyan Tree. There he trained in a six-month course, including time with Josephine Ive, founder of Magnum Butlers.

Ms Ive is a world-renowned butler trainer and worked for Britain's royal family before taking her training on the road, teaching butlers at famous super-luxury yachts and Asia's most prestigious hotels.

"We got a lot of great training from K. Josephine. She had so many things to teach us because she had experience work-



Do Not Drink Tap Water!

The Phuket Gazette is now available at all **FamilyMart** outlets in Phuket

- Nanai Rd, Patong
- Sainamyen intersection (next to Subway), Patong
- Sawatdirak Rd (near Patong Hospital), Patong
- Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd (opp. 7-Eleven), Patong
- Thara Patong Hotel, Thaweewong Rd, Patong
- Mae Luan Rd (diagonally opp. 7-Eleven), Phuket City
- Yaowarat Soi 2 Rd, Phuket City
- Chao Fa East Rd (opp. Big One Supermarket), Phuket City
- Klong Pak Lak, Patong
- Club Andaman, Patong
- Phisit Gorani Rd, Patong
- Monthana Rd, Patong
- Colisem Multiplex, Phuket City
- Soi Paneang, Samkong
- Moo Baan Irawadee, Samkong

BOATHOUSE simply the best

Thai and Mediterranean dining directly on Kata Beach

Wine Spectator **BEST OF AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2006**

Gourmet Restaurant **THE FIRST AND ONLY ESTABLISHMENT IN THAILAND TO RECEIVE THIS AWARD AUGUST 2006**

Tel: 076 330 015 - Fax: 076 330 561
www.boathousephuket.com info@boathousephuket.com

the minds of the rich



SPECIAL SERVICE: 'I have to know what a guest likes or doesn't like. Some like to be treated very formally and others like a more relaxed relationship,' says Ekalak 'Aey' Banthap.

ing in Buckingham Palace and many other extraordinary settings.

"She taught us how far away from a guest one should stand, how to present and serve wine, how to conduct a proper tea service, how to fold napkins and many other skills," Aey said.

"I can't say that being a butler is an easy or difficult job, but it is challenging because I want to give the guests a favorable impression so they will return and stay with us again."

To be a successful butler Aey had to become a Jack of all trades and move seamlessly between jobs.

"I learned how to serve food to guests and even to arrange flowers, but in my experience the most difficult part of the job is being a babysitter. I don't always understand children's emotions, but I guess I do okay because guests keep sending emails from their kids once they are back in their home countries," he said.

Aey said that everyday he must carefully check that his fingernails, hands, ears and breath are clean and that his shoes and clothing are perfect.

"Right now I have to use lip balm, hair gel and face foam, and make sure I look 100% clean. If

a butler looks good and is clean that means guests can feel comfortable that their villa and food are kept clean too," he said.

"I think being a butler is interesting as you are always learning the habits and behavior of each guest. I have to know what a guest likes or doesn't like. Some like to be treated very formally and others like a more relaxed relationship."

Aey added that the first day new guests arrive at the villa is the day he begins learning and noticing their behavior. "I have to remember even what food they like or dislike as I will order their food the next day."

"If guests talk about a golf match, I search the Internet to see if there is a tournament in Phuket, so I can let them know."

"On average I take care of about four or five families per month and most of them stay about five to seven days at a time."

Butlers care for one villa, but they don't work alone, Aey said. Each villa has a maid, gardener, a swimming pool maintenance person and an engineer to make sure everything is working correctly. The butler oversees it all to make sure the guests get exactly what they want.

"If guests order a meal, it is

prepared at the villa's dining facility and I have to make sure it gets to the villa and is transferred to the villa's dishes, that the table is prepared, and that the dishes and food are warm and ready for

the guests.

"When guests are away from the villa, I call the maid to clean and if I have nothing to do I help out. I also double check the work before guests return," he added.

Aey relates an experience where a guest once called him at 4 am to order a pool table because he felt like playing a few games.

"I had to order it from Bangkok and get a fast delivery for him. He was very surprised that we could get it done."

One of Aey's favorite experiences was looking after a famous international musician. Discretion is an important part of a butler's job – so he won't tell exactly who it was – but he said he was impressed by the person's lifestyle.

"He lived simply, ate salads and even dressed simply. At the beginning I was nervous because he is so famous, but after I was assigned to the villa, I had to do my best."

"I was very impressed with him because I took him to the lobby in the buggy once and he introduced himself to me in Thai and even praised the King in Thai."

Butlers have to look after little things that are very important, Aey says. "I have to remember guests' birthdays and anniversaries. Once I know, I let all the other staff know and when the guest walks on the grounds ev-

eryone will say "Happy Birthday" to them. We even have the staff line up in the lobby and sing "Happy Birthday".

Aey's work life is not easy as he has to arrive at the villa before the guests wake up and doesn't leave until after they are asleep.

Time passes so quickly. A butler must think ahead and anticipate what the guests want so that it will be ready and they don't have to ask," he added.

The job has also affected Aey away from work. "I now have the habit when I answer the telephone at home of saying, 'Sawasdee krap, Aey speaking. May I help you?' My friends laugh when I do that, but it is all in good humor."

"After my training I went home and put everything in order. I dusted, got rid of fingermarks, put everything exactly where it should be," he laughed.

"The best benefit of the job is that I now have friends all over the world," Aey said. "Some of the guests have offered me a plane ticket, car and even accommodation in the event that I have a chance to visit their countries."

Guests even send me pictures of their kids who I cared for while they were here."

So far Aey hasn't taken any of his former guests up on their offers, but he's not discounting the possibility of becoming a world-wide butler.

'Butler training was good for me – after training I went home and put everything in order. I dusted, got rid of fingermarks, put everything exactly where it should be.'



Mom Tri's Kitchen

A restaurant for true gourmets with spectacular views
and a wine list that has earned
Wine Spectator Magazine's "Award of Excellence"

Kata Noi Beach, Phuket Tel : 076-333 568 email : info@villarayalephuket.com www.villarayalephuket.com



This week



FLOYD ON PHUKET: Internationally-renowned TV chef Keith Floyd gives a thumbs up as he celebrates with staff the launch of Sunday brunches at Floyd's Brasserie at the Burasari Resort in Patong.



MERCI BEAUCOUP: Phuket Vice-Governor Smith Palawatvichai accepts a gift from Blandine Cressard, general manager of Novotel Beach Resort Panwa Phuket, during Bastille Day celebrations.



PHILANTHROPIC YOUTH: Phuket's own Amelia Jacobs, Miss Teen Thailand 2006, accompanies Suthat Pochagorn (left), director of the Social Welfare Development Center for the Elderly of Phuket, Anthony Loh (standing, 2nd from right), general manager of Laguna Service Co Ltd, and Suthasinee Rukmit, director of Community Relations at Laguna Phuket, at Laguna's ninth annual dinner for Phuket's elderly citizens.



MATERNAL MUNCHIES: Dr Jessada Chungpaibulpatana (2nd from right), director of Vachira Phuket Hospital, joins his staff in celebrating the opening of the food court on the second floor of the maternity ward at the hospital.



ARBOR AWARENESS: Dr Kongkiat Kespechara (3rd from left), director of Bangkok Hospital Phuket, joins his staff in their mangrove restoration project at Thung Maphrao in Phang Nga. The group will carry out similar projects in Phuket and Krabi.



FILIPINA FEMMES: Lia Andrea Ramos (left) and Gionna Cabrera (right), Philippines representative for Miss Universe 2006 and 2005, respectively, receive spa vouchers from Onphilat Oines, sales and marketing manager for The Mangosteen Resort and Spa, during their visit to Phuket. Both ladies received the fans' Miss Photogenic accolade in their respective beauty pageants.

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

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

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



THE KARAOKE CODGER

I used to think that karaoke was the worst atrocity the Japanese had inflicted upon humankind since the Rape of Nanking. But that was in my feckless and misspent youth.

Since then, the sun has risen, I have been to the mountain-top, I've been born again, I have seen the light, I stand redeemed and dazzled by the brilliance of a new dawn. I now know with adamant certainty that karaoke is the greatest gift from the Japanese to humanity since the invention of the sushi bar.

What transcendent catharsis wrought this transformation? Ah, dear reader, let me share with you a wondrous truth. Whether you regard karaoke as a curse or a blessing depends entirely on who's singing – you or those hideous other people in the bar.

Most people who sing karaoke are boorish clods, oafish drunks clowning at the microphone, caterwauling off key in a remorseless display of ongoing cacophony. Utterly talentless, yet wrapped in delusions of musical genius, they have no idea how pathetic a spectacle they are making of themselves.

But when you yourself are singing, dear reader, the situation changes dramatically. Then you become a dashing, world-class superstar, radiating charisma, pulsating with talent – and singing like Pavarotti.

The audience, which formerly consisted of drunken rab-

ble, hooting and jeering at the singer's ineptness, now becomes transformed into screaming legions of ardent fans and gorgeous groupies. Where before they hurled empty bottles and plates of *som tam* at the hapless performer; now they sit tamed, enthralled, rapt in wonder, as angels bend down from heaven to savor the golden sounds.

Indeed, it is quite likely that agents of Grammy and BEC Tero will besiege the stage waving multimillion-baht contracts.

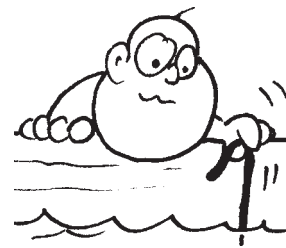
Yes, dear reader, this insight has transformed me, as indeed it will transform you, if you will only deign to pick up the microphone.

In my case, the transformation has been facilitated by the discovery that karaoke machines are not limited to the degenerate hip-hop and rap music that afflict

the contemporary music scene. Some of them are programmed to play immortal classics of yesteryear like *Tell Laura I Love Her*, *Sh-boom Sh-boom*, *Tutti Frutti*, and *Be-Bop-A-Lula*. It is heartening to learn that, despite all appearances to the contrary, quality music is not yet dead in Thailand.

This epiphany has caused me to morph from a karaoke-phobe into a karaokephile. In fact, you can now call me the Karaoke Kid. No, wait a minute, there is the delicate issue of age, which in my case is...old. So let

me curb my ardor and sacrifice the lamb of fantasy on the altar of accuracy. You can call me the Karaoke Codger.



TSOWNDINGS

By S. TSOW

Karaoke is OK, as is signified by its name, which is Japanese for "Kara is OK." Don't ask me what "kara" means – I don't speak Japanese. I know the Japanese misspell "OK" as "oke," but that's not their fault. English is

not their native language. You try writing "OK" in hirakana or harakiri or whatever it is they write in and see how far you get.

But just as every sunbeam has its shadow, every mango has

its maggot, every plate of *som tam* has its little black crabs, and there is one exception I must make in my glowing endorsement of this celestial art form. Throughout history, billions of songs have been written. Whether the singer is yourself or somebody else, out of all this entire stupendous repertoire there is one song that must never, under any circumstances, be sung by anyone. And that is the abominable *My Way*.

This boastful, preening, pretentious ditty has been warbled by generations of boozed-up fat-cat CEOs who made billions by downsizing their corporations, destroying the lives of thousands of employees, and casting them into the gutters to beg. When King Herod completed the Slaughter of the Innocents and the last Jewish infant had been impaled upon the last Roman sword, I bet he celebrated by crooning, "I did it myyyyyyyy way!"

Any time a karaoke singer gets up and starts crooning *My Way*, the audience is fully justified if it rises en masse, rips out the microphone, kicks the bejesus out of the amplifier, pulls the singer down from the stage and tears him asunder like a pack of rabid hyenas.

Aside from that one little problem, karaoke really is OK.

S. Tsow can be flamed at stsow@yahoo.com, except when he's trying to exterminate somebody who's singing My Way.

Enhance The Quality Of Your Life



- 200 Square meters spread across two levels
- Two covered car parking spaces
- 3 Double Bedrooms with family area that could be converted to a 4th Bedroom
- 2 Bathrooms + En-suite to the Master Bedroom
- Optional Private Swimming Pool
- Private Garden Area

Prices from only
USD 238.000

HIDE 'N' CHIC



WRIST ACTION: Bangles from Jungceylon.



CHANGE OF PACE: Colorful coin purses from Ragazze.



HOT AND COLD: Viera vacuum flasks from Ragazze.

By Janyaporn Morel

We've been wrapping and strapping leather around our bodies since our cave-dwelling days when we hunted for food with clubs and sticks, turning what was left over from the kill into clothes and shoes.

Although there is fierce debate among experts on when man "came down from the trees", or even whether we were in the trees in the first place, archeologists and anthropologists rarely debate on when we actually evolved into fashion conscious citizens sporting the latest leather accessories.

Leather is probably the

world's most enduring natural textile. It has gone from necessity to fashion accessory the long life of anything made from it, plus its versatility, has been proved again and again over the millennia it has been used.

An example of leather's endurance was found with "Tollund Man", a 2,000-year old body discovered in 1950 by peat cutters in Denmark. The remains were amazingly well-preserved in the bog, along with a hide belt, skin cap and two leather thongs.

At Jungceylon in Patong you'll find a wide range of leather accessories from bracelets, bangles and bags to necklaces and rings, some with colored stones and shells intertwined with

the leather, making each piece naturally unique. Turquoise stones are a favorite for that Wild West, Native American look with pieces ranging from 59 to 259 baht.

At the viewpoint between Nai Harn and Nui Beach, you can sometimes find local islander "Mack" draped in long dreadlocks and some of the jewelry he's selling from the back of his beaten up pickup truck, which looks as if it's been around as long as Jack's hair has been growing.

When he's not welcoming newcomers like old friends, Mack hunts for and collects unique stones and shells to use in making his leather-bound jewelry. His jewelry is a little more expensive

than some of the mass-produced leather accessories but each piece is unique and as Mack prides himself on knowing the different kinds of semi-precious stones by touch and sight, any stones used should be genuine.

Leather accessories are not just for fashion-conscious hippies though; whatever your age, it's easy enough to choose a leather design or color that suits your needs and personality, whether you are young or old, or of classical or modern taste.

If you're looking for luxurious leather accessories in a more classic style, such as key ring fobs, coin bags or bangles, then you need something Italian. Italian leather accessories by Raga-

zze, also in Jungceylon, come in many styles and colors with a high-class look and feel. Hip flask holders, thermos sleeves and mobile phone cases are just a few of the protective leather coverings on sale.

Other leather products that don't spring to mind but help add a touch of style are card tags, eyeshades and even a leather cooler bag. For a really posh leather product, how about a leather wine bottle bag?

Veve Clicquot Champagne recently brought out a striking and stylish zip-up leather wine bottle sleeve that hugs the bottle in the company's familiar bold orange, but for a price that matches their expensive brand. There are much cheaper leather bottle sleeves around, but if you can afford the Champagne, you can probably afford the bag, too.

If your leather is to last a long time, it needs a little care and attention. Most leather shops will be able to sell you special leather-care cream, but other things can be done to ensure the leather lasts longer.

Simple bracelets, necklaces or rings made from untreated leather need to be kept away from water, but if you do get this kind of leather wet, you can dry it off in the sun or with a hair dryer on a gentle heat setting.

If you're going to be getting your leather wet frequently, then it's better to waterproof it with a protective spray.

Cleaning your leather items can be done by using a soft brush, clearing any dirt or dust off, then applying leather-cleaning cream.

Leather waxing cream can also be used to revive colors and keep the leather supple. Keeping leather in a dry place and not creasing it will also help it last.

Dental Implant

Cosmetic Dentistry
Root Canal Treatment (Microscopes)
Cerec 3 D
Metal-Free Restoration
Gum Treatment
Digital X-ray
Autoclave Sterilization
Laser tooth Whitening

BRITE SMILE® (Phuket Branch)
One Hour Professional Teeth Whitening

Promotion
Laser tooth whitening
Limited Time Only
Phuket Town 7,500 Baht
9am - 12pm
5pm - 8pm
Patong Merin 8,500 Baht
1pm - 4pm
End of September '07

By Dental Specialists We speak Thai, English, Japanese, German and French.

พรีมไจทันตแพทย์ www.promjaidental.com

Bangkok (Sukhumvit 39) 02 662 6070-2
Phuket (Bypass) 076 261 836-7
Phuket (Patong Merin Hotel) 076 294 381-2
02 261 6229-31 08 6951 0999 08 1893 4304

PROMJAI DENTAL CLINIC

D. D. Jewel Design

When an artist turns any precious thing into a jewel,
It is you who are on his mind

Unique designs made to order
SINCE 1971

242/2 Yaowarat Rd, Phuket 83000 Tel: 081-8926843, 076-217288

By Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

While the strong waves around Phuket spell danger for swimmers, the curls and whitecaps mean excitement and allure for the surfing crowd.

From the northern edges of Nai Yang down to the tip of Nai Harn, the waves crashing over Phuket's beaches aren't as large as at surfing hotspots around the world, but they do have a devoted following of local surfers.

From August 31 to September 2 the Phuket Surfing Contest will be held off Kata Beach and some 120 amateur surfers are expected to take part in the event.

There are several places along the western shores of Phuket to practice or to learn surfing.

Nopphasit "Kho" Bunchuai, a 27-year-old surf instructor, has been surfing for seven years in Phuket.

"There are about 80 surfers in Phuket. We find great waves to surf every day together, especially our group, the Kata Krew. We always surf for about two hours if there are normal waves and three to four hours if we get two-meter waves," he said.

The Kata Krew, a group of friends who meet at Kata Beach, surf together for the company and to watch each other's backs. They said the best time to surf is from May to November, but any time of year can be good.

"For safe surfing, you have to wait for a suitable time and paddle through the water with friends, because friends will always watch closely and be ready to help if needed," K. Kho explained.

The Kata Krew hook up with other surfers for parties and even plan traveling surfing adventures together. "We plan to surf outside of Phuket, so we are going to the Philippines or Bali next year. We always drive around Phuket to find the best waves and stop to surf wherever we see them," K. Kho said.

K. Kho also works as an instructor at the Phuketsurf.com



Koh, who finished second in last year's Kata Surfing Contest, practices for this year's contest, to be held from August 31 to September 2.

Photo by Caleb Henderson.



The Kata Krew pose with their boards and rashguards at Kata Beach.

WAVE HELLO

shop, where new surfers or tourists can rent boards for 150 baht an hour.

Phuket's waves, he said, don't attract many professional surfers because they're not very challenging, but the small waves are good to teach beginners.

To begin, the most obvious piece of equipment is the board. "There are three kinds of surf boards," Kho explains. "There are short boards, about five to eight feet long, that are used for style; 'minimal' boards, about seven to eight feet long; and long boards, eight to 10 feet long and used for smoother surfing."

The board, however, is not the only thing surfers have to worry about. Surfers should also use leashes or leg ropes – long flexible ties that are attached to the surfer's ankle and the board – so the board isn't lost and doesn't fly into unsuspecting swimmers.

Rash guard shirts are also recommended apparel. These

lightweight lycra shirts are designed to reflect UV rays while keeping surfers safe from jellyfish stings and coral scratches.

Photographer Caleb Henderson regularly comes down from Bangkok to surf in Phuket. He said the dangers are apparent, but nowhere near enough to stop them from surfing.

"We realize how dangerous it is but we never surf alone. There are many different kinds of surfing dangers, like at Kalim Beach there are great waves, but there's also sharp coral.

"Even rash guards, the thin T-shirts with inside-out seams that keep us safe from jellyfish and board scrapes, can't quite keep us safe from that," he explained.

Boy, 24, another member of Kata Krew, said Phuket surfers are easy to identify by their Quick-silver, Billabong and Rip Curl board shorts, which, along with boards, can be bought in Jungceylon, Central Festival Phuket and sports equipment stores on

the island.

The best equipment and advice, however, can be found at the surf shops on beaches along the west coast, including Cobra near Chalong Pier and Kata Beach Surf Shop.

Wallop Nadon, the 32-year-old owner of Kata Beach Surf Shop, told the *Gazette*, "We have bodyboards, shortboards, 'minimal' boards and longboards for rent. Sale prices range from 16,000 to 26,000 baht, depending on the size, composition and brand."

Boards were originally very large, heavy affairs made from solid wood, but more recent technology has allowed board weight to drop as they are made with foam coated with fiberglass. "NSP and Watercooled are the

most durable surfboard brands," he said, while tropical-style surfboard wax is best for Phuket's warm temperatures.

K. Kho, who won third place in last year's surf competition in Kamala, said he is preparing for this year's competition and is busy practicing with his friends.

The competition has already attracted surfers from Japan, South Africa, Sweden, Singapore, Australia and Malaysia registered for the event. Registration closes August 31.

Despite the stiff competition, K. Kho said he will not miss out, because, as he says, "The wave is like a pretty girl that I will go meet, and it's the same feeling as getting to know her."

For more information on the surf competition see the bulletin on the *Gazette* website or visit www.karoncity.com (Thai language only), or call Phuket Boardriders Club K. Wallop at Tel: 086-9521393.

If I come back to my intention,
my intention comes from my Heart
I am strong and I am at peace."

INTENTION

ROSEBERRY
Lifestyle Spa & Products

The spa that can CHANGE your life

Massages, Scrubs, Facials, Reiki, Alternative
Therapies & Energy Healing Products

Surin Main Road (next to Kodak)
Mob: (081) 8940316, Tel/Fax: (076) 279293
email: roseberrythailand@gmail.com
www.roseberrythailand.com

WORLD CLASS SKIN & LASER CENTER

Romrawin Clinic

The non-invasive way
to younger looking skin

Thermage
Facelift without surgery

Wrinkle Reduction
Hair Removal
Dark Spot Removal
Body Reshaping
Botox & Collagen
Post-Sun Treatment
Leg & Facial Veins

Member of American Society of Cosmetic
Dermatology and Aesthetic Surgery

JUNGCEYLON Patong Phuket
Ground Floor Tel. 0-7660-0148 - 9

www.romrawin.com

The state of the environment has been very much on my mind. A recent news article in the *Nation* referred to it simply as “the global environmental crisis”.

That got me thinking about – and I may be dating myself a bit here – Supertramp’s fourth album, *Crisis? What Crisis?*

The cover of that album pretty much sums it up: some self-pleased chap happily sunning himself under a parasol in his backyard amidst smoke-belching mounds and industrial waste.

So is all this talk about global warming really anything new? Has the “global environmental crisis” finally arrived – or was it already here back in 1975 when that album was released?

One of the movies currently playing on local cable networks is the 2006 science fiction comedy *Idiocracy* by Mike Judge, the same man who gave the world the animated series *Beavis and Butthead* and *King of the Hill*, as well as the excellent film *Office Space*.

As in his previous works, the target of Judge’s dark comedy is American society – more precisely, a dumbed-down version 500 years in the future, after intelligence levels have taken a terrible turn for the worse over numerous generations when only the feeble-minded bothered to procreate.

Not surprisingly, the English language has also been dumbed down, to hilarious effect, and the most popular TV show is *Ass*, a full-feature film that consists of nothing more than a close-up view of man’s buttocks farting.

Remarkably, the antecedents of some of the events that transpire in Judge’s cynical vision of the future bear some resemblance to Phuket in 2007.

For a start, just about everyone in 2505 – including the US President – is decked out in round oversized pendants hanging by a chains from their necks. While it was more likely intended as a shot



LOW SEASON? WHAT LOW SEASON? Englishman Terry (2nd from left) and the staff of the El Tel’s speedboat charter service celebrate their launch with a trip to Koh Kai Nai with Angus O’Tool’s Irish Pub GM John Young (in white shirt) and his family, and other friends.

Where fiction bites real hard

at rappers like Public Enemy hype-man Flavor Flav, the style isn’t too far from what is being seen a lot in these parts recently with the explosion in the trade of Jatukarm Ramathep amulets.

A major historical event referred to in *Idiocracy* is the Great Garbage Avalanche of 2505. Given the continual pile-up of garbage around the hopelessly overburdened incinerator at

Saphan Hin – and the failure of the government to take any steps to fund a second burner – one wonders how long we will have to wait for the same type of thing to happen here. Then again if you are someone trying to make a living raising fish down that way, perhaps it already has.

Yet another problem confronting humanity 500 years down the road is that energy drinks – instead of water – are being used to irrigate crops, with predictable results. It may be a bit of a stretch, but the ludicrous inefficiency of doing that reminds me of the desalination plant in Karon that is designed to use millions of baht of electricity to pump water up out of the sea, up a hill, treat it to drinking water quality – and then mix it in with non-potable water from tin mines before piping it to the public for consumptions. And all this is during the monsoon season, when hundreds of thousands of cubic meters of naturally purified water falls on the island every day and into the sea.

Of course, at last report the people running the desal plant hadn’t figured out how to keep the plant running continuously enough to produce all the seawater they were contracted to treat. It seems to me that if they are going to go through all that effort

why stop with just pure water. Maybe they should open up a brewery there as well. The mind boggles.

El Tel afloat: With tourism, the sole key industry in Phuket there are still lots of places where you can get back to nature. Terry, former owner of UK Bar on Patong’s Soi Dongtal, has fully refurbished a 38-foot fiberglass SEAT speedboat, equipped it with twin 225-hp Honda outboards and launched the El Tel’s charter boat operation out of Ao Por.

Stool Pigeon



where a buffet spread was set up on the tiny beach.

The scene was such that I almost expected to see Herve Villechaize (aka Nick Nack) walk around the corner of the tiny island with a bottle of champagne on a serving tray and a towel on his arm, as he did in the *Man with the Golden Gun*.

Fortunately, the El Tel speedboat has an enormous cooler filled with drinks of every description, including Heineken for me, Spy for the ladies and soft drinks for the kids. Prices are very reasonable, at 70 baht for all small beers and 130 baht for a

can of Strongbow cider.

As I snorkeled around tiny Kor Kai Nai, a small bird kept diving down on me, threatening to peck me – maybe he thought I was Moby Dick, the great white whale. After a few swoops he would retreat to his tree back on the island. What the hell is his problem? I wondered. I thought menacing birds only appeared in Alfred Hitchcock movies, not real life.

Later I realized it was probably a swiftlet, sick of people clamoring up the rock and stealing its nest to make bird’s nest soup – can’t say I blame him.

El Tel’s service is well set up with life preservers and it is ideal for everything from family outings to booze cruises. Prices for a full day out – 9:30 am to about 5:30 pm – start somewhere in the vicinity of 25,000 baht, though the actual cost depends on where you want to go and how much fuel it will take to get there.

