

# Phuket Gazette

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# Police nab rape, robbery gang

By Sompratch Saowakhon

**TUNG TONG:** Police have arrested a gang of six youths who forced their way into two homes in Kathu, where they stole cash and valuables, and gang-raped one female occupant at knifepoint.

The arrests were announced during a press conference led by Phuket Provincial Police Commander Maj Gen Decha Budnampetch at Tung Tong Police Station on September 6.

The suspects were identified as gang leader Thanarat "New" Mektap, 19, and his associates Pongpon "Fear" Chuayrod, 21; Taweerungsawang "M" Mitmuang, 21, and his brother Buncha "X" Mitmuang, 19; Somrak "Rak" Rattanapai, 18; and one minor, aged 17.

The first attack occurred just before midnight on August 31 at a student lodging near Prince of Songkla University's Phuket campus in Kathu.

During questioning, New told police that Fear, X, Rak and M, armed with guns and knives, threatened a student to hand over goods with a reported value of 73,650 baht.

Sixteen stolen items, all later recovered, included a mobile phone, notebook computer and gold chain, police said.

Gang leader New did not take part in the robbery, nor did the minor.

In the second attack, about 9:30 pm the following day in Kathu Village 1, Fear, Rak and M raped a 23-year-old student while the others stole goods with a reported value of 45,260 baht,



Phuket Provincial Police Commander Maj Gen Decha Budnampetch looks down at the gang of six. Gang leader New (seated, left, in black T-shirt) looks straight at the camera.

the press release said.

An investigation by Tung Tong Police led to the arrest of gang leader New in a wooden sala outside Chalermprakiet School, near Saphan Hin.

After questioning New, police arrested the other gang members. Fear, Rak and X were arrested at the 99 Hotel on Kra Rd in Phuket City. M was arrested at his rented abode on Luang Por Chaem Rd in Chalong.

In relation to the first attack, Fear, X, Rak and M were charged with armed robbery and using a vehicle to escape.

In relation to the second attack, each gang member was charged with his part in the rape, but all were charged with armed robbery and using a vehicle to escape.

All six confessed to all charges and are being held at Tung Tong police station as the investigation continues, said the police press release.

Pol Lt Col Kittipong Klai-kaew, the investigating inspector in the case, on September 11 told the *Gazette*, "We have not finished our investigation... They said that they are from other provinces and moved to Phuket not long ago, which may mean that someone else has lied to the police.

"However, we are still investigating whether any of the gang members were involved in other crimes in Phuket.

"A date has yet to be set for them to appear in court. That might be more than a week away," Col Kittipong added.

## Sarasin Bridge to close for movie

By Janyaporn Morel

**PHUKET:** The Sarasin Bridge will be closed from midnight October 31 until midnight November 1 so that a key scene for a Thai-language feature film can be filmed on location.

The bridge will be closed so that the opening scene of a romantic comedy, given the in-production name *Valentine*, can be filmed.

The scene will involve a car accident, during which lead-actor Chakrit Yamnam and leading-lady Natthaweeranuch Thongmee, who starred in the popular Thai horror movie *Shutter*, meet.

Speaking at the Governor meet Press meeting on September 3, film director Napat Pavaputanont explained that she had applied for three days to film the car crash scene on Sarasin Bridge, but had been approved only one.

During the 24 hours the bridge will be closed, northbound traffic will join the carriageway onto Thepkrasattri Bridge in front of the JW Marriott Phuket & Spa and continue using the same road until the Tha Noon Mosque about three kilometers north of the bridge.

K. Napat, well known for her production of popular dog comedy *Ma Mah Si Kha Krub* (Mid Road Gang), said that filming will begin at a variety of locations around the island on September 14, including on Soi Bangla, at Wat Phra Thong in Thalang, Bangkok Hospital Phuket and Jungceylon.

Filming on the island is scheduled to wrap up on November 14.



## Ya bah cases on the rise

PHUKET: Monthly crime statistics released by Phuket Provincial Police for August showed a marked increase in arrests related to the use and sale of *ya bah* (methamphetamine), with 74 arrests and precisely 1,840.75 pills seized – 28 more arrests and 721 more pills seized than in July.

Six people were arrested for the use of “ice” (crystal methamphetamine); one less than the previous month.

A total of 2.56 kilograms of dried cannabis was seized in August, with 19 people arrested for possession and use of the illegal herb. There were also four arrests made for the use of *krathom*, a native plant that acts as a mild stimulant, with 510 leaves seized.

There were 14 arrests for inhalant abuse, but no arrests made for *ya E* (ecstasy) or *ya K* (ketamine) possession during the period.

Gambling was the top crime statistically, with 266 arrests made, and 15 arrests for the possession of unlicensed firearms.

There were 98 reports of theft, with 44 arrests made.

Three murders and six attempted murders were reported in August, along with nine cases of inflicting bodily harm.

In other crimes, 70 people were arrested for prostitution, and four arrests were made for distributing pornographic material.

## Animation expo at Central Festival

PHUKET: The Software Industry Promotion Agency (Sipa) is hosting the annual Phuket Animation Festival at Central Festival Phuket from September 14 to 16.

Up to 4,000 people are expected to attend the event, which will feature animation contests, exhibitions and seminars.

On show are animated short features entered for competition, with entries less than 60 seconds long on any topic and using any animation technique.

# Man arrested for Koh Kaew murder

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: Police have arrested and charged one of two suspects wanted for the beating murder of a disabled man in Koh Kaew on September 2.

Somyot Longlode, 22, was arrested in Phang Nga's Koh Yao District about 5 pm on September 6.

Case investigator Pol Lt Theeradet Jiraksa of Phuket City Police said that Somyot and a friend set upon Somchai Mingpijaan, 23, and left him unconscious on the side of Thepkasattri Rd about 8:30 pm.

K. Somchai, who was lame in one leg, died en route to hospital.

The exact cause of death has yet to be reported, but the victim had been badly bruised and suffered a gash to the side of his head, police said.

Lt Theeradet said that the dispute arose as Somyot and his friend were waiting outside the TMT mobile phone shop, where about five people were waiting because the owner had stepped out momentarily and locked the front door, he said.

Contrary to previous reports about the presence of scattered beer bottles after the attack, the group had not been drinking together and for the most part were complete strangers, he added.

Among the group was Somyot, who was waiting to redeem his mobile phone, and his friend. An argument broke out during which Somyot and his friend began yelling at another young man, also waiting for the store to reopen.

The cause of the argument is still unknown, Lt Theeradet said.

K. Somchai, sitting on a stone bench in front of the shop, tried to intervene. Well known in Koh Kaew, K. Somchai told the pair that they shouldn't try to throw their weight around in an area where they were strangers.

With that, Somchai and his friend left on a single motorbike before returning to throw a beer bottle at K. Somchai. They then set upon him with a length of wood. There were onlookers to the beating, but none intervened, Lt Theeradet added.

Police questioned the mobile phone shop

owner, who said K. Somyot had left an address on Koh Yao Yai on the documents relating to the pawning of the mobile phone. Somyot is a resident of Tambon Ao Leuk, Krabi, he explained.

Saying he didn't want to jeopardize the investigation, Lt Theeradet declined to give the name of the second suspect, but said that his identity was known and that a warrant for his arrest had been issued.

K. Somyot, who has been charged with premeditated murder, remains in custody at Phuket City Police Station.

On September 11, Lt Theeradet told the *Gazette*; “Somyot's relatives tried to post bail for him a few days ago but it will have to be denied until September 19 as we still have to complete our investigation.

“We are still waiting for witnesses to return from out of the province to identify him,” he said.

“The other suspect is a friend of Somyot and his address is on Koh Yao. So maybe he is still in hiding there now.”

A date for Somyot to appear in court has yet to be set, he added.

# Phuket Airport disaster drill hailed a ‘success’

By Anand Singh

PHUKET: The emergency response drill at Phuket International Airport (PIA) on September 8 was a “success”, PIA Director Sq Ldr Pornchai Eua-aree told the press after the event.

The drill started at 10 am with PIA air-traffic control guiding in to land a Thai Airways International Airbus A300-600 with simulated engine trouble.

Once safely stopped on the tarmac, the aircraft was quickly doused by fire trucks and firemen on the ground in heat-resistant firefighting suits.

Red fake smoke bellowed from the aircraft's engine and a simulated explosion boomed across the airport.

Able-bodied passengers were evacuated from the plane using the emergency chutes, while those simulating injuries were carried by rescue workers



Emergency rescue staff attend to a simulation ‘victim’ as rescue workers carry another ‘victim’ out of the plane.

to medical staff waiting under tents set up on the apron.

Rescue helicopters arrived to airlift “victims” to hospital.

Reporting response times, K. Pornchai said that ambulances from Thalang Hospital, Phuket

International Hospital, Bangkok Phuket Hospital and Patong Hospital all arrived on the scene within 15 minutes.

The exercise, which involved 14 agencies, was declared over around 10:30 am.

After the simulation, K. Pornchai gave a detailed account of the morning's proceedings.

Stressing the importance of such a drill, K. Pornchai also said that the number of passengers traveling through the airport this year has already surpassed five million.

He added that the number is expected to reach 5.5 million by the end of the year.

## Baby killers out on bail

PHUKET CITY: Two youths arrested for the grisly murder of a two-year-old girl and her nanny during a botched robbery attempt in Rassada on June 22 are back on the streets after having been bailed out of jail by relatives, the *Gazette* has learned.

The two teenagers, a 15-year-old student at Phuket Technical College (PTC) and his 17-year-old friend, confessed to slicing the throats of nanny Dang Panthip, 40, and two-year-old Nitchanart Phueng-rang, daughter of PTC teacher Narisorn Phueng-rang.

The child began to cry when the two youths entered K. Narisorn's home in Baan Kabout, Rassada, about 5 pm with the intent to rob.

To silence her and K. Dang, the two youths slit the throats of both before fleeing.

They were arrested a few hours later at Saphan Hin.

Phuket City Police Investigations Inspector Lt Col Somkid Boonrat on September 15 confirmed that the two youths had been released on bail.

The 17-year-old was employed delivering cooking-gas canisters at the time of the murder, he said.

Police are still collecting evidence to prosecute the pair for premeditated murder, charges to which they have already confessed, added Col Somkid.

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Deputy Prime Minister Paiboon Watthanasiritham (right) hands a mangrove sapling to a representative from one of the 30 local communities that stand to benefit from the planting of one million such trees over the next two years.

## One million mangrove trees pledged for Phuket

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: Phuket is due an injection of greenery with the news that a memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been signed by Deputy Prime Minister Paiboon Watthanasiritham stating that one million mangrove trees will be planted around the island between now and the end of 2009 as part of the nationwide *Yoo Dee Mee Suk* ("Good Life and Happiness") program.

Mangroves will be planted in tidal areas to help support aquatic ecosystems and provide food for consumption or trade by villagers.

Animals such as crabs and mussels have had their habitats threatened as development has taken its toll areas where mangrove forests once stood.

K. Paiboon, also minister of

Social Development and Human Security, was in Phuket September 6 to chair a meeting at Royal Phuket City Hotel attended by government representatives from Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi.

In March, the government approved the *Yoo Dee Mee Suk* project, which involves developing community-based strategies to protect natural resources.

Budgets were allocated to provinces according to population and average income.

Phuket received 63 million baht, while Phang Nga and Krabi were granted 70 million baht each.

In Phuket, 58.7 million baht has already been used on some 366 projects, while Phang Nga has spent 60.4 million baht and Krabi has used up all of its allotted budget.

# Capsized tour boat was 'not overloaded' – Marine Police

By Anand Singh and Sangkhae Leelanaporn

PHUKET: The ill-fated tour boat that capsized and sank in stormy seas off the Phi Phi Islands on September 4 was not overloaded at the time of the disaster, Krabi Marine Office Chief Suriya Kittimonthon told the *Gazette*.

The 17.4-meter vessel was not overcrowded and a vessel of that size would normally be rated for about 60 passengers, he said.

However, documents held by the boat's current owner, Suriyan Sroyson, list it with an operational passenger capacity of only 11 passengers, possibly for tax or business purposes, K. Suriya said.

Although K. Suriyan bought and paid for the boat from Jarunee Chotithammathorn earlier this year, there was no record of the transaction with the Marine Office, K. Suriya added.

K. Suriyan was escorted to Krabi Police Station on September 4, though it has yet to be confirmed whether he has been arrested or charged with a crime.

During the capsizing, Israeli tourist Nissim Lugasi, 26, drowned when he became trapped under the boat, and fellow Israeli tourist Adam Berdichevsky had his left foot mangled by the boat's propeller.



Israeli tourist Adam Berdichevsky, with his girlfriend Hila Neemany, in high spirits after facing the possibility that his left foot might have had to be amputated. He flew home to Israel for more surgery and therapy – with his foot attached.

K. Suriya also confirmed that the name of the vessel was *Dream Catcher*, not *Jor Kingfisher*, as was widely reported.

The Phuket-registered vessel was formerly called *Jor Kingfisher* but its name was changed after K. Suriyan bought the boat, he explained.

Also, the boat was not on a trip from Phuket when it sank, he said. Rather, it was carrying 55 passengers and four crew on a day trip from Phi Phi Don Island to Maya Beach, most likely on a snorkeling trip, he added.

Marine Police divers have located the sunken vessel, now lying at a depth of about 30 meters.

Mr Berdichevsky flew back to Israel on September 11 after a week of treatment at Bangkok Hospital Phuket.

Assistant Hospital Director Dr Sompoch Nipakanont said the latest in a series of operations to the mangled foot was performed on September 10, when Bangkok Hospital surgeons removed dead tissue and cleaned wounds.

Mr Berdichevsky, discharged from the hospital around noon the next day, was to fly back to Israel accompanied by his father and an Israeli orthopedist flown in to observe his treatment.

It was earlier feared that doctors might have to amputate all or part of the foot.

## One dead after double ride-by shootings

PHUKET CITY: Two ride-by shootings on the night of September 9 left one dead and two seriously injured in what police believe are gang-related incidents, said Pol Lt Col Somkid Boonratof Phuket City Police Station.

Chaiwat Jaemjan, 21, was riding his motorcycle on Damrong Rd when he was shot by one of about eight youths on motorcycles, said Col Somkid.

Friends rushed Chaiwat to Vachira Phuket Hospital, where he was admitted at 12:45 am, but died before dawn.

A second shooting at Saphan Hin later that night injured Surasak Tenwong, 19, and a 15-year-old boy as they congregated with friends by the road next to

Klong Bangyai behind Saphan Hin gymnasium.

The pair was admitted to Vachira Phuket Hospital at 1:15am.

Police believe the two shootings may be related as both incidents were carried out in the same way, with the weapon being fired from a gang of passing motorcycle riders.

Both shootings also involved the same kind of homemade gun, locally known as a *chapping*.

"We have a description of the culprit from witnesses of the second shooting," Col Somkid said.

"The offender fits the description of a criminal already on our blacklist.

"Although we are not sure

of his current whereabouts, we are confident he will be apprehended soon," he added.

The *chapping* is a homemade gun constructed with two tubes of metal that fire a bullet by using air pressure.

According to police, the *chapping* is favored by young criminals as it is a cheap, simple weapon to make, usually costing around 500 baht.

The bullet that killed K. Chaiwat had such a devastating effect as it was the kind that explodes on impact.