The El Tel boat has enough fuel capacity and fresh water (200 liters) to go all the way out to the Similan Islands for a full day of snorkeling, though at this time of year it might be best to stick to Phang Nga Bay.

For more information, contact affable Englishman Terry at Tel: 081-0868141 or email eltelsboat@yahoo.com

Send queries, comments and criticisms to stoolpigeon@phuketgazette.net



CAMPING WITH TENTS AND MEALS INCLUDED



Phang Nga Tel: 076-484259

www.sawasdeelagoon.com

Lay Maya Chalet
You are “The one” at Lay Maya Chalet
Lon Island Phuket
076-203501-2
089-7290250
www.laymayachalet.com



A couple of weeks ago I went to a swanky party in London in a great dress I had bought for the occasion. Proudly holding my own among the beautiful people, I was faring quite well until someone told me that I looked stunning and I cracked, "I do? It must be the dress – it's a flattering shape."

I always do this. Whenever anyone pays me a compliment I squirm and respond with something far from a gracious acceptance. Over the years I have turned this into a fine art, perfecting three types of rebuttal.

I sometimes fob it off with a self-deprecating comment – "I love your coat." "What? This old thing? It was a tenner at a secondhand shop."

Or I may question its accuracy – "I like your haircut." "You do? Don't you think it makes me look severe?"

I may also quietly take offense – "You look like you've lost weight." "So are you saying that I'm usually fat?"

It's not confined to my appearance either. I can shrug off a well-meaning comment about anything from my work to a newly decorated room in the house. When my boss told me the other day that he thought I'd done a good job on something, I apparently just snarled at him.

None of this, of course, is fair on the person paying the compliment. Boyfriends or partners usually enter a danger zone whenever they say something nice.

Most of us compliment dodgers don't try to just rebuff it with "That's as may be," but will usually try to produce evidence against it. How many times have you had something like, "You look gorgeous," said to you and you've either slapped your belly or tried to find traces of cellulite to trump him?

I don't think I'm alone in this. My friend's artist husband gave her a Valentine's card with a portrait he'd drawn of her more than 15 years ago.

Inside he had written, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever". She told him he needed his eyes tested.

Why are we like this? It's partly a lack of confidence. We feel we are not worthy, which can set off a knee-jerk response – a bit like apologizing after bumping into a lamppost. There is an ele-

THANKS FOR ALL THE COMPLIMENTS



Photo by Peter Duhon

ment of false modesty as well. We think that there's some virtue in being humble and don't like to be seen blowing our own trumpets.

It's just not British (or Greek for that matter) that are self-effacing and suspicious, but it is unlike the Americans who are masters at receiving – and paying – compliments.

One girl I know who recently moved to New York was horrified when her three-year-old daughter came home from nursery school carrying a banner that declared, "I am a beautiful person".

It does seem that compli-

AMBROSIA'S

ambrosia@phuketgazette.net



SECRETS

ment awkwardness is a peculiarly female trait. In my experience,

there are a lot of men who don't seem to suffer from the same affliction. Not only do they encourage compliments, but they also do a pretty good job at flattering themselves while they're at it.

How many times have you been stuck in a conversation with a man who, by the end of it, has left you in no doubt about how great he is (but has hardly asked anything about you)?

Saying that, there is a rare breed of woman who can accept compliments graciously. I'm sure Helen of Troy didn't tell the troops to stop being daft and go back to Greece. Nor did Cleopatra scoff

when Mark Antony told her she looked beautiful.

My friend Julia smiles serenely when anyone tells her she is gorgeous, but this is also a woman who admits that the only part of her body she doesn't like is her eyebrows.

Sadly, like most other women I know, I find it easier to believe the bad reviews rather than the good ones. I collect insults like trophies.

I'm still smarting about the "jokester" comparison my friend's husband made between the busty British model Jordan and me in my Baywatch-style swimsuit last year. And the truck driver who shouted out, "You could feed the Third World with those," may have made me laugh, but I've never forgiven him.

Then there's the back-handed compliment. A friend of mine, Jo, was once the recipient of a spectacular one when she was traveling in Mexico as a student with a leggy blonde friend of hers named Kristen.

One night they were serenaded by two waiters they had met. Every song was about Kristen and what a dream woman she was, with a line tacked on to the end of each verse like, "And Jo, you're not bad either". It has taken her 10 years to see the funny side.

I know, though, that however much I dismiss them, I would miss compliments if they weren't there. After all, why else would one spend ages getting ready to go out? Which is why I've decided to change my ways. Next time someone says I look great, I won't raise a quizzical eyebrow or curl up my lip. Instead, I'll just flash a winning smile and say "Thank you," politely.

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



Royal Phuket Marina & Les Angeles present

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY

Pure Jazz/Soul n R&B

BBQ on the Boardwalk



Allen Youngblood & Jazbalaya

Performed by the very talented trio of Allen Youngblood/Larry Hammond & Paul Candelaria regular performers at the Jazz Club in HK, Bert's Bar at the FCC and International Jazz Festivals.

All 3 have earned the reputation of the most popular showmen and entertainers in the region.

Date: **Friday 3 August**
 Time: **7.30pm on the Boardwalk of Royal Phuket Marina**
 Cost: **2000 baht + 10% per person includes BBQ Dinner & Drinks**

Bookings essential. Please call Peter Webber **081 968 0738 or 076 360 803**



Announcing the Gazette / Nation Classifieds Package

Your Gazette classifieds now run
FREE in *The Nation*.

More than 100,000 readers - nationwide!

And you pay only the Gazette's
'small-town' charge

of
95 baht
per line!

Another
incredible value from
Phuket's favourite
partners in print!

Phuket Gazette + *The Nation*

No one can match us for *Classifieds*!

** This special promotion is available through August 2007 and applies only to ads placed in the hard-copy Phuket Gazette. It does not apply to ads run solely in the Gazette Online.*





The Cryptic Crossword

Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid below are the traditional names of 20 stars. 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.

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

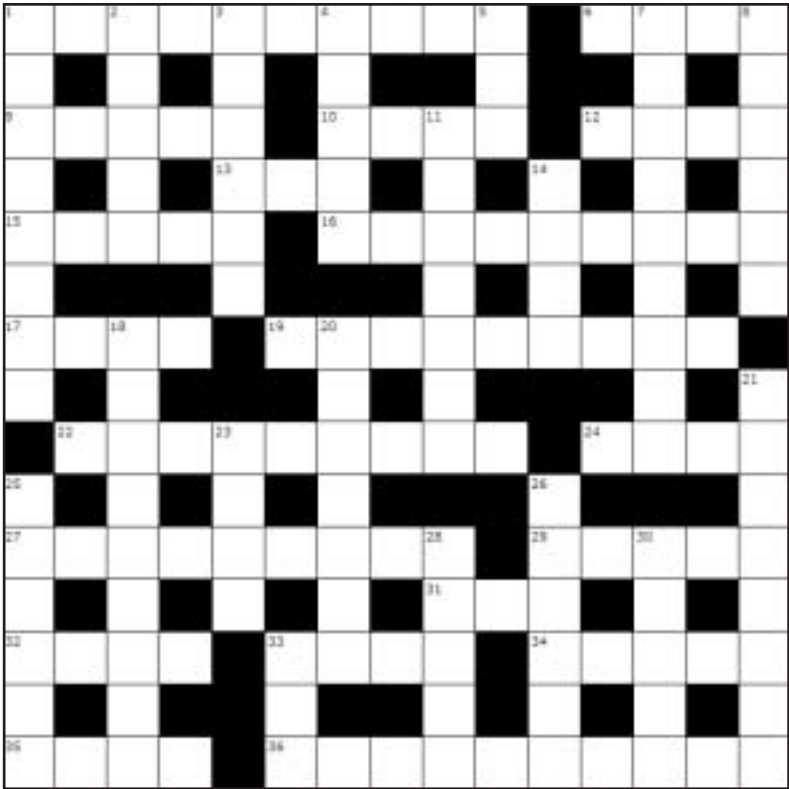
Solution on next page

ACROSS

1. On the beach, star flyer belonging to girl? (10)
6. Ache, seemingly, for piece of glass. (4)
9. Clubs prisoner's restraints. (5)
10. Manner sounds self-important. (4)
12. Relaxing places in mountainous passes. (4)
13. Look at center of storm. (3)
15. Are as acres, perhaps. (5)
16. In net, Tony confused insignificant person. (9)
17. Jug is for lamb's dam. Right? (4)
19. Mystify, stupid! Located. (9)
22. Part-time workers dead in patterns. (9)
24. Exemplary little protest. (4)
27. Relax, Dane replaced great chap. (9)
29. Beach in Nebraska? (5)
31. Appendage that can be lent. (3)
32. Almost smote tiny speck. (4)
33. God! O what a noise! (4)
34. Moved carefully - approval in two directions. (5)
35. Crooked line of river. (4)
36. Evangelist's position. (10)

Down

1. Bad risks to eat in province. (8)
2. Look back soon to the east. (5)
3. Put a value on donkeys at the bend. (6)
4. Have indefinite number in harbor. (5)
5. Wickedness, in part. (3)



Compiled by Tortuus. © 2007

7. A very quiet fastener returned to middle of icer machine. (9)
8. Attempts scholarly exercises. (6)
11. To make lion beg is mean-spirited. (7)
14. In mess of data... (4)
18. ...find direction for the French type of patient - it's natural. (9)
20. Without backup, United Nations helped. (7)
21. Faint-hearted, yet firm with sick-room student?
23. Yes. (8)
23. Sounds like two-of-a-kind fruit. (4)
25. Little Sarah gets my French fish. (6)
26. Carried nothing to the country. (6)
28. Leases damaged, to a point. (5)
30. A drink keeps cardinal on board. (2, 3)
33. Resistance? Oh my! Almost. (3)

Solution on next page

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

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.

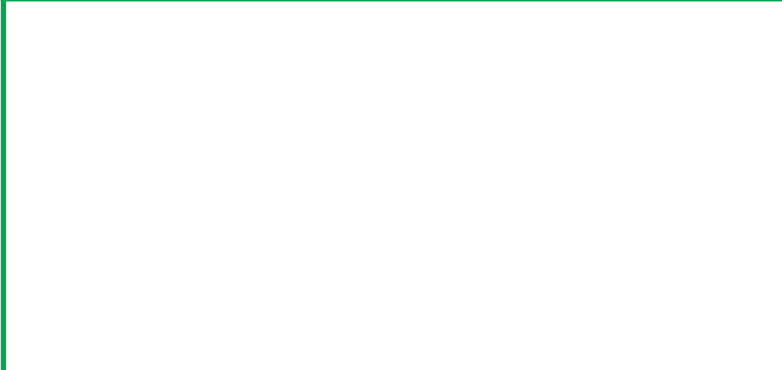
Rhyme Time

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

1. Chases.
2. Opposes head-on.
3. Takes the edge off.
4. Gruff noises.
5. Insults.
6. Kicks.
7. Stupid student.
8. Dangerous stuff in movies.
9. Undersized piglets.
10. Revolutionary groups.

Answers on next page

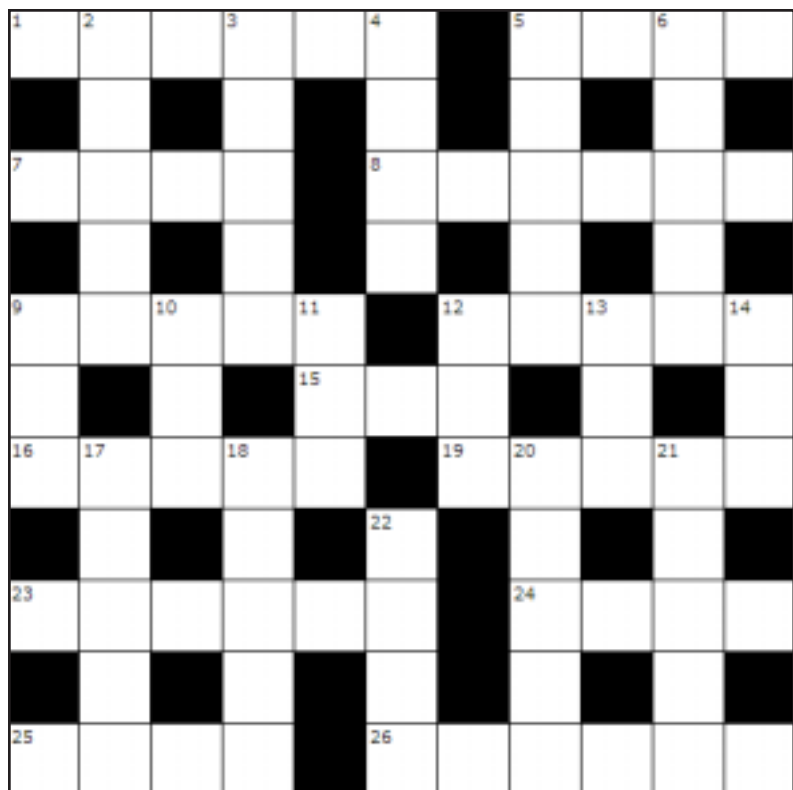
Scribble Space



EZ TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Outside which city are the Pyramids?
2. In which country is the ancient abandoned city of Petra?
3. How many yards are there in a mile?
4. What kind of creatures have compound eyes?
5. Which creatures are believed to be descended from dinosaurs?
6. What is the capital of Ethiopia?
7. Which is the odd one out: rat, weasel, capybara, beaver.
8. Which Thai city is famed for its bird park?
9. Which country lies to the east of Lithuania?
10. Which country formerly had the tical as its currency?

Answers on next page



Quick Crossword

ACROSS

1. Silk fabric.
5. Ale.
7. Extinct bird.
8. Phang Nga Bay transport.
9. Tracking device.
12. Rhyme writers.
15. Id counterpart.
16. "Finish your food!"
19. Restaurant lists.
23. Eighth month.

DOWN

24. Make pictures with acid.
25. Internet language.
26. Old Faithful, eg.
2. Hawaiian greeting.
3. Good smell.
4. Boot the ball.
5. Strummable instrument.

6. Throw out.
9. Fish eggs.
10. Part of Morse code.
11. Sales agent.
12. Little dog, in short.
13. A long time.
14. Help!
17. Grown-up.
18. Normal.
20. Foe.
21. Mother's brother.
22. Male deer.

Solution below right

Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



1. The largest rodent ever was *Phoberomys pattersoni*, which lived about 8 million years ago. How much did it weigh?
2. When was the Baiji, or Yangtze River Dolphin, declared extinct?
3. It was once probably the most common bird in North America. By 1914 it was extinct. What was it?
4. How long were the teeth of saber-toothed cats?
5. *Percrocuta* was the largest hyena ever. How long was it?
6. The dodo, the ultimate symbol of man's ability to exting-uish species, lived on which island?
7. How many years separated the dodo's discovery from its extinction?
8. Gurney's Pitta was thought to be extinct in 1952, but was rediscovered in 1986. Where?
9. The pygmy mammoth, which lived on an island off what is now California, died out about 12,000 years ago. How tall was it?
10. The Cyprus dwarf elephant, which died out about 11,000 years ago, weighed how much?
11. The Darwin's Rice Rat died out about 1930. Where did it live?
12. The largest bird of prey ever is thought to have been Haast's Eagle in New Zealand. What was its wingspan?
13. The largest earwig ever was the St Helena earwig. How long was it?
14. The quagga is an extinct sub-species of which African animal?
15. At 40 centimeters long, the extinct *Phelsuma* was the largest type of what?
16. The largest land mammal known to have existed was the *Deinotherium*, a kind of elephant. What does the name mean?
17. Roughly how long ago did man's probable ancestor, *homo habilis*, die out?
18. What do the Scimitar Oryx and the Egyptian Barbary Sheep have in common?
19. Living examples of the Coelacanth, believed to have died out 300,000 years ago, were discovered in 1938. Where?
20. Meganeura, which thrived 300 million years ago, had a wingspan of about 75 centimeters. What is its modern relative?

Answers below, left

Puzzle Solutions

Monster Quiz Answers

1. About 700 kilograms; 2. Last year; 3. The Passenger Pigeon; 4. Up to 20 centimeters; 5. About 1.5 metres; 6. Mauritius; 7. 80 years; 8. Khao Nor Chu Chi, Krabi; 9. Up to 200 centimeters at the shoulder; 10. About 200 kilograms; 11. Indefatigable Island in the Galapagos Islands; 12. Up to 3 meters; 13. Up to 84 millimeters; 14. The zebra; 15. Gecko; 16. Terrible beast; 17. 1.8 million years; 18. They no longer exist in the wild, but only in captivity; 19. Off the Chalumna River, South Africa; 20. The dragonfly.

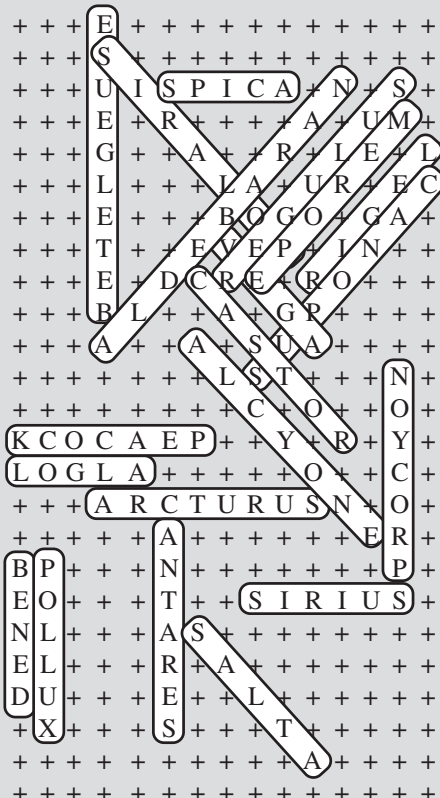
EZ Trivia Answers

1. Cairo; 2. Jordan; 3. 1,760; 4. Insects and crustaceans; 5. Birds; 6. Addis Ababa. 7. Weasel - the others are rodents; 8. Chai Nat; 9. Belarus; 10. Thailand.

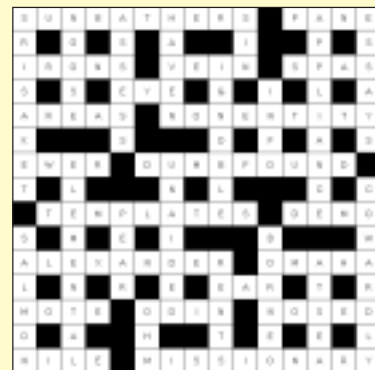
Rhyme Time Answers

1. Hunts; 2. Confronts; 3. Blunts; 4. Grunts; 5. Affronts; 6. Punts; 7. Dunces; 8. Stunts; 9. Runts; 10. Fronts.

Hidden Words SOLUTION



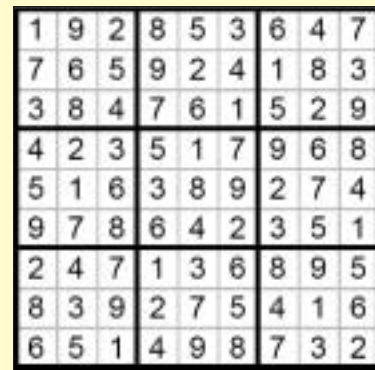
Solution to this week's Cryptic Crossword



Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle



A tale of lightning-fast heroism

Hampton Sides has produced a cleverly plotted, deeply researched, brilliantly written account of a once-famous raid during World War II that has long been forgotten.

Ghost Soldiers (Anchor Books, New York, 2002, 344pp) is the story of a January 1945 rescue mission by 121 Army Rangers of 513 American prisoners of war in the Philippines, emaciated survivors of the Bataan Death March who were snatched to freedom from right under the noses of thousands of Japanese troops.

A prologue tells of the grim fate of another group of prisoners of war, 150 slave laborers on an airstrip in Palawan who were herded by their Japanese captors into air raid shelters, doused with gasoline and set alight.

Survivors were hunted down and shot but a few managed to escape to American lines. Fears that another massacre would happen at Cabanatuan Camp in Luzon led to the launch of the commando raid to free them.

Based on a host of interviews, Sides alternates the accounts of the three-year ordeal of the prisoners of war with the preparations and flawless execution of the rescue mission by the Rangers and their Filipino guerrilla allies.

The Filipinos were essential to the success of the mission, providing food, transport, intelligence and firepower.

While the Americans entered the camp to free the prisoners, the guerrillas blocked Japanese reinforcements from



Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

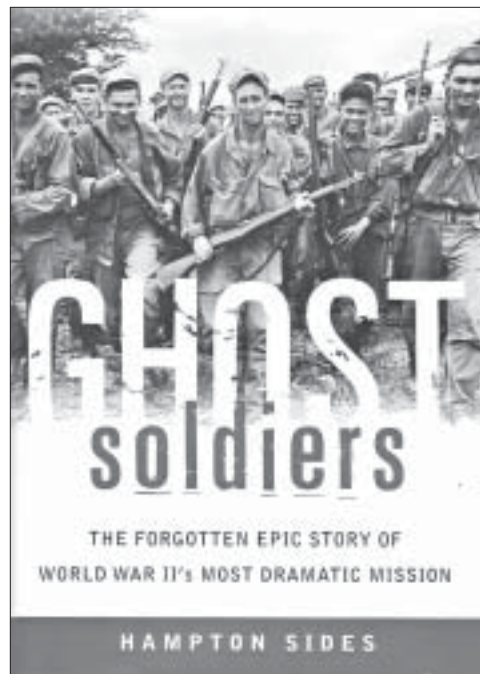
coming from both approaches of a nearby highway. They killed hundreds. Despite the "Asia for Asians" propaganda, they had suffered bitterly under Japanese occupation and entered the battle against the Imperial Army with vengeful glee.

"They fired with a hatred and a vengeance that had steeped in three years of mostly unexceptional resentments," Sides writes.

"For the Rangers, the killing was a necessary and perhaps momentarily enjoyable but not especially gratifying aspect of the mission; for the Filipinos it was personal, tribal, national; they considered it a blessing of fate, long overdue, to strike back at the invaders with all they could bring to bear."

On the other side of the wire, Sides carefully chronicles the boredom, starvation, disease, random killings and psychological torment of the POWs.

"Rumormongering was an assiduously practised sport around camp," he



reports. "The rumors spread even faster than disease. At times it seemed that Cabanatuan was composed of 50 percent pathological liars and 50 percent naifs who'd believe anything. People made stuff up for the fun of it — just to see what would happen, just to track the stories and marvel at how they would warp and twist and evolve."

Many prisoners owed their lives to an unlikely savior. Code-named "High Pockets", American Claire Philips passed herself off as a Filipina of Italian extraction named Dorothy Clara Fluentes.

She ran a racy Manila nightclub for

Japanese officers called the Tsubaki Club. Here she ran a Mata Hari-type spy ring and smuggled lifesaving medicine and other supplies to the POW camp. Even though she was captured and tortured by the Japanese secret police, she managed to survive the war.

The plot rises in suspense to the moment the Rangers open fire on the Japanese barracks, pillboxes and guard towers of Cabanatuan Camp. Sides describes the moment brilliantly:

"If the slaughter could have been viewed without sound, one might have been disposed to call it beautiful. In an instant, the entire fence line lit up in a corona of frenetic glitters soon numbering in the thousands, each burst crisp and discrete against the black night. The orange flashes came in pleasingly random and inscrutable patterns like the semaphore of fireflies in a dense forest. Occasionally gold stars streaked across the field and ended abruptly in warm blooms of yellow and vermilion, leaving the sky trails of smoke.

"Yet the sounds, shrill and fulminant, were at odds with the majestic visuals — splintering bamboo, the whine of stray slugs, glass fracturing into shards, splatters of pulverized dirt. The blunt sound bullets make when they enter flesh, sending up aerosol clouds of blood."

And the prisoners were suddenly off on a Life March rather than a Death March, 30 miles to the American lines and freedom. This is a rousing tale of heroism gone right.

EVENTS CALENDAR

www.phuketgazette.net/calendar

July 28. Wine Connection Wine Tasting.

Enjoy a pleasant Saturday evening with six different wines, tapas buffet and live band in a great atmosphere at Bangtao Place from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Only 350 baht. The wine bar and bistro will also host an open lunch and dinner every Sunday from August 5 and can accommodate any party. For further information contact Pascal (Tel: 087-889-6074; Email: fb.phuket@wineconnection.co.th).

Until August 4. Phuket Flower Show.

Don't miss the final days of this year's bloomin' marvelous Phuket Flower Show, hosted by the Phuket Provincial Agriculture Office. The show is taking place at Saphan Hin, open daily from 8:30 am to 10:30 pm.

Visitors will also be able to learn everything there is to know about hydroponics (gardening without soil) and there will be an exhibition about sufficiency economy as well as exhibitions showing how to arrange flowers and plants. Tel: 076-216565 or 076-221602.

Until July 31. Third Halal Food Hilal Town.

The third Halal Food Hilal Town festival is again being held at the field, about one kilometer west of the Heroines' Monument, where Phuket's Heroines led locals to victory over an invading Burmese army.

Highlights of the festival include a variety of food stalls, all prepared to Halal requirements; local Muslim gourmet cooking contests and a spectacular light and sound show telling the tragic story of the legendary Princess Mahsuri at 8 pm every evening.

For details, visit www.phuketcity.org or www.tourismthailand.org, or call 076-354204 or 076-212213. For package tours with transfers, call 076-377773.

Every Sunday. Brunch at the Mangosteen Resort and Spa.

Specialty brunches every Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm, with a continental brunch on July 29. 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@mangosteen-phuket.com

July 29. Asarnha Bucha Day – Public Holiday.

This full-moon day of the eighth lunar month commemorates the Buddha's first sermon to his first five disciples after attaining Enlightenment more than 2,500 years ago.

July 30. Buddhist Lent Day (Khao Pansa) – Public Holiday.

Khao Pansa marks the beginning of the annual three-month Rains Retreat during which Buddhist monks customarily stay at

a particular temple to study and meditate.

August 3. Weekly party at BYD Lofts, Soi Andaman, Patong.

DJ Eddie plays his music as usual, scores of gorgeous ladies and passable dudes strut their stuff. Heineken draft beers at 90 baht net. All other libations sold at net prices. Exquisite free tapas, free occasional shooters. First two groups of three to six ladies qualify for the usual free bottle of wine or scotch and mixers. Prize for most weirdly decked-out personality.

Great for networking, meeting cool people, old friends, new friends and so on. 8 pm to 11:30 pm.

For further information contact Stephan (Tel: 076-3430247; Email: manager@bydlofts.com) or visit www.bydlofts.com

August 6-11. Laguna Phuket Summer Music Camp.

The Laguna Phuket Music Camp will feature free workshops open to any act, talent or audio-visual crew. Talent will include musicians, bands, vocalists, soloists, dancers, DJs and media jocks. Music genres will range from rock to rap.

There will be live performances on August 11 from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm at the Laguna Holiday Club Resort by talent involved in the workshops and YRock Pop winners Ghost Souljah and Dani & Maren from

Hong Kong. For details, email belmike@netvigator.com

August 12. HM The Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday.

HM The Queen's Birthday is also known as Thailand's "Mother's Day." Since this falls on a Sunday this year, Monday August 13 will be a substitute public holiday.

August 19. Meditation retreat.

Free monthly meditation retreats on the third Sunday of every month from 1:30 pm to 3 pm at Wang Kung restaurant, located

behind Suan Luang Park in Phuket City.

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

Instruction is provided by English-speaking Thai monks and people of all nationalities and religions are welcome to attend.

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

NAT
Providing the best business solutions

Accounting & Tax services

Accounting Software sales & support

QuickBooks
More than just bookkeeping

sage

Phuket : 076 212 989
Bangkok : 02 513 7151
Pattaya : 038 378 178
Koh Samui : 077 246 249
www.thaiaccounting.com

AN Production
Fast And Reliable

DIRECT EXPORT

Made to Order

New T-Shirt

European Quality:

- Polo shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Baseball caps
- Embroidery
- Pens, Lighters

Tel: 076-321850
Fax: 076-321851
Email: info@best-t-shirt.com
www.best-t-shirt.com
Ask for : Mr. FRANZ

The Phuket Gazette
- Since 1994 -

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

New bus station offers opportunity

The announcement from the Phuket Provincial Transport Office (PPTO) that the agency is one step closer to moving Phuket's main bus terminal outside Phuket City is long-overdue good news for the island's public transport network.

While Phuket's tourism and real estate sectors have surged ahead in recent decades and swelled the island's population, retarded development in public transport over the same period has left the public bus system woefully inadequate to meet the needs of Phuket residents – let alone the millions of tourists who travel here from around the globe.

Thai and foreign tourists consistently name the island's transport syndicates and the unsafe, overpriced services they offer as chief complaints about their holidays in Phuket. Some tourists become so fed up with the situation that they end their holidays here vowing never to return. This hurts the island's image and its entire tourism industry, including the transport sector itself.

Local residents also suffer. With no other option, they are forced to buy motorcycles or cars, thus creating traffic, noise and road dangers. Our collective failure to establish a good public transport system also results in a waste of fuel and unnecessarily high greenhouse gas emissions for the size of the population.

If the PPTO gets the required funding from the Transport Ministry – a big *if* given the current political situation – the provincial government should take the opportunity to help break the stranglehold these syndicates continue to have on public transport.

This needs to be done even though it will fly in the face of the speculators who are no doubt rubbing their palms together in greedy anticipation of how they will use the new station to their own benefit, legally or otherwise.

It is clear that although the plan to retain the old bus station as the main depot for local buses, vans and *songtaew* will no doubt benefit many Phuket City residents, it will do nothing for people who want to reach west coast destinations by public transport from other parts of the island.

The new station needs a bus service linking it to the west coast from the outset, before the syndicates have a chance to muscle their way in and prevent it from happening.

– The Editor

Do you have an opinion you want to share?
Email editor@phuketgazette.net

The Phuket Gazette

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

Editor: Parichat Utintu

Managing Editor: Chris Husted

Editorial Consultant: Alasdair Forbes

News Editor: Stephen Fein

Chief Reporter: Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

Editorial Team: Natcha Yuttaworawit, Janyaporn Morel,
Sompratch Saowakhon, Supanun Supawong, Semacote Suganya,
Zach Fridell, Ryan Nerone, Matt Crook.

Managing Director: Oranee Pienprasertkul

General Manager: Niladaa Mastanawattanakul

Marketing Manager: Natthira Susangrat

Classifieds Manager: Phatsara Raktammakit

Publisher: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Contact us

Advertising Sales: adsales@phuketgazette.net

Classified Advertising: classads@phuketgazette.net

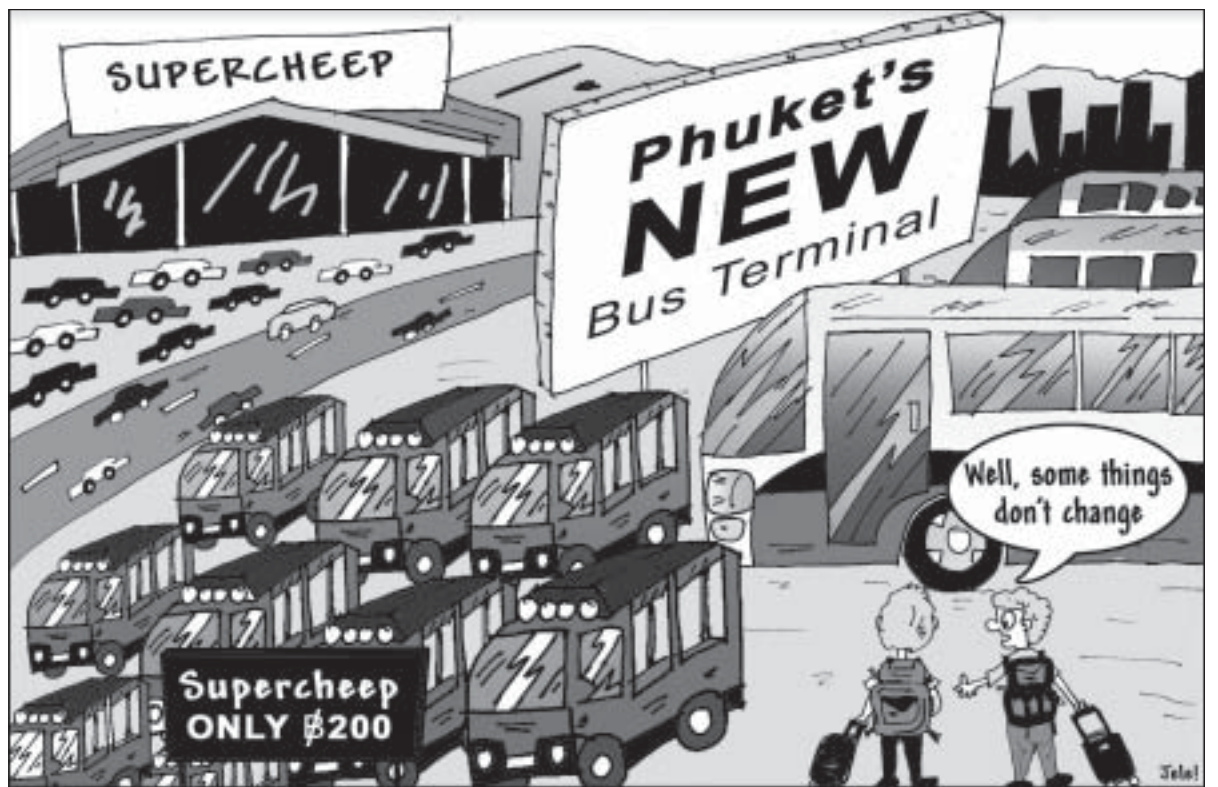
Website Services: koy@phuketgazette.net

Gazette Guide inquiries: guide@phuketgazette.net

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

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

Copyright © 1994-2007 The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd



Letters

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

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

The rise in the baht is gonna hurt...

The rising baht is going to hurt Thailand in many areas.

Thailand's economy depends on tourism and it is obvious that as the baht rises, many potential visitors will decide to go elsewhere.

Expats retired here on fixed incomes will also be hurt and many will have to cut back on purchases, while some will not be able to meet the retirement visa fees and be forced to leave.

I have been coming to Thailand for six years now, staying for periods of five to eight months. It is costing me 20% more to stay in Thailand now and I cannot afford it.

I had plans to buy a condo or house, plans that I have now been forced to abandon. In the six months I will stay this year I will contribute 500,000 baht to the Thai economy.

If the baht keeps rising I will not be back next year and there are many like myself considering the same.

All of these factors are going to pull money out of Thailand's economy. Prices in Thailand have not gone down relative to the rising baht. My rent remains the same; the price of food remains the same; and the motorcycle I was going to purchase has remained at the same price too.

All these factors, along with the import/export problems, will begin to have detrimental effects on Thailand as a whole. Of course some individuals will benefit, but Thailand will see its economy slip away.

Thailand cannot survive on the few wealthy tourists or expats who come here. Adjustments

have to be made in visa and commodity pricing and baht controls need to be implemented.

Mark
Patong

Market ceiling worth shouting about

The weekend market is great...if you're not taller than a broomstick. I'm all for sauntering around doing a bit of late-night shopping, grabbing a bite to eat and watching all the cute girls strut by, but who came up with the idea of covered walkways for midgets?

If I'm not being chased by angry poodles or colliding with other confused shoppers, I'm bent over double trying to crawl my way through the maze of stalls.

It's like a full-scale tactical maneuver, when all I want to do is buy a T-shirt and a pair of flip-flops.

Someone, please, raise the roof!

Borris Stringfellow
Phuket

In defence of a friend

After reading the story about Frank Witzel (*Gazette*, p. 1, July 14), I felt compelled to write this letter. Frank is a good person, and so say many Thai people who know him.

After I retired, he hired Thai architect Pytoon Tongcheed, who had previously worked for me, and gave the engineering work to K. Pytoon's brother, K. Banterng. They worked from his sketches and drew the plans and signed for the building permit.

Frank did provide sketches of the project, but every client provides the architect with sketches of some sort, otherwise

the architect would not have a clue what to design. Every architect and engineer must sign the plans he draws up, and this is forbidden to a foreigner – but Frank did not sign off on the plans, so he is not the architect.

When he was arrested the authorities said he was "working" because he was showing where to lay PVC pipes, but as an investor, surely he is allowed to point where he wants the pipes. Otherwise not a single investor would be able to even visit the site of their investment – because this would be called *work*.

I wonder how the officers knew exactly when and where Frank would be at the site? I had a work permit for five years and I was never visited at work.

Frank's work permit was revoked because the accountant was late in filing the renewal application, which was due on the Friday because the Labor Office was closed on the bank holiday Monday.

I visited Frank in jail. My wife and I brought him some decent food. Frank told me that his lawyer suggested pleading guilty so he could get out of prison quickly and that the fine would be about 3,000 baht. I told Frank not to do so, but he said that he would reach out for any straw to climb out of that prison hole.

When I visited him again two days later, three lawyers, each from a different firm, were there for Frank to sign over what money he had left in Thailand – and to pay lawyers' bills. It must have been the most humiliating experience of his life.

Please tell the press to print this in Thai as well. Many Thais know Frank is a nice guy.

Innocent bystander,
Phuket

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.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

One of the main reasons for our visit to Japan was to promote tourism to Phuket. This time we visited Fukuoka, Tokyo and Osaka.

We are trying to open a direct flight route between Fukuoka and Phuket. Thai Airways had been asked to serve this route, but after the tsunami the plan was put on hold.

At the moment, Thai Airways is not ready to serve this route because of a shortage of aircraft, so we have suggested that Bangkok Airways take up this route instead and they will start from May next year.

This new development will prove very beneficial to tourism because Japanese tourists have very high purchasing power – one of the top five by nationality among tourists who visit Phuket.

What they need is for us to make it easy for them to come here. There have never been direct flights from Japanese cities to Phuket before.

Despite the fact that they want to come to Phuket, the transits make it inconvenient with them. Usually Japanese people are very efficient with their time, so this development has been very satisfactory.

The overall number of tourists coming to Phuket is projected to rise at the end of this year and again next year. From what I have heard from hotel owners, bookings for this coming high season have been quite good, so if we do not have any unforeseen negative developments, this high season should be very good.

We got some very positive feedbacks from the road shows. We held them in the big cities in Japan and in each city the turnout was very good. Fukuoka, being the smallest of the three cit-

The Governor's Letter

In his seventh in a series of monthly letters to Phuket residents, Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit talks about his recent trip to Japan, an idea that would allow British technology to tackle the island's waste disposal problem, tourism development plans and beach safety. Compiled by *Gazette* Chief reporter Sangkhae Leelanapaporn and trainee Anand Singh.



ies, still drew more than a hundred people, so we can say that it was very successful.

During the road show we presented the Japanese audience with the image of Phuket, including all the developments currently underway and planned, along with facts and figures. After each seminar, we opened the forum for questions and discussion.

Apart from the Phuket government officials who attended, there were a number of private companies who sent representatives to travel with us to promote their companies.

These included many golf clubs in Phuket, as well as in Phang Nga, Krabi and even Chiang Mai. Many large hotels in Bangkok also sent representatives, so there were a lot of people out there doing good, professional marketing work.

Another reason we had for visiting Japan this time was to

strengthen Thai-Japanese relations. As we had a lot of generous donations from Japan after the tsunami, one purpose was to show them how their aid money had been spent.

We distributed copies of videos documenting the success of post-tsunami reconstruction and development projects.

Trash incinerator at Saphan Hin: Initially we were waiting for the central government to authorize a budget to build a new incinerator to serve Phuket. We have been waiting for some time, since the previous government.

The situation has changed significantly since this government stepped in because there has been no clear assignment of the state budget and the political situation is still somewhat unclear.

We are not sure whether there will be an election soon or not. At this point, I can clearly state that there is no budget available to carry out this project or any other megaprojects, so we have to help ourselves for the moment. One way to solve this may be to invite the private sector to invest in this project.

There were recently some representatives from a British company that expressed interest in investing in an incinerator in Phuket.

Instead of building something like what we already have here in Phuket, they are prepared to invest in an incinerator with newer, more advanced British technology that could turn some of the rubbish into useful products – such as tiles and fertilizer – while at the same time generating electricity.

This is among the most recent plans that I have received from investors and is a possible way forward. We asked him the company to present their ideas to local municipality authorities so that they can assess the feasibility of the project.

The advantage of this type

of incinerator is that it does not cost much and requires very little space to build, yet has a large incineration capacity. It could be very helpful in curbing the growing waste disposal problem on this island, which is already on the verge of crisis.

Convention center saga: We have been discussing plans for an international convention facility in Phuket for a long time. We should soon be able to finalize the location where this facility will be built. We have two options concerning the land to be used: government-owned land or private land. Most of our choices are in the northern part of the island, near Mai Khao Beach.

I think there is a good possibility that we will be using government-owned land because it provides everything we need and the size of the plot is also just right. The sea views from the plot are also very impressive.

The reason we are planning to build this center in the northern part of the island is so that it will be easier for people from neighboring provinces such as Krabi and Phang Nga to reach the facility.

There are also plans that are underway for a TAT-managed sports complex built on 300 rai of land situated very close to the convention center, so all these facilities will be very closely linked to each other for convenience.

The location we have planned at the moment is quite good, but we still must hold a meeting with the private sector to see if they can come up with a better plan or location. We will give them a chance to present alternative locations and then we will make a comparison.

After we have all the suggestions at hand, we will invite private investors to come and invest in this project. If they would like to use government-owned land we are more than happy to provide them with it, however if

they want to use private land that is fine as well.

Using private land plots may increase the overall cost of this project because land prices in Phuket are very high, but it is up to the private investors to decide. This may not be a problem.

For example, one of the private enterprises that have shown interest in investing in this facility is ING Funds. Being a multinational corporation, it will not be a problem for them to raise the funds necessary for the project.

Other investment plans: There are other investors that I have met who want to invest in projects across Phuket. For example, Ripley Entertainment, Inc., have made plans to build an aquarium here. There have also been plans from foreign investors to build cable cars, perhaps linking Karon to Patong.

Most investment projects are directed towards tourism, however sometimes I have to inform investors who come to me with their plans that environmental protection laws here are quite complicated and stringent.

It may be hard to realize many of the projects here because there are many laws in place and many government agencies involved. There are laws protecting forests and national parks, even those governing how cities need to be planned, including height limitations for buildings.

They may have to gather all their information and resources and present their projects to the central government and see if they will accept it.

Beach safety: This morning [July 16] I attended a press conference on the recent spate of drownings. The department in charge say that they have all the necessary precautions and warning systems in place. We are not being lax on our safety standards.

Tourists who drown at beaches go swimming despite warnings against it and in the most recent cases, they were swimming outside designated swim zones as well.

We also have beach guards on duty all the time, but during the monsoon season the sea is very rough and accidents happen.

The authorities have asked hotels to help inform their guests about beach safety and the rules and regulations as well.

It is not just safety on beaches that we are worried about. Phuket's roads are also quite dangerous with accidents happening on a regular basis. Most accidents are related to motorbikes. Law enforcement has to be tightened here.

Niran Kalayanamit,
Governor of Phuket

Can I drive a minibus in Thailand?

A group of 10 friends will visit Phuket in September and we would like to rent an 11-seater minibus to tour around in. Is it legal for a foreigner to drive a rental minibus? Or must they hire a Thai driver?

I asked a well-known rental company and they said that a foreigner is allowed to drive a rental minibus, but I remember reading a few years ago about a European being fined by police when he tried to drive off Phuket in similar circumstances.

Stuart Hooper
Patong

Chatchawarn Ngarmtup, chief of the Phuket Provincial Transport Office, replies:

Foreigners are allowed to drive rental minibuses in Thailand, if they have the appropriate driving license, which is different from a normal car license.

The PPTO will not issue a foreigner a full Thai bus driving license, but we will issue a permit that will allow them temporarily to drive a rental minibus if they can prove to us that they have been issued a bus driving license in their home country.

To receive the permit the foreigner must bring a current, home-country bus-driving license to the PPTO office in Saphan Hin. If no one in the group has such a license, you will have to hire a driver.

Issues & ANSWERS

[www.phuketgazette.net/
issuesanswers/index.asp](http://www.phuketgazette.net/issuesanswers/index.asp)

Why killing dogs is a bad idea

A couple of weeks ago I received an inquiry from a Taiwan-based Reuters reporter about stray dog control practices in different parts of Asia.

His question was why, despite Taiwan capturing scores of strays and euthanizing them after seven days (often by methods such as electrocution and drowning), there were still as many, if not more, dogs than ever.

He wanted to know what other methods were used in Asia and whether any were successful.

The fact is that until the dogs are recognized as an ecological phenomenon, and the relevant ecological principles are understood, no eradication effort of the type used in Taiwan will ever succeed.

First of all, the term "stray" is incorrect. A "stray" dog is a dog that once had a home but strayed, or was dumped.

Most of the dogs at large in Asian cities are street dogs. They were born on the streets and will live their whole lives on the streets. They may not have had an ancestor who was a pet in 4,000 years.

They often interbreed with the pet population and cast-off ex-pets augment their gene pool, but the basic population reservoir are well-habituated, quasi-feral animals, who mostly understand how to live among humans, yet were never and will never be part of a human household.

Second, street dogs have a role as the largest scavenger and opportunistic predator that can coexist with humans in an urban habitat. Predators larger than street dogs might eat people. Street dogs are just big enough to eat rats, chase monkeys and be major consumers of human food waste.

Rival species include pigs, monkeys and feral cats. Dogs usually win out because pigs don't do well on paved streets, monkeys are afraid of dogs and feral



EUTHANASIA IS NOT AN OPTION: These young dogs in Phuket's dog pound, if they do not find new homes, will live out their lives in relatively comfortable captivity. Since all of them are sterilized as a matter of policy, none will add to the island's dog population.

cats tend to thrive in places where the habitat no longer supports dogs, but can support smaller, more agile rodent predators in equivalent biomass.

Remove dogs from an urban habitat without changing the habitat to support fewer animals and you get feral cats replacing the dogs at a ratio of about three cats to one dog, as happened in the US and Hong Kong; or incursions of monkeys, as has routinely occurred in India and Costa Rica, parts of Malaysia, and even Phuket, among other places; or pigs, if the roads are mostly dirt.

On the whole, dogs are the easiest species for humans to live with.

Dogs breed at about half the

rate of feral cats and pigs, albeit faster than monkeys. They will also breed back up to the carrying capacity of the habitat (like most mammals) within a single reproductive cycle if at least a third of the population remain to breed, which is why the traditional methods of "control" don't work.

Thailand has tried many methods in the past and all have failed. Poisoning used to be widespread in Bangkok before HM The King requested that the practice cease, though it still goes on unofficially in some areas, including parts of Phuket.

Large dog pounds were set up around Bangkok and other places including here. No official euthanasia policy exists at these pounds, though with little food and no medical treatment the dogs still die through injury and disease.

Despite all this, the number of street dogs never changes.

India is the only country in Asia to have achieved success at street dog control through its ABC program, which is basically the same "capture, neuter, release" that is used here in Phuket by the Soi Dog Foundation.

Not every Indian city has an ABC program, but those that do, such as Chennai, Jaipur, Visakhapatnam and Ahmedabad, are achieving excellent results.

Phuket too is starting to see the results of the Soi Dog Foundation's program. Censuses in some parts of the island indicate that the street dog population has fallen by more than half, and anybody who has lived here for three years or more should be able to notice that there are fewer dogs

around, and those that are here are in better condition.

The reason is quite simply that more than 16,000 have now been sterilized by the Soi Dog Foundation alone.

The only way to effectively reduce a dog population is therefore:

1) Reduce the reproductive capacity of the dogs by sterilizing at least 70% of them. You won't see any reduction whatsoever until you cross the 70% threshold. Then you will see the numbers suddenly start falling, and falling ever faster as your sterilization percentage rises to 80%. That is what is happening in Phuket.

Hardly anyone ever goes beyond 80%, not because it isn't possible, but because people begin to realize that they'd much rather have some street dogs than have pigs, feral cats and monkeys, or worse – a plague of rats.

If the habitat is changed enough to eliminate the food sources, the dogs disappear anyway, typically receding to just the market areas before disappearing altogether.

2) Reduce the carrying capacity of the habitat, through better refuse containment and removal. You don't need to read the "Trashing Phuket" column of the *Gazette* to know that Phuket has a waste problem. Not that many years ago Phuket had no garbage removal and many rural areas of Thailand still don't.

It is normal for people to dump garbage in unauthorized piles if they are living somewhere where there is no garbage removal. Even where it is organized, the majority of Thai dustbins are open containers that make it even easier for scavengers to raid.

Barely a week goes by without me getting at least one call from a resident or hotel complaining about street dogs in their area and asking for someone to remove them.

What they fail to realize, is that if that dog is removed another will simply take its place as long as a food source exists to sustain it.

What they need to do is

clean up their street or hotel so that there is no food for the animals, which will then go away.

Some areas of Phuket still round up dogs, but surveys show that the number of street dogs in any area does not change. It is far better to leave them there, sterilized, so they can protect their territory.

Another important step Phuket authorities should consider is banning the importation of all dogs that are not personal pets. Even though we are connected to the mainland it would have a



By Top Dog

large effect.

The markets and temple fairs are full of cute puppies that have been brought here to sell.

If they don't sell they are simply dumped at the nearest *wat*, and many that are sold are allowed to breed or dumped when the owner realizes that puppies don't stay cute and small for long.

Phuket has the opportunity to set an example for the rest of Asia in dog control, but has left it to the charities to carry out the operation. Financially they cannot carry on forever.

The Islander Restaurant & Pub

Quality food, reasonable prices
friendly service, pub-style atmosphere

* open 9 am till late
* happy hours 3 pm - 6 pm
* satellite TV (inc world news & live English football)

58/9 Soi Patong Resort, Bangla Rd, Patong Beach Tel: 076-342685
166/79 Chaweng Rd, Chaweng Beach, Koh Samui Tel: 077-230836

roast dinners

home-made pies

real sausages

fish & chips

English breakfasts

+ much more!

In The Stars

by Isla Star

LEO (July 24-August 22): If you're celebrating a birthday this week you can look forward to a year filled with interesting events and a focus on the realization of long-term goals. Financial luck during the coming days will be particularly strong and new business ventures are particularly well-starred. Personal relationships will benefit from some extra attention; a brewing disagreement threatens to disrupt harmony in the home unless you nip it in the bud.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): If you have started to believe that luck is passing you by, you should have cause to change your mind this week. If you really want to get ahead, be prepared to take larger strides to cross the stepping stones. If you are in a relationship you will find it difficult to accept your partner's current need for independence. The best way to deal with this situation is to develop more interests of your own.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Feeling off balance is difficult. Taking care of your health and wellbeing should be a primary focus as July ends. Treating yourself to a day at a spa this weekend should ensure that you begin August with fresh energy. A Capricorn friend would appreciate being invited to join you. The number 6 can bring good luck next Monday.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Travel is forecast to broaden your horizons during early August. If you have been searching for a new direction in life you ought to know what you really want after this experience. Where love is concerned, wearing your heart on your sleeve is not the best way to woo a shy Gemini. Lay foundations for friendship to grow before expecting anything more. The color azure blue helps you to focus on the present.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): The first week of August is a good time for you to plant seeds for a new career. If you have been doubting the wisdom of making changes in your working life, expect to receive positive encouragement that this is the right thing to do. Someone born under the sign of Virgo has useful advice to give regarding a romantic dilemma. Tuesday is the best day for bargain hunting.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): A social whirl keeps you occupied this week and people could expect you to be in two places at the same time. Obviously this won't be possible and you should make it clear that a rain check is welcome to avoid upsetting someone. Inspiration strikes on Wednesday concerning a business venture that has threatened to turn sour. A romantic reunion enhances an emotional connection; commitment is on the cards for those of you who are single.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): A sparkling month lies ahead for you if you need a financial boost. Although events are due to move slower than you would like, the overall outcome will be positive. As money flows toward you, it would be advisable to repay outstanding debts as soon as possible. This week, the focus is on a personal relationship that you would like to develop into something closer. Sunday is a good day to explain how you feel.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): A change of career remains highlighted for many of you as July turns into August. You have a golden opportunity to take the buffalo by the horns early next week when someone with great influence crosses your path. Domestic issues require careful handling, particularly if you're trying to negotiate a new contract. Buying property should be delayed until later in August. The number seven can bring some good fortune on Tuesday.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): Appointments made too casually can land you in hot water this week. An agreement that you took for granted needs to be confirmed. Your talent for being active while others are lounging in their hammocks comes in useful this weekend. If you're single you are advised to let love develop in slow motion; this advice is especially relevant if you would like to get to know a Libra better. Wear peppermint green to cool your approach.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): "Fulfillment" is the key word for you as August approaches. If there is still an empty space in your life, the stars are about to show you a way to transform it. Your energy levels will be higher as stress dissolves, but it's still important to pace yourself. If you're single and not looking for a relationship you might find one anyway, as Cupid is about to get busy on your behalf.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): You are advised to remember that other people are perfectly entitled to have their own opinions. Many of you take too much for granted when it comes to making agreements and this week could bring a small business shock when things don't go the way you expect. Eating a small piece of humble pie will do you the world of good even if it doesn't taste great at the time. Number five comes alive on Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): A crabby mood doesn't get your weekend off to a flying start. Friends, however, will be determined to force you out of your shell and you are certain to benefit from some socializing. If you have been wondering whether a certain person is interested in you, expect to receive confirmation this weekend. Romance is forecast to bloom with Scorpio, although a jealous friend may try to make waves.