## Phuket City serial burglar nabbed

PHUKET CITY: After a series of unsolved home burglaries, Phuket City Police finally arrested 28-year-old Wirat Nookue at his home in Rassada Village 3 on September 8.

Stolen goods valued by police at 600,000 baht were recovered.

Phuket City Police Superintendent Pol Col Nos Svettalekha explained that Wirat, described as a "dealer in used goods", was spotted by police wearing an expensive amulet while eating noodles at a restaurant on Soi Kingkaew. The amulet matched the description of one that had been reported stolen. Police questioned Wirat, who apparently confessed to having stolen it.

Police escorted Wirat to his home, where a large cache of stolen goods was found and Wirat was placed under arrest.

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# Thailand declares spa

**S**outhern-spa operators, owners and managers were treated to a four-day seminar at The Metropole hotel August 21 to 24 to discuss how spa services in the region could be improved to keep pace with developments in the world spa market.

The Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion (OSMEP) and the Institute for Small and Medium Enterprises Development (ISMED) presented the event, which was attended by representatives of 57 spa operators from Phuket, Phang Nga, Krabi and Samui.

Local and international spa experts were on hand to lend their knowledge and advice to the seminar, which was a continuation of a previous Standard Operating Procedure course held earlier in Bangkok.

Thanan Apivantanaporn, ISMED project development expert, told the *Gazette* that the spa business in Thailand has high potential for bringing foreign revenue into the country, as the industry can capitalize on Thailand's natural appeal and well-developed tourism infrastructure.

"Our job is to help operators run their businesses easier, while gaining knowledge and learning how to promote their spas. The Thai spa industry has been booming over the past three to four years; we have about 400 to 500 registered spas in the country, while many unregistered spas operate in small hotels or shophouses," said K. Thanan.

Organizers hoped the seminar would promote new ideas to help the region's spas stand up to stiff competition from such regional spa rivals as Bali, Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines.

**W**hile Thailand is a well-established destination for spa tourism, many spa operators in Phuket are frustrated with the lack of development in the industry in recent years.

With so many new spas starting up each year, competition has been increasing – with service levels falling as a result.

A four-day seminar held in Phuket at the end of August examined the current state of the industry – and sought ways to improve it.

*Gazette* Senior Reporter Janyaporn Morel reports.

One of the most popular parts of the seminar was a panel discussion entitled, "Promoting Phuket as a major spa paradise in the eyes of foreign tourists." Several key speakers, including Mr Michael Loh, editorial director of *Spa Asia Magazine*, and Mr Andrew Jacka, president of Thai Spa Association, offered their thoughts. Other talks focused on money management and techniques for bringing Phuket up to speed with developments in other countries.

There are more than 200 spas in Phuket, about 50 of which are day spas located in the city. The rest are mostly hotel and resort spas, said K. Thanan.

For the industry to evolve to international-class level, spa operators must attain advanced knowledge in management and business planning, he added.

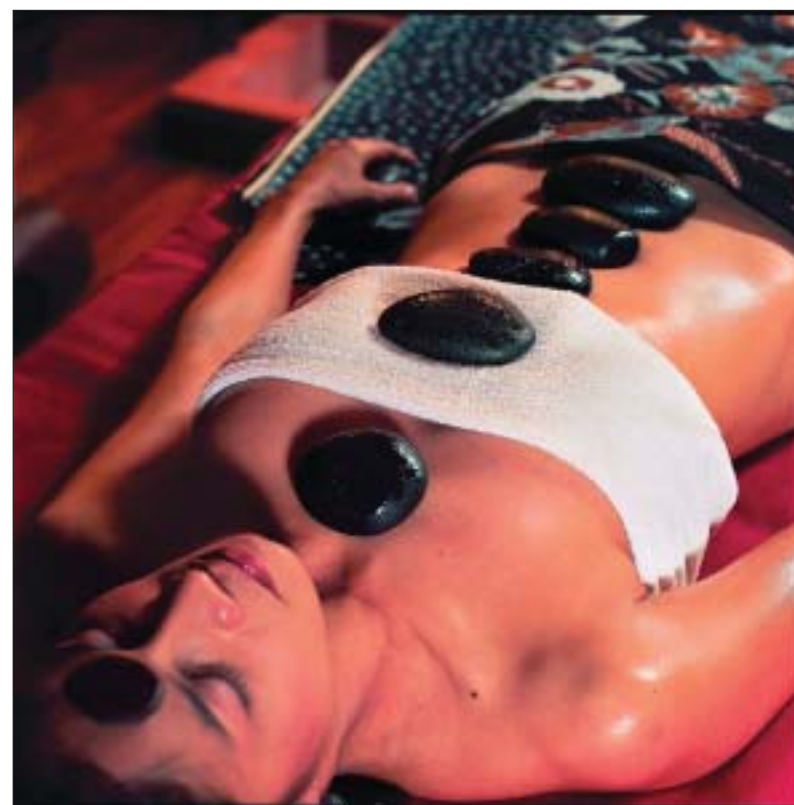
"We are holding this seminar all over the country. Phuket was the second seminar after the one in Bangkok. From our studies, we can see that spas in Thailand are facing economic strain due to internal problems in the country – as well as the large number of businesses starting up.

Some spas cannot compete – about 30% of all spas have already been forced to close. We want to help spas increase their efficiency and decrease costs," said K. Thanan.

With the current influx of Middle-Eastern tourists traveling to the island for spa vacations, the potential exists to make Phuket an international spa hub, he added.

There are several spas in Phuket that have the potential to be built into global brands and some 30 local spas will join the "Thai Spa to Global" project, organized by OSMEP and ISMED. The project aims to first improve the quality of participating spas, then prepare them to export franchises abroad, said K. Thanan.

"At the moment, local spas are only focusing on Thai massage and traditional services, while spa customers are after more varied and advanced services. We are still proud of Thai customs – the smile, the *wai*, Thai-style massage – but this is not enough to stand out in the new global market. Spa operators must upgrade their services to meet



**NEW DEVELOPMENTS:** The number of treatments offered at Thai spas has grown rapidly over the past few years to now range from the base foot massage to the likes of 'hot stone' massage, as offered by Baray Spa (pictured).

customers' requirements," said K. Thanan.

"We hope that we can inspire spa operators into a new way of thinking and generate some new ideas for the future," he added.

Wichien Juthamongkol, Phuket Spa Association Education Committee chair and director of the Royal Spa, told the *Gazette* that the spa industry in Thailand is continuing to grow, with a number of large spas, such as Cheraim and Sukko, opening in the past year.

"There have been a lot of new spas opening in Phuket with all the international chain hotels expanding here," he noted.

One hurdle facing spa

operators in Thailand is government tax, as spas are classified as "places of entertainment" and thus liable to excise tax rates considerably higher than in most other business categories.

"Through the Thai Spa Federation, we have tried to appeal to the government to address this problem. Spas are health-enhancing businesses, so spa operators should not have to pay excise tax as real entertainment places do."

Some spas in Phuket work with the Phuket Public Health Office (PPHO) to ensure all spas meet PPHO standards. About 60 spas currently comply, with more expected to follow, K. Wichien said.

One of the focal points of the seminar was a discussion of possible ways to develop new markets as the Asian market reaches saturation," said K. Wichien.

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# wars on global market



said.

"Many spa operators are

**GROWING PAINS? Patong Hospital's medical spa specializes in a holistic approach to wellness that includes both Eastern and Western treatments.**

Middle East, Russia and Europe and we have established links with travel agents there. We are now looking to do more direct booking on the Internet," he said.

Spa operators need support from the government in order to expand to new markets because the rapid growth in the number of spas locally has led to harsh competition though price reductions, with a subsequent downturn in quality, he said.

"Spa customers have high expectations as they are knowledgeable of spas and spa services. Improvement is needed urgently," said K. Wichien.

Speaking from his experience at Royal Spa, K. Wichien said that although the overall number of spa customers is increasing, day spas are finding it increasingly difficult to compete in the market with so many new spas opening. The future success for operations such as Royal Spa lies in exporting spa brands, which would involve using established management systems abroad, he

ready to expand. We have received requests from other countries, but we have to be careful where we choose to set up," he said.

With the rapid development of the spa industry comes demand for skilled personnel, but the lack of workers with sufficient knowledge of the industry is another problem, particularly at management level, said K. Wichien.

"We need experienced people to help us manage our spas. One of the main problems we have is human resources," said Ruchupon Nopkun, manager of Sukko Spa.

Chartayodom Martmuang, who manages Cheraim Spa, has faced similar staffing woes.

"We just don't have enough staff. We currently employ about 150 staff, which is still not enough."

Body & Mind Spa Owner Araya Limpanudom said, "While we have a number of staff who are very good in spa techniques,

the real issues are language skills and personal responsibility. We have to find ways to push our staff to improve in those areas as well."

Although K. Wichien is confident of Thailand's status as Asia's premier spa destination, he is concerned with the lack of development within the Thai industry over the past five to six years.

Ruchupon Nopkun, spa manager at Sukko Spa, also attended the seminar. Business has been good for Sukko Spa, with customer numbers steadily increasing, he said. The management predicts a 200% increase in turnover this year compared to 2006, despite currently running at just 40% occupancy.

"Although the spa business is growing in Thailand, the larger spas tend to benefit most from the trend. Smaller, locally-run spas that don't have their own brand power will eventually close," K. Ruchupon said.

"If the government wants to

support this industry, it should exempt spas from the excise department entertainment tax and set up a specific law relating to spa businesses, because at the moment we have to pay 11% tax.

"The government should also work to control spa standards to raise the level of quality throughout Thailand," added K. Ruchupon.

The brand of Sukko Spa will also be exported in the future. With eight branches in Phuket

and Samui, the first step for Sukko will be to expand across Thailand, with branches expected to open in Hua Hin, Samui and Khao Lak before year's end.

"Our chain has three divisions: Thai Spa, Sukko at Thai, and Sukko Spa. Business operators from other countries are asking us to open spa services in place such as Australia, Korea and Dubai, but we are not quite ready to operate outside of Thailand. At the moment we can just offer consultancy," said K. Ruchupon.

Cheraim Spa Manager Chartayodom Martmuang told the *Gazette* that since opening last year, Cheraim Spa has experienced significant growth.

Well-situated across from Central Festival Phuket, the facility during this low season currently caters to an average of about 160 guests daily, well less than its full capacity of 500.

Guests are almost all East Asians, with 60% Korean followed by Japanese (20%) and

Chinese (10%).

"We are a world-class spa and we can claim that we are the largest spa in Asia because the spa grounds cover 10 rai," said K. Chartayodom.

Cheraim Spa, one of the 30 spas to be included in the Thai Spa to Global project, is currently in negotiations to export the brand to China, where spa operators and owners have shown interest.

"We also have requests from hotels in Thailand that

want us to be a consultant or operate a spa for them, but we would like to build Cheraim Spa into the perfect model spa first," added K. Chartayodom.

Another spa joining the Thai Spa to Global Project is The Body & Mind Spa. Owner Araya Limpanudom said, "I have been expanding my business since the end of last year.

"This is not just to export the brand globally, but also to develop the level of service we offer. We have to continually improve."

Rather than competing with each other, K. Araya said that Phuket's spas should work together to improve the quality of the industry as whole and elevate Thailand's spas industry to a level at which they can compete more effectively in the global market.

See also *Spa Magic* on page 20 for information about the newly-owned 100-million-baht Saphaya Spa in Rawai.

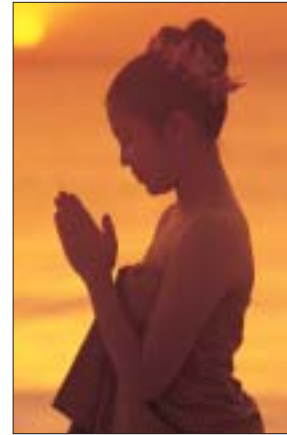


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## QUEER NEWS

# Fatal bus crash promises lottery luck

NAKHON RATCHASIMA: To most people, a fatal road accident would not be a sign of good fortune, but villagers in Dan Khun Thot district were driven to an outburst of lottery fever when they hoped that the remains of a bus that had crashed in the area would reveal lucky lottery numbers.

The phenomenon was sparked when a bus from Bangkok to Sri Chiang Mai and an 18-wheeler collided on August 27, killing four people. The remains of the bus were then placed outside the local police station.

However, local youngsters soon reported seeing ghosts in the vehicle, so the superintendent called in monks to appease the spirits so that they would rest in peace and not bother the living.

Word of the haunted bus spread and on August 31 villagers flocked to the police station to note the registration plate and look for other potentially-auspicious numbers on the bus, which they hoped would appear in the next day's monthly lottery draw.

Many people lit incense and some sprinkled powder over parts of the bus near to where the people who lost their lives had been sitting. Little success was reported though, with the only significant find coming from a young woman who said she had seen the number 58 appear clearly in the powder. The number was duly noted down.

Local gamblers told reporters that underground lottery operators had stopped accepting bets on numbers connected to the bus. Others were apparently taking bets but said they would only pay out half the usual winnings.

None of the government lottery ticket vendors who rushed to the scene had those numbers available either. They told reporters that someone had already bought all the tickets with the lucky figures on them.

Locals gamblers had to resort to telephoning relatives in other provinces, asking them to buy tickets on their behalf.

— Thai Rath

## Late flowering lust

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: Police in Thung Song arrested a 73-year-old monk on September 6 after receiving a tip-off from hotel staff that he had been in a hotel room with a woman for an inappropriately long time.

Officers from Thung Song District Police Station banged on the door of the sixth-floor room at the Thai Hotel for a considerable time before eventually being let in by the occupants.

They were greeted by Phra Jitayano and Thawon Rattanasat, 63 — both wearing only bath tow-

els. Phra Jitayano's saffron robes were visible in the wardrobe.

Phra Jitayano, who usually stays in Songkhla Province, said he was in Thung Song for a court appearance and was merely consulting Thawon about the trial.

Hotel staff, however, said the pair had been alone in the room for a long time and were doing "inappropriate" things.

Police agreed and called the Dean of Thung Song District. Jitayano was defrocked there and then. No further action was taken and the pair were released.



## TRASHING Phuket



This pile of trash lies in the vacant lot on the north side of the Tesco-Lotus intersection. The businesses on bypass road bordering the plot obviously found a much easier way to dispose of trash rather than having to pay for it to be collected. Times must be tough.

Adding to the natural beauty of the lagoon that is forming there, each time the heavens open and another Phuket wet season deluge falls, the trash floats off to other areas of the lot, making sure that its beauty can be appreciated from any angle.

## STAMPS

# 40 years of Asean

To commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) on August 8, Thailand Post has issued a set of 10 stamps. Each stamp will feature a famous architectural monument from each member country.

Included in the set are the Secretariat Building in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei; the Presidential Palace in Hanoi, Vietnam; the Malayan Railway Headquarters Building in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; and the Vimanmek Mansion in Bangkok.

The stamps, measuring 37.5 millimeters by 27mm, cost three baht each and can be bought at all 10 Thailand Post offices in Phuket.



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# Protest over TV snack ad ban

**A**uthorities will need to review advertising criteria on snacks as producers of children's programs may suffer heavily from revenue losses following the ban of some ads, leading TV producers and advertisers have claimed.

The ban, initiated by the Public Relations Department (PRD), started a three-month trial on September 1 and is intended to take full effect on January 1.

The regulation stipulates that all children's programs can allocate 12 minutes an hour for snack commercials. While 10 of the minutes are allowed for straightforward snack ads, the other two must focus on educating children on the right way to consume snacks. All cartoon characters and well-known presenters are banned from starring in ads that are aired during children's shows.