Great STEAKS!



Bring this advert for a complimentary Signature Sam's Martini with your dinner



Holiday Inn Resort Phuket

52 Thaweewong Road, Patong Beach, Phuket 83150, Thailand

Tel +66 (0) 7634 0608 Fax +66 (0) 7634 0435

e-mail phuket@holiday-inn.com www.phuket.holiday-inn.com

When Bill Gates first coined the term "information at your fingertips" at the Comdex computer expo in 1990, he was talking about document exchange and embedded objects.

I recently looked up the text of his prezo (that's "presentation" in Microspeak) and now wonder what the hell he was talking about.

With the proliferation of the Internet and the excellent search engines available, we can truly say that we have information at our fingertips – with little thanks to the hundreds of millions of US dollars that Microsoft has invested on search-related technologies.

I'm going to give some very basic tips on using search engines like Google. The point I want to pound into your head is to get into the habit of using them; Internet search is an incredible problem-solving and productivity-enhancing tool.

When I mentor junior software developers in Southeast Asia, I am continuously blown away by how so few of them instinctively use Internet search engines as their primary problem-solving tool, preferring instead to annoy the guy sitting in the next cubicle.

If there's a problem or query, there is a 99.9% chance that someone has encountered the same problem, come up with a solution and made it available for others on the Internet. All you have to do is look for it.

Here are a few examples from the past week in which I used a search engine to get information I wanted:

1. A friend forwarded me an email message sent to him and asked me if it was legit. Within minutes using Internet search I found out that it was a malicious Trojan horse program that would install itself on his computer and take it over if he clicked on the link.

2. I talked to a friend who

Getting tactical with Google

was at hospital with his child who was diagnosed with a certain illness. Within minutes I determined that the illness was contagious and that he needed to contact the daycare center and notify them.

3. Watching a sporting event, I wondered "who is this dude?" and within minutes I had the take on his entire sporting career and life history.

4. My new mobile phone didn't function exactly the same as the last one I had of the same model; within five minutes I had downloaded the user manual and I had my answer.

5. Some Thai history: the 1992 military coup and the 1997 constitution.

6. Lyrics to a song playing in my head; in this case, "Daydream Believer" by the Monkees (for you Gen-Yers and on-the-cusp Gen-Xers who don't know who the Monkees were, I was in Baghdad when you were in Dad's bag).

7. I found out who did the voices for the *Little Mermaid* movie that my kids were watching.

8. When I'm watching a movie on TV I often miss the title screen. If I'm curious about the movie's name I enter in the character names, an actor's names or even a particularly memorable line from the movie to get results, usually from the Internet Movie Database (IMDB.com). On that website you can also search for movies that two actors appeared in together, further



The Internet is the world's best friend. Need to find a snapshot of Victory Monument in Bangkok? Google has you covered with its image search. No need to dig through multiple web pages to find the shot you're looking for.

limiting your search.

9. Wondering the origin of the phrase "dead ringer", which is worthy of an explanation here:

Ingesting lead from pewter caused a lengthy, unconscious state that was often mistaken for death... A bell above ground was attached to a string which ran down into the coffin and was attached to the wrist of the deceased.

Someone was hired to keep watch on the bell to quickly dig up the person if the bell rang. The "dead ringer" was "saved by the bell" by someone working the "graveyard shift" (http://www.suite101.com/article.cfm/history_bizarre_mysterious/66394).

Of course, you can't believe everything you read on the Internet and you have to get a second and third opinion when appropriate.

I use Google to search instead of the other search engines only because when I started using search engines Google was head and heels above the others.

Now there are other excellent search engines like Yahoo and Altavista and even "super-search engines" like www.dogpile.com that incorporate all of the top search engines into one.

The examples I am going to use are for Google search, but if you think that Google is the new Evil Empire or for some other reason don't want to use it, these tips can generally be applied to any of the other popular search engines.

Google Search Thailand (www.google.co.th) is the home page for all of my Web browsers; if I want information specific to Thailand, then I click on the

button to search "Pages from Thailand" instead of "The Web" to narrow the focus and improve the quality of the search results.

First, configure your Preferences. The important ones are "Search results per page". To speed things up I use 100 instead of the default number of 10. Another important option is "Language preference". I am semi-fluent in a few languages, so I choose English and those languages; if your better half is Thai and you are searching together and searching for information in Thailand, then choosing English and Thai would be your best bet.

Words entered in the search engine subject box are case insensitive, meaning that "PHUKET", "Phuket" and "pHuKeT" are all the same.

In math terms, the default is "logical AND", meaning that if you enter "phuket gold shops", it will return documents with all of those words in them.

Google and other search algorithms place the most importance on the first word you enter. Those that follow are taken to be of decreasing importance. So "phuket gold shops" will give you different results than "gold shops phuket".

Plus, there's another factor: how close together the words you've entered: the closer the words are together in the document, the higher the search result.

Common prepositions and pronouns such as "the", "then", "with", "a", "you" and "me" are disregarded by default.

Words that you include toward the end of your entry might not be included in the search results, so if you want to force Google to include a term, you need to use the plus sign before that word: "phuket gold shops +karat".

If you want a logical "OR", "phuket town OR city gold shops" will give you results that include both "Phuket Town" and "Phuket City".

One of my oft-used tactics is to exclude terms by using the minus sign. Suppose I want gold shops on Phuket Island but not in Phuket City (or Town): "phuket gold shops -town -city".

To force a search for an exact phrase, put double quotes around it: "Manchester City Football Club". This will help to exclude websites about the city of Manchester.

For all of the hints, tips and uses of such operators, check out <http://www.google.co.th/intl/en/help/basics.html> and the links from there.

Google also caches its pages. This means that for a certain amount of time – I am guessing it's in months or years – it keeps a copy of the Web sites that it has crawled through and cataloged.

So, if you click on a link that is a search result and you get a "Page not found" message or something like that, check the search result for the underlined word "Cached".

Click on that and if it's your lucky day you'll still find what you are looking for.

This feature is particularly useful if a company has screwed up and posted content that they later pulled from their website. If you want to retrieve that information many times it will have been cached and

thus still available.

Google also has a section for image searches that use the same search functionality, only it returns - duh - images and photographs instead of words. As they say, a picture can be worth a thousand words.

For example, do you know what a "gable" is? An online dictionary might tell you it's "the generally triangular section of wall at the end of a pitched roof".

Confused? Just enter the word "gable" into the the subject box at www.images.google.co.th and see for yourself.

As I said at the beginning of this column, the biggest trick by far is getting into the habit of using Internet search engines – if you aren't doing so already.

If you have the Internet at your fingertips, there's really no excuse for not finding the answer to any query less cosmic than, "What is the meaning of life?"

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@gmail.com

We take pride in our exclusive selection of glazed and terracotta pottery from Thailand and our associated factories in Vietnam and China.

Plus a good selection of lacquerware platters. Located near Boat Lagoon.

House & Garden Limited Partnership
 8/1 Thepkasatree Rd, Sapum, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000
 Tel/Fax: (66 76) 239 400 Mobile: 081 895 3571, 081 891 9051
 Email: luck@housegardenphuket.com www.housegardenphuket.com

Baan Suan Loch Palm

Where Everyday is a Leisure Day



Actual onsite photo with simulate view



Baan Suan Loch Palm - modern international designs in a gorgeous setting by the golf course in a most sought-after area of Phuket. Enjoy an enviable lifestyle in your choice of two Contemporary Tropical styles, a delightful and practical home with a beautiful garden, according to your desire.

New types of houses
Ready to move in

Starting from **6.77** Million Baht **110** sq.w.

- All bedrooms fully air-conditioned
- Fitted kitchen
- Landscaped garden



Tel : 0-7620-2792, 2794
www.baansuanlochpalm.com



Fed plays a waiting game

The current weakness of the US dollar was expected – it was really just a case of when, not if. The US currency is at a 16-year low against the Australian dollar, a 26-year low against the pound sterling and a record low against the euro. The euro, having been introduced only in 1999, is still a relative newcomer.

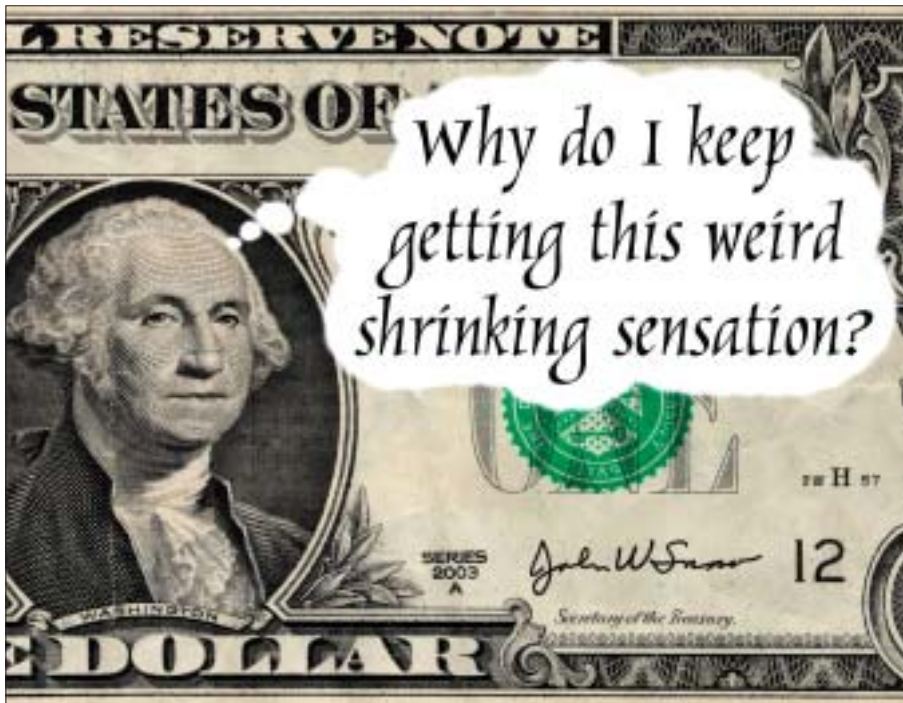
All these currencies have one thing in common – their domestic interest rates are expected to rise further, whereas current US interest rates are firmly on hold.

The US Central Bank (the Federal Reserve) is currently in a position where it cannot raise interest rates without risking future economic growth, and it cannot reduce them without running into the possibility of fueling inflation. Instead, the US Central Bank is taking the sensible route and holding steady, waiting for further economic data to give an indication as to which direction the economy is heading. This hold on interest rate movements may last for a long time.

Thailand and many other Asian countries found out in 1997 that when current account deficits eventually become too large for too long, a day of reckoning is imminent.

The US, however, is in an entirely different situation from the emerging Asian economies of the late '90s. The current account deficits are impacting the value of the dollar and it is likely that the dollar will fall further. That is the nature of markets – they have a natural tendency to exaggerate price movements both when rising and falling.

Speculators will play these currency movements to the absolute limits; they are in the busi-



ness of making profits. This is neither evil nor a conspiracy – it is the free enterprise system at work. The same speculators are just as happy to profit from a rising dollar. In reality, the majority of currency-trading systems are computer-driven and use emotionless trading techniques.

The US dollar situation differs from the Asian predicament in 1997 in several other respects. The US is still the largest economy in the world and commodities are almost all priced in US dollars. This means that regardless of normal currency, supply and demand, the world uses the US dollar as a pricing mechanism and trading currency for everything from oil to gold, lumber to corn.

Another important factor is that the average American is completely unconcerned about the value of his currency, and to a great extent this applies to every US administration.

For global investors, this is a good example of the importance of relating to a base currency. For US dollar “thinking” investors, 2007 has been a very pleasant year, especially if they’ve had exposure to international assets. There was profit to be made in most US assets and international assets but the latter has given an added bonus in the shape of currency gains. The reverse was true where international investors had exposure to US assets. However, as with all generalizations, there are always exceptions and sometimes they come from unexpected sources.

Earlier this year, this column featured the AMT Futures IQS fund, which is denominated in US dollars. This fund has had an outstanding, if volatile, track record. Earlier in 2007, the fund experienced losses. Its targeted areas of investment, ranging from soft commodities to hard commodities and currencies, created a total of 14 investment choices.

In June, the benefits of moving-currency markets saw the fund gain 30.33% in a single month followed by further gains in July. This was one of those rare

funds that produces returns for investors in any currency. But regardless of their “home” currency, investors have to be patient and able to live with the volatility.

Although the fund is denominated in US dollars, the majority of the profits in 2007 were achieved by selling the US dollar short. In 2006, the majority of the profits were derived from falling oil prices in the second half of the year. Being an emotionless and computer-driven trading absolute-return fund, the only things that are unprofitable are static or trendless markets.

There is often speculation on what would happen if the main foreign holders of the US dollar – China, Japan, and so on – were to suddenly shift their holdings to other currencies. The answer is twofold: The value of the dollar would drop and long-term interest rates in the US would rise. The latter would certainly lead to a slowdown in the US economy and could even cause a recession.

Short of an extremely serious diplomatic spat between the US and China or Japan, however, this is unlikely to happen. A slowing US economy and, even worse, a US recession, would see a marked slowdown in China and Japan’s primary export markets. China has no vested interest in hurting its largest customer; rather the reverse.

This does not mean that there will be a cessation of verbal sparring between the US and China, and the American politi-

cians saying that China is holding its currency at artificially low levels have a valid point. China has the world’s largest foreign exchange reserve which, when combined with rising interest rates, should make its currency rise substantially in value.

Since implementing a “managed float” of its currency from a fixed rate of 8.28 yuan/US dollar in August 2005 to the current range of around 7.55 yuan/US dollar, China has been moving in the right direction, albeit at a slow pace. This is even more important when you take into account that the yuan was believed to be 40% undervalued against the US dollar in 2005.

China – playing a domestic balancing act – needs to keep its currency competitive to maintain the strong levels of economic growth necessary to create tens of millions of new jobs every year to cater for the host of new laborers moving from cities to rural areas. The currency is still not convertible and Beijing lacks the confidence to move faster on this issue. This creates distortions in the Chinese economy, with vast amounts of liquidity sloshing around, leading to massive asset-price inflation in the stock market and real estate.

The Chinese government is aware that it needs to cater to the economic aspirations of its population to avoid civil unrest because the country does not have the pressure valve of a democracy. Japan, on the other hand, is the beneficiary of the yen “carry trade”, which

is keeping the value of the currency at much lower levels than would otherwise be the case.

Sluggish-to-low economic growth allows the Bank of Japan (Central Bank) to maintain low interest rates. This gives the export sector of Japan a much more pleasant trading environment than would otherwise be the case.

The yen “carry trade” has another benefit in that it stops trading partners from being able to criticize Japan for currency manipulation. The first-world economies – the US, Europe, and so on – are also beneficiaries of the Chinese currency because they are importing deflation. Without the effect of cheap Chinese goods, their domestic inflation levels would be significantly higher than they are. Sometimes benefits come from unexpected places!

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, Website: www.global-portfolios.com



MONEY TALKS

By Richard G. Watson

JUS LAWS & CONSULT
International Law Firm

- Real Estate (project license/ownership conveyance)
- Local and Oversea Banking and Finance
- Corporate Formation (local/offshore)
- Litigation & Arbitration
- Intellectual Property
- Notarial Services
- Immigration
- Tax

Bangkok Office:
140 One Pacific Place 15th Fl., Suite 1508-9,
Sukhumvit Rd, Klongtoey, Bangkok 10110
Tel: (66) 02-653-2622 Fax: (66) 02-653-2623

Pattaya Office:
49/13-15, Mon 13, Sukhumvit Rd, Nongprue,
Banglamung, Chonburi 20260
Tel: (66) 038-480-388 Fax: (66) 038-480-389

Phuket Office:
5/1 Wichit Songkhram Rd, Talad Nua Sub-District,
Muang District, Phuket 83000
Tel: (66) 076-234-851 Fax: (66) 076-234-852

www.juslaws.com
Email: advocate@juslaws.com

PATONG LANGUAGE SCHOOL

TEFLPlus® Teacher training

LinguaPlus® Language centre

Your first choice for language classes on Phuket island, with branches in Patong and Chalong.

Thailand's best value TEFL course at only 35,000 baht.

Patong Language School
Aroonsom Square, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150
Tel 0 7634 0373 Fax 0 7634 0873

LinguaPlus Language Centre
86/6 Wiset Road, Chalong, Phuket 83000
Tel/Fax 0 7628 0368

TEFLPlus Teacher Training
www.teflplus.com info@teflplus.com

info@phuket-languageschool.com www.phuket-languageschool.com

ON THE MOVE

Wasan Poontananiwat-kul, 29, from Phuket, has been promoted to business development manager for the Phuket and Krabi divisions of Asia Web Direct Co Ltd after working as assistant sales support manager for the company since June 2005. He holds a degree in hospitality management from Prince of Songkla University in Phuket. He previously worked for three years as sales and marketing supervisor for Diethelm Travel Thailand Co Ltd.



Dr Duenpen Chantajitpreecha, 30, from Songkhla, has been appointed the rheumatology specialist at Bangkok Hospital Phuket. She first graduated with an internal medicine degree from Prince of Songkla University in Haad Yai and continued her studies at Phramongkutklao College of Medicine in Bangkok, where she graduated with both a doctorate in medicine and a degree in science. She is certified under both the Board of Internal Medicine and the Board of Rheumatology. Before moving to Phuket, she worked for two years at Phramongkutklao Hospital.



Phuket native **Chat-taporn "Nui" Thirintarapong** has been appointed sales manager of Knight Frank Co Ltd in Phuket. She holds a degree in management and a diploma in tourism-related business from Phuket Rajabhat University. She earlier worked in the marketing department at Blue Canyon Country Club and has several years of experience in the property sector.



Lehman Bros backs B2 billion resort in Rawai

By Stephen Fein

RAWAI: Hotel Properties Ltd (HPL), which is listed on the Singapore stock exchange, through a wholly-owned subsidiary has entered into a joint-venture agreement with Lehman Brothers Pan Asian Investments to form a 50:50 joint hotel property venture in order to develop and construct a luxury hotel on freehold land in Rawai.

The exact location of the site was not disclosed, though the *Gazette* has learned that negotiations are underway with the Four Seasons hotel chain to manage the resort after it is built.

HPL and Lehman Bros intend to acquire the land for a total consideration of approximately 2 billion baht, according to a media release on the company's website.

Through Four Seasons' Bangkok office, Four Seasons Senior Vice-President (Operations) for Pacific-Asia region, Neil Jacobs, confirmed that Four Seasons is in conversations with both groups regarding a possible management contract.

The HPL website stipulates that the project is still subject to receipt of the necessary approvals from the relevant authorities in Thailand.

On February 1, Four Seasons opened its fourth property in Thailand at Laem Yai on Koh Samui. The resort features 60 villas built on stilts set among a former orchard.

"Thailand has always been such a draw for tourists from all over the world," said Jacobs.

"Guests to our other properties in Thailand have been asking for a beach resort, so this new property in Koh Samui will broaden the experience we can offer our guests in this part of the world."

Land Office expert offers tips on leases for foreigners

By Anand Singh

PHUKET CITY: Foreigners and locals confused by Thai property laws were given an insight into key issues when the Phuket Real Estate Club (PREC) and Delice Thai Co Ltd hosted a forum titled "Problems and Solutions in the Phuket Real Estate Market" at Royal Phuket City Hotel on July 14.

Among the speakers at the event was Thawan Thimasarn, director of the Subdivision of the Bureau of Standard Land Document Issuance.

K. Thawan said that while foreigners may not buy land in Thailand, they may lease it legally for up to 30 years.

If the lessor or the lessee dies, however, the lease is rendered void and the Thai inheritor of the land is not obliged to sign a new lease.

Speaking to the *Gazette* on July 20 about some of the problems foreign lessees may come across in Thailand, K. Thawan said that foreigners are able to safeguard their investments by



Speakers at the conference were, from left, Thawan Thimasarn, John Magee, Eric Tomlin and PREC President Phummisak Hongsyok.

adding a rider clause into a lease.

The clause should state that the lessor must add a clause into his will stating that if he dies, then the designated heir of the land must honor the agreement of the current lease in writing or forfeit his inheritance rights.

Many foreign investors,

however, are reluctant to put money into projects on land they lease in Phuket because there is no guarantee that subsequent 30-

year "rollover" leases will be granted, he added.

K. Thawan said that the solution to this predicament is to draw up a separate contract stating that successive leases not exceeding 30 years each will be granted.

A rider clause could be added to the contract so that in the event of death of the Thai lessor, the current lease and successive leases would be honored.

Leases and their clauses expire after a given period of time, which is why separate contracts are sometimes needed, added K. Thawan.

Other notable speakers at the July 14 forum included PREC President Phummisak Hongsyok, Eric Tomlin, secretary to the Association of Phuket Property Agents, and John Magee, publisher of the *Phuket Gazette*.




Accounting, Legal & Tax Services

- Accounting
- Audit & Due Diligence
- Company Registration
- Real Estate (Contract / Ownership Conveyance)
- Tax Planning & Legal Advisory
- Visa & Work Permit

Bangkok Office: 139 Rimco House, Sukhumvit 55 (Thonglor), Wattana, Bangkok Tel: 02-715-0128	Phuket Office: 99/19 Moo 1, By-Pass Rd. (Opposite Tesco Lotus), Kathu, Phuket Tel: 076-304-400
--	---

Hotline (24 Hrs) 081-616-7500 www.jwsconsulting.co.th

BUPA offers lifetime protection with guaranteed renewal regardless of your age and health status.*

*New members must join before 60 years old.

Call now !!

Phuket branch

0-7635-5815

E-mail : phuket@bupa.co.th

www.bupathailand.com



BUPA

Health Insurance

บupa ประกันสุขภาพ

BUPA Health Insurance (Phuket Branch)

156/15 Phang-Nga Road.

T. Taledyai, A. Muang Phuket 8300

Tel: 0-7635-5815 Fax: 0-7635-5814

Paddling with a purpose

By Nick Davies

RAWAI: Tired but triumphant, seafaring adventurer Marco Reinard arrived at Rawai Pier, the point he'd started from 36 hours earlier, just after 5 pm July 19.

Marco, originally from Luxembourg, had just completed a 200-kilometer paddle around Phuket Island in an 18-foot kayak, clocking an average speed of 10kmh.

A crowd of excited youngsters, well-wishers, friends and media turned out to greet a sun-burned Marco as he arrived at the pier and raised his oars above his head in a victorious salute before hauling his kayak up the steps.

Tired and dehydrated from his arduous mission, Marco sat next to his kayak, removed his sunglasses and took off his gloves to check the blisters on his hands. His lower back had been rubbed raw by the lengthy stint in the single seat of his kayak, but Marco was keen to tell reporters why he had taken on the challenge.

"I do this kind of thing because I want people to realize that we have to stop using our lakes, rivers and oceans as trash cans. This is not just a local issue; it is an international problem as tides and currents take pollution everywhere and it affects every single one of us," said Marco.

Talking about the children gathered around him, Marco added, "My main concern is whether kids like these will still have clean waters to make a livelihood when they reach my age. If we don't act now, then it may be too late to help them in the future."

Apart from Marco's modern, five-meter kayak *Sequel*, made by New Zealand company Challenge, the only high tech equipment he took with him was



Marco Reinard (in hat) takes a well-earned rest at Rawai Pier after his 36-hour kayak journey around Phuket.

his mobile phone, kept in a waterproof pouch. For navigation, Marco said he just "kept Phuket on the left".

After heading northeast from Rawai in calm waters at 5 am on Wednesday morning, treacherous conditions along the west coast forced Marco to head for land and rest for the night at a small bay just past Surin Beach as darkness, fatigue and unpredictable waves made it too dangerous to continue.

"By around 8 pm on Wednesday evening, the waves were perilously high. With no light from the shore, it was so dark that I couldn't see the waves coming and I really didn't know where I was, so I made the decision to stop for the night."

Continuing south the next day, Marco had to contend with even more powerful waves until he reached calmer, shallower waters around Patong. He said the final stretch of his paddle-pow-

ered marathon was the most tiring as he had to fight strong currents around Nai Harn before finally reaching Rawai.

Marco said his secret was to drink a lot of water, while he ate just one dish of pasta and some yogurt during his journey.

For Marco, this relatively short human-powered voyage is just the latest in a continuous environmental awareness campaign, one that he plans to eventually make into a video documentary.

As an active environmentalist and documentary filmmaker for the last 30 years, Marco said, "My ultimate goal is to make a video documentary highlighting the plight of indigenous people and how they are forced to cope with the encroachment of modern civilization."

He is also a part of Green International Productions Southeast Asia (Gipsea), a group of film-makers who raise funds for education and the support of indigenous people's rights throughout the world.

Marco is planning a trip in November from Mergui, Burma, to Taiwan in a Hobie Cat – a small cabinless catamaran – that he estimates will take him about 100 days, including stops in Patong and Phuket.

Marco won't be alone this time, however, as a Sea Gypsy friend from Koh Phi Phi will share the helm with him.

Local tour operator Hotel Travel is sponsoring Marco's campaign.

Fredy Muenger, chief information officer for Hotel Travel, was also at the pier to welcome Marco and spoke admirably of Marco's commitment to raising awareness of global environmental issues.

"Marco is dedicated to a worthwhile cause and we are proud to be helping him achieve more international recognition in this and future adventures," said Fredy.

For more information on Marco's seafaring journeys, which have included windsurfing from Burma to Malaysia in commemoration of victims of the 2004 tsunami, visit www.gipsea.com

Dogs Bollocks on a roll

PATONG: Dog's Bollocks seem determined to take their first-ever title this season with fiery play. Another impressive win, 8-1 against newcomers Simply Red, brought them very close – they can clinch with just three more points.

Mucker of Dog's Bollocks reports that the only lost point came when the previously undefeated doubles pairing of Lek and Peak (aka "The Dream Team") dropped their first game.

In a closely fought match, Queen Mary reduced second-place Shakers' chances by taking all three points.

Billy was behind in the first singles, but finished from 210 points with a 180 then a x15 on his next dart. Hmm.

Pong closed his singles in 17 darts, while Joy proved that high heels and long hair are no obstacles to success in darts: once again she emerged as Queen Mary's heroine with a x20 close in the beer leg – and there was much rejoicing.

In the only other match, Piccadilly downed Valhalla at home 7-2 before fried chicken and alcohol-induced paralysis set in and they found themselves down by 400 points in yet another failed quest for free beer.

Send reports to darts@phuketgazette.net for inclusion in this article.

July 17 results: Piccadilly 7 Valhalla* 2; Queen Mary* 5 Shakers 4; Dog's Bollocks* 8 Simply Red 1 (* = winner of beer leg).

Standings: 1. Dog's Bollocks (27 pts.); 2. Shakers (22); 3. Queen Mary, Beach House (21); 5. Offshore (20); 6. Piccadilly (15); 7. Valhalla (8); 8. Simply Red (4).

July 31 matchups: Beach House vs Dog's Bollocks; Queen Mary vs Simply Red; Valhalla vs Shakers; Piccadilly and Offshore, byes (home teams first).

JOHNSON
NUMBER 1 IN ASIA
NUMBER 1 FITNESS GOODS EQUIPMENT
IN THAILAND

MATRIX
STRONG, SMART, BEAUTIFUL

MX-H5x, MX-E5x plus TV, MX-T5x plus TV, MX-R5x

Johnson Health Tech. (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
Tel : 076-30-4040

96/25 - 26, Chalemprakiat Rd., T. Kathu, A. Kathu, Phuket 83120 Fax : 076-304-041
E-mail: Johnsonhealthtech@hotmail.com Website : <http://www.johnsonfitness.com>

SPORTathlon • The Leading fitness Equipment Supplier

FOR HOME AND HOTEL
FOR ALL YOUR FITNESS NEEDS

Tel: 076-261966-7 Fax: 076-261968
www.sport.co.th E-mail: phuket@sport.co.th
108/74 Chalemprakiat Rd., T. Rassada, Phuket, 83000.

STAR TRAC, PRO ENERGY, BODY CHARGER, Concept II, etc.

Salad days for Somtam

By Chris Husted

AO CHALONG: After four days of racing in and around Chal-long Bay, on July 22 Scott Duncan's *Somtam Express* clinched the win in the IRC 1 class in this year's Phuket Raceweek regatta, organized by Image Asia Events.

Shifting winds played havoc with the start of the final race in the regatta and the fleet waited four hours for it to swing around to allow the race to start.

Once underway, the yachts set sail around Koh Bon, Koh Lone and Koh Hei with the finish line in front of the Evason

Phuket Resort, which hosted the regatta.

On the final day, *Somtam* recorded yet another first-place finish to bring their tally to four firsts and one second place to score a tally of just six points.

Although impressive, it was not *Somtam's* best performance – at last year's Phuket Raceweek *Somtam Express* won every race in the Sports Boat Racing class.

Although Peter Ahern's *Yo! 2* beat *Somtam Express* across the finish line on the final day, the crew finished fourth on the day and second overall with 12 points, followed by Jim Poulsen's *Vino* in third place



Somtam Express in full cry during the last race of the regatta.

Photo by Leslie Hand for Image Asia Events.



HOW'S THAT? The PCU and the Stragglers XI from Zimbabwe.

Honors even as Phuket take on Zimbabweans

By Mark Whetton

CHERNG TALAY: The Phuket Cricket Union (PCU) played host to a returning Stragglers team from Zimbabwe with a match each day on July 21 and 22.

The Stragglers first toured Phuket last year, when they gave the local cricketing lads a 2-0 thrashing on the field. This year, however, PCU turned the tables on the touring Zimbabweans.

On the Saturday, the Stragglers won the toss and elected to bat, sending in opening batsmen John Jameson and John Robbie.

Jameson, who scored 107 against PCU last year, and Robbie got off to a solid start. After some interesting bowling from PCU, both batsmen were sent back to the pavilion when they were in their 20s.

Runs came easily for the Stragglers after that, but so did wickets, largely due to solid fielding by PCU.

Despite some useful contributions from Darren Coetzee (15 runs) and Brian Murphy (21 runs), the Stragglers were all out for 146 runs in the 23rd over.

PCU bowlers Seemant Raju and Ravi Sehgal both picked up three wickets each.

PCU took to the crease after a short break, but were soon in trouble with Anand first out for seven and Dennis Bacon following for a duck.

This brought PCU captain Jafar Ali to the crease, where he immediately went to work turn-

ing in a match-winning 61 runs. When he did eventually fall to a great catch on the boundary, PCU found themselves with 125 runs for six wickets in the 25th over, leaving them needing just 22 runs from five overs.

PCU went on to win with an over to spare after some valuable runs from David Ogden (12 not out) and Mark Whetton (17 not out).

The second match on July 22 saw the Stragglers return to form. The visitors won the toss and decided to field first. The decision paid off as PCU found themselves three wickets down for three runs by the second over.

Some tight bowling from Matt Streeton (2-17 off five overs) and Gary Steyn (3-24 off six overs) troubled PCU throughout the innings, with only Sumit (21 runs) and Subash (12 runs) making double figures.

Straggler Sandys-Thomas lent PCU a hand when 18 runs were scored off the only over Stragglers' captain Wayne Parham allowed him. PCU were all out in the 22nd over for 104 runs.

After lunch, the Stragglers made light work of chasing down the total. Jameson showed his prowess by scoring 48 runs, including seven fours and one six.

He was well supported by Steyn (26 retired hurt) and Sandys-Thomas (14 not out) to see the Stragglers make 105 runs in the 13th over for just two wickets, giving them an eight-wicket victory.

Boxers seek sponsors to fund Bangkok trip

PHUKET: The Phuket Boxing Club (PBC) is seeking sponsors for its group of six amateur boxers who will travel to Bangkok to compete in this year's Thailand Mini-Junior Amateur Boxing Championships, to be held at The Mall, Ngamwongwan from August 3 to 10.

PBC Secretary Sawarin "Master Jay" Pinkaew will again lead the group of fighters, all aged 14 to 16, to compete against the best young amateur boxers from all over Thailand.

Master Jay also announced that Tossaporn Thepabutr, husband of Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (Or-BorJor) President Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr, has taken over as PBC President.

For more information on how to sponsor the team contact Master Jay at Tel: 081-2722629 or email: phuketboxinggym@hotmail.com

tory to win the class with eight points.

Tua Lek finished second overall in the class with 10 points, followed by Niels Dgenkolf on *Phoenix* with 11 points.

Tim Milner on *Seekrong-huk* scored three first places and one second place to win the Multihull class even before the final day of racing got underway, scoring a total of five points.

Bob Brindley's *X Cat Riot* finished second place overall with seven points, followed by Chris Runnegar on *Chameleon* with nine points.

In the Raimon Land Firefly 850 class, Roger Kingdon's *Moto Inzi* scored five first places to win the series six points in front of Bill Phelps' *Twin Sharks*.

Henry Kaye on *Mamba* finished third overall in the class with 14 points.

Gunther Nutt's *Kerida* was a little too quick for the aging Classic class, winning the series with just three points.

Tom Howard's *Seraph* finished second overall with six points, followed by Mark Myking's *Idiom* with seven points.

Recently featured by House & Gardens on TV



Very stylish California rambler home on two rai nestled in a quiet cul-de-sac in the Huamark district of Bangkok. Only 15 minutes from Suvarnabhumi Airport. Beautifully landscaped with swimming pool and sundeck. Four maid's quarters, four covered car parks. Offers around

US\$ 3.5 million.



Call 081-812 9889 for info, photos and DVD.

Gardening

by Bloomin' Bert

The comedian Benny Hill said it best, with his immortal line in the classic '60s film, *The Italian Job*: "Are they big? I like 'em big." I do, too. Anything big is fine by me.

To be honest, I'm not sure what it is about big stuff that I like. It doesn't matter what it is, as long as I can use it. Big cars, big furniture, big bikes; anything big. I even write with a big pen, and the computer mouse I use is the biggest I could lay my big hands on.

It may be some kind of deep unresolved, psychological link to my ample physical girth. Perhaps, as our transatlantic cousins may suggest, I "have issues". I'm sure one of them will be only too willing to psychoanalyze me.

Well psychoanalyze this: I don't see the problem, personally. There's something quite reassuring about being able to go to McDonald's and order the slightly bigger version of their meals and not feel guilty. Supersize away. I'm a bit of a bloater and rather proud of it.

Even though I am an ardent fan of things huge, I draw the line at some things. Why do people buy a one-foot wide wristwatch to hang on their wall? Or a chessboard several meters wide that they can use in the garden? Or even a two-foot tall acrylic hamburger that they can sit on?

Perhaps the most useless of all are those three-foot playing cards. Is there actually any point to any of these things, apart from making money for novelty plastics manufacturers?



HOLDING THINGS TOGETHER: The pada tree is highly effective at binding soil together by laying down roots that spread over a wide area very quickly.

Staying power

We live on a fairly big island, and we drive on big roads – roads that seem to be getting bigger on a daily basis, for no particular reason.

Does every carriageway in Phuket need to become a four-lane superhighway?

This is supposed to be a tropical island paradise, not a paradise for those who want to

drive faster or find even more lanes to drive in.

It's the sides of the roads that make me agitated at the people who have decided to hack away whatever was there before and lay down more tarmac. They always cut back more than they need to, rather than thinking about what should be there.

Wiset Rd, south of Chalong Circle, has been upgraded and in places the road widening has left its mark – chunks of the verges have disappeared where the "drains" have been "improved".

But much worse is north of Patong, as you climb the hill to-

wards Kamala. Construction is underway there, and in places there are no plants to hold the soil in place. I have the sneaking suspicion that the proud owner of the land will be chasing his real estate down the hill before he knows it.

Plants do much more than make the place look tropical – in many areas they literally hold the island together. If they are removed, the ground where they once stood would simply wash away.

There's a simple answer to this problem – plant trees. A perfect tree for this is the Macaranga

denticulata, or pada tree (*tong-tao kalo* in Thai). It's not the most beautiful plant in the world. In fact, it's rather ugly. On the plus side, it's incredibly effective at laying down roots very quickly that spread over a wide area and bind the soil together.

Clever road planners use them all the time. Rather than cover roadside banks with plastic netting or acres of concrete, they just plunk a few hundred of these things in the ground and the verge stays put, with absolutely no maintenance.

Getting back to big things, this is where the pada tree comes in. Its leaves are huge, about 25 centimeters to 30cm long, and they look similar to elephant's ears. Unlike another big-leaved plant, the alocasia, the pada tree grows into a proper tree; a far more testosterone-oozing affair. It does the job well, too.

A research project at a university in Chiang Mai a few years ago focused on deforestation in the area. They needed to encourage regrowth of plants and plant trees that developed and matured as quickly as possible. They also wanted to attract seed-dispersing animals back into the area, so that once everything was in place, they could leave the area to look after itself.

In the first 18 months of the project, the pada trees they planted grew about four meters. That's some serious growth.

Normally I ramble on about how plants brighten up corners or provide shade or generally look good. Not the pada tree. It's the ugly duckling of the plant world, but it's a worker.

All we need in Phuket is to plant a few more of these around the place. If we do that, then there's a chance that some of the soil that's uncovered by island "improvements" will stay where it's supposed to.

In the meantime, I'll work on my size issues. Make mine a Large, thanks.

Want advice on your garden?
Email Bloomin' Bert at:
bert@bloominbert.com

PHUKET
Paradise
HOMES

"We can find you a home
in Paradise"

☎ 087 881 8955
www.phuketparadisehomes.com

"Extend Your Life Outdoors"
shade sails, awnings,
tensioned fabric structures

Shade sail over upper deck patio, Ao Nang

Call us for an obligation-free quote.
SHADES (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
Boat Lagoon Marina Showroom
Tel: 076 204 120, 084 184 5162
www.shades.co.th

House & Pool
Construction Co., Ltd. since 1985
Thai - German Management

* Private & commercial construction
* Renovation / alteration
* Swimming pools & Jacuzzis
* Architecture design
* Building permits

85/21 Moo 7 Sai Yaun Rob Koh Road
Rawai, Muang, Phuket 83100
Tel: 076-288845, 388078
Fax: 076-288846
English: 08-16067410 Thai: 08-17192819
E-Mail: info@siam-business.com
www.siam-business.com

Decor

by Natcha Yuttaworawit

LIGHT FANTASTIC

When you walk into Wii Light on Chao Fa West Rd you are greeted by all manner of peculiar shapes, interesting objects and soothing tones, with occasional splashes of luminosity.

Wii Light is no ordinary light shop; you might think the products on display were not lights at all. But once lit up, they transform into vibrant lighting units, bursting with color and radiance, enhancing the appeal of any living space.

On the shelves of Wii Light are what you might call “normal” lights – that is, lights that look like lights, with lamp shades and regular bases.

On the shop floor and dotted around the displays are the shop’s signature lights that look more like works of art than they do sources of illumination.

Wii Light has been open for about a year, but owner Norarat Niruttisart is no stranger to contemporary decor. After graduating from Assumption University in Bangkok with a degree in Interior Design, he decided to set up his own business.



MOST ILLUMINATING: The products on display at Wii Light look more like modern art than lamps.

About 80% of the products in Wii Light are from his own designs and made in one of the shop’s two factories, in Bangkok and Phuket, said K. Norarat.

“I think my products, which are aimed at foreigners living

here, are suitable for Phuket because many homes on the island are used mainly as holiday homes, and people want tropical, less serious styles.

“Most of my customers’ homes are in natural surroundings

nearby, such as on a hill or by the sea,” said K. Norarat.

“My products are made from natural materials, such as wood with Japanese lawn thread, betel palm leaf and creeping plant, used together with modern pat-

terns and designs. The products we make are based on harmonic designs and tones so that the lights do not disturb your relaxation,” he added.

K. Norarat said that Wii Light can create new designs for a customer who wants something to complement the aesthetics of his or her house. Customers who order products from the shop will not be charged for the design work, although there may be additional installation costs.

K. Norarat added that each design takes a different period of time to create, depending on his feelings. Once he has an idea in mind, K. Norarat will sketch it in his notebook, editing it himself and taking suggestions from staff at his factory who can help with the technical side of the design. The time spent on production is usually between one week and one month.

Wii Light, 21/7 Chao Fa West Rd, about 300 meters south of Central Festival Phuket. Open Monday to Thursday 10 am to 7 pm, Friday to Saturday 9 am to 6 pm, closed Sunday. Tel: 081-677-5321 or 076-20914.

Dusit Laguna Villas



Improve Your View
on Life

- 70% financing for 15 years
- Rental return of 6% for 6 years
- 60 days complimentary use every year

An exquisite collection of 28 beachfront
and lakeside villas nestled within
Dusit Laguna Resort

Phuket's Finest Waterfront Living
From **THB 32 M**

laguna
PROPERTY

Laguna Property Centre, Canal Village, Laguna Phuket
+66 (0) 76 324 366 property@lagunaphuket.com
www.lagunaproperty.com

Construction Update

by Janyaporn Morel



The Tah Chat Chai checkpoint, on the only road leading into Phuket, should be complete by the end of the year and ready to inspect the three million people that pass through the checkpoint every year.

New police checkpoint set to open by December

The 38.9-million-baht Tah Chat Chai checkpoint, which has been under construction since mid-February, is now 37% complete and should be fully operational by the beginning of December, Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit announced recently.

The checkpoint, one kilometer south of Sarasin Bridge, will be an inspection station where vehicles coming in or out of Phuket is checked for illegal items, such as controlled plants, animals and substances, said the governor.

About three million people pass through the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint every year, which prompted authorities to upgrade the checkpoint, he added.

The two-lane, 15-meter-wide entrance road will lead drivers from Thepkasattri Rd to a checkpoint and back out to the main road.

All vehicles arriving on the island will eventually be monitored by CCTV cameras, although the current budget does not cover their installation.

An additional two-lane road will take drivers leaving Phuket to a second checkpoint and back out to Thepkasattri Road, again past CCTV cameras once they are installed.

The project, which is being built by SCG 1995 Co Ltd, will comprise an 800-square-meter office building between the two checkpoints, housing a 150sqm hall area and five rooms for police officers, Phuket Provincial Livestock officers and Animal and Plant Quarantine offices.

On the second floor of the office building will be an 80sqm meeting room and two storage rooms.

Tah Chat Chai checkpoint, designed by Phuket Provincial Public Works and Town & Country Planning, will replace the current temporary checkpoint 300m away.

The new facilities will provide officers with the resources they need to check all vehicles, instead of only being able to make random checks as they do now, the governor said.



LUNA PHUKET

Stunning, Detached, Courtyard
Pool Villas Adjoining Laguna Phuket.
Modern Design for Light and Space.
3 Bedroom/ 3 Bathroom
From Only Baht 16.45 Million
www.lunaphuket.com
089 873 7075

Sai Taan

By Invitation...

www.sai-taan-phuket.com Tel: 076 271255

- Near entrance to Laguna 5 Star Resort Complex
- Plot size 950 sq.m. +
- 3-4 bedroom single storey villas
- Villa size 2,668 sq.ft. +
- Good size private pool
- From THB 26.8 million

Riding a motorcycle? Please . . .



Thai law requires that motorcycle drivers and passengers wear a safety helmet with the chin strap fastened at all times – 24 hours a day.



PHUKET PROVINCIAL
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Travel around the world and no matter where you land, be it North America, Europe or Asia, you'll find vacation ownership and timeshare being offered.

Although timeshare in the past experienced some growing pains, it has grown into a significant property segment and is now often a sophisticated and polished lifestyle investment offering.

Having affiliations with global brands such as Disney, Starwood, Marriott and Hilton has proved effective for some firms in building credibility and establishing a large customer base.

For those new to the term, vacation ownership is essentially shared ownership wherein a person buys a share in a furnished unit for a specified period of time, or more simply buys an ongoing interest in what is usually hotel-managed accommodation.

While the period of usage varies, generally it is for a week a year for a set number of years. Attached to the sale are varying ownership and rights issues, depending on the project and its affiliations.

Timeshare's core attraction is that it's cheaper than traditional real estate or property. In the past few years there has been a trend to appeal to a wider potential market by offering cheaper products. This trend has been to up-sell customers a more expensive product once they have realized the benefits of their initial purchase.

While many buyers want to use their vacation time within a specific resort, through affiliations or exchange programs from providers such as RCI or Interval International, buyers can now take holidays around the world.

This is one of the key benefits of this type of purchase, as

Time for timeshare

it allows flexible usage terms.

With the emergence of vacation ownership and holiday clubs this is now being expanded, in many cases within a hotel group's network of properties and also for redemption of leisure products, such as golf, airline tickets, rental cars and boats.

At Laguna Phuket, the concept was pioneered with the Al-lamanda Vacation Club, which over the years has evolved into the Laguna Vacation Club. The project recently opened a dedicated club facility, check-in and members area and now has expanded within Thailand and overseas with ownership of units in key destinations.

The Marriott, with its Mai Khao Phuket Beach Club, has quickly established a quality benchmark by offering its exclusive facilities and has continued to expand over the past

few years. One of its key selling points is the optional inclusion of Marriott Rewards, a leading international loyalty program.

These two resorts are only the tip of the iceberg of what is generally accepted to be an industry on the upswing. An influx of new internationally-branded products is expected over the next few years.

As with any property or lifestyle purchase, buyers must read the fine print to fully understand exactly what's on offer and what are the added costs, as there is often a misperception that it is just a "free holiday".

In most cases ongoing or annual maintenance fees are levied and these can be substantial.

Many programs have



PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett



Timeshare companies, such as Interval International (website shown here) offer customers a way to buy a few weeks a year at their favorite resorts.

While the rewards of programs such as these can be great, it's also important to read the fine print to know whether your dream resort will be available when you want it.

there is a system of recourse for consumer complaints.

Both timeshare and vacation ownership have come a long way. What was once regarded a bit skeptically by consumers has now been embraced by large international institutions and brands and become very big business.

New products continue to be offered, such as residential clubs, fractional ownership terms, cruise lines, private yachts and frequent flier programs.

Lifestyle investment is a growing segment and looks set to become a by-product of the worldwide property market and a permanent fixture on the real estate scene.

points-based usage systems while others offer floating periods or fixed weeks. It's important to note that you may not be able to use the unit exactly when you want, as timeshare usage might be subject to availability.

This is a major issue for overseas exchanges at high-demand destinations such as Dis-

neyworld, so there needs to be some flexibility – either in terms of one's holiday time or the locations one wants to visit.

In the end, you might not be able to visit where you want – or when you want to go.

In Thailand there are consumer guidelines that regulate the selling of these products and

Luxurious 3 bedroom penthouses and apartments overlooking Layan Bay

80% sold

Show apartment is open for viewing.
6.5% Rental Guarantee and Financing available.

+66 (0) 8 1893 6602 sales@layangardens.com www.layangardens.com

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.

NSG Namsang Generator Bangkok(Phuket)

GENERATOR POWER PRODUCTS

FROM 10 kVA - 3025 kVA

Sale - Rental - Service

076-264353-4, MB: 081-8665743

We, NAMSANG GENERATOR BANGKOK (PHUKET), are one of the leaders in the RENTAL and SALES of equipment in Phuket. We specialize in Generators, Air-Compressors, Welders and Jackhammers. We can provide the fastest and best service to all our customers.

SOMO Global Power Solution The generator specialists.

19/27 Moo 2 Chaofa East Rd, Muang, Phuket (Behind the Ssangyong showroom)
E-mail: nsqphuket@yahoo.com www.namsang.co.th

Property Gazette

Properties For Sale

90% FINANCE + PROMOTION OFFER



3-story modern home & office next to Karon post office, short distance to Karon Beach, shops, banks and restaurants. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living room, balcony. Price: 4.75 million baht including Honda Click, basic furniture package, built-in kitchen, air conditioning. Tel: 076-280801, 084-0581217. Fax: 076-281-067. Email: legalinsidesiamproperty@gmail.com

SEAVIEW APARTMENT

2 bedrooms, top floor, North Patong, 20 steps to the beach, freehold. Price: 9.7 million baht. Call Tel: 086-2765117. For photos, please send email: jhshand@gmail.com

HOUSE FOR SALE

Located on 1 rai of land in Kamala. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, very quiet residential area, 110sqm. Price: 8.9 million baht. Tel: 081-6697814, 086-9426699.

KATHU HOUSE

for sale. 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge, dining room, big kitchen, corner house. Firm price: 1.55 million baht. Tel: 085-4733409.

LUXURY VILLA AT KATA HILL

Set in the exclusive gated estate of Beverly Hills, this villa comes with a pool, 3-5 bedrooms, modern Western-style kitchen, etc. Show house is now open. Only one villa left with completion due in September. Price: 15 million baht. Contact Tel: 084-0639223, 081-7888280.

AFFORDABLE LUXURY



Immaculate villa. Private area, big lush garden, pool, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, living room, Scandi kitchen, huge patio, fully furnished, contemporary Bali-Thai style. Living area: 450sqm. Land area: 1400sqm. Near Heroines Monument with scenic hill view. Chanote. 14 million baht. Tel: 084-6907057.

REPOSSESSION SALE-APARTMENT

Beautiful new 1-bedroom apartment on 5th floor overlooking Kata Beach. 5-star hotel service including pool, gym and International bistro. Was 5.9 million baht, now reduced to 4.9 million baht. Tel: 084-0639223, 081-7888280.

INEXPENSIVE LAND

1/2 rai to 2 rai near Mission Hills golf course. 10% commission. Please contact Tel: 081-2704291.

AO NANG/KRABI

500sqm of land for sale, public road, water, electricity, Chanote. Company owned includes building permit for 3-floor guesthouse. Asking price: 4.5 million baht. Call Tel: 075-637258, 089-5873533. Email: j.aonang@gmx.de

RAWAI BEACH

condo. Sea view, foreign freehold. 550,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. For details, email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

RAWAI 2-STORY HOUSE

140sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, close to the beach. 1.5 million baht. Call Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

NEW SEAVIEW CONDO



60sqm apartment at Rawai Beach. Big living room with sea view. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, big balcony, aircon. Price: 1.8 million baht. Call Tel: +66-081-9685963. Email: m@bayproject.com Please visit our website: www.bayproject.com/invest/index.htm

RAWAI POOL VILLA

New resort of 6 villas for sale. 4.5 million baht each. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

PRIVATE LAND CAPE YAMU

1.5 rai of secluded flat land (2 adjoining 3/4 rai Chanote plots). Ideal for private villas. Tel: 076-239432, 081-0879237 (Thai and English). Email: crob58@gmail.com

NAI YANG LAND

for sale. 1km to the beach. 3 plots: 20m x 22m (440sqm) each, road access. Price: 900,000 baht. Contact Tel: 089-7241140.

HOUSE NEAR WAT CHALONG

for sale. 2-story house in desirable & secure estate. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, living room, kitchen, laundry room, set in fenced garden. Furnished, ADSL, UBC. 7 million baht obo. Tel: 084-8439579. Fax: +66-076-323421. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

ABSOLUTE BEST BEACHFRONT

Land and villas for sale at the best prices in Thailand! Email: admin@ideacon.biz Please visit our website: http://www.thaisunshinedevelopments.com

BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



for sale, 5 mins to Phuket airport, close to the beach, 10 rai. 120 million baht. Must see. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: gyb_giff@hotmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

10 rai in Bang Wad. 1 million baht per rai. Please contact K. Terawut at Tel: 081-5361365.