Witawat Jayapani, president of the Advertising Association of Thailand, said the ban would hurt the advertising industry, as spending on children's snack ads could drop by 10%, or 200 million baht from 2 billion baht last year. He said the government should consider some form of compensation.

The government should also realize that kids today spend less time watching TV – about one hour a day – and spend most of their time playing on the Internet, he said.

The government should educate adults on the danger of letting their children grow fat and remind them to read the ingredients on every packet of food their children eat, he added.

**Up in flames:** Hotels in Bangkok are stepping up safety measures in response to the blaze at the old Mandarin Hotel near Hua-lampong Station in Bangkok early on September 5 that injured at least 16 tourists.

It was the worst hotel blaze since the the Royal Jomtien Resort in Pattaya caught fire in 1997, killing 90. After the tragedy, two hotel executives were charged with neglecting fire-safety measures.

Thai Hotels Association (THA) president Chanin Dona-



**MONUMENTAL MOVE:** Deputy Interior Minister Banyat Jansaneh on September 5 presided over the dedication of a monument commemorating the passage by referendum of the "new" People's Constitution. Over 1,000 local residents attended the event, held in Kamphaeng Phet Province.

vanik said the THA planned to discuss the issue with its members soon. All hotels were being constantly urged to be more concerned about security, he said.

The THA is also calling on all hotels to be concerned about safety and train their staff to handle emergencies. One important measure to limit loss of life would be to install emergency fire masks in hotels, but many operators have not yet responded due to the high cost, he said.

**On the job:** The Labor Protection and Welfare Department is trying to reduce work-related deaths and injuries by 10% from the more-than-200,000 cases recorded last year, department chief Padungsak Thephasdin na Ayut-thaya has announced.

Citing figures from the Social Security Office's Workmen's Compensation Fund, Thailand's deaths and injuries rate due to occupational hazards are "rather high", K. Padungsak said.

The fund recorded 204,257 work-related accidents last year, in which 808 workers were killed, 21 were maimed, 3,413 lost an

organ and 200,015 had to take sick leave, he said.

K. Padungsak told business owners to comply with work-safety laws or risk punishment of up to one year in jail or a fine of 200,000 baht, or both.

Bangkok had the highest number of fatalities with 201 deaths last year, followed by Chon Buri (26), Samut Prakan (56), Pathum Thani (33) and Nakhon Pathom (32), he said.

Most of the victims of workplace accidents were in the 25-29 age group, followed by those in the 20-24 age group, he said.

Padungsak said businesses with between 200 and 499 workers reported the most work-related mishaps.

Vehicle accidents accounted for 45% of all fatal cases, followed by falls from high places and electrocution.

**Steep learning curve:** Airports of Thailand (AOT) is to instruct all flights to take off at a greater angle to reduce noise impact at Suvarnabhumi Airport, starting on November 13. Thai Airways International flights are reportedly already doing so.

Speaking at a Bangkok seminar, Environmental Quality Promotion Department Director-General Monthip Sriratana Tabukanon said the change, involving a flight maneuver known as NADP1, would result in engine noise being reduced by 1.5 to 3.0 air-weighted decibels (dBA).

A pilot, who asked to not be identified, said the NADP1-related solution would work only with the help of a noise-measuring device to make sure that all flights followed the new rule.

While minimizing noise, this maneuver meant higher fuel costs because it uses a lot of fuel, he added.

The new measure is part of AOT's response to a planned release of balloons by noise-affected neighbors to intentionally disrupt air traffic in the area as a form of protest.

**Ice, Ice, baby:** Residents of Trat are keen on giving their children nicknames in English and "Ice" is the favorite, Culture Minister Khunying Khaisri Sriaroon said.

The other popular English names include "May" and "Fluke", while "Ploy", "Nam" and "Sai" are the top Thai nicknames.

The Trat Cultural Office surveyed 7,244 children from kindergarten to third-graders and found that 53% of them had English nicknames and 44% Thai nicknames. About 1% had Korean, Japanese, Chinese or Arabic nicknames.

**Justice review:** The Justice Ministry is trying to verify whether five prisoners actually committed the crimes for which they were convicted, Justice Minister Charnchai Likhitjittha announced September 3.

The process is part of the ministry's project to free inmates or convicted prisoners of crimes they did not commit.

A total of 7,206 prisoners – of whom 3,943 are serving jail terms after final Supreme Court verdicts – have complained that they were innocent of the crimes they were jailed for.

K. Charnchai acknowledged several court verdicts implicating convicts because of their voluntary confessions to serve the terms for other people, or their lack of money to have quality lawyers represent them.

The five unidentified prisoners were chosen from 550 prisoners who could produce documentary evidence to prove their innocence after imprisonment.

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

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# Curfew lifted in three Yala districts

The military on September 12 announced plans to lift a curfew in three districts of southernmost Yala province, enabling residents to have free movement by night during the upcoming Ramadan month of fasting.

Fourth Army Region commander Lt Gen Wiroj Buacharoon on September 9 said that people in Yaha, Krong Pinang and Bannang Sata have not been allowed to leave their homes between 8 pm and 4 am since March 16, when the curfew went into effect.

The lifting of the restriction is meant to allow Muslims to perform prescribed religious activities during the holy month, Gen Wiroj said.

"If the situation improves after Ramadan, the military will lift the curfew indefinitely," he told reporters.

Local religious leaders praised the decision, saying the move showed that the authorities understood cultural conditions. The lifting would encourage Muslims in the three districts to support government efforts to quell violence there.

"It is the right decision. Muslims will learn that authorities have a better understanding about their condition," said Nimu Makajeh, former deputy chairman of Yala province's Islamic Committee.

During Ramadan, Muslims must leave their homes nightly to perform a religious services in mosques after 9 pm, another religious leader explained.

The curfew suspension would not adversely affect security measures put in place to maintain order in the region, he said.

The three districts were placed under curfew as a security measure to contain violence after officials found militants were conducting fierce operations there.

Besides the curfew, authorities also launched "Operation

South Protection", aimed at arresting suspects responsible for violence in the region.

**Brutal killing.** A young woman was stabbed to death in a frenzied attack in her Trang apartment in the early hours of September 7. Police, suspecting the killer to be an ex-boyfriend, arrested one suspect but have yet to release his name.

The victim, 27-year-old Buranima Saetan, was found by a neighbor who noticed her apartment door was open and the light in the apartment was on. The neighbor reported to police that K. Buranima was still alive, moaning for help in a pool of her own blood.

Police led by Trang Muang District Police Superintendent Col Nukon Kraithong rushed to the scene, but the victim had died by the time they had arrived.

Police reported that K. Buranima had been stabbed 26 times in the chest and back. A trail of bloody footprints, presumed to be those of the killer, led out of the apartment. The door had marks indicating it had been forced open.

K. Buranima, who had recently broken up with her boyfriend, rented out the room at the Yao Tak apartments just two days before her murder.

A police source revealed that a suspect arrested in the case was found in possession of a knife, believed to have been the murder weapon. Police refused to release further details, saying that it could jeopardize the investigation.

**Case cracked.** Police in Surat Thani arrested a woman on September 8 for the killing of a woman during a home robbery in Phang Nga early this year. The lead for the arrest came following the arrest of the suspect's



Bomb disposal officers use a robot to collect the remains of a bomb hidden under a pickup truck parked outside Yala Provincial Hall on September 5. The bomb failed to detonate properly, causing only a small explosion that resulted in no injuries.

husband, who helped her with the robbery but was later convicted of attempting to murder her using a gun stolen in the heist.

Jiraphon Suthimat, 28, a native of Nakon Sri Thammarat's Thung Yai district, was lured to a hotel in Surat Thani by police, where they arrested her. Her husband, 49-year-old Uthit Saenthawisuk, from neighboring Thung Song district, was already being held in Surat Thani Provincial Prison for the attempted murder of Jiraphon on February 10 this year.

Jiraphon and Uthit broke into the home of Sunee Phutong and her partially-paralyzed husband Arun Phutong, owner of a large rubber plantation, in January.

K. Sunee was shot dead and K. Arun seriously injured in the attack, during which the couple made off with a number

of valuables – including a .38-caliber revolver.

Following Uthit's arrest for shooting Jiraphon, police from Surat Thani's Khiri Rat Nikhom District seized the .38 revolver used in the attack and found that it was registered to K. Arun and had been placed on a list of missing firearms.

They contacted Phang Nga Muang District Police, who were investigating the attack on the Phutongs. Lt Col Suang Pinnin, Deputy Superintendent of Phang Nga Muang District Police Station, then traveled to Surat Thani to question Uthit in Surat Thani Provincial Prison.

Under questioning, Uthit admitted that he and Jiraphon had killed K. Sunee and agreed to give Jiraphon's phone number to Col Suang, who then phoned Jiraphon, pretending to be a soldier from Thung Song.

He somehow persuaded Jiraphon that they used to know each other and asked her to meet him at the Banjong Hotel in Surat Thani. When she arrived she was promptly placed under arrest. She also confessed to the killing and was charged with robbery causing death, police said.

Col Suang said that the eight-month case can now finally be closed. Jiraphon had a history of crime, previously having taken part in the burglary of a house in her native Thung Yai district, he said.

**Insurgent round up.** A 200-strong special security task force surrounded Tambon Tohdeng in Narathiwat's Sungai Padi district and took 13 people for questioning under the Emergency Law on September 8.

Two are believed to be active members of the new generation of insurgents, a source said.

One man with a warrant issued for his arrest allegedly fled before the authorities arrived.

A search of 70 homes in Tohdeng turned up one shotgun, an unspecified number of ammunition rounds and one kilogram of fertilizer that could be used to make bombs.

In Yala, Walitha Machai, 30, a rubber tapper in Tambon Banang Sta, was shot dead at close range. Her body was found on the side of the road along with her motorbike.

In Haad Yai, Army chief General Sonthi Boonyaratglin urged Islamic leaders from 14 southern provinces to redouble efforts to solve the problems in the three southernmost provinces of Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat, as well as the Malay-speaking districts of Songkhla.

Suggesting that a long-term solution was crucial to permanent peace, Islamic Committee Chairman Waeduramae Mahmingji called on the government to improve education in the region.

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

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# New international terminal opens

**B**angkok Airways' new multi-million baht international terminal at Samui Airport is now open and running at full capacity as of September 1.

The new portion of the airport covers a total area of 73,000 square meters after the opening of four additional domestic terminals and two new international terminals, bringing the airport's 500-million-baht face lift near to completion.

The international terminal complex has a boutique retail shopping area, while the new terminals were designed to be light and airy, maintaining the airports' tropical theme.

Thatched roofs and coconut-trunk columns are used within the structure, lending it an atmosphere that blends with the environment and gives the airport a unique feel.

Airline executives have stated that they are also moving ahead with plans to add a 60-room boutique hotel to the airport.

"The airport on Samui is a

welcome sight. We've been here many times and it's always a pleasure to step off the plane into the tropical setting of the airport. It's very special as far as airports go," said one visitor to the island.

Since opening in 1989, the airport has seen a dramatic increase in the volume of passengers traveling to Samui. Executives for Bangkok Airways claim that they have had to add the terminals to keep up with growing demand.

In addition to its aesthetic qualities, the airport is now capable of handling 16,000 passengers a day – more than four times its previous capacity.

The airport has given the island a boost in popularity since it was built, but has also been criticized for the monopoly that owners Bangkok Airways maintain over other carriers. Many residents and passengers have voiced complaints over the past year, claiming that fare increases, taxes and a lack of competition have made air travel to and from the island too expensive.

Asked about the new addi-



## FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND

By Max Rogers



The new terminal at Samui Airport quadruples the facility's passenger throughput capacity.

tion to the airport, one visitor said, "It's in keeping with the island theme. However, it's lost a bit of its charm due to the grander style and size. I still think it's one of the more quirky airports I've seen."

Bangkok Airways recently added many new flights to its al-

ready busy schedule, making improvements to the airport's infrastructure a necessity. More flights are expected to be added over the coming months. The official opening of the airport is set for January 2008.

**Samui tops beach list.** One of

Samui's quieter shores has managed to make the shortlist of top beaches in Asia, according to a survey by Australia's *Herald Sun* newspaper.

The Australian paper printed a list of what it believes to be Asia's top coastal secrets, giving Mae Nam Beach the ninth spot out of 10. This, it claims, is due to the beach's peaceful location.

Mae Nam Beach, located on the northern coast of the island, has become more popular in recent years, but still maintains its beauty, with less development and its palm-lined shores.

"We have stayed at many places around the island and we keep coming back to Mae Nam. It's far less crowded here with good restaurants and great beaches. We wouldn't want to stay anywhere else," said Lewis Carter, a British national holidaying at Mae Nam.

Koh Adang, about 40 kilometers west of Koh Tarutao in Satun province, made the number two spot, with Saud Beach from the Philippines topping the list.

An irony is that tourism is expected to increase on this stretch of beach as a result of the rating, which is likely to leave its quiet, tranquil reputation as a thing of the past.

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By Anand Singh

**Y**ogic practices date back thousands of years but are still popular today as a healthy release from hectic modern lifestyles. A new wellness center run by yoga expert Dr Abhishek Agrawal offers yoga courses for both adults and children.

An Indian national, Dr Agrawal is 24 years old and one of the few yoga experts in Phuket holding a bachelor's degree in his field of expertise – his being a Naturopathy and Yogic Sciences degree from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences in Bangalore.

He also has a post-graduate diploma in wellness management, qualifying him to specialize in natural treatments of illnesses with wellness programs such as Ayurvedic medicine and Yoga.

Dr Agrawal came to Thailand a year ago, initially practicing naturopathy at the Banyan Tree Resort and Spa. He recently opened his first yoga practice, Abbyssan Yoga and Wellness Center, near Bang Tao Beach. "People in Phuket are generally not very health conscious, and even if they do want to lead a healthy lifestyle they do not always receive appropriate information or advice," he told the *Gazette*.

He explained that naturopathy, when practiced in spas is for relaxation and medical purposes.

Although the center welcomes people from all age groups and abilities, Dr Agrawal is most enthusiastic about his group of young students in the "Kid's Yoga" program.

"Yoga is actually for everyone, even though it is unusual to see children practicing it. A common misconception is that yoga involves only practicing poses and breathing techniques. However, yoga goes much further than that and can be introduced to young children in fun ways that interest them," he explained.

"I make sure the kids enjoy the yoga with fun and entertaining poses, accompanied by some jokes and storytelling that explain where the poses came from and why they are named in that way. Many yoga poses are named after animals with interesting and entertaining stories behind them," he added.

Dr Agrawal teaches up to

20 children per class during his yoga session to ensure the kids gain maximum benefits. However, he will still teach according to schedule even if only one child is enrolled in the session.

Kids classes are held in groups of three or four to promote healthy competition among them as they try to out do each other with the different poses.

"If one of the group members can do a pose, then the rest will try until they can do it themselves. It is healthy competition that will better the child, plus they will also get to meet other children and make friends. The whole point of the activity is to make it fun and beneficial for them," he said.

Dr Agrawal said that children can start practicing yoga from the age of six and that it will improve their flexibility in all joints and reduce joint friction, joint

damage and muscle spasm whilst performing other physical activities. "Yoga does not make a child exhausted after practicing it. On the contrary, it makes them more

energetic and attentive and is very beneficial for the child's overall body development," he said.

"There are many physical benefits to be gained from

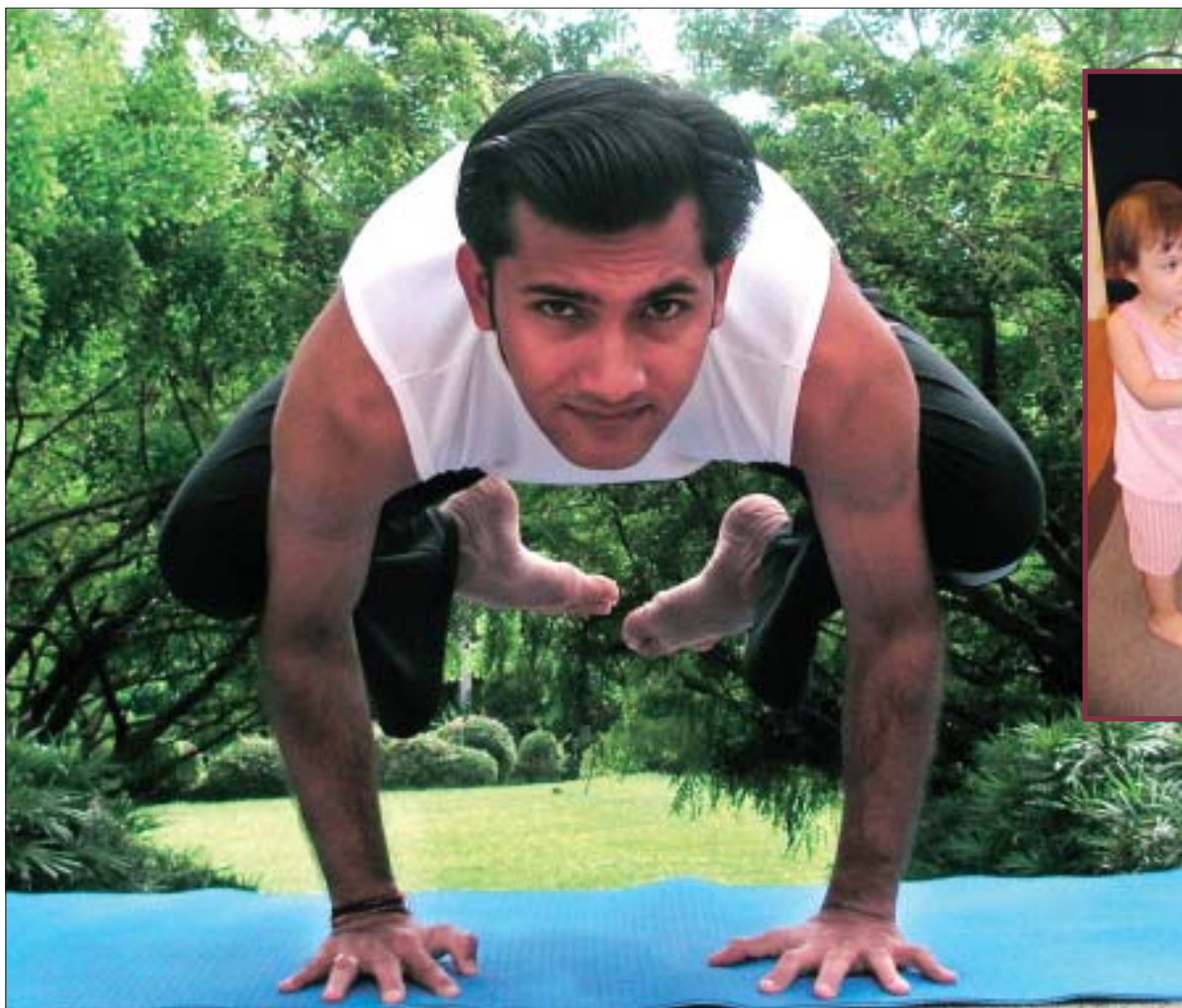
practicing yoga. But most important of all, yoga aims at developing the body and mind together. The most important benefit for children practicing yoga is that they improve their concentration. They know to balance themselves and to control their minds," Dr Agrawal explained.

"It is actually not very hard to teach yoga to children. If you show them a funny pose that they like, they will try to imitate it. They might not know exactly what they are doing, but they are definitely gaining the benefits from it," he added.

Abbyssan Yoga and Wellness Center is near Bang Tao Beach. Children may enroll for 10 day programs, spread over two to three weeks. For more information call Dr Agrawal at 083-1070277 or visit the website [www.abbyssan.com](http://www.abbyssan.com)

# PLAYFUL POSING

## *Just what the doctor ordered*



**EASY AS ABC:** A young member of Abbyssan Yoga and Wellness Center has fun with some simple yoga poses demonstrated by natural wellness guru Dr Abhishek Agrawal.



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# Confessions of a Phuket tour guide

**P**aithoon "Too" Monpanthong, 41, became a tour guide simply out of love for tourism work. "I also thought it might be fun to be a tour guide," she said. "You get to visit many places and travel around with the tourists. The job also gives you quite a lot of independence. You can manage your own time."

Although she quit being a tour guide for eight years, K. Too remembers her 13-year stint fondly, although it wasn't always an easy ride.

"Being who I am and working in this business is tough. It was difficult because of the way I am. I had to stand up and be myself and be clear to the world that I would not change myself."

"It's easier for a woman to do this kind of work because when a woman does something it looks cute and people are more accepting. To be a man working as a tour guide is more difficult, but for me it is the most difficult of all," said K. Too.

"When I started working as a tour guide, it was quite hard for me because I did not have a university degree in tourism, so my knowledge in the field was limited."

"The advantage I had in the job was that I could communicate well with tourists in English and French. Other than that, I had to do a lot of reading to understand how the industry worked," she explained.

Working as Paithoon in the tourism industry, she decided to call herself "Too" as a stage name for her work. When dealing with French tour groups, she went by the name "Dou Dou" as it is easier for French people to pronounce, she said.

Differences in the industry between now and 13 years ago highlight some of the difficulties K. Too has faced. "The industry was different back when I first joined. Guides did not receive the adequate training that they do today."

"If you wanted to make sure you were good at what you were doing, you had to go out there and learn it by yourself, including getting the facts and figures about places to show tourists so that you could correctly explain things to them," she said.

K. Too was often enlisted

She's had a multi-award-winning, 13-year career. She's proficient in French language and holds a master's degree in business administration from Prince of Songkla University, Phuket campus.

She's a veteran on the Phuket scene. She's faced adversity, triumph and despair, but this isn't a superwoman – Paithoon "Too" Monpanthong is a tour guide with a transgender twist.

*Gazette* chief reporter Sangkhae Leelanapaporn and Anand Singh report on the career of the ladyboy hailed as Phuket's top tour guide.



**GLORY BE:** Paithoon "Too" Monpanthong (left) was honored at the Thailand Tourism Awards in 2002 with three prestigious awards, including the Award for Excellence in tour guiding. Pictured above with K. Too at the awards ceremony then-Governor of Phuket Pongpayome Vasaputi (right).

by the Tourism Authority of Thailand to be a guide for VIPs, including ambassadors, government ministers and beauty queens.

"I always did the very best I could because I was given the chance to show my ability. As I had to work harder than other people because of the way I am, when my feedback was good it felt at last like nobody wanted to change me and I could be myself," said K. Too.

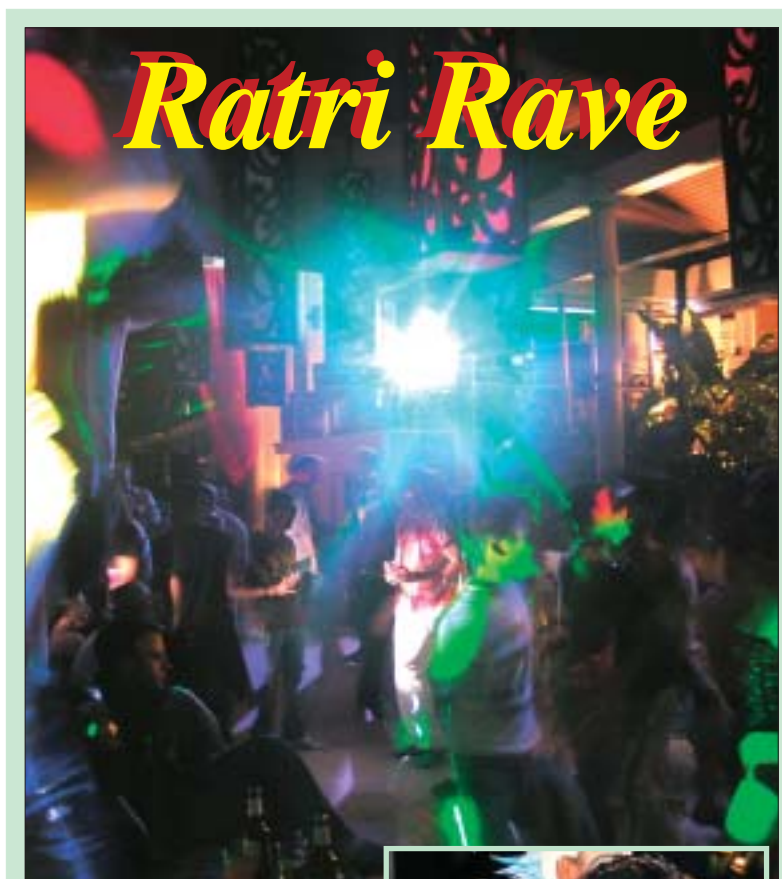
"One time I was leading a tour of about 40 tourists on a boat to Phang Nga Bay. After a while, the engine had a problem and we got stuck in the middle of the bay. I tried to contact

many people to come and help us, but in the end we had to wait for about two hours."

"The people on the boat were so angry with me, and I had to take all the blame on behalf of the travel agent. I told everybody that I was sorry, but I was still their tour guide and I had to do my best for them," she recalled.

"I told them that if they weren't happy with my service, they could ask for a refund at the end of the tour. In the end, nobody asked for a refund and so many people came to thank me for doing a good job that I almost cried," she added.

Striving to ensure that each



Phuket's pretty people get high with jazz and disco tunes at the Avalon party on August 25 to celebrate the reopening of Ratri Jazztauriant in Kata. Revelers enjoyed wild entertainment from local jazz and cabaret artists and then danced the night away with club vibes from international DJs.



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**Paithoon "Too" Monpanthong has had an illustrious career working as a tour guide in Phuket. Though she faced many trials, K. Too achieved great success in her chosen profession.**

member of a tour group received an unforgettable trip was not always easy, particularly when trying to service groups of up to 200 people, as K. Too had to do sometimes. A shortage of tour guides meant that K. Too had to prove her standards of service to herself and to her clients.

Currently working at Sea Tours as assistant operations manager, K. Too's services are so in demand that she is often invited to give seminars on tourism at hotels and to deliver lectures at universities, such as Rajabhat and Prince of Songkla.

"It's because of who I am that I have been given the chance now to be a teacher at universities and be a speaker to the general public. I love to teach students because I want to see them go on to be good guides and good hosts in Phuket."

"Many people gave me the chance to show my ability, and that's why I want to give something back to the public," she added.

Fluent in English, K. Too is also strong in her French-language skills. Learning French since high school, K. Too studied French for her bachelor's degree at Prince of Songkla University, Pattani campus.

Language skills have helped her considerably throughout her career as a guide and are part of the reason why she has achieved nationwide fame.

K. Too was honored at the Thailand Tourism Awards in 2002 when she won the Award for Excellence in tour guiding,

the Award for Outstanding Performance in Foreign Languages for her French-language skills, and the Award for Outstanding Performance as a Professional Guide in the Southern Thailand category.

"I would do everything I could to look after my clients," said K. Too. "For example, sometimes tourists would get sick. In that case, I had to help them every way I could to make sure they were not left to deal with it themselves."

"I was born to be a tour guide," mused K. Too. "It's in my blood. My career was fun and I enjoyed it to the fullest. I want people, especially young people, to know the importance of what a tour guide does."

"When tourists come from abroad, many of them spend most of their time with a tour guide. The guide will go everywhere with them. As a guide, because you are spending so much time with a group, you have to convey a good impression of Thailand."

"If my clients left the bus and were satisfied with the service I delivered, then I would feel a rejuvenated sense of motivation each time. I tried to make that happen with every group I serviced."

K. Too said her plans for the future include raising funds needed for her to study a doctorate in hospitality and tourism in Bangkok, driven by her love for guiding and her desire to teach what she has learned to other people.

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**Jason Beaven (resort manager)**

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## This week



**SQUARED AWAY:** Phuket Square Co Ltd President Suchad Chiaranussati (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Vice-President Prawich Janyasittikul (center) present a bouquet to Robinson Department Stores President Preecha Ekkunagul (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) to celebrate the opening of the new Robinson branch at Jungceylon, Patong.



**HAN'S UP:** Korean Ambassador Han Tae Kyu (center) and his wife Han Hae Sook (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) are welcomed to the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa by Owner Representative Maitree Narukatpichai (left), GM John Kidd (right) and his wife Piljo Jung Kidd during the Ambassador's visit to Phuket August 29 to 31.



**LOFTY BALL:** Thailand's top tennis star Paradorn 'Ball' Srichaphan meets Jean-Pierre Naudts and Benedicte Naudts, owners-operators of the Baan Yin Dee Lofts in Patong, during his recent visit to the boutique resort.



**GRACI:** Andrew Sawatdipakdi, GM of Kata Beach Resort, presents a plaque to Asia Web Direct (AWD) Chairman Neil Cummings (in white shirt) at a "Thank you" dinner party for AWD staff at Peppino's Italian Restaurant at Kata Beach Resort on August 31.



**VILLAGE PEOPLE:** Andaman Artists Group President Apinan Towannakasame (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) meets the 17 artists displaying their works at Phuket Public Library on Phuket Rd, Phuket City, during the opening of the Rawai Art Village exhibition on September 3. The exhibition runs until September 27.



**MOEVEN' ON UP:** Moevenpick Residence Sales Manager Peter Notely (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) joins sales agents Chaya Mosa (right) from Phuketrentals.com, Phuket Realty Director Tara Sudlow (center) and friends at a party at the Wildfire Terrace at Moevenpick Resort and Spa on August 31. The party was held to re-introduce the new Residence sales team from Green Heritage to agents.



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The other day I noticed that my buddy Fardley Nerdwell was nursing a black eye. "What happened, Fard?" I inquired.

"Ah," Fardley sighed. "I had an unfortunate conflict with Thai culture."

"Looks like you lost," I observed.

"We always do," Fardley rejoined sadly. "Every time a farang comes up against the mighty citadel of Thai culture, he loses. And that's natural. Thai culture is bigger than we are."

"What precise aspect of Thai culture did you foolishly take on?" I asked.

"The calendar," he replied. And he told the following tale.

Around Chinese New Year, Fardley started taking an interest in Chinese astrology. His girlfriend, Noy, had told him she was born on January 28, 1976, in the year of the dragon.

Knowing that Chinese astrology predicts your character based on the year you were born, Fardley went online to find out what it had to say about dragons and Noy.

The year 1976 turned out to be the year of the fire dragon. Fire was the right element for Noy, all right, Fardley mused. And she was supposed to be stubborn, passionate, excitable and brave.

Stubborn? Fardley chuckled. Yes, for sure. If there was one word that summed Noy up,

# FLAMING DRAGON, HIDDEN RABBIT



it was stubborn.