LAND FOR SALE

8 rai in Patong. 1.2 million baht per rai. Sea view. Located on 50 Pi Rd. Please contact Khun Terawut at Tel: 081-5361365.

RAWAI LAND

Chanote, 1,446sqm. Flat, square plot. Mountain, woodland aspects in residential area. 3.5 million baht ono. Tel: 081-6910391. Email: info@liveandletdive.com

APT IN BANG TAO FOR SALE

2 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircon, Western-style kitchen and pool. Asking 5.5 million baht. Tel: 089-8749080. Email: mllcarpenter@hotmail.com

LAND FOR SALE 4.5 RAI

Prime location in Trang off main road & near university. Price: 14 million baht. Also, 2 rai at same location. Price: 7.5 million baht. Contact Tel: 089-6513479.

OCEANVIEW SHOPHOUSE CHALONG

Fantastic location near Chalong Pier with ocean view from top floor and access. 3-stories with shutter gate. Tel: 081-5544140. Email: gunnar@oilcanvas.com

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

NEW 3-STORY COMMERCIAL

building. 2 bathrooms. Price: 4 million baht. Please call Tel: 086-7432011.

VILLA TOP LOCATION

4 bedrooms, big garden, furnished, ready to move in. Located between Phuket City and Patong. 15.7 million baht. Call Tel: 087-2849541.

RAWAI BEACH DUPLEX

30-year lease, 60sqm duplex house with pool, parking, garden. Price: 2 million baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

BEACHFRONT HOUSE

at Kamala. 2 bedrooms, 2 stories, last one. Only 15 million baht. Please call Tel: 085-7839062.

HOUSE FOR URGENT SALE

Rawai area. 2 bedrooms, 150sqm, swimming pool. Only 4.3 million baht. Call now at Tel: 085-7839062.

HOUSES FOR SALE

Rawai's No.1 agent for selling and renting houses. Tel: 084-8486139. For more information, please visit our website: www.rawai-real-estate.com

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Duplex renovation project directly on 15th fairway. Tel: 081-8941994. Email: tom.fekete@gmail.com For more information, please visit our website: www.fairway15.com

KARON LAND FOR SALE



15 million baht per rai, Chanote, hillside, panoramic sea view, quiet area. Please contact for additional information. Tel: 081-5597456. Email: se_rim@hotmail.com

BUILDING FOR SALE



Commercial building, 2 floors, including 4 rooms for rent. Soi Pasak 1, near Laguna. Price: 6.8 million baht. Contact K. Addy. Tel: 087-3809917.

PROPERTIES FOR SALE

Condos, apartments, and townhouses. From 3.7 million baht. Tel: 087-2650118. Email: ant_p_clark@yahoo.co.uk For further details, please see our website at http://housesforsalephuket.blogspot.com/

LAND FOR SALE

8 rai coconut farm near Tapee River in Surat Thani. 80m wide. Electricity and water. Price: 4.5 million baht. Tel: 089-0927697. Email: matklang@hotmail.com

SEAVIEW LAND

Close to Blue Canyon Golf Course. Price: 2.8 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-3888076.

ANDAMAN BEACH CONDOMINIUM

1-bedroom unit for sale. 86sqm. 10th floor, sea view, fully furnished. Freehold. No brokers please. Contact Songpan at Tel: 081-7378662.

All classifieds
in these pages are

PAID!

— your assurance that
whatever's advertised here
is seriously for sale.

Gazette Classads - they work!
...because they're real.

Stylish Ocean View Apartments from 3,3 mln Baht



Kata Ocean View
CONDOMINIUM
Tel: 086/0043008 - 076/292265 - Web site: www.kataoceanview.com



New development of contemporary Balinese style Villas combining luxury, space and affordability. A choice of two, three bedrooms pool villas now offered at very attractive pre-construction prices. Call for more information or visit our show house: 076-292265 - Website: www.villasuksan.com



Prices from 7,9 Million Baht

Property Gazette

CHERNG TALAY-MANIK



2 rai, hill views, Chanote, wall around land. Price: 5.9 million baht. Call Tel: 086-2746511.

LAND FOR SALE KOH SAMUI



Land for sale on Samui. Nice location, just 2km to beach, Maenam Soi 5, 750sqm. Price: 1.5 million baht. Tel: 076-288860, 086-9474494.

NAI THON LAND PLOT



2km from beach, ready to build. Price: 15,000 baht per sq wah. Includes permit. Tel: 084-0526400 (Martin), 086-6865304 (Narin). Email: martin@phuketvillage.se

LAND AT SAI YUAN



Sea view over Rawai Beach with private access. Nor Sor Sam Kor. 7-3-81 rai at 6.5 million baht per rai. Contact Tel: 081-5384989. Email: mnobnorb@hotmail.com



LAND FOR SALE

Makham bay view. Beautiful plot, 518 sqw. Email: sooklapa@yahoo.com Tel: 081-5994422

FAMILY HOME



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, aircon, security bars, quiet area. 1km from Heroines Monument. 2.9 million. Tel: 086-9510123. Email: wing_michael_77@hotmail.com

KAMALA LAND PLOTS for sale. Chanote titles. Great plots. 1 rai: 3.3 million baht. 1,000sqm: 2.3 million baht. 400sqm: 1.3 million baht. Contact Tel: 076-292596, 086-2678477. Email: tourniechristian@hotmail.com

THAI-STYLE HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, 650sqm land, 150sqm living area, beautiful garden. Located just 2 minutes from Laguna. Please contact Tel: 087-8938590.

RAWAI POOL HOUSE

220sqm, 2 bedrooms, renovated, furnished. Only 4.3 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062.

LAND OPPOSITE LOCH PALM

12 rai opposite Loch Palm golf course. For urgent sale at 25 million baht. Serious buyers, please. Tel: 084-6255179. Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

LIVE IN KATHU

New modern-design house for sale. 3 bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms. Living room, kitchen/diner, walled garden, large veranda, private parking. Near British Int'l School and golf course. 4.5 million obo. Tel: 084-8439579. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

HOUSE IN PHUKET TOWN

2 stories, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, near UOB bank on Phuket Road, 25m from main road. Price: 2.2 million baht. Tel: 084-0577505.

HOUSE FOR SALE

2 stories, 3 bedrooms, big pool, sat TV, Internet, 5 aircons, nicely furnished, automatic gate. Tel: 084-8516121.

LAND FOR SALE

Suitable for small development or private villa. Starting from 2.7 million baht per rai. Call Tel: 076-282394, 086-0043008. Email: info@ayudhya.net

NEW RESORT CONDOS

1-bedroom condo in holiday resort, 500m to the beach, 65% foreigner finance. Act now. Only 2.4 million baht. Tel: 084-8486139. For more details, visit our website: www.rawai-real-estate.com

LAND FOR SALE

9 rai for sale at Pasak Soi 8, Cherng Talay. 2.7 million baht per rai. Contact for details. Tel: 076-282808, 086-9519198. Fax: 076-282346. Email: heypiassy@hotmail.com

LAND IN NAI YANG

for sale. Chanote. Near beach. 2 rai: 7 million baht. 1 rai: 3.5 million baht. 6,440sqm plots: 1.5 million baht per plot. Call Tel: 089-7241140. Email: nong.phuket@yahoo.de

KAMALA HOUSE

2 bedrooms, big living rooms, big garden, 600sqm, great location. Price: 5.45 million baht. Tel: 087-2945737.

CHEAP SEAVIEW LAND

5 rai, 500m from Bang Pae waterfall, access from 2 roads, 1km from main road. Price: 7.5 million baht. Call Tel: 084-0577505.

TWO 5-STAR VILLAS

located directly on Rawai Beach. Price: 32.6 million baht. Kamala area location: 20 million baht. For details, email: docucolums@hotmail.com

CHANOTE SEAVIEW

land plots. 10 + 20 + 60 rai. Please call for more details. Tel: 081-5395454. Email: mk@phuket-no1.com

RAWAI 2-STORY HOUSE

140sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, close to the beach. 1.5 million baht. Call Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

HOUSE FOR SALE

Selling down payment townhome. Phuket Inter Villa 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 stories, 24sq wah, opposite Boat Lagoon. Call Tel: 081-9793369.

HOUSE WITH POOL

in Chalong. Beautiful house on 224sqm of land, with private pool. 2 bedrooms, big living room, bathroom with Jacuzzi and shower, European kitchen. Fully furnished, 3 aircons, UBC. 5 million baht ono. Tel: 081-2733688. Email: gazette@glibber.com For further details, please visit our website: http://www.phuket-property.info

FOR SALE OR LEASE

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 1-story, fully furnished, new, modern house on private road in Kathu. Electric gate, nice walled garden, large terrace, private parking, telephone and Internet. Price: 6.2 million baht or nearest offer. Must sell due to move to Bangkok. Call Tel: 087-3865200.

PATONG 3-FLOOR

shophouse. Best location, 100 meters to the beach. Built-up area: 270sqm. Ground floor: restaurant with new fully equipped kitchen, WC, aircon, ADSL Internet. 1st floor: 2 bedrooms, teak wood floor, bathroom with new whirlpool, WC, 2 aircons, balcony. 2nd floor: 2 rooms, 1 aircon, bathroom, WC, balcony, UBC, ADSL, TV. Price: 12 million baht. Tel: 081-8914844.

URGENT SALE

Khao Lak. Bang Niang bungalow-apartment resort. 8 bungalows with 2 rooms and 2 bungalows with 3 rooms. 6m x 12m 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

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

25% Discount on Classifieds for Shopper Card Holders

IF YOU...

Place your ad in these pages;
Present your Shopper Card; and
Pay for the ad at our offices,

you'll enjoy a 25% discount* AND have your ad appear free of charge in the Phuket Gazette Online.

With more than 10,000 visitors a day, the Island Trader Online is Thailand's most active classified marketplace.

*Ads may be submitted in person or online (phuketgazette.net/classifieds), but must be paid for at the Gazette offices. The discount is not available when payment is made at our agents.

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd
367/2 Yaowarat Road, Phuket City
Tel: 076-236555 Fax: 076-213971

Platinum Residence Park

5 Star Development 5 Star Services

Government Approved
Underground Electrical
Landscaped Park
Wide Roads
Foreign Quality
Serine Location

VIP Mercedes Limo
Grocery Delivery
Rental Services
24 Hr Security
Tour Bookings
Maid Service
Spa Services

089 6525 664 or 087 8938 747

Custom Floorplans from 9.5 million baht

Property Gazette

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. 6.5 million baht. Contact Tel: 081-5395317, 086-6890769.

LAND FOR SALE



13 rai 85 talang wah, private road, river view near Laguna. 2.7 million baht per rai. Chanote. Contact K. Eddy. Tel: 087-3809917. Email: suchayanon@hotmail.com

NICE HOUSE FOR SALE



Perfect house, 4-5 bedrooms, ready to move in, includes 2006 Honda Jazz. Contact Tel: 081-8915296. Email: hkthomesale18@yahoo.com For photos and details, visit our website: <http://www.jikkycar.com>

SEAVIEW LAND IN KAMALA



23 rai seaview land for sale in Kamala. Prime location near north end of Kamala Beach. Nor Sor Sam title, sloping hill on main road, easy access from street, electric in place, waterfalls. 180 million baht. 2km north of Phuket FantaSea. Please contact by email for more photos or call for an appointment to view the property. Tel: 081-7284821. Email: elevendigits@yahoo.com

Properties For Rent

BIG HOUSE FOR RENT

3 big aircons, bedrooms fully furnished, beautiful garden but no fence, near Chalong Bay. Price: 30,000 baht per month. Includes electric and water. Tel: 081-8924311.

PATONG APARTMENT

300m to the beach, clean, modern decor, aircon, fridge, double bed, pool, parking. Tel: 081-0825707. Visit our website: www.phuket-accommodation.info

B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, carpark. Price: 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6923163.

PALAI, GREENHOUSE AND 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.

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.

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

NEW SHOPHOUSES

near Bangla Rd. 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

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

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 info. Tel: 084-6890760. Email: a_manasanan@hotmail.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. Please contact Tel: 081-4763242. Email: davidbul@loxinfo.co.th

4 RAI FLAT LAND

Chanote title, square plot, access from 2 roads. 2km from Heroines Monument. 500m from main road. 6.8 million baht. Tel: 084-0577505.

CHIANG RAI LAND AND RESORT

for sale. Land plots from 100sqm to 350 rai. Hillside and valley. 3 resorts, 10-50 rooms. Airport pickup and plot-viewing service is available. Contact K. Apagon at Tel: 089-2919173.

NEW HOUSE KATHU

Great views, quiet, secure, furnished, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 aircons, Western-style kitchen, 2 carparks, 460sqm land. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 087-9391035 (Eng), 086-0050318 (Thai).

HOUSE FOR SALE

2-story townhouse, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Price: 1.55 million baht. Tel: 081-6760125. Email: jaidee_kind@yahoo.com

LAGUNA VILLA AND

land plots. Luxury villa with pool in Laguna area for sale. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, big garden, freehold or leasehold. Land: 836sqm & 640sqm. Please contact for details. Tel: 087-8934636. Email: annericphuket@hotmail.com

PHANG NGA LAND FOR SALE

Chanote title and deed. Total area: more than 5 rai. Priced at only 4.5 million baht. Tel: 076-221595, 076-221598, 081-8918755.

CONDOS FOR SALE

Fantastic sea views and hill views in Patong Tower. Only a few minutes to Patong Beach. Must see! Contact for pricing. Tel: 076-341871, 081-5697616. Email: sales@phuketislandrealestate.com

PATONG TOWER

condo. Seaview, furnished 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom condo. 2 balconies, double bed, TV, fridge, air conditioning, pool, indoor parking. 6 million baht. Tel: 086-7730046. Email: tamjermjai@yahoo.com

RAWAI BEACH STUDIO

Furnished, kitchen, aircon, UBC, ADSL. 4,500 baht per month. Contact K. Noki at Tel: 086-9408914.

BEACHFRONT HOUSE

for rent. 1-4 bedrooms. Contact for specific details. Tel: 076-381181, 076-381189.

RAWAI BEACH VILLA

Pool, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, UBC, ADSL. Price: 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

PATONG ROOM FOR RENT

Furnished, aircon, TV, wireless Internet. Price: 7,000 baht per month. Please call Tel: 089-6478596. Email: property1998@hotmail.com

4-STORY BUILDING

for rent. 6 bedrooms, opposite Tesco Lotus. Please contact for more details at Tel: 089-4743575, 085-9095191, 089-4744839.

RAWAI FLAT

for rent. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Internet, cable TV, fully furnished. Tel: 081-6067410.

4-BEDROOM KATHU VILLA

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: 65,000 baht per month. Please contact Tel: 087-2698492.

SHOPHOUSE BLOCK

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

CHALONG HOUSE

for rent. Land and Houses, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, garden and carport for 2 cars, Western-style kitchen, hardwood floors. 30,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-378179, 086-0109782. Email: info@timberway.net

RAWAI/NAI HARN

new large luxury house for rent. Large swimming pool, garden, 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, big sala. Minimum 1-year lease: 75,000 baht per month. 30-year lease: 18 million baht. Tel: 081-3971835.

BYD LOFTS SERVICED CONDOS

BYD Lofts in downtown Patong offer one- and two-bedroom, 95-160sqm, superbly furnished, ultramodern apartments for short- or long-term rent, with pool. Tel: 076-3430247. Email: manager@bydlofts.com

CHALONG SHOPHOUSE

This new 3-story shophouse is available for long-term lease. Ideal for home office/shop accommodation. Enquire at Tel: 089-6521473.

NEW CHALONG HOME

Furnished, 2-bedroom home for rent with telephone, UBC, and aircon. Please contact for details and pricing information. Tel: 089-6521473.

PATONG RENTALS AVAILABLE

A number of listings that may appeal to you. Prices starting from 15,000 baht per month. Contact Tel: 081-7196088 (English) or 089-6498703 (Thai). Website: www.gardenislandphuket.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. Tel: 084-4454614.

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

TO: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd, 367/2 Yaowarat Road, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, Thailand.

YES, I want to receive the PHUKET GAZETTE for a full year - 52 issues!

- I hereby authorize payment against my Visa ☐ / Mastercard ☐
- ☐ Thai Baht 1,560 for Phuket Special Delivery (Phuket Island only!)
- ☐ Thai Baht 2,800 for a domestic subscription (outside Phuket)
- ☐ Thai Baht 8,000 for an overseas subscription (any country outside Thailand)

Surname (as appears on card) Given name(s) (as on card)

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Issuing Bank: _____ Country: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please Deliver To:

Street address

City State or Province Zip Code

Country: _____



To ensure clarity, please attach. Do not Fax!

Property Gazette

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.

KARON WATERFRONT

Sea view from everywhere. 102sqm. Minimum 6-month lease: 40,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-8928208. Please see our website at: www.phuketfurnishedapartments.com

ANDAMAN HILLS

Andaman Hills, Patong. 300 sqm house with amazing views. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms + separate condo. 1-year lease: 45,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-6880620. Email: bkkjedi@gmail.com For additional information and photos, please visit our website at: http://rent66.com/patong_house/index.html

TWO CONDOS IN PATONG TOWER

1st: 1 bedroom, kitchen, living room. 2nd: 2 bedrooms, living room, tea kitchen. Daily: 1,200 baht. Weekly: 6,000 baht. Monthly: 20,000 baht. Tel: 087-2770552, 087-2773086. Email: lhanfirm@online.no

BRAND NEW PATONG CONDO

Beautiful 1-bedroom condo in best location, quiet. Sea and hill views, all amenities. Long-term rent. Call for details. Tel: 081-9701479. Email: caltirol@hotmail.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, air, cable TV, ADSL. 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-9732917. Email: brunuiviv@hotmail.com

POOL VILLA



2-bedroom luxury villa with private pool in Rawai. Furnished, aircon. 35,000 baht per month. TV package + pool + garden maintenance included. Prefer minimum 6-month lease. Please call Sue at Tel: 081-9701716.

CHALONG ROOM

Hot water, aircon, TV, DVD, Wi-Fi, fridge. 5,500 baht per month. Tel: 089-4727304.

KARON 5-STAR

waterfront living. Stunning sea view from every window & 2 balconies on 18th floor. Pool, spa, sauna, tennis, squash. Tastefully furnished, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, living/dining room, equipped Western-style kitchen with granite tops, breakfast bar. Living area: 102sqm. Rent: 4,000 baht per month. Minimum 6-month lease. Sell: 9.5 million baht. Tel: 085-7902464, 081-8928208. Website: www.phuketfurnishedapartments.com

BANG TAO HOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedrooms, swimming pool, 2 levels, big living room, parking for 2 cars. Please contact for more information at Tel: 084-8516121.

HOUSE FOR RENT OR FOR SALE

We currently have 2 houses available. For specific details, please contact Tel: 089-4740222. Email: mammos56@yahoo.com Visit our website: <http://www.thehoteldeals.com/photos/>

TROPICAL VILLA



in new beautiful, fully maintained development. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European kitchen, full aircon, UBC, TV, telephone, furnished, private pool and garden. Minimum 6-month lease. 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-2810452, 087-8931180.

VILLA FOR RENT

Beautiful boutique villas with private pool, 2/3 bedrooms, available on daily, weekly, or monthly basis. Contact us for further details. Tel: 076-282394, 086-0043008. Email: info@ayudhya.net

SEAVIEW VILLA

Fantastic sea views out to many islands and beyond. Set in large garden with huge pool deck, sala and outdoor areas. 3 bedrooms, ADSL, Cape Yamu area, only 10 mins to BIS, Boat Lagoon. Price: 40,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-2796283.

ANUPAS GOLF VILLE

Kathu area, 3-bedroom house in gated development. Very spacious, lounge, kitchen, 2 bathrooms with 1 en-suite, hot water, aircon, ADSL, UBC, nice garden. Price: 25,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 085-2999435.

PANWA BEACH HOUSE

Deck with sunset view, close to beach, 1.5 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, kitchen, hot/cold water. Long-term rent: 8,500 baht. Tel: 084-0571420.

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

BAN SUAN KAMNUN

In a very nice, green, clean, quiet area. Just outside Patong. On hill overlooking Patong Beach, available for long-term only. 1- and 2-bedroom apartments. Furnished, ADSL, aircon, UBC. Call Edwin. Tel: 086-7866350.

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. Tel: 076-528016, 089-2262612. Email: jim@jimmarsh.net

LARGE STUDIO APTS

Chalong bright, spacious furnished suites for rent. Roof-top spa, pool, aircon, Wi-Fi, sat TV, kitchenette, hot water shower, housekeeping. From 9,500 baht per month. Tel: 086-2826221. Email: saneroad@yahoo.com

CLUB LERSUANG

Surin Beach. Modern, 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

CONDOS FOR RENT

Phuket Palace condos. 1 bedroom, new, fully furnished, large pool, 24-hour security. Tel: 087-2650118. Email: ant_p_clark@yahoo.co.uk Visit our website at <http://phuketpalace501601.blogspot.com/>

CHALONG

shophouse. This new 3-story shophouse is available for long-term lease. Ideal for home office/shop accommodation. Enquire at Tel: 089-6521473.

KATA LUXURY

oceanfront five-star 1-bedroom apartment. Pool, gym, ADSL, quiet location, beach view. Price: 28,000 baht per month. Email: asiasail@yahoo.com For details, visit our website: <http://koumbele.com/kata/1>

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 garden. Tel: 089-4742815. Email: noppakul@hotmail.com

PURIMAS BOUTIQUE

Bungalows for rent in Nai Harn Beach. Fully furnished, available for weekly, monthly or long-term rent. Tel: 081-6913029, 081-7286242.

LAGUNA TOWNHOME

3 bedrooms, 400sqm, garden and lap pool, golf course views. Price: 85,000 baht per month. Contact K. Amber. Tel: 089-2001681. Email: aabsxx88@truemail.co.th

LUXURIOUS VILLA FOR RENT

3-4 bedrooms, nicely furnished, 2 levels, sat TV, Internet, big pool. Contact Tel: 084-8516121.

NICE & MODERN HOUSES FOR RENT



Furnished & excellent locations. 5 mins to Rawai & Nai Harn Beaches. 162sqm. 2 bedrooms with private bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. 3 aircons. Large living/dining room. Telephone, ADSL. Free water supply and garbage service. Price: 20,000 baht per month. Call Khun Nui at Tel: 087-3830936.

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 information. Email: simon@coppingerproperties.com

PALM GARDENS

New bungalow on a 24-hr secure development, 3 bedrooms, furnished, pool, close to BIS, 20 mins to Surin Beach. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8374602. Email: jcullen@bcis.ac.th

STUDIO APARTMENT

Modern apartment off Nanai Rd. Fully furnished including TV, DVD, large fridge, fan, hot water, aircon and kitchenette. From 7,500 baht per month. Internet an option. Contact Tel: 087-2650652. Email: gisbert1@gmx.net

1-BEDROOM CONDO

in Patong Tower. Newly renovated in a beautiful modern style. Best location in Patong area. Long-term rent only. Price: 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-1238320. Email: deherder@hotmail.com

Agents for Classified Advertising

PHUKET

K.L. Mart

Patak Rd, Chalong

Tel: 076-280400/3

Fax: 076-280403

Earth Language School

Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-232398/9

Fax: 076-232398

Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

Fax: 076-211230

Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

Fax: 076-344523

41 Minimart

Srisoontorn Rd, Cherng Talay

Tel/Fax: 076-324312

Deli Supermarket

Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-342275

Fax: 076-344314

Live in Patong?
Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at
The Deli Supermarket



Simply write out
your ad, pay
and leave it with
Khun Damrong
(076-342275)

GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're **PAID!**
Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published
simultaneously - and **FREE** - in the Gazette Online!

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Boats & Marine

DIVE & FISHING BOAT

Teakwood, 42ft, Hino 160, nicely furnished, fish-finder, rack for 14 tanks, awning, licensed 13 + 2. Price: 850,000 baht. Please contact for more information.

Tel: 087-2841071
(English),
089-9711292 (Thai).
Email: julie2606asia@yahoo.com.au

9M CATAMARAN FOR SALE

No engine, no mast and no sails. Price: 270,000 baht.

Tel: 087-8919620.

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: +66-081-9390176. Email: beaver@tstf.net

NEW FISHING BOAT

Take a look at our Gazette homepage banner 'Boating & Fishing Help' for info.