Passionate and excitable? Well, she was sure passionate and excitable about Academy Fantasia and her favorite soap operas on TV. Brave? Certainly not when confronted by a mouse or watching ghost movies.

Fire dragons were noted for their feisty personalities. That summed up Noy exactly, Fardley thought.

They breathed vigor and power. That was Noy, too, especially on the evenings when Fardley would come home from work exhausted and she'd drag

him out for an all-night dance marathon at the disco.

Then Fardley came to the sentence that convinced him of the utter infallibility of Chinese astrology. "Until they [fire dragons] control their spending habits, money will just go flying in the wind." How true, Fardley thought. And not just any money. His money.

Fardley was impressed. Chinese astrology had Noy all figured out.

Then he looked closer and made a shocking discovery. Noy had been born on January 28. But in 1976, January 28 came at the end of the year of the wood rabbit. The year of the dragon didn't begin until January 31, three days later.

Woah! Noy wasn't a fire dragon after all. She was nothing but a lousy wood rabbit! Horrified, Fardley checked the horoscope for the wood rabbit.

He was even more horrified after he read it. None of it applied to Noy.

Wood rabbits were cautious and conservative, with a good head for business. Fardley almost fell out of his chair laughing. They rarely lost their tempers. Waaahhh! They loved to frequent bookstores and libraries.

Right, sure. Noy cherished a firm belief that if a book was any good, it would be on DVD.

Wood rabbits had only one characteristic that applied to Noy: they needed to find a good financial advisor. That was true but it wouldn't do any good. Fardley couldn't count the number of times he'd tried to give Noy financial advice and she'd flounced out in a huff.

Chinese astrology had failed, Fardley decided. It would have had Noy down pretty close if she'd been a fire dragon, but she wasn't. She was nothing but a crummy wood rabbit.

When Fardley broke the news to Noy, she flew into a rage. She dug a sheaf of yellowed papers out of her bureau drawer and flung it in Fardley's face.

The papers contained writing and diagrams and esoteric inscriptions in Thai and Khmer. She screamed in rapid-fire Thai that when she was born her father had taken her to the most famous monk in Buri Ram to have her fortune told and he had decreed that she was a dragon.

"This is Thailand!" she shrieked. "Not China! Thai year not same Chinese year! Noy is Thai dragon, not Chinese rabbit!" Then she socked him.

That's how Fardley got the black eye. It's also how he discovered that Thai culture has certain differences from Chinese culture which are not to be sneezed at.

And when he reflected on Noy's passion and excitability, her feistiness, vigor and the power of her punch, he ruefully concluded that she had to be a dragon after all.

S. Tsow, who was born in the year of the cockroach, can be flamed at stsow@yahoo.com



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By Matt Crook

A small crowd began to form at the Port Arena, Jungceylon, about 6:30 pm. Hip hop beats were blaring over a PA system as someone had put on a CD of mild rap cover versions of famous songs. People were gathering in anticipation of Phuket DJ Day, an island DJ contest scheduled to take place on the evening of September 1.

Those who had come to watch the competition were treated to Jungceylon's lengthy water show beforehand. At about 7:30 pm, after the story of Phuket's largest shopping mall and the island it sits on had been told, a lively hostess bounced onto the stage and went through the formalities of welcoming everyone to the event, making the crowd feel a little apprehensive about her unbound enthusiasm.

The press information for this event had suggested that it was to be a scratch-DJ battle – think Cutmaster Swift in the DMC competitions of the '80s – but there were neither turntables nor DJs with bags of vinyl on stage.

Instead, the hostess called forth a motley crew of six fellows, all wearing matching pink-on-white Jungceylon T-shirts, and lambasted them with questions, shooting their street-cred right out of the sky.

Before the main event got underway, as with many events in Thailand, there was to be a dancing show involving loosely-choreographed children. The Phuket Dancers Workshop put on a grand performance, with the children accompanied by real hip hop dancers and break dancers, some of who could really bust moves, such as flaring and one-handed-handstand freezes.

The crowd started to forget that it had come to see a DJ contest, but after the dancers had dispersed, DJ Jin was drawn to perform the first of six half-hour



**ABOVE: DJ Bee tweaks the filters during his half-hour set in a bid to impress the judges.**

**RIGHT: Despite having such a great mass of hair, 'Fro Bro' DJ Eddy was able to see the xylophone in front of him to put on an impressive show for the crowd.**



sets. The DJs to follow DJ Jin were DJ Bee, DJ Eddy, DJ Q, DJ Touch and DJ Nu, all locals and all itching to get their hands on the 30,000-baht first prize.

It was early on a Saturday night, but 32-year-old DJ Jin thumped out some aggressive, chunky 4/4 beats, opening with a track sampling Chuck Roberts' legendary "In the beginning there was Jack..." speech. Though his mixing was a little abrupt, Jin kept his set technical and deep enough to almost instill feelings of being in a night-

club, which begged the question, "Why wasn't this contest held in a nightclub?"

The crowd responded minimally but enjoyed Jin's set nonetheless. At five minutes to go, a pretty girl pranced across the stage with a sign letting everybody know the time remaining, as you would see at a boxing match.

DJ Bee was next to step up to the CD decks, and he spun a set similar to Jin's, although it was a touch more polished. The mixing flowed and the atmosphere started to liven up, partly thanks to the bottles of beer being consumed at the outdoor arena.

Then DJ Eddy stepped up.

You could tell something was going to happen right away because of the enormous ovation Eddy received from the fan club he had brought with him. This, coupled with his mad-scientist-cum-Sideshow-Bob hairstyle signaled that the crowd was in for a treat.

Twenty-two-year-old DJ Eddy began his set calmly, pressing play on the CD decks and unleashing his tribal beats onto an unsuspecting audience. Then the real show began, as Eddy started jumping up and down and tossing his loosely connected limbs to the sky in maniacal fashion.

The crowd sprang to life. The breakdancers started dancing again, a girl overcome by the music began gyrating in front of

the decks and people started screaming and jumping up and down.

DJ Eddy put his headphones down and bounced his way to the front of the stage, where he stayed for about five minutes, dancing and bopping and waving his arms in the air.

Eddy's first track almost ran out before he mixed in his second. Then followed the familiar routine: mix, dance, wave... mix, dance, wave... and so on. At one point, Eddy pulled out a pair of cymbals and clanged them together to his music, but his piece de resistance was to pull out a ranard ek – the Thai traditional xylophone – and clunk a few notes out in time to the melodies gushing out the PA system. More of a showman than a DJ, Eddy was possibly the most energetic person in Patong that night.

As his set drew to a close, a dance floor had formed. After a brief interlude, the remaining three DJs staked their claims for the coveted title, but there was to be no topping DJ Eddy's performance. Silk Bar residents DJ Q and DJ Touch tried their best and DJ Nu put in a solid effort, but the night belonged to one man only.

The judges didn't need long to decide that it should be DJ Eddy walking away with the top prize and a pair of Pioneer headphones, much to the crowd's approval. Eddy has been a DJ for four years and is a resident at Club Lime, next to Rock City on the beach road in Patong.

Originally from Chiang Mai, Eddy has lived in Phuket for two years. "I don't have any big plans for now but I will keep trying to be a better DJ. I want people to open their minds to different styles of music. I was hoping to get some prizes even if I didn't win, so I was really happy to be the winner," Eddy told the *Gazette*.

DJ Q was the runner-up, with DJ Touch taking third place. The top three DJs have now earned automatic entry into round two of the Pioneer Pro DJ Digital Battle, to be held in Bangkok next year.

*Catch DJ Eddy at Club Lime every night from 10 pm. Anybody interested in being a DJ should check out newly-opened DJ store Real Sound Thailand at 23/12 Moo 3, Chao Fa East Rd. Tel: 076-264675. Website: [www.realsoundthailand.com](http://www.realsoundthailand.com)*

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# Seeking the perfect flat screen

By Jean-Baptiste Piggin, dpa

A new crop of acronyms is about to hit the flat-panel screen business as manufacturers seek ways to convince shoppers that television A contains snazzier technology than television B.

The screens are getting better all the time at depicting fast motion – without leaving brief ghostly trails.

That means frequent model changes and this confuses even salespeople. The fanciful names of all these picture-improving software refinements often leave customers clueless as to what has been changed.

Both LCD and plasma screens have more pixels – the dots making up the picture – than traditional cathode-ray-tube televisions, which means regular TV transmissions have to be reprocessed into a larger number of pixels.

The software makes the contours of the resulting picture less zig-zaggy.

A key new technology in making motion smoother is the 100-hertz refresh rate, which throws up 100 pictures a second, double the rate of 50-hertz PAL television transmissions used in many countries of the world.

Inserting an extra, in-between image faster than the eye can see takes away flicker effects and gives the impression of a steadier, sharper picture.

Liquid crystal displays (LCDs) far outsell plasma panels in Europe these days thanks to their lower price.

Plasma screens were once the only economic choice for shoppers wanting large-sized displays, with LCD televisions much smaller. Back in 2001, there was amazement when Sharp produced the first 32-inch LCD.

These days, Sharp is producing panels with a diagonal measurement of 108 inches (2.74 meters) at its factory in Kameyama, Japan, and cutting up those panels to make four or more regular-sized televisions.

The biggest plasma display offered by top maker, Panasonic measures 103 inches on the diagonal, and even Panasonic ac-



As flat-screen TVs become the new household 'must have', manufacturers are racing to come up with new technology that delivers faster, clearer images.

cepts that the market favors LCDs.

The company is to begin selling a 37-inch LCD in its Viera range from next month in Japan.

Samsung of South Korea, which makes both types of flat panel, affirms that it will stick to the two-pronged approach. A European executive at Samsung, Michael Kurpiers, said, "We are not going to abandon the plasmas."

LCDs have largely got rid of their motion trails, their formerly dull colors and their artifacts, those brief rectangular splotches that indicate that the processor has lost a portion of the picture.

Most screens sold in Eu-

rope carry a "HD ready" label indicating that the panel can handle an incoming high-definition signal, though it will not actually display this in high definition.

Achieving the latter earns the higher-priced products a designation as "Full HD", meaning they have images made up of 1,080 horizontal lines, rather than the 720 lines of "HD ready".

A Full HD logo, certifying that a display can show every single line of the original image, was unveiled by Brussels-based European Information, Communications and Consumer Electronics Technology Industry Association (EICTA) at the Internationale Funkausstellung (IFA),

and, usually by the expedient of showing all the even images twice and the odd images thrice.

The human eye mostly does not notice the trick, but when the camera shifts very slowly, a certain "jerkiness" is perceptible.

Some higher-priced TVs, marked with the description "24p", can display the movies at the true frame rate, but most flat-panels make do with a less sophisticated conversion, though either way, the viewer ends up seeing the action at normal life-like speed.

"The displays are not very good at processing these high-definition signals," confirms Lothar Kerestedjian, research and development chief at a German production studio, Enteractive Entertainment.

Top manufacturers said that they would demonstrate improved software at IFA to help overcome the problem.

One of the long-awaited technologies not seen at IFA is the surface conduction electron emitter display (SED) which was shown by Toshiba and Canon at the 2006 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas as an alternative to LCD and plasma screens.

SED has been described as basically a tiny cathode-ray tube for every pixel of the display and Canon claims it consumes less power than LCD displays.

However Toshiba has left the joint-venture development team and no commercial product has emerged. It may be that SED televisions will never see the light of day.

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While any new business enjoys a good thrust of free publicity to get operations off on the right foot, the Sapphaya Spa in Rawai was making news headlines before it even opened – when local residents complained bitterly that the Sivaleung (Shiva's member, or lingam) statues decorating the grounds in front of the huge spa were – well – just a little too life-like for their tastes.

To defuse the controversy, the spa management plastered over the remarkably lifelike glans of the pillars, giving them a more generic – yet still obviously phallic – appearance. With that controversy safely behind it (the villagers stopped complaining) the new spa had a “soft opening” on July 16 to get public feedback about the many services offered by the spa, which at just over three rai is claimed to be the largest day spa in the country.

Visitors to the spa immediately notice what an enormous place it is – in some ways more like an academy than a conventional spa. In fact, the three-story design, with its long open-air corridors overlooking a courtyard in front, roughly resembles the standard design of many Thai government schools – on hot-season break.

On my visit, I was greeted in the spacious open-air lobby by Marketing Manager Kamonchanok Sukkree and her lovely assistant Chiraporn “Gay” Suklue, my guide for the day.

K. Gay explained that the Sivaleung images are a central part of the belief system of Spa Director Phithakpol Preechart.

K. Phithakpol is, according to K. Gay, an expert on the history and techniques that go into making Jatukham Ramathep images and a devotee of the teaching methods of revered monk Luang Por Wiriyong Sirinutharo of Wat Thammongkol in Bangkok.

“If you want to know more about the history of the lingam, you should give him a call – its quite involved,” she said.

In keeping with the academy feel, all staff must undergo



Sapphaya Spa – the largest day spa in Thailand and a place devoted to healing, not lewd entertainments.

## SPA ACADEMY

a one-hour Buddhist chanting and meditation session at the beginning of the work day at the “Will-power Institute” up on the third floor.

Despite its name, the institute – a sort of spiritual franchise with 11 other branches around the country – is not a place where they teach you to stop smoking or bang some other bad habit on the head.

Rather, it is an open-air spiritual center similar in many ways to a small temple hall, with pews, meditation cushions and a small dais from which staff receive spiritual instruction – which is not optional for staff, K. Gay said.

The institute, which offers free meditation instruction to all who are interested, is a central part of the Sapphaya Spa's concept, which officially goes by the somewhat confounding English-language slogan: Quantum Sensing To Matrix Mind.

In explaining this, K. Gay

said that the main theme is health – how natural healing techniques such as Ayurvedic medicine and traditional Thai massage can energize both body and soul.

To that effect, it came as a surprise to this spa aficionado that none of the normal “entertainments” one might expect to find at a Thai spa (spirits, tobacco products, staff who are referred to by number, not name) are not only unavailable here – but they are not even allowed on the premises.

However, it should be noted that the Jungle Bar is located a stone's throw away across the street for those who can't endure the rules.

Furthermore, the entire spa is sex-segregated in terms of access to the spa's feature facilities, which include two herbal sauna rooms, each large enough for 80 people each; and four whirlpool baths, each big enough for 10 people.

There are 12 VIP rooms on the third-floor corridor connect-

ing the men's and women's wings, and 54 smaller treatment rooms on the second floor, with oil massage rooms opposite the corridor from those set up for traditional Thai massage.

As if these weren't enough, there are two large open-air massage areas suitable for large groups on the third floor of both wings – again, one for ladies and one for gents.

The only place where the sexes will likely meet at Sapphaya Spa is in the fitness center, which has a lot of cardio exercise equipment and other fancy machines, along with enough free weight equipment to allow two or three muscleheads to pump iron simultaneously without treading on each other's toes.

During my visit there were two or three people working out in the gym – a surprisingly low number given the excellent value of the facility at just 150 baht a day under a current promotion that ends at the end of October, when the spa will officially open. With only 30 annual mem-

bers signed up so far and the spa's grand opening still more than a month away, the atmosphere at the spa during these low-season days makes it hard to imagine what it might be like full.

Currently about 60 staff work there, of which about 20 are *passakorn* – a Thai word that translated roughly means “healers of the hands” or “therapists”, K. Gay explained.