Email: makocraft@hotmail.com

17' BOSTON WHALER

17-foot (5.18m), center console, fiberglass with 90hp Mercury outboard and trailer, 1 year old, very clean. Price: 550,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-248120. Email: wpdrake@hotmail.com. Specs for Montauk 170 available by visiting our website: <http://www.whaler.com>

INDONESIAN BOAT

Thai-registered wooden boat for sale. 65ft long, 18ft wide, 30 tons. For details, email: shaanxi.xian@vipmail.hu or p.atiss@freemail.hu

JABSCO HEAD

for sale. Recent model. All seals are brand new and in perfect condition. Can be seen in working situation at either Yacht Haven Marina or Boat Lagoon. Email: rogerg@seamarineservices.com

TWIN ENGINE

speedboat. Newly renovated. All new interior, paint, fuel tanks, bimini and much more! 10 meters. Licensed for 12 people. 1.2 million baht or best offer. Tel: 084-6644050. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

SAILBOAT

1968 Islander for sale. 44ft world cruiser, lying in Yacht Haven Marina. US\$50,000. Email: temptation44@hotmail.com

GFK SPEEDBOAT

Dive and fishing. Steppa 37 with flybridge, inboard toilet, storage room, sun deck, shower, Thai registration for commercial business, up to 22 pax. Completely renewed hull. 2x200hp Yamahas. Email: iscoth@hotmail.com

BOAT SHARE

ownership. Consider sharing in my new fishing boat here in Phuket. Email: makocraft@hotmail.com

FIBERGLASS BOAT

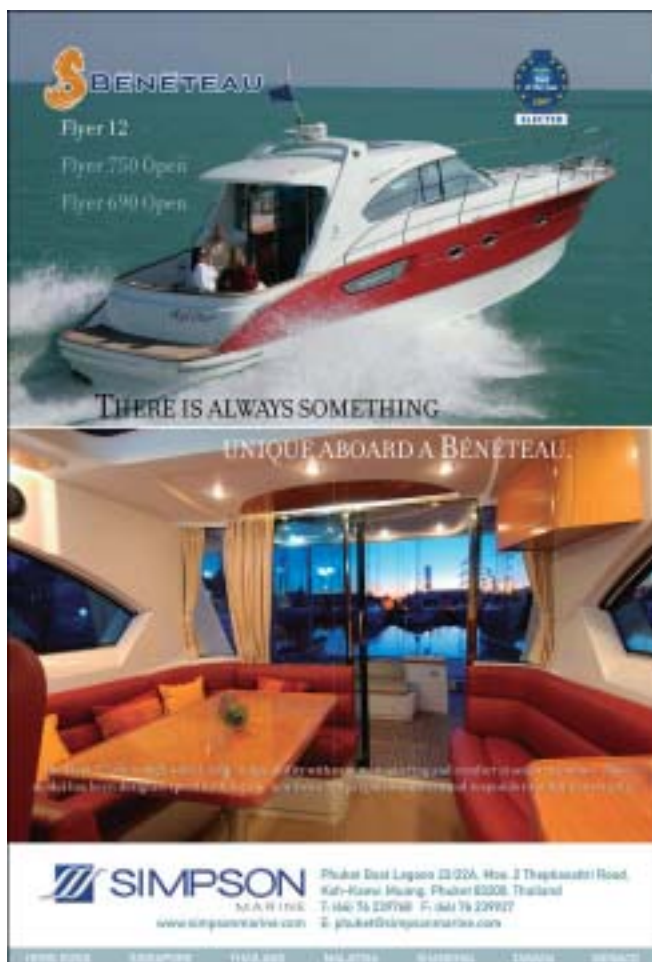
36 foot flybridge boat, brand new, still in factory. 100% fiberglass. Ideal for sight seeing and scuba diving. Choice of engines - 4 stroke or 2 stroke. Price for boat is only 2.3 million baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 081-8912895. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

100% FIBERGLASS

boat. Stainless-steel railing with or without engines. Length 6.50m, width 2.25m, 200L fuel tank, GPS, sonar, fish finder, bimini, outrigger, fishing-rod holders, Thai registration with book, great condition, includes trailer and dinghy. Only 290,000 baht (without engine) or 6,000 euro, US\$8,000, CHF 10,000. Please contact at Tel: 076-280301, 087-091-2604, or via email: renebua@hotmail.com Visit our website for information at <http://web.mac.com/rene.buechel/iWeb/rbw/home.html>

17.5-METER

diving boat. For sale or charter, width 4.5m. Diesel engine, 320hp generator at 20kW. 30 person capacity. Great buy. Price: 950,000 baht. Call for more information. Tel: 081-9680571.

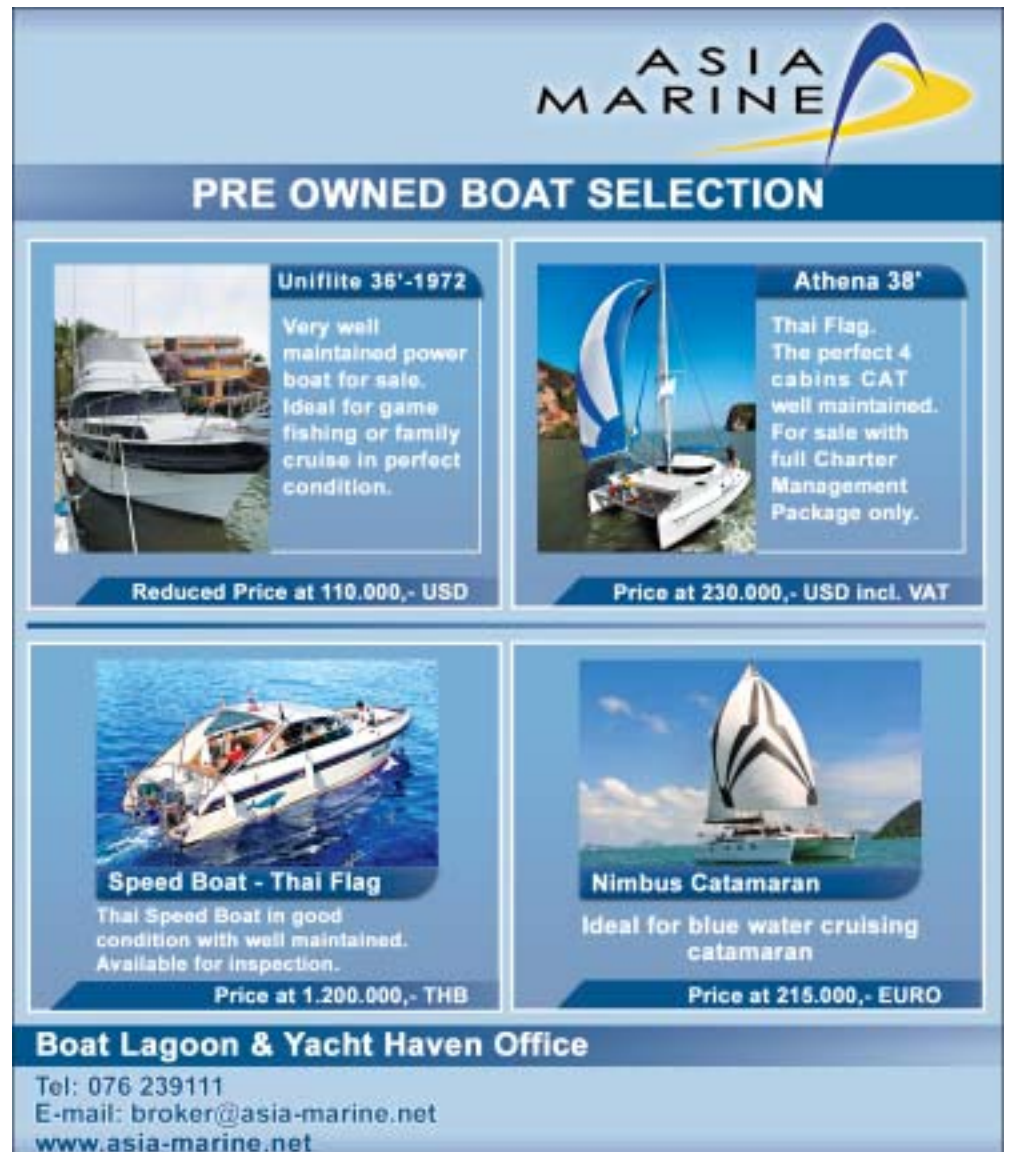


BENETEAU
Flyer 12
Flyer 750 Open
Flyer 690 Open

THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING
UNIQUE ABOARD A BENETEAU.





SIMPSON
MARINE
www.simpsonmarine.com

Phuket Boat Lagoon 23/22A, Hwy. 2 Thepkasatri Road,
Kaf-Kuam Muang, Phuket 83008, Thailand
T: 086 76 237768 F: 086 76 237767
E: phuket@simpsonmarine.com



ASIA MARINE

PRE OWNED BOAT SELECTION

 <p>Uniflite 36'-1972 Very well maintained power boat for sale. Ideal for game fishing or family cruise in perfect condition.</p> <p>Reduced Price at 110,000,- USD</p>	 <p>Athena 38' Thai Flag. The perfect 4 cabins CAT well maintained. For sale with full Charter Management Package only.</p> <p>Price at 230,000,- USD incl. VAT</p>
 <p>Speed Boat - Thai Flag Thai Speed Boat in good condition with well maintained. Available for inspection.</p> <p>Price at 1,200,000,- THB</p>	 <p>Nimbus Catamaran Ideal for blue water cruising catamaran</p> <p>Price at 215,000,- EURO</p>

Boat Lagoon & Yacht Haven Office
Tel: 076 239111
E-mail: broker@asia-marine.net
www.asia-marine.net



THAILANDS LEADING BROKERAGE AND NEW YACHT DEALERSHIP

LEE MARINE
International Marine Brokerage

Celestial 49

- Yanmar 4LH-ITE turbo diesel
- Northern Lights 6.5 Kva genset
- Hydraulic feathering prop
- Teak decks
- Autohelm autopilot
- Epoxy coated hull
- Raymarine chartplotter
- Excellent refrigeration

\$199,000 USD

 <p>Tayana 55 \$275,000 USD</p>	 <p>Firefly 850 2,850,000 THB</p>	 <p>Jeanneau Leader 805 3,500,000 THB</p>	 <p>Stingray Cuddy 192RS 850,000 THB</p>
--	---	---	--

50th Anniversary JEANNEAU Prestige 42

Available Exclusively through Lee Marine

Dedicated Service Department

WWW.LEEMARINE.COM

Dealership Office:
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Martin Holmes
tel: 076 238 803
fax: 076 273 310
email: info@leemarine.com

Brokerage Office:
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 01 968 1437
fax: 076 230 720
email: brokerage@leemarine.com

Yacht Haven Marina Office:
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket
Contact: Jim Poulsen
Mobile: 081 881 3237
fax: 076 206 260
email: yacht@leemarine.com

Pataya Office:
Oceana Marina Jomtien Beach
Contact: Mark Heath
Mobile: 0817879408
tel: 038 235 061 fax: 038 235 062
Email: mark@leemarine.com

Island Job Mart




We are an international property consultant having 200 offices worldwide providing property agency services, asset valuation, property and facilities management, research and consultancy, due to rapid expansion, we are looking for qualified personnel to join our company as follows:

1. Zone Manager (2 positions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Male or female, age over 28 yrs BA in Real Estate/Property Management or related fields At least 3 yrs experience in building/estate management Knowledge of Land Development Act, Condominium Juristic Person Acts an advantage 	2. Estate Manager / Assistant Estate Manager (4 positions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Male or female, age over 28 yrs BA in Real Estate/Property Management or related fields At least 1 yr experience in building/estate management or 3 years in management level Knowledge of Land Development Act, Condominium Juristic Person Acts an advantage
3. HR Officer (2 positions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Male or female, age over 28 yrs BA in HR or related fields At least 2 yrs experience in HR function Knowledge of Thai Labor Law 	4. Receptionist (2 positions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Female, age over 22 yrs Vocational or higher in related fields At least 1 yr experience in receptionist front office Familiarity with office automation
5. Department Secretary (2 positions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Female, age over 28 yrs BA in Secretarial or related fields At least 3 yrs experience in secretarial work 	6. Accountant (2 positions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Male or female, age over 25 yrs BA in Accounting or Finance At least 2 yrs experience in accounting Familiar with accounting software with knowledge of MS-office especially Ms-Excel and Thailand taxation systems

Interested candidates are invited to write in with full resume, stating present and expected salaries, and enclosing a recent photo to Human Resource Department at the address below:

Knight Frank Phuket Co., Ltd.
 1 Plaza Del Mar Building Room no.109-111 & 201-202, Pasak-Koktanod Road, T.Cherngtalay, A.Thalang, Phuket 83110
 Tel: 0-7631 8151-8 Fax: 0-7631 8159
 Email: chutima.ninlawan@th.knightfrank.com

Remark:
 Thai Nationality only
 Good command of spoken and written English and computer literacy is essential
 Male applicants must complete or exempt from military service
 Knowledge of Real Estate an advantage



We are looking for open-minded people who are seeking a challenging role within their career. Join our extensive international team and work for market leader in real estate.

Opportunities Available:	
Account Manager	1 Position
The candidate should have experience in accounting at least 3-5 years with university graduate. Excellent in both written and spoken English. Fast learner and service-minded, strong analytical and problem solving abilities and proven team leadership skills.	
Co-ordinator Project	2 Positions
The candidate will be the liaison point between the developer and the client, responsible for seeing the client purchase through from signing the contract to the handover of the property, the applicant should be familiar with handling high-end market clients. Excellent in both written and spoken English. Car and driver's license required.	
Salary & Benefits will be commensurate with experience	
Interested candidates are invited to send their resume by email to pimolrat@pil.co.th or contact to Khun.Pimolrat at 085-8883309 for more information	

BUNGALOW RESORT ALL POSITIONS

- * Restaurant manager
- * Receptionist
- * Cook
- * Waiter/waitress
- * Cashier
- * Maid
- * Beach boy/girl
- * Trainees and more...

You should be motivated, service-minded, with pleasant personality, an energetic individual, have minimum of 2 years' experience and good command of English. Please email your resume, expected salary and recent photo to: pia@phuket-bangtao.lagoon.com

ITALIAN CHEF NEEDED (EXPAT)

To work for hotel's restaurant in Bangkok

- Room accommodation
- We shall assist with obtaining your work permit

Contact Mr Chirinet. Tel: 02-8614572, 081-6517867.
 Email: job2500@yahoo.com

SIAM ADVENTURE

club manager. Looking for a dynamic and creative individual to manage guest relations, tour and kids club in a fun family-focused resort. Foreigners welcome. Please contact for more details. Tel: 076-396-666, 076-396667. Email: hr@ramadaphuket.com

ABSOLUTE TELEMARKETERS!

Absolute are currently recruiting Thai nationals for new telemarketing department based in Patong. Successful applicants must speak fluent English. Salary and commission. Email: thailandjobs@clubabsolute.com

HOTEL RESERVATION

manager. Top salary paid based on experience for motivated front desk girl to run renovated 12-room boutique hotel. Must speak, read and write English. Two minute walk to Jungceylon. Contact Tel: 085-7932477. Email: garyteets@yahoo.com




Alila Hotels and Resorts, an international luxury lifestyle resort management company, is seeking talented candidates for its latest opening in Phuket. Currently under construction in one of the most exclusive and upscale areas on Phuket, the 200-rooms resort is scheduled to open in the third quarter of 2007. We are looking for candidates with energy and enthusiasm, a passion for working to the highest standards and preferably pre-opening experience.

Financial Controller Rooms Division Manager Chief Engineer Chief Gardener Sales Manager Reservation Manager	Public Relations Manager Spa Manager Chief Concierge Chief Security IT/EDP Manager
--	---

Alila Phuket offers attractive salaries, benefits and career opportunities within Thailand and abroad with one of Asia's most exclusive hotel management companies. Applications with resume in English, a recent photograph, work certificates and salary expectations may be sent to:

Alila Phuket
 Pre-opening office, 9/2 Moo 6, Kamala, Kathu, Phuket 83150, Thailand
 Tel/Fax: 0-76 279 772, Email: hrphuket@alilahotels.com



Property manager

Position take full advantage of our established property management

- ✓ Male or female over 35 years
- ✓ BA in real estate/ property management or related fields
- ✓ At least 2-4 years in building / estate management
- ✓ Complete manager-leader skills
- ✓ Excellent in both written and spoken English
- ✓ Fringe benefits and other options

Phuket Andaman Real Estate Co., Ltd.
 17/11 Chaofa Rd, T. Taladnau, A. Muang, Phuket 83000
 Tel: +66 (0) 7624 5966 Mobile: +66 (0) 8578 42004
 CV to hakan@phuketandamanrealestate.com

ONLINE JOB APPLICATION

HOTEL - ACTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B

www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm

New private villa in Layan seeking for.

Position: 1 Excellent Chef Required.
 Qualification: Specialist in Thai and Italian food.

- : Experience in hotel or restaurant.
- : English speaking is required.
- : Self-motivated and team player.
- : Thai national preferred.
- : Basic salary THB 35,000

Applicant to: please send CV to phuket@generalrecruit.com
 Tel 089 8730177, Fax 076 310226

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

with at least 3 years' experience in construction. Must speak good English and be competent in AutoCAD. Email: robin@avcphuket.com

TEACHER TRAINING

TEFL certification, TTT language school. Contact for more information. Tel: 076-280869. Email: tefl@loxinfo.co.th For details, visit our website: www.ttt-tefl.com

EXPERIENCED

secretary wanted for well-established company. Must speak good English. Salary based on experience. Email: robin@avcphuket.com

URGENTLY NEEDED

We are looking for a lady, age 20-35 years old, for a beauty salon, massage and spa. For details, please contact Marcelle at Tel: 089-0175706. Email: marcellep@mail.com

BROKER/AGENT WANTED

for health insurance company. We will be visiting on August 2-3 and monthly thereafter. Interested parties should contact either Tom Thomson at Tel: 089-6674777 or Chalach Mahachalalai at Tel: 081-9259126 to arrange for an appointment.

ART/INTERIOR DESIGN

Looking for a university graduate in art/interior design. The candidate should be highly motivated and willing to expand their skills. The nature of the job is conceptual drawing for worldwide interiors. Must have good command of English language. Tel: 083-6965232. Email: yui@orientalicon.com

ENGINEER NEEDS

JN-TECH. We need an experienced engineer for construction. Thai nationality only. Good written & spoken English. German is a plus! Send latest CV to email: info@1nj.de

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Thai lady required part time with very flexible hours. Must have good English and computer skills. Please call Tel: 086-2790837.

SECRETARY WANTED

for housing development. Good English, car driver's license & experience, computer skills, sales skills. Please call Tel: 081-5376866.

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

CPD license is a must. Monthly financial statements report with accuracy as well as on a timely basis. Ensure accuracy of accounts receivable, accounts payable and stock control. All taxation reporting. QuickBooks knowledge is a plus. Call Tel: 076-239-111, 081-9583095. Fax: 076-238974. Email: suporn@asia-marine.net

Island Job Mart

The Ravi Warin Resort & Spa on Koh Lanta Yai, recognized as one's of Krabi's finest first class hotels, invites applications for.



Sales / Marketing Dept.(Base on Bangkok)
- Director Of Sales & Marketing (Foreign or Thai)
- Sales Manager (Thailand & Southeast Asia)
- Sales Manager & MICE

Food & Beverage Dept.
- Director of Food & Beverage (Foreign or Thai)
- Restaurant Manager
- Restaurant Supervisor
- Restaurant Captain
- Waiter / Waitress
- Hostess
- Artist

Kitchen Dept.
- Executive Chef (Foreign or Thai)
- Chef De Partie
- Demi Chef
- Commis I - III
- Chief Steward
- Asst. Chief Steward
- Steward Supervisor
- Stewards

Engineer Dept.
- Chief Engineer
- General Maintenance
- Mechanic
- Carpenter

Administration Dept.
- Resident Manager (Foreign or Thai)
- Executive Secretary to GM
- Human Resource Manager
- Human Resource Officer
- Nurse

Room Division
- EAM / Room Division (Foreign or Thai)
- Front Office Manager
- Asst. Front Office Manager
- Front Supervisor
- Tour Counter Supervisor
- Guest Service Officer (Korean Speaking)
- Resort Host
- Service Center Operator
- Asst. Executive Housekeeper
- Housekeeper Supervisor
- Housekeeper Clerk
- Florist
- Room Maid / Room Boy
- Laundry Manager
- Laundry Supervisor
- Chief Gardener
- Gardeners

Finance & Account Dept.
- Chief Accountant - Cost Controller
- Accountant Officer - Cashier
- Purchasing Manager

All above positions / applicants must have:

- Outgoing personality, self confident and with a high level of attention to details
- Computer literate in MS Office environment
- Experience in 5 stars resort property with a proven track record of delivering exceptional service standards to a highly demanding clientele
- Entrepreneurial, creative and results oriented
- Ability in living on an island environment
- Fluent in English and other language if possible
- Excellent interpersonal and communications skill
- Hands on person/ies opposed to office bound and with excellent PR skills
- Experience working in Thailand is preferable

Should you be interested in other positions not listed above, we would also appreciate to receive your resume.

Interested applicants are invited to send full details, application covering detailed qualifications and experience, expected salary and photo to:

Rawi Warin Resort & Spa
139 Moo 8, Klong Tob Beach, Koh Lanta, Krabi 81150 Thailand. Email: hr@rawiwarin.com
Tel: (075) 607400 Fax: (075) 607499 (Only Short listed candidates will be contacted)

campbell kane

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd. is the developer of Cape Yamu, The Yamu Hotel and The Bay project. Cape Yamu and The Bay are two exclusive luxury residential property developments on Phuket's East Coast. With our unique peninsula setting, stunning architecture and the recent announcement of our 5 star boutique hotel project.

We are looking for competent, enthusiastic and highly qualified individuals for the following vacancies to join our growing business:

Position	Assistant to Property Manager	
Qualification	- Male or Female - Age 30 up - At least 2 years' experience in Property	- Able to use email, Internet, Microsoft Office - Good command of English - Must have own car and driving license
Position	Assistant to Marketing Manager	
Qualification	- Female age not over 30 - Bachelor Degree in Marketing or related field - 1-2 years' experience in Marketing communication or advertising - Good command of English	- Computer literate - MS Office and Photoshop - Active, strong communication and interpersonal skills - Good organizational skills - Own transportation with valid license is preferred
Position	Customer Service Representative	
Qualification	- Male, age not over 35 - Excellent English - Service-minded - Excellent driving skills	- Non-smoker - Excellent interpersonal skills - 5-star hotel experience preferred
Position	Interior Architect or Interior Designer	
Qualifications	- Minimum undergraduate Bachelor of Architecture, Science or Fine Arts, major in Interior Design or Interior Architecture (GPA score = 2.5) - Minimum 3 years of professional experience - Direct involvements in the actual design-build construction projects; both residential and commercial projects. - Knowledge of technical details relating to on-site construction works: M&E, lighting specs, material finishes, etc. - Excellent command in autoCAD; a complete understanding of construction documents. - Excellent taste of styles & design - Moderate skills of English language is acceptable	
Position	Project Coordinator	
Duties	- Assist villa owners with all interior and finish details for their home. - Liaison between foreign owners and local contractors and suppliers. - Source materials and supply specifications for flooring, lighting, furnishings, kitchen equipment, sanitary ware, home theater, and smart home systems. - Correspond with villa owners regarding these specifications and keep detailed records - Work directly with owner's architect and interior designer - Work directly with the contractor and construction manager to implement the customer's preferences	
Qualifications	- Excellent spoken and written English, - Familiarity with construction drawings and methods - Experience in customer relations - Experience in interior design - Good computer skills - AutoCAD skills a plus.	

Please send resume with covering letter stating salary expectations to annie@campbellkane.com

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd.

28/7 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew Phuket 83000, T: +66(0)-76-204-008-9, F: +66(0)-76-239-836

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

Administration Assistant

The successful candidate will be a Thai national with an outgoing personality. Also essential are experience in sales and/or administration, a good command of written and spoken English, good management and organizational skills, and knowledge of PageMaker and Office software.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to ann@phuketgazette.net

Reporter

The successful candidate will be a Thai national, with initiative, an outgoing personality, and plenty of experience about the world and how it works. Also essential are the ability to communicate in English, both spoken and written, and a car.

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to editor@phuketgazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd
367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai,
A. Muang, Phuket 83000

KARON PUB

Need English speaking male and female Thai staff to work in a pub/restaurant in Karon. Good salaries and work conditions. Please contact at email: info@bluewaterphuket.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICER

Good in English with PC literacy. Customer service oriented. Strong organization skills for back office. Self confident with an eye for detail. Based at Yacht Haven Marina. Tel: 076-239111. Fax: 076-238974. Email: suporn@asia-marine.net

PONTOON MANAGER

Overview the maintenance & cleaning of our charter fleet either bare boat or crewed boat in co-ordination with crew & technician. Manage the crew's schedule. Send jobs & operation report to management. Co-ordination with charter department. Welcome our charter clients & boat owners. Make an area & technical briefing for our bare boat clients. Rescue & co-ordination center over the phone for our bare boat clients. Please contact for additional information. Tel: 076-239111. Fax: 076-238974. Email: suporn@asia-marine.net

GUEST RELATIONS

(Scandinavian). To work for hotel in Phuket.

- Room accommodation
 - We shall assist you with obtaining your work permit
- Please contact at Tel: 081-6517867. Email: job2550@yahoo.com

CRUISE SHIP JOB

Art auctioneer working onboard the world's largest cruise ships seeking female assistant. 35,000 baht per month. 21-35 years old, attractive, outgoing, some computer skills helpful, able to travel 4-5 months at a time. Tel: +66-860937558. Email: takiniteasy007@hotmail.com

HOUSEKEEPER

Full time housekeeper required for retired businessman in Chalong. Must have own transport and speak English. Duties include general running of house, bill paying, cleaning, ironing, some cooking, etc. Excellent wages to right person. Contact at Email: verhar@yahoo.com

IN-HOUSE SALES

In-house sales reps wanted now for holiday club. Selling only to qualified fly-bys. No OPCs! Please contact at Tel: 076-293061. Email: info@freedomleisuregroup.com

EXPERIENCED RECEPTIONIST

BYD Lofts, Patong, features 19 ultramodern, 5-star, 1 & 2-bedroom hotel apartments. Spa and restaurant. We urgently need an experienced receptionist/GSA. Comanche system familiarity, team player, good English and proactive, helpful personality. Tel: 076-343 027. Fax: 076-343028. Email: reception@bydlofts.com

ACCOUNTANT

needed for firm. Accounting firm is looking for a person with a Bachelor's degree in accounting and a good command of English. Tel: 076-262105, 081-9786144. Send email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Seara Int. Looking for admin./ sales assist. Thai female, 22-25 yrs old, good command of written/spoken English, computer skills. Join our successful team! Send CV + photo to Tel: 076-355040, 089-646 9278. Fax: 076-355039. Email: boom@searaspports.com

Employment Wanted

PROJECT MANAGER

Thai, 20 years' experience in civil work (luxury villas, condominium), fluent English. Call Tel: 086-5215089.

EUROPEAN GRADUATE

33-year-old female relocating to Phuket. Fluent English, French, German, Spanish & Dutch. Seeks interesting sales, administrative, front office or travel and tourism position. Please contact for full details.

Tel: 081-5375133.

Email: keith.wickers@gmail.com

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at www.phuketgazette.net/

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

Articles for Sale

FURNITURE FOR SALE

Sofa and glass table set: 1,500 baht. Wood-carved sofa, 4 seats and table: 5,000 baht. Steam-dry iron: 8,000 baht (from new 24,000 baht). Tel: 081-2945441.

YAMAHA PIANO

Beautiful second-hand long piano, Yamaha, black varnish, five-year guarantee. Price: 350,000 baht. Please call Tel: 087-2638552.