Although Sapphaya Spa lacks the luxury of top hotel spas, its prices are competitive and it offers a comprehensive range of treatments. A Thai herbal steam followed by a herbal jacuzzi is 500 baht – for as long as the customer wants. After this double-dose of detox, guests can relax in any of the hundreds of sturdy teak recliners or chairs and enjoy the seaside air while overlooking the bay in the distance.

On my trip I was taken to a standard massage room and given a complimentary 30-minute Sapphaya Jittaman massage (normally 1,100 baht for a two-hour course in the open-air section) to stretch out my ligaments followed by a 90-minute Thai Sapphaya traditional Thai massage (900 baht for two hours, open air).

Like all the *passakorn* at Sapphaya Spa, my masseur K. Sanit has a massage certificate from the Thai Food and Drug Administration. He did a very competent job. For me it was a chance to get my first rub down from a man – one who isn't blind.

Fortunately, K. Sanit in his braided ponytails and white pajamas with pink sash was hardly intimidating.

However, he did have the strength to put my 100-plus-kilo, beer-bloated frame through all the difficult stretching maneuvers that are usually beyond the ability of the 40-kilo masseuses that I usually let walk on my back.

Given Sapphaya Spa's size, it will likely take an aggressive marketing strategy and coachloads of East Asian tourist to be a success. Until that time comes, it is a great place to work out, relax and practice meditation.

Sapphaya Spa. 87/16 Village 2, Rawai. Tel: 076-289754. Email: [sapphaya.spa@hotmail.com](mailto:sapphaya.spa@hotmail.com) Website: [www.sapphaya.com](http://www.sapphaya.com)

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I enjoy going to the theater, but I had long believed that Phuket was lacking a venue for such a pastime. I had obviously been thinking inside the box. There's a curtain-up every Sunday at 12:30 pm at Le Royal Meridien Phuket Yacht Club's Quarterdeck restaurant.

Brunch, that portmanteau of breakfast and lunch, provided a theater of the culinary arts. Under the direction of Executive Chef Michel Roche, the performers carved, cooked, mixed and sliced in full costume. Assistant F&B Manager Omar El M'hammedi Alaoui's cast of waiting staff moved with well-rehearsed ease among the audience of diners.

The glorious backdrop was of beach, headland, ocean and the aptly named Potato Island. The play was about devouring delectable food and wine and having fun doing so. The ticket price was 1,200 baht per person, including a glass of sparkling wine, half a bottle of red, white or rosé wine and tea or coffee.

For this event there is usually a queue in the foyer. Many of the audience watch this play every week since it began in February. The audience's interaction with each other and the artistes creates the friendly ambiance.

Ushered to your seat, you are almost immediately served a glass of Italian Zardetto Prosecco Brut. Dry with tart apple flavors, a good balance and crisp acidity. I even managed to keep a few drops to go with dessert.

The beauty of a buffet is that it gives one license to wander around, examining the food, chatting with staff and planning one's personal menu.

The breads were baked on site and the day's choices on this occasion included Italian-style woven dough stuffed with sun-dried tomato, olives, garlic and artichoke; soft white pita bread, baguettes and whole-grain rolls.

There were myriad appetizers, salads, main courses and desserts: oysters from Australia; fresh Phuket lobsters and whole-poached salmon from Norway; Serano Ham from the acorn-fed

# Fine performance

Iberico pigs of Andalucia sliced before your very eyes and local blue crabs, prawns and squid, handmade patés, salads and seaweed caviar.

Thai salads stood alongside their European counterparts and the carving stations boasted Australian prime rib of beef with roast potatoes and Yorkshire puddings, roasted shoulder of Aussie lamb and barbecued pork spare ribs.

One cooking station prepared spaghetti Puttanesca – delightfully named after the Neapolitan ladies of the night – and fresh pastas and sauces. Cheeses nestled in the shadows of tall baguettes: gorgonzola, taleggio, reblochon, parmesan reggiano and brie de mieux.

Desserts were created by the Yacht Club's own patissiers and chocolatiers, with dark-chocolate fondue, creme caramel, creme brulee, scones with jam and butter, and royal chocolate cake and cheese-cake all making appearances. Plates of seasonal fresh fruits were waiting under the chocolate fountain.

The most popular items stay each week. Changes are made to accommodate interesting or particularly fresh ingredients as they become available.

We delved into the Phuket lobsters, perfectly boiled to give succulent and tender meat. Fresh, briny-tasting oysters accompanied the salmon, which was poached just enough to retain its natural oils and delicate flavor.

Of the wines we chose the Mont Gras Reserva Carmenere from Chile. Carmenere, the almost-forgotten grape of Bordeaux, is making a name for itself in Chile and produces a soft, fruity flavor with enough body to withstand an onslaught of rare meats.

Back to the carving stations, we were greeted by thinly-sliced, rare roast beef, crispy roast po-



**MASTER CUTS:** The culinary staff at Quarterdeck, under the direction of Executive Chef Michel Roche, deliver outstanding performances.

tatoes and Yorkshire puddings aerated enough to avoid the soggy-middle syndrome.

My companion opted for the lamb, cooked just until pink in the middle. It's the little touches that delight; in this case, a bowl of freshly-ground horse-

radish from Germany to sprinkle on the lamb. A combination of fresh, green salads appeased the health gods and lashings of homemade mayonnaise upset them again.

The danger to the sweet-toothed is always the complete

freedom in a buffet, tempting you to load your plate high with a plethora of calories. In our case, the sins came in the form of fruit-topped profiteroles oozing custard cream and opera cakes with delicate chocolate slices on top.

The cheese board offered slithers of taleggio, one of the world's oldest soft cheeses, and Italian blue gorgonzola, another cheese of ancient lineage made from unskimmed cows' milk.

A finale of cappuccino and espresso coffees left us ready for the curtain to fall on a fine performance. Unsurprisingly, there aren't big margins in providing such a spread.

"We would rather spend our money on advertising through our food and beverages than on a massive billboard," said Chef Michel. I recognized three well-known chefs in the audience, so I guess he's got a point.

*Le Royal Meridien Phuket Yacht Club, 23/3 Moo 1, Wiset Rd, Rawai, Phuket 83100. Sunday brunch from 12:30 pm to 3 pm. Tel: 076-380200 ext 515 for reservations.*



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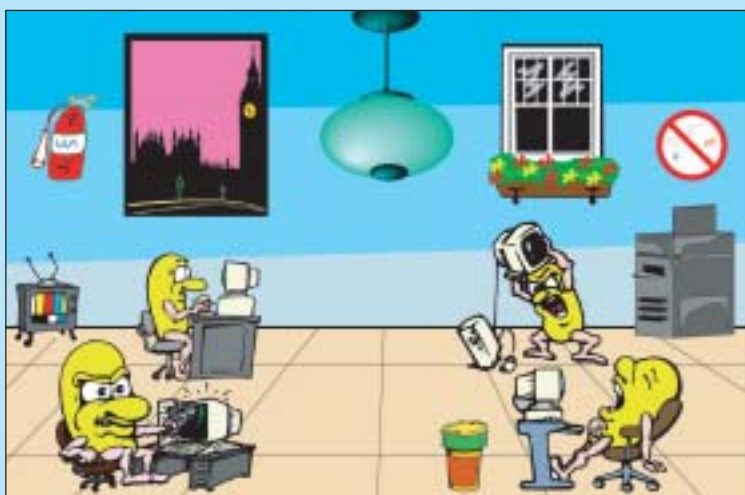


# Puzzles

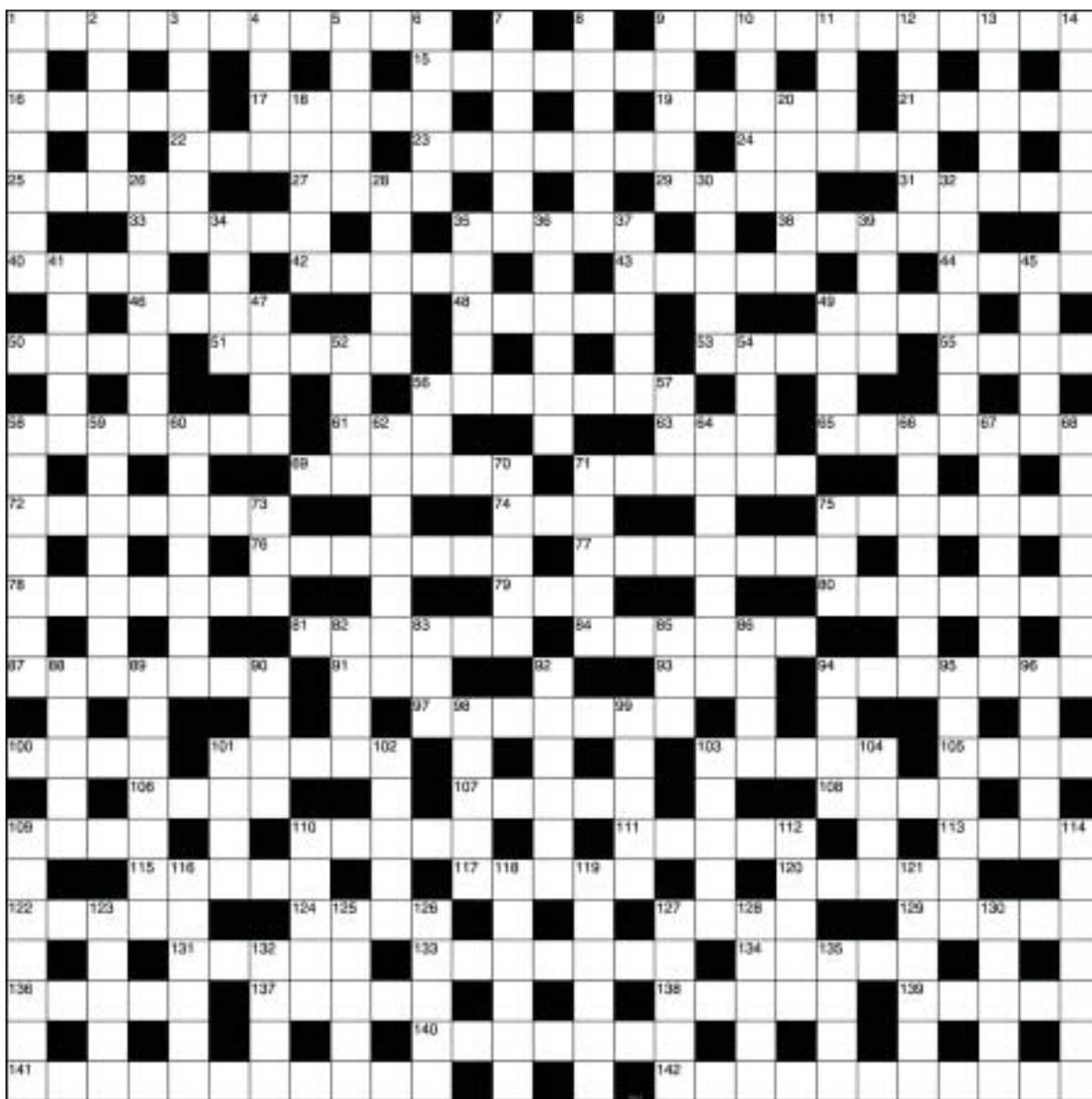
## Spot the Difference



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



# The BIG Crossword



© 2007 Lovatts Publications Pty Ltd

- Across**
1. Basin  
9. Secondhand clothes (4-2-5)  
15. Stupidity  
16. Dulls (senses)  
17. Cursed  
19. Lodge firmly  
21. Gin &...  
22. Fabled giant  
23. Relationship  
24. Vote into office  
25. Supporting beam  
27. Requirement  
29. Capable  
31. Blackboard stand  
33. Moved slowly  
35. Dead stiff, ...mortis  
38. Taunts  
40. Lord  
42. Opera house, La...  
43. Exhilarating  
44. Like two... in a pod  
46. Wound crust  
48. Welsh dog breed  
49. Artist's naked model  
50. Spy, Mata...  
51. Invasions  
53. Pass (law)  
55. Natter  
56. Cared for medically  
58. Strong cloth  
61. Deceive  
63. Tip of grain  
65. Cut violently  
69. Radio interference  
71. Wall opening  
72. Taps  
74. Weeding implement  
75. Epitome  
76. Quiver  
77. Actress, ...Portman  
78. Irreverence
79. Unhappy  
80. Talks idly  
81. Strikes  
84. Piles  
87. Stands down  
91. Fashionable, ...mode (1,2)  
93. Fresh  
94. Scapegoat (4,3)  
97. Coped  
100. Eager  
101. Smells foul  
103. Actress, Tatum... (1'4)  
105. To ... it may concern  
106. Formerly Persia  
107. Keep clear of  
108. Recompensed  
109. Vocal solo  
110. Distance runner  
111. Iridescent gems  
113. Pledge  
115. Baby's disposable  
117. Cat cry  
120. Nudge  
122. Wide  
124. South African currency  
127. Bronte novel, Jane...  
129. Angry growl  
131. Store away greedily  
133. Saturating (with color)  
134. Of eyes  
136. Lift  
137. Communication device  
138. Provoke  
139. Tennis ace, ...Agassi  
140. Actor, ...Stamp  
141. Lack of purpose  
142. Interlopers
- Down**
1. Elevate to peerage  
2. Cuban dance  
3. Made home in tree  
4. Displace  
5. Glowed (of sun)  
6. Concede  
7. Hunting expedition  
8. Debacle  
9. Laughing scavenger  
10. Peace prize  
11. Fabricated  
12. Speckled  
13. Dwindles  
14. Reaping blades  
18. Fairies' rods  
20. Funeral song  
26. Temperature scale  
28. Tests  
30. Unexcited  
32. Features  
34. Equipment  
35. Speedster  
36. European language  
37. White wine, ...Riesling  
39. Border on  
41. Proverb  
45. Astir  
47. Farm shed  
49. Corporals, sergeants etc (1,1,2)  
52. Flue  
54. Mad Roman emperor  
56. Explosive material (1,1,1)  
57. Study  
58. Bulkier  
59. Carves in stone  
60. Antarctic shipping hazard  
62. Ground oats  
64. Progress  
66. Pressurized can  
67. Squeezing fondly  
68. Ruling family
70. Board game  
71. Weaves (one's way)  
73. Pig enclosure  
75. Tent fastener  
82. Conceal  
83. Wheel-shaft projection  
85. Also  
86. Korean martial art, tae... do  
88. Baby eel  
89. NC US state  
90. Observed  
92. Eastern temple  
94. Beat (wings)  
95. Despicable (3-4)  
96. WWII German sub (1-4)  
98. Needless warning, false ...  
99. Bequeath  
101. Scrape  
102. Beauty parlor  
103. Reproductive organ  
104. Young sheep  
109. Canadian province  
110. Wise Man's gift  
112. Oozes  
114. Assistants  
116. Hold fast (to)  
118. Congenital  
119. Pungent bulbs  
121. Academy Awards  
123. Asian narcotic  
125. Love deeply  
126. Slimming plans  
127. White heron  
128. Established path  
130. Actress, ...MacDowell  
132. Imitates  
135. Short-term office worker

## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

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.

Answers on next page

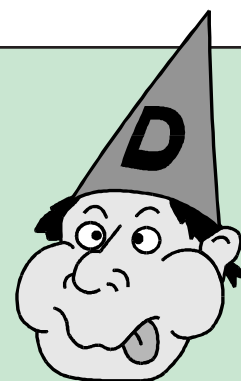


## EZ TRIVIA QUIZ

- Which country's army has a unit of elite troops officially called "Com-mando"?
- What organization elects the 15 judges of the World Court?
- Which was the first bird domesticated by man?
- What is the most common element in the universe?
- How many stars are there in the big dipper?
- The Strait of Gibraltar connects the Atlantic Ocean with which sea?
- What was the original purpose of the leaning tower of Pisa?
- To the nearest thousand, how many islands does Indonesia have?
- What country has more volcanoes than any other?
- What is the second most populous continent?
- How many victories did Manfred Von Richthofen, known as the "Red Baron", run up before his death on April 21, 1917?
- What socialist writer's last words were, "Last words are for fools who haven't said enough"?
- What physicist's last words were not understood because his nurse did not speak German?
- What is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in men?
- What is the common term for a "cerebrovascular accident"?
- What was Friedrich Serturmer the first to extract from opium and use as a pain reliever?
- What connection does St Patrick have with the shamrock?
- In which country do people work the least number of hours each year?
- What US state has the highest percentage of non-English speakers?
- What island in San Francisco Bay was the site of an almost escape-proof prison?

Answers below

## Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



- Isabel Peron became Argentina's first what?
- Who was the first emperor of ancient Rome?
- Edmund Barton was the first prime minister of which country?
- Who was the first de facto prime minister of Great Britain?
- Who was the first American president to be assassinated?
- What was the first murder to be filmed on live television?
- Roald Amundsen and his party were the first to do what?
- What is claimed to be the first novel written in Spanish?
- Louise Brown, born in the UK on July 25, 1978, made medical history as the first what?
- Micheline Bernardini became renowned as the first woman to wear what?
- Members of which famed British sports club performed the first bungee jump?
- What kind of transplant was first performed on November 5, 2005 on patient Isabelle Dinoire?
- Who is attributed as the first reigning monarch to send an email?
- What was said by Alexander Graham Bell in the first telephone conversation?
- Which postage stamp was the first to have dried adhesive applied on the back?
- What name was given to the first nuclear-weapon test?
- Which country was the first to have mass-produced canned food?
- How long after the first canned food was the first can opener invented?
- What did Joseph Priestley successfully create for the first time in 1796?
- Golda Meir was the first female prime minister of which country?

Answers below

## Puzzle Solutions

## EZ Trivia Answers

- Britain; 2. The United Nations; 3. The goose; 4. Hydrogen; 5. Seven; 6. Mediterranean; 7. Bell tower; 8. 13,000; 9. Indonesia, with 167; 10. Europe. 11. 80; 12. Karl Marx; 13. Albert Einstein; 14. Prostate cancer; 15. Stroke; 16. Morphine; 17. He used it to illustrate the Trinity; 18. Norway; 19. New Mexico; 20. Alcatraz.

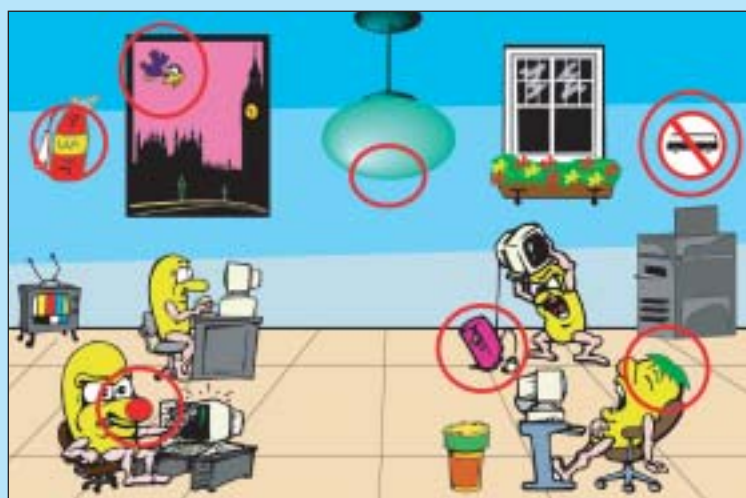
## Monster Quiz Answers

- Female president; 2. Augustus; 3. Australia; 4. Robert Walpole; 5. Abraham Lincoln; 6. Jack Ruby killing Lee Harvey Oswald; 7. Reach the South Pole; 8. Don Quixote; 9. Test tube baby; 10. A bikini; 11. Four members of the Dangerous Sports Club, led by David Kirke; 12. A face transplant; 13. Queen Elizabeth II, from a British army base in 1976; 14. "Mr Watson, come here, I want to see you."; 15. The Penny Black; 16. The Trinity Test; 17. France; 18. 30 years; 19. Soda water; 20. Israel.

## Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

## Solution to this week's Cartoon Puzzle



## Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

E	R	R	O	N	E	O	U	S	L	Y	S	F	H	A	N	D	M	E	D	O	N	S
N	U	E	U	H	I	N	A	N	I	T	Y	O	A	O	A	I						
N	U	M	B	S	S	W	O	R	E	F	A	E	M	B	E	D	T	O	N	I	C	
O	B	T	I	T	A	N	L	I	A	I	S	O	N	E	L	E	C	T	E	E	K	
B	R	A	C	E		N	E	E	D	R	C	A	B	L	E		E	A	S	E	L	
L		E	D	G	E	D	X	R	I	G	O	R	L	G	O	A	D	S		E		
E	A	R	L	E	S	C	A	L	A	E	H	E	A	D	Y	B	P	E	A	S		
D	S	C	A	B		M	C	O	R	G	I	S		N	U	D	E	W				
H	A	R	I		R	A	I	D	S	E	M	N	E	N	A	C	T	C	H	A	T	
G	U		R		U	T	R	E	A	T	E	D	E	O	T		K					
H	E	S	S	I	A	N		C	O	N		E	A	R		S	L	A	S	H	E	
E	C	C		S	T	A	T	I	C		W	I	N	D	O	W		E	U	Y		
F	A	U	C	E	T	S		T		H	O	E		V		P	A	R	A	G	O	
T	L	B		T	R	E	M	B	L	E		N	A	T	A	L	I	E		O	G	
I	M	P	I	E	T	Y		E		S	A	D		N		G	O	S	S	I	P	
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# Papa needs a brand-new truck

Any sex tourist with any sense – supposing such a thing is possible – should do some research before coming to Thailand. On the top of the list I would put the book *My Name is Lol*, which is the autobiography of a Thai bargirl.

Scores of photos show a cute-as-a-button teenager mugging for the camera, as well as hugging various boyfriends and stuffed animals. She reveals herself as utterly heartless, the only love in her life being her mother who doesn't love her back and constantly makes demands for money back home in the Northeast. It's not a pretty picture, but it rings true of many on the game.

Another breed are novels set in Pattaya about beautiful young hookers in love with 50-year-old Americans who don't speak Thai. Talk about the high art of fiction.

Now comes a slim handbook that could be called *Bargirls for Idiots*, illustrated with pencil drawings by the author, Barry Sandal. The real title is *Foreign Relations* (published by the author, Chiang Mai, 2007, 172pp) subtitled "A Comic Guide to Thai Ladies". The main lesson is: don't fall in love with bargirls and don't marry them.

"This book is written for the male traveler out to have a good time," the author writes in his foreword. "My goal is to



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

help you have as much fun as you can while keeping you out of the pitfalls of mistaking great casual sex with eternal love."

Given that sex tourists – especially those who fall in love after a week – are not exactly rocket scientists, Sandal keeps his text at basic elementary school Dick-and-Jane level. Thus:

"Farang is not a term of endearment. It means a Westerner and particularly male.

It means not Thai, not Asian. It means you.

Farang are outside, they are inside. Sometimes they go outside and play. Have fun and play."

The book is studded with Thai proverbs illustrating the author's points. "Naam theung nai, plaa theung nan"

means 'water everywhere, fish everywhere', or, 'if you have money, you have everything'."

Other words of advice include, "Always remember: catch and release."

The core message is:

"What you see in the short days or weeks is her best act. What you don't

see is that this is a real person with a limited education and real problems. She only really understands money well. Communicate your happiness in baht, smile, and say 'sawasdee kap' when you leave."

Now this may seem mean-spirited, but consider the narrow range of his audience and the even narrower slice of Thai women that he's talking about. The author gets many things wrong: He says bargirls don't own televisions and stereos – they do. He says that the girls in the South are mostly Muslims – they're not; they're not even Southerners. He says that they're mostly illiterate – they're not; in fact, they are whizzes when it comes to email and they make the Nigerians look like pikers.

There's not much in here for a resident of Thailand aside from a few good stories. Here's my favorite; a letter sent to a friend of the author's:

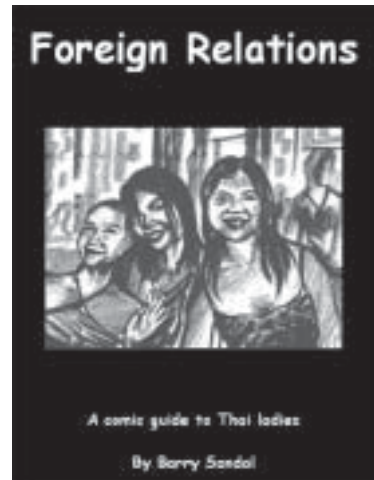
"Last month I ask you money to fix truck papa but you say cannot. Truck no work so papa use buffalo to take rice to market. On the way buffalo die on road.

Papa try to move buffalo but fall down and get hit by police on motorcycle. Police say papa fault for falling in road with dead buffalo. Police want money to fix motorcycle. Uncle ride bike to help papa. On the way big dog bite uncle. Uncle find papa and police. He call ambulance to get papa.

"Ambulance arrive very fast and hit dead buffalo. Whole front of ambulance fall off ...

Police take papa to hospital. Uncle go back home and tell mama what happen. Mama so afraid for papa she fall down and break leg. Doctor say mama have heart condition too. Doctor also say uncle get rabies maybe die.

"Now everyone make problem for me because you no send me money to fix truck."



## EVENTS CALENDAR

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

### September 14. Latin Buffet & Salsa Dance @ Latino's Nai Harn.

Latin Buffet @ 395 baht net per person, including one drink of your choice – soft drink, cocktail, beer or a glass of house wine – and enjoy Salsa dancing 7 pm to 2 am. The only real Latin venue in Phuket. Contact Jorge. Tel: 089-725 6994 Email: jorge@latinos-restaurant.com Website: www.latinos-restaurant.com

### Until September 16. Phuket Animation Festival 2007.

Come and see the biggest animation event in Southern Thailand. Check out the latest in animation technology, such as motion capturing and blue screen, and meet the animators behind *Underworld* and *Underworld 2*, and *Charlie's Angels 2*.

The event is being held at Central Festival Phuket from 11 am until 8 pm each day.

For more information contact Peerachsak Chunharatchapan. Tel: 081-5357803. Email: peerachsak@mirageorganizer.com

### September 15. Splash for Trash – Underwater Clean Up.

Take the plunge on International Clean Up Day, September 15, with Dive Asia and Sea Fun Divers, Phuket's only PADI 5-Star CDC Centers.

Participants must be certified divers and must pre-register due to limited space on the boats.

Participation is free and everyone is welcome. Boats will leave Chalong Pier at 8:30 am, returning at 5 pm.

For further information call 076-330598 or 076-330124, email info@diveasia.com or visit www.diveasia.com

### September 15 and 22. Wine Dinner BBQ @ Wine Connection Chalong.

BBQ dinner for just 390 baht, or BBQ dinner with one bottle of wine for 1,000 baht per person. Live band, fireworks, lucky draws – everything for a great Saturday night.

Contact Pascal. Tel: 087-8896074. Email: fb.phuket@wineconnection.co.th

### September 22. The 8th Phuket International Beer Fest.

A celebration of probably the best beers and most ardent beer drinkers in the world at the Watermark bar and restaurant.

This is your chance to show to the world, or at least Phuket, your favorite beer. Yes! YOU supply the beer – in the hope that it wins the prestigious accolade of "Winner of The 8th Phuket International Beer Fest". Each competitor must supply 12 bottles or cans of their nominated international beer. All entries are required to register in advance.

Entry fee: 12 beers plus 800 baht.

Tip: bring back the best beer from overseas while you're traveling this summer! For more information call Stuart Bird at 081-7376184.

### September 22. Tax Seminar for Value Added Tax (VAT).

Network Advisory Team Ltd (NAT) will hold a full-day seminar focused on VAT issues

on Saturday, September 22. You will have a chance to learn and ask questions directly from the director of the Bureau of Tax Auditing Standards of the Revenue Department Head Office in Bangkok.

The seminar will be held at the Royal Phuket City Hotel from 9 am until 4:30 pm. Tickets are priced at 2,675 baht per person. Book before September 5 and reserve an early-bird ticket for 2,033 baht. Anybody who has attended a previous NAT tax seminar will receive a further 10% discount.

The seminar will be in Thai language only.

For details contact NAT, Phuket Branch, at 076-212 989, or K. Sriruan at 089-6523229.

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### September 30. Phuket Yacht Club Sailing Open Day and BBQ.

Family fun day, BBQ and beach activities. Try out sailing on a catamaran, small yacht or dinghy. Come and see the junior fleet or try dragon boat racing sponsored by Sail in Asia.

The Phuket Yacht Club offers sailing-training sessions for juniors throughout the year. Next sailing course starts October 7.

Booking recommended.

For more information contact Katy Gooch. Tel: 085-215-9185. Email: ktfirmin@yahoo.co.uk

### October 11-19. Phuket Vegetarian Festival.

This festival is an annual

event held during the ninth lunar month of the Chinese calendar, which normally falls in late September or early October.

Sacred rituals are performed at all Chinese temples in Phuket. The processions from each temple show spectacles of strict vegetarians, known as devotees, ostensibly possessed by gods, piercing their tongues, cheeks and other parts of the anatomy with sharp implements.

### October 21-27. Phuket Film Festival.

Phuket will see this festival realized with the Gala Opening on October 21.

Want to be one of our volunteers? Call 076-209000 or email filmfestival.phuket@gmail.com

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## Rooting out needless waste

While the initiative by Tesco-Lotus to plant nine million trees nationwide is laudable in some ways, a more effective path to conservation would be to take a more localized approach, one focusing on pressing environmental issues facing the communities where they operate stores.

It is perhaps notable that the Lotus "nine million trees campaign" was announced about the same time as another grand tree-planting scheme was being unveiled in Phuket, when Deputy Prime Minister Paiboon Watthanasiritham signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that one million mangrove trees will be planted in coastal areas around the island by the end of 2009.

The truth is that, just like charity, effective conservation efforts must start at home – the homes of each and every one of us – and integrate upwards into society and the environment that sustains it. They seldom kick off with high-profile document signings or pop concerts like the one held at Tesco-Lotus recently, with performers flown in from Bangkok.

Phuket people have for far too long been let down by retailing juggernauts such as Tesco-Lotus and government bodies at every level, from tambon administration organizations up through to the central government and its ministries.

Even at the national level, environmental issues have seldom, if ever, become important issues at election time. With the current realignment of political forces taking place in the country in the run up to the December 23 poll, it appears that the situation is unlikely to change any time soon.

Phuket's trash and garbage disposal crisis perfectly highlights these issues. There has been much talk about the need for "recycling" recently, including the signing by all the island's local administrative bodies of a vaguely-worded MOU under which they promise to improve waste-disposal practices. Yet the MOU thus far is just another piece of paper that will eventually enter the waste stream – as yet there has been no tangible action plan associated with it.