FREE CASSETTE PLAYER

comes with a selection of books on tape. Free of charge! Tel: 076-581614, 086-8911597.

ELECTRONICS

46" TV projector: 26,000 baht. Laptop computer: 13,000 baht. Nokia 8800: 13,000 baht. For more details on each item, contact Tel: 081-2945441.

FURNITURE AND SATELLITE

Electrolux refrigerator, sofa with modern fauteuil, Dynasat F1 satellite receiver, garden set with glass-top table and arm-chairs. English, German, Dutch and Spanish. Please contact for additional information at Tel: 081-2997975.

Bulletins

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Mission Hospital
Phuket City
Wed and Sun 7 pm

Bangkok Phuket Hospital
Phuket City
Fri 7 pm

Patong Hospital Patong
Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun
at 7 pm and Fri at 8 pm

Chalong Health Clinic-near Chalong Circle
Tues 1 pm

For Phuket info (English)
call 081-9564031,
081-8912895

Scandinavian speaking Group
Wat Karon School-Karon
Tue 7 pm

Tel 081-2732053 (Nor)
087-2795636 (Nor)
086-7458910 (Swe)

For info on other Thailand
AA meetings inquire
at Tel: 02-2318300
(for Thai language press 3)
www.aathailand.org or
email info@aathailand.org

PIWC GALA BALL

The Phuket International Women's Club announces the most prestigious event this year - the annual Gala Ball on Saturday, November 24th at the Indigo Pearl in Nai Yang Beach. Watch for more details. Tickets will be in great demand. Contact Carol at Tel: 087-4178860, email: carol@aplusplus software.com or Sue at Tel: 087-2776948, email: arnulphy@loxinfo.co.th

PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

Closed for staff holiday in July. Return to work as normal in August. Email: phukethomemaintenance@yahoo.com

Business Opportunities

KAMALA BAR AND RESTAURANT

Newly renovated in Dec 06, all movables are new, 36 seats. Great location. Price: 550,000 baht. Tel: 089-5911407. Email: gerdjanne@hotmail.com

RESTAURANT FOR SALE

100-seat restaurant on two floors, 2 bars and beer garden. Operating since May 2000. Additional room of 7m x 14m for staff or rental. Registered contract till April 2, 2016. Rent paid till February 2009. Recommended by all leading tour operators. Price: 4.6 million baht. Tel: 075-637258, 089-5873533. Email: j.aonang@gmx.de

HIGH INTEREST

Earn 10-15% interest per annum. Invest 200 to 1 million baht. Tel: 086-2878966.

CHARTER CRUISE BUSINESS

includes 50ft yacht. Priced at only 7.5 million baht. Email: admin@ideacon.biz For further details, please see our website at: www.ideacon.biz/charter_cruise_biz.htm

RESTAURANT

for sale in Kata Beach area. 4 bedrooms, 3 TVs, pool table, fully stocked, seats 80. Contact for more information. Tel: 089-5880839.

ESTATE & BUSINESS

broker. Price: 300,000 baht. Email: admin@ideacon.biz For additional details, please visit our website: www.no1phukethomes.com

LIVE AND WORK

in paradise! We get you started from scratch! From idea and dream to reality! We are the only idea consultation in Thailand! Contact via email: admin@ideacon.biz Visit our website: www.ideacon.biz

DANISH GRILL/BAR

Selling franchise. Price: 800,000 baht. Email: admin@ideacon.biz For further details, please visit our website: www.ideacon.biz/dansk_grill_bar.htm

TSBA
Selling Going Concerns

GUESTHOUSE PATONG

Great revenues+profits
Long lease available

If you want to buy or sell a business

Call Kevin 084-7300190.
Email: kevin@tsba.info
www.tsba.info

HOTEL FOR SALE

Guesthouse, 6 rooms, good location on Nanai Rd. Includes busy bar + restaurant + tour desk. Nicely furnished + good profits. Only 2.8 million baht ono. Call Andrew at Tel: 087-2825086.

BOUTIQUE GUESTHOUSE

Center of Patong, very long lease, 1st class. For more info, click on our Gazette homepage banner 'Boating & Fishing Help'. Email: makocraft@hotmail.com

INTERNET CAFE

8 computers, 1-year lease left, able to extend to 4 years. Rent: 15,000 baht per month. Business for sale at 350,000 baht or 450,000 baht with 4-year lease. Located on busy Nanai Rd. Tel: 660-847231269, 660-847231269. Email: bmudablue@aol.com

BAR & RESTAURANT

Nanai Rd, excellent location, great profits, with accommodation. Low rent negotiable. Tel: 081-7411963.

PATONG BAR FOR SALE

1 million baht + rent. 4 floors includes 2-bedroom apartment. Tel: 087-8817600.

NEW ULTRA-MODERN CLUB

H2O Entertainment Co Ltd has built an all new luxury club in Patong. 50 meters from the beach on the very popular Soi Post Office! Construction completed 1 month ago. 320 sqm. Excellent opportunity. Two options for lease. Buy outright for 10 million baht and get 12-year lease. Or pay 4 million baht and get 5-year lease at 180,000 baht per month. This club will be the talk of the town! Lower-level shop available for restaurant. Please contact for details. Tel: 084-6644050. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

PIZZA OVEN

Resort wishes to sell 2-year-old pizza oven in excellent condition. Price: 99,000 baht. Please contact K. Porn at Tel: 075-607100.

RESTAURANT KATA

Austrian restaurant in Kata for sale. Good and quiet location, 60 seats, ready for takeover. Tel: 086-1203660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

BUSINESS FOR SALE IN PATONG

(Guesthouse and restaurant) Located on Banzan St. 5 minute walk to Bangla, near Jungceylon, 7 rooms, aircons, safe, Internet. All with large TV, cable, large fridge and furniture from Index. Only 7 months old, low rent, 4.5-year lease. Place for restaurant, bar or other business on ground floor. For sale because of lack of interest and time. Price: 1.2 million baht. Call Tel: 085-4072979.

BARGAIN BUY

Bar for sale on Nanai Rd. Includes pool table, darts, 42" plasma TV, fully stocked. Bargain price: 475,000 baht. Rent: 10,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-8520862.

BEACH BAR PATONG 4 RENT

Beach bar on the sand at Patong Beach with seating for 100. Prime location. Contract for 31 months. 5.5 million baht. Email: momo_f@hotmail.com

RETIREMENT INCOME

Easy-to-learn Forex hedging strategy yields substantial residual income while minimizing risk. For info, watch the video at www.bluepointinvestments.com

BAR FOR SALE

Rawai, prime location on the beach road. Very nicely decorated. Price: 1.7 million bahtono. Tel: 087-2706297.

USED BOOK BUSINESS

4,000 used books and 20 wooden bookshelves for sale. Only 258,000 baht. Good chance to open your own book shop. Tel: 089-7242136.

BOOKSHOP SALE

Patong OTOP bookshop for sale. Price: 690,000 baht. Call Tel: 084-1705552.

PATONG BEAUTY

salon. Take over lease that runs until 2010. Please contact Tel: 084-4414689.

KATA RESTAURANT

Small restaurant at the main road. Sell: 1 million baht. Rent: 10,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-9807570. Email: kata.restaurant@gmail.com

SUCCESSFUL CLUB


for sale. 1.9 million baht renovation in Oct/Nov 2006. 4-year lease. Take over for 1.5 million baht and 50,000 baht per month. Buy now and get it free rent until Nov 1, 2007. Tel: 084-6644050. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

Office / Showroom Space for Rent

THE PLAZA DEL MAR

Entrance to Laguna, Phuket

Last two superb, 40/80 square-meter, ground floor office/showrooms in the recently completed Plaza Del Mar.



Fully fitted, security system, individual bathroom, floors, 1 telephone line with broadband capability, etc.

Please email Khun Nong at plazadelmar@gmail.com for more information

Business Products & Services

GENERATORS FULLY AUTOMATIC

Specific designs for villas and real estate complexes, quiet, safe and simple to use, Computer controlled, 19 kVA thru 1000 kVA. Installation to all provinces.

JBH Co., Ltd.
Tel: 081-6930766.
Email: danboy3@gmail.com

ANDAMAN LEGAL ADVISERS

26 Hongyok-Utit Rd, Talaad Yai, Samkong, Phuket. Associated with Advocates and Solicitors Bangkok, Phuket and UK. We provide a wide range of high-quality and specialized legal services to individual and corporate clients.

- Legal consultations
- Real estate and property contracts
- Alien business establishment
- Notarial certifications
- Trademark and patent licenses
- Work permit and visa
- Etc.

Please contact for more information.

Tel: 02-975-6792, 02-5113264, 081-9377219.

Email: Andaman Legal@gmail.com,
solicitor40@aol.com

Website:

www.Haroldstock.com

CHIROPRACTIC

Dr. Richard Cracknell.
Tel: 076-330889.

www.

chiropractic-phuket.com

A/C, SAFE AND COMPUTERS

Aircon: 16,000 BTUs, 8,000 baht. 80x80x70cm safe: 7,500 baht. IBM-server X226 with 2x74GB, DAT backup, Windows server 2003: 25,000 baht. IBM-PC TC-M52 Desktop, 3GHz, 80GB, Windows XP Pro, 15" LCD: 10,000 baht. All items approximately 1 year old. Computers never used! Contact for more details.

Tel: 084-850 7310.

Email:

pereriknorback@msn.com

COUNSELING


US-trained therapist for adults, couples and children. Email: parwvk@aol.com

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

VISA RUN

Package A Ranong 1,599.-	Package B Andaman Club 1,800.-	Package C Penang 4,500.-
BEST SERVICE <i>Tour include</i>	ONLY EVE <i>Tour include</i>	EVERY Sunday and Wednesday Evening BEST SERVICE <i>Tour include</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Transfer • Insurance • Breakfast • Lunch at Hot Spring Water • Big Boat • Visa Fee (10\$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Transfer • Insurance • Breakfast • Lunch at Hotel • Luxury Boat • Visa Fee (10\$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Transfer • Insurance • Hotel 3 Stars • Food • City Tour

CALL EVE 089-195-4877, 081-535-2637



The PWS, Kamala Phuket, a small school dedicated to innovative, affordable education is now enrolling students in the English **First Grade** class (6 years old). Term begins August 20th.

Please contact Mr. Lee Feekins at 084 84 53 265

Phuket Magic

★ Cabaret Show ★ Close Up Magic
 ★ Strolling Magic ★ Balloon Modelling
 By Dave "Paul Jones"

Bookings for:
 ★ Hotels ★ Restaurants ★ Adults
 ★ Childrens Parties, etc.

Mb: 08-7888-7676
 www.phuketmagic.com, email: magic@phuketmagic.com

ANTIQUE & DESIGN

Ivory Gallery Shop



Open daily from 10.00 to 21.00 hours
 200 Prabamee road, Patong-Phuket, Tel/Fax: 076-290026
 Email: ivorantlic@hotmail.com

SATELLITE CABLE TV

True + Multichoice: 3,600 baht per year. Movies, sports, music, Arabic, European and Asian news, etc. Hotels, condos, apartments. Resort repairs and upgrades are welcome. Please call for additional details.

Tel: 089-9092387, 089-7947078.
 Email: mpshop.sattv@gmail.com
 Website: www.mpsattv.com

Camera & Equipment

SAMSUNG CAMERA
 7.2 megapixels, 2 months old. New price: 14,000 baht. Sale price: 9,000 baht. Also, Nokia 6020 for only 3,000 baht. Tel: 086-2767510.

NIKON D2H DIGITAL
 camera due to system change, I will sell this Nikon D2H (8 frames per second). In perfect optical and technical condition, Nikon Bangkok proved. Includes manual, charger and software. 60,000 baht or nearest offer. Tel: 087-8957584. Email: eyebit@mac.com

Computers

I.T. Solutions

Computer Problems? We can help!

English Technician with over 10 years experience

- PC Repairs/Upgrades
- Small Office IT Support
- Wireless Networks Set Up
- Media Solutions
- Remote Assistance Available

Can Travel Anywhere On The Island
 Good Rates
 No Problem Too Large Or Small

Call Gordon Today
 Office: 076-527574
 Mobile: 087-124-1706
 Email: gordon@it-man-asia.com

IMAC G5 POWERMAC
 CPU: 2 GHz, 1.5 GB RAM, 250 GB SATA hard drive, 20" monitor. New: 86,000 baht Sell: 35,000 ono. For details, call Tel: 087-2810451.

APPLE COMPUTER
 Mac mini, 1.66GHz, 6 months young. Paid: 31,700 baht. Sell: 21,000 baht. Speakers and printer included. Contact Tel: 086-7426265.

Dive Gear

SUNNTO STINGER DIVE COMPUTER

Excellent condition, 16-month warranty remaining. Everything in box. 17,900 baht. Please contact for more information.

Email: access00@csloxinfo.com

Miscellaneous for Sale

INTERNATIONAL DRIVERS LICENSE

< 5,000 baht, valid up to 10 years
 < 6,000 baht, valid up to 20 years
 < 100% legal
 < Sole agent in Thailand
 Internationally recognized & accredited.

ADDRESS: 112 BAAN SUAN PLACE
 (BET. BANGKOK RD. & PHUKET RD.)
 TEL: 084-0068736 FAX: 076-289058
 Email: iao@intllicense.com

STAMP FOR SALE
 Princess Diana. Good collection since 1995. Please contact K. Kwan for more information. Tel: 086-9452879.

Mobile Phones

MOBILE PHONES
 Nokia 8800, two weeks old, perfect condition. 20,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-386118, 084-0513473.

Personal Services

Having problems with the rules in Thailand?

Big or small, all can be solved.

Call 081-415 1853

PERSONAL COMPANION/ ASSISTANT

Retired American businessman wants to hire an intelligent, educated female companion/assistant. Good compensation for the right person. Tel: 321-7777447. Fax: 321-7777717. Email: ltmesneg@aol.com

TAROT WORKSHOP

4 Sunday sessions, 3-5 pm only, 9 locations, starts Sept. 2. Price: 3,990 baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 089-6478519.

MASSAGE DELIVERY

Man for man only. Please book 2 hours in advance. Tel: 089-2228206.

Personals

LOVELY GIRL

A Thai lady is looking for a Farang. 30-40 years old. Email: innocentpretty20@yahoo.com

BACKGAMMON

Retired businessman looking for backgammon players in Phuket. Tel: 081-5778443.

Pets

ENGLISH BULLDOG

AKC English bulldog puppies. Very playful and active. Big heads, beautiful and loveable. Contact at Tel: 508-4760291. Email: netbreed@yahoo.com

SIBERIAN HUSKY

Brown/white. Beautiful Siberian Husky dog. 1 year old, brown and white thick coat, has inoculation history from local vet. Excellent temperament and obedient. Has completed 2 months basic training and obedience course at Phuket International Dog School (PIDS). For sale to good, loving and secure home only. Price: 18,000 baht. Call Tel: 083-1821468.

VISA RUN

Penang and Ranong

By Bangkok Legal Services Co., Ltd.

VISA RUN TO PENANG	VISA RUN TO RANONG
Every Sunday Night 3 Day trip to Penang including 3 Star hotel Single Room. Breakfast, Lunch, Transport and insurance. TV/DVD/Comfortable Reclining seat.	Thursday to Saturday 1 Day trip to Ranong including Immigration Fee, Boat, Soft drink.

Special Price June-August
Penang 4,500 baht Ranong 1,300 baht

Call For Booking
 Thai or English: 081-0803414 (Khun Ning)
 ENG: 081-8540061 (Khun Geoff), 087-8947406 (Khun Steve).
 Office contact: 076-304072-4.
 info@bangkoklegalservice.com

PHUKET VISA & BUSINESS

1,500.-	Visa Run To Ranong Border Fully Including	Daily
4,900.-	To Penang, Malaysia For Apply New Visa Including 3 Stars Hotel, Food-Drink, Single Room (Not visa fee)	Sunday Night
Trip To Penang	AUG.'07 5.13.19.26	SEP.'07 2.9.16.23.30
	OCT.'07 7.14.21.28	NOV.'07 4.11.18.25
	DEC.'07 2.10.16.23	
25,000.-	One Year Visa	Age 50 Years or Over - Thai Bank Book
15,000.-	365 Days	Married with Thai people

We Offer Consulting & Services On
 Company Registration, Work Permit, Visa, Accounting, Auditor, Legal Advice

64/46 Moo 1, Chaofa Road, Tambon Wichit, Muang District, Phuket 83000, Thailand
 Tel./Fax: 076-263-475, 076-264-476 Mobile 0-818-929-960
 E-mail: phuketvisa@hotmail.com, www.visasiam.com

EUROPEAN KITCHENS

Built-in furniture. Woodwork specialists, high-quality workmanship. Contact Real-wood at Tel: 087-9785804.

TEFL TEACHER TRAINING

Language school. For further details, please visit our website: www.ttt-tefl.com

Take me home with you!



Soi Dog Foundation Tel: 081-7884222

Need wheels? *Check out www.phuketgazette.net*

Wheels & Motors

4 x 4s

RANGE ROVER 4.6 HSE



British racing green, excellent condition, only 77,000 miles, full insurance until March 2008, only 2 previous owners (chauffeur driven). Reluctant sale. Please call Alasdair Junor. Tel: 083-9889507.

TOYOTA FORTUNER

Great condition. 50,000km, 2-years young. Less than 50,000km. 2.7L engine. Dark gray. Price: 850,000 baht. Please contact for additional information at Tel: 086-7866350. Email: buurmanb@hotmail.com

SUZUKI CARIBIAN 4X4

1994 white Caribbean in great running shape. This wonderful beast has registration and insurance up to date and will get you where you need to go. Leaving Phuket, so must sell. 75,000 baht. Tel: 087-3865734. Email: alfredzilch@gmail.com

FORD RANGER 4-DOOR

4x4, Carryboy, 1 owner, very good condition. Price: 325,000 baht. Please contact for additional information. Tel: 084-4413633.

TOYOTA FORTUNER "EXCLUSIVE"

White, 15,000km. Chip tuning and many more extras. Best you will find on the market. This powerful ride is for sale at 1.2 million baht. You save 400,000 off new price. Tel: 087-8914466. Email: erwintrepka@yahoo.it

ISUZU CAB 4, 4WD



2001, 56,000km, manual gears, 3.0L, good condition. Price: 430,000 baht. Tel: 087-2709093. Email: s.anut@hotmail.com

SUZUKI CARIBBEAN 4X4-ONLY 95,000!

Good reliable transportation. Why rent when you can buy? Black, fully-covered removable extended body, 4x4, 1,300cc, CD player, speakers, well maintained, 5-speed, aircon. Price: 95,000 baht. Please contact at Tel: 081-3705080.

TOYOTA VIGO 3.0L

2005, 4x4, bronze color, 41,000km. Price: 590,000 baht. Contact for more details at Tel: 081-7191790.

MITSUBISHI G-WAGON

2004 Evolution 2. This is a 2.8L turbo. Only 3 years old, 80,000km. Just serviced with 2 new tires. One owner, one year tax and insurance. 725,000 baht. Contact for additional details at Tel: 081-0854514, 089-4584143. Email: jwizard345@aol.com

JEEP BARGAIN BUY

1967 Willys, Toyota rear gears, registered with blue-book. Runs well, great fun. Contact for more information. Tel: 086-2766626. Email: makocraft@hotmail.com

Motorbikes

HONDA STEED 600CC



Great custom chopper, well maintained with green book, tax and insurance. 265,000 baht. Tel: 085-2999435.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON

1997 Softail model. Excellent condition, plenty of chrome, great looking, 17,200km, Screamin Eagle pipes and camshaft, Kuryakyn air cleaner. Rare in Thailand. 950,000 baht. Tel: 076-283-127, 081-9251482. Email: docdan@truemail.co.th

HONDA WAVE 125

Disc brakes, electric starter. Price: 20,000 baht. Contact Gerhard. Tel: 086-9483503.

HONDA PHANTOM 200CC

Very good condition, 2 foreign owners, well cared for. Price: 44,000 baht. Tel: 085-0648681.

YAMAHA R1 1000CC

Blue, 2003, includes green book. Price: 390,000 baht. Contact Tel: 085-7840980.

YAMAHA NOUVO

30,000km. Price: 21,000 baht. Please contact for additional details at Tel: 081-2945441.

HONDA PHANTOM

2003, 200cc, gray color, good condition, 29,000km. Price: 50,000 baht. Contact Tel: 087-2753614. Email: tradexpat@hotmail.com

HARLEY-DAVIDSON



2000 Softail standard, 44,000km. Price: 690,000 baht. Tel: 076-388311, 086-1206964.

HONDA WAVE 110CC

2000 model: 10,000 baht. 2002 Price: 15,000 baht. Tel: 076-388311, 086-1206964.

HONDA SHADOW 750CC

Good condition, only one owner, blue & silver. Price: 310,000 baht. Contact Alan. Tel: 089-4727588.

SUZUKI VS

1995, 800cc. Good condition. Price: 90,000 baht. Tel: 086-2773872.

MOTORBIKES

2 Honda Wave 125s and a Tiger Smart 125. Contact me for details and photos at Tel: 087-5912811, 087-5912811. Email: vancesil@hotmail.com

HARLEY FATBOY

2007. Harley Davidson Fatboy 96 Qb, 6-speed, 1,580cc. Only 800km. Black color & 200mm rear tire. Includes registration. 1.06 million baht. Please contact Sumon at Tel: 081-6913460. Email: sumon@rudethailand.com

YAMAHA MIO TOP CONDITION

8,700km, mag wheels, weather cover & helmets, runs great. Price: 30,000 baht. Tel: 084-6284851.

Rentals

ISUZU D-MAX FOR RENT

2003 model, space cab, runs great, very reliable, interior and exterior in new condition. Great deal. Long-or short-term rent: 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-263989, 081-370 2540. Fax: 076-263424. Email: appleburi@hotmail.com

CHEAP CAR RENTAL

10,000 - 14,000 baht per month. Full insurance discount for long-term. Please contact Tel: 089-4727304.

MOTORCYCLE RENTAL

Honda Wave 125 from 2,100 baht per month, Mio auto. from 2,400 baht per month. Please contact K. Suwan. Tel: 081-9781793.

NEW JAZZ FOR RENT

15,000 baht per month. Contact for more details at Tel: 084-8516121. Email: phuketmat@yahoo.com

MOTORCYCLES

Honda Wave 125: 1,950 baht per month. Auto. Yamaha Mio: 2,100 baht per month. Please contact K. Suwan at Tel: 081-9781793.

NEW CARS FOR RENT



New cars for rent. Special price for long-term rental. Tel: 081-5388567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

A1 CAR RENTAL



Cars, trucks, jeeps that are all fully insured for rental. Best prices for long-term rental: 12,000 to 20,000 baht per month. Please contact Tel: 089-8314703. For more information and details, please email: a1carrent@myway.com

CARS FOR RENT



Many types of cars for rent. Short- or long-term rentals at special rates. Please contact for additional details at Tel: 081-6078567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

P.M.P. CARS FOR RENT

Special rate for green season. Starting from June 15 until September 30. Toyota Vios: 14,000 baht per month. Honda Jazz: 15,000 baht per month. Suzuki Caribbean: 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-1743880, 087-2646808.

Others

CAR TRAILER

New Brenderup, 204 x 116cm. 40% import tax paid. Includes fittings. 56,000 baht. Tel: 076-296231, 089-9705265. Fax: 076-296454. Email: info@wildkingdomtours.com

Find 770 more classifieds for



Cars, Trucks, Motorbikes...
at
www.phuketgazette.net!

Live in Chalong?
Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at
K L Minimart



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it
with Khun Laddawan (076-280403)

GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're **PAID!**
Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published
simultaneously - and **FREE** - in the Gazette Online!

The Gazette is always on top in Google!



Phuket Asialand Co., Ltd.

The right investment for your future...

www.phuketasialand.com

Foreign
Free Hold
Available

- Luxury fully-furnished Condominiums in Surin for sale starting at 2.2 million Baht
- 400 meters easy walking distance to Surin Beach
- Choice of Studio to 3-bedroom penthouses with private pool and breathtaking sea views
- On-Site facilities including 24 hr security, gym, swimming pool, tour desk and housekeeping service.



**LAST PENTHOUSE
SPECIAL OFFER
UNTIL 31 AUGUST 2007**

Contacts

Franck (English/French/Spanish/Thai) +66 (0) 843 072 549
Michel (English/French/Italian) +66 (0) 848 485 273
Kung (English/Thai) +66 (0) 892 894 877
E-mail: info@phuketasialand.com
Office Tel: 076 271 077 Fax: 076 271 078

Looking for a place to stay?
See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

thru the Sea
DRINK FOOD MUSIC
www.thruthesea.com

**B.B.Q. GRILL
LIVE MUSIC**

**"Thru the Sea, Live Music
& Restaurant"**

- Perfect BBQ & Grilled Grub with Rock 'n' Roll, Funk and Pop Live Music All Night.
- BBQ and Seafood Buffet **350 Baht** Nett: Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- Cocktail Buffet Every Night **249 Baht**
- Happy Hour: Buy 1 Beer, Get 1 Free 7pm-8pm 10pm-11pm

We are ready to organize a party for a big group, up to 800 people max.

Thru the Sea
Andaman Bazaar, Patong Beach Road
In front of Club Andaman Beach Resort
076-340530 ext. Thru the Sea
Email: thrusea@clubandaman.com

**Would you like to enjoy
FREE**





Free 2 rounds of golf at Blue Canyon Country Club's Lakes Course
or
Free 4,000 Baht Dining & Shopping Gift Certificates
or
Free Mandara Spa treatment for 2 persons and lunch
or
Free 2 tickets to Phuket Fantasea dinner and show
or
Free 2 tickets to John Gray Sea Canoe Caves tour
or Best of all
Free 2 nights Accommodation in Deluxe Garden View Hotel Room





Fantasea Visit our welcome center at
JW Marriott Phuket Resort and Spa
or call 076-338-200
for Free roundtrip transportation to and from your hotel.

This offer is sponsored by Marriott Vacation Club International as part of an advertising plan for its Vacation Ownership program. Attendance of a vacation club sales presentation lasting approximately 90 minutes is required for this offer, both husband and wife must attend the presentation together.
This program is void where prohibited by law. Additional terms and conditions apply.