While recycling does play an important role in any sustainable approach to waste disposal, it must be used along with other environmental practices such as reuse and, especially, "source reduction" to minimize the amount of trash generated in the first place.

While it is certainly unfair to single out Tesco-Lotus while most other large retailers in Thailand employ the same unsustainable retail methods, one can only wonder if the biomass contained in the nine million trees they hope to grow will surpass in weight the enormous number of unsolicited advertising brochures they distribute annually in the Kingdom.

– The Editor

**Do you have an opinion you want to share?**  
Email [editor@phuketgazette.net](mailto:editor@phuketgazette.net)

**The Phuket Gazette**

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

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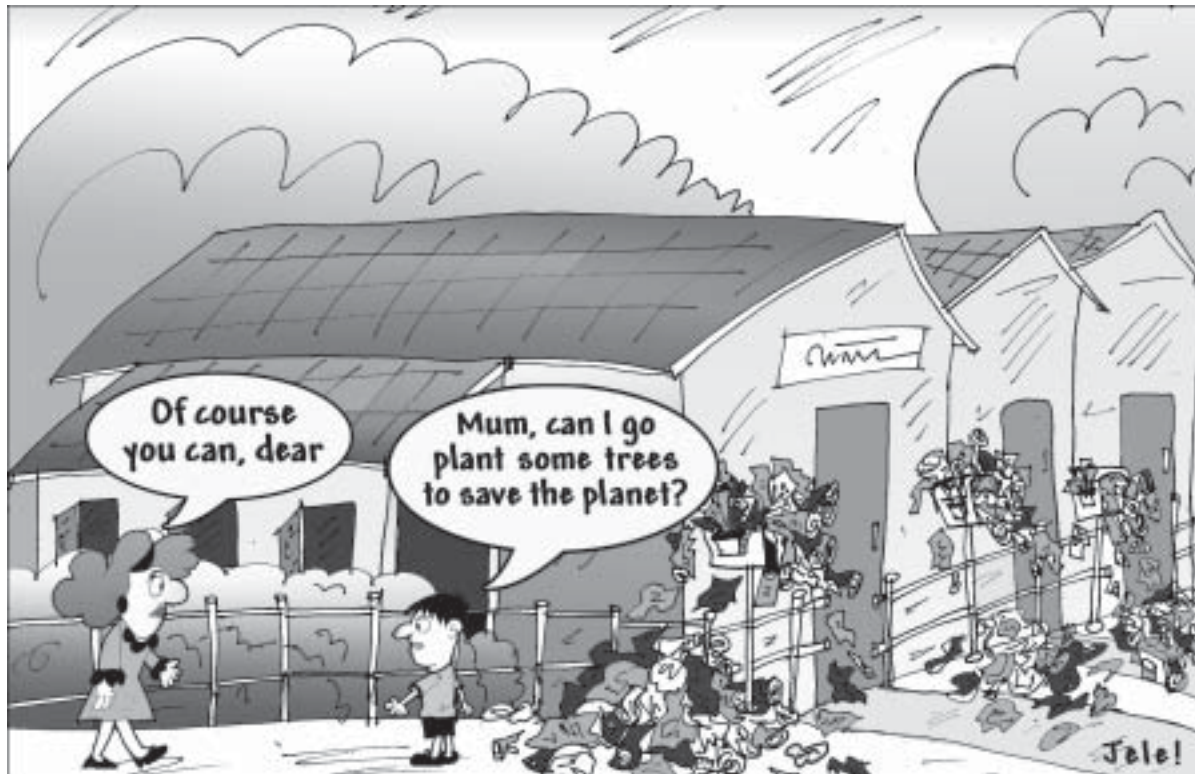
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## Letters

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

### Add it up: bad ballast kills tourists

Time after time, these boats are sinking. The fact is that they are really designed for fishing and all of the weight of these boats is normally found beneath them in the nets and the subsequent catch which usually keeps the boats ballasted.

When these types of boats are converted and made into dive boats, an upper level is added where normally there would only be a wheel house.

You then add 55 tourists to that level at an average weight of 70 kilograms (a low estimate for Westerners) and that adds up to 3.85 tonnes.

The passengers are located way above the center of gravity and weigh at least double the weight needed for an additional ballast.

To all dive companies and anyone else who takes these types of boats out: please get a marine engineer to calculate the correct ballast required for the amount of customers you carry before you end up being another one who is killing the tourists you depend upon.

Michael Dawson  
Spain

### Keep on truckin'

I noticed the other day that on the hill from Patong to Kathu there is a sign that prohibits tractor trailers from using the road for two-hour periods in both the morning and the evening.

I use this hill several times per day and during these restricted hours you still see the trucks on the road.

Perhaps some enforcement

would go a long way in reducing the number of accidents that frequently cause traffic jams during rush hour.

Joe Sims  
Patong

### 'Taxi' in Phuket is a four-letter word

It seems that the word "taxi" and what exactly a taxi is has been lost in translation in Phuket.

A taxi is not a car or a red van with seats. A taxi is an international-standard form of transport that includes a meter, a photo and license number of the driver on display and provides good transport at the set metered fare.

Frustrated in my travels  
Phuket

### Girls should play with balls, too

I'm always a little disappointed with the sports pages in the *Gazette*. Sure, we're just a small island down here in Phuket, but with over half million people living on this little patch of land, why does it seem like the only sports events either happen outside of Phuket or have something to do with one company or another showing off?

There several stadiums and decent sports facilities around Phuket and these could surely be put to better use to actively promote sports, not just for one-off special events designed to generate publicity.

I never read about the local football leagues or the latest from the 3-on-3 basketball world. And what about tennis, squash or even lawn bowls?

Phuket has the potential to generate a healthy sporting scene but it's just so difficult to see how

much of one there is already. What gives? There must be interest in sports at the school level, so why hasn't this developed over the years?

Another issue is the distinct lack of women's sporting events that I've seen. Don't women in Phuket play sports as well?

Aside from children's sports, girls and women don't seem to come up in the *Gazette's* sports pages unless they are boxers, and one thing that I'm certain of is that I ain't no boxer.

Women of Phuket: have your day! We can play sports too. There is definitely more to life than beauty salons and taking pictures of each other in nightclubs. Isn't there? Anyone?

Wendy  
Kata

### Crook gone good

Praise to the *Gazette* for Matt Crook's "Good Vibes" section to the paper. I'm not sure how often this will be appearing but I'll surely be keeping an eye out for it in the future.

I find it quite welcoming to see you supporting up-and-coming bands, even if they are not based in Phuket.

After reading the article, I surfed over to the MySpace links that were included and was able to not only learn a bit more about the bands themselves, but also to discover some quality new tunes.

Unfortunately, I am the type that enjoys ranking music and I placed the tracks from Goose at the top of my list. Looks like I need to venture out to music shops and score the albums that you have mentioned.

Keep digging for those good vibes!

Dave  
Kamala

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



# Phuket traffic woes? On yer bike

**T**raffic is one particular problem in Phuket that we must hurry to solve, because if we don't there will be many side effects. There are many positive aspects of Phuket, such as top hotels, spas and great restaurants, but there are still issues about the traffic that we should try to change.

There are always so many traffic jams on the island, especially around Phuket City. Traffic is congested in the mornings and evenings at the Darasamuth intersection, and other areas that suffer bottlenecks are where cars are parked at the side of the road on one-way streets, at traffic lights and so on.

The critical areas to improve are around schools, especially where traffic builds up in the mornings and afternoons when children are going to and from school and when people are traveling back and forth from work.

We have had to put up with these problems in Phuket for a long time already. The Office of Traffic Policy and Planning (OTPP) previously stated that if the issues are not addressed, the problem will soon extend to other areas of Phuket.

## FIRST PERSON

**P**huket's traffic troubles are picking up speed and things are not going to improve unless action is taken. The air is becoming more polluted, journey times are increasing and the high number of road accidents is still a major cause of concern.

**Prasit Rugsayos**, director of Regional Transport and Traffic Systems of the Office of Traffic Policy and Planning (OTPP), envisages a future of limited access to gasoline and more people turning back to the bicycles they thought were long forgotten. Here he tells how.



The OTPP allocates a budget of about 10 million baht a year to run the Traffic and Transport Development and Research Center (TDRC). It's the TDRC's responsibility to come up with solutions to traffic problems in Thailand.

In our plans for Phuket we want to first target the critical areas on main roads and intersec-

tions. We could build an overpass or improve the traffic light systems at the Darasamuth intersection to relieve congestion there.

However, if we were to build an overpass or a subway, we would first need feedback from local communities. Projects like these would require a large budget, so we will have to hold many meetings about which plans

we would like to go ahead with, but we should not worry about how much money it is going to cost.

The real solution, I think, lies in better public transportation. If people in Patong walk or ride bicycles, there will be less problems there and we will have better air.

In the past, people used bicycles for getting around and

even before that people would walk; so I think everybody should think about that. Most people can walk about five kilometers in one go without too much difficulty, and if people used bicycles for transport they journeys would be much quicker.

In the next 30 to 40 years we might well have run out of gasoline, but even if we still have access to it it is likely to be very expensive.

An organization needs to launch a campaign educating the people of Phuket about the advantages of using bicycles. The provincial administration organization (*OrBorJor*) would need to allocate a budget for such a project, and then we could have bicycles that tourists could rent by the hour. This should reduce the number of road accidents and the levels of pollution.

The problem is that most people think of their vehicles as essential items without any regard for the traffic caused. There are now more vehicles being used in Phuket than the roads can support.

Most people don't realize that it is they themselves who are the real cause of these problems.

*Compiled by  
Natcha Yuttaworawit*

## Do young children need to get visas too?

I currently live and work in Phuket and I have a one-year multiple-entry visa to do so.

However, I have no visa for my child, who was granted only a 30-day permit to stay.

Surely children under the age of five do not need their own visas. What should I do? As my child lives here, will I be charged overstay fees?

Concerned mum  
Surin Beach

**Pol Capt Krissarat Nuesen of the Phuket Provincial Immigration Office replies:**

Yes, children must be issued visas to enter Thailand. Although your child was not issued a visa at a Royal Thai embassy or consulate, he or she was allowed to enter the country on a visa exemption granted totally independent from your one-year multiple-entry visa.

For your child not to have to leave Thailand every 90 days, you will need to obtain a non-immigrant "O" visa, for your child, from a Thai embassy or consulate outside Thailand.

As you already have a one-year multiple-entry visa, your child will be issued one, too.

After your child enters Thai-

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

land on the non-immigrant "O" visa, you can come to the Immigration office in Phuket City and apply for a one-year permit-to-stay for both you and your child. Then neither of you will need to leave Thailand every three months.

Although we don't charge overstay fines for children, it will show a negative record on the child's passport.

If the child entered Thailand on your passport, the entry against your child will be made in your passport.

If your child is studying here, you should apply for a non-immigrant "ED" visa for your child, which will allow the child to stay longer than 90 days.

## 90-day rule and work permits

Can someone please explain the new visa regulation for long-term stay in Thailand for a US citizen? My understanding is that after three months I must leave Thailand for a three-month period.

Am I allowed to remain if I have a work permit, effectively eliminating the possibility of just renting an apartment long-term in Phuket and living there while doing monthly visa runs?

Eve Jo  
USA

**Pol Capt Krissarat Nuesen of the Phuket Provincial Immigration Office replies:**

The 90-day stay rule only affects tourists who have entered Thailand using the "visa exemption" rule, which allows tourists from certain countries to enter Thailand without having to obtain a visa from a Thai embassy or consulate.

If you enter Thailand on any other visa you would not be subject to the 90-day rule and you certainly can apply to stay longer if you have work permit.

## Who do I report tax accountant misconduct to?

In most countries, everybody must file a yearly income-tax report.

Even if you don't owe any money, it is still against the law if you don't file your report with the tax office.

Here in Phuket, I have always submitted all my income and expense information to my accountant every year for my company and I have always paid him for that service.

I just recently found out that, although I paid him, he did not do anything with that information.

He did not do a year-end report and did not provide me with any documents to show he filed the information with the revenue department.

What can I do, or who should I report this to?

What action can be taken against a business that takes money for such an important service and then fails to do their job?

I am also a little afraid that because the accountant is Thai and friends with the other Thais in the revenue or tax office, that they will protect their own and try

to make trouble for me since I am a foreigner.

R Downing  
Phuket

**An officer from the Phuket Revenue Office replies:**

Our website has recommended accounting companies. However, we are not able to control them. They include both accounting offices, individual accountants for hire and auditing companies.

I would suggest separating your auditor and your accounting company since they will likely blame each other.

All tax auditors must have a license from the Federation of Accounting Professions (*KorBorShor*). You should check with the *KorBorShor* and tell them what has transpired so that they can investigate and possibly revoke the auditor's license.

You should change your accountant, but before doing so you should get all of your tax reports back.

For more info, contact the Phuket Revenue Office at 076-330478.



# More to manners than meets the eye

Dear Momma Duck,

I live in Phuket with my Thai wife and two kids, aged 2 and 4. This morning when my in-laws were leaving after a week's stay, my wife wanted me to give 2,000 baht to her little half-sister, Praew, for school and other stuff. She insisted that I do this in person, even knowing that the little girl is scared to death of me.

So I went down and tried to give it to her. She recoiled, and when the stepmom tried to force her to take it, poor little Praew went to the corner, fell on the floor and shrieked for about five minutes. So the stepmom took the money with not one word of thank you from anybody – not even my wife. I understand it's my role to chip in and support the extended family, but don't I deserve a little more thanks than this?

Culture-shocked  
Samkong



**Momma  
DUCK**

By Wanida Hongyok  
momma@phuketgazette.net

We are a much-less verbal culture and show our "thanks" in other, often non-verbal and indirect, ways such as returning kindnesses over longer periods of time. You'll also seldom see a Thai say "thank you" for a service for which we have paid. It's just what we are taught.

In Thai culture, it is quite normal that you be requested to give the money directly to the recipient because it is your money. I also suspect that a "thank you"

was indeed part of the exchange but you probably didn't hear it. It would have been given in Thai as an instruction to Praew to *wai* and say *khawp khun kha* to you.

The fact that Praew didn't follow instructions is irrelevant because it is assumed that you heard the instructions being given, which is regarded the same as saying "thank you".

You've also got to watch the body language of everyone involved. I'm sure that the stepmom received the money in a very polite and somewhat subservient manner – perhaps left hand holding right hand to receive the money and/or a slight bowing of the head and/or a *wai*.

Don't forget that a *wai* takes the place of "hello", "goodbye", "thank you" and many other situations where foreigners are verbal and we are non-verbal.

Also, Thai people are coming to Phuket from various places in the country and the traditions vary, some of which may seem more polite or impolite to you according to your cultural norms. For example, northerners are frequently very polite – both verbally and non-verbally – in almost every situation, whereas we southerners are seen as rather abrupt.

It is simply the way that we are brought up. If I were you, I would discuss

what happened with your wife, not in an aggressive manner, but rather as a question about how Thai culture works and where did she see the "thanks" in what occurred. She might shine some light on the matter.

We are taught to be grateful to those who assist us and are supposed to repay in kind whenever possible. Doing this helps us become successful and helps our lives to flourish. Actually it is a "must" so I think your kindness will be imprinted in their hearts and some day it will be returned either in kind or by action.

I am surprised, however, that Praew was so afraid of a farang after being around you for one week. Did you spend a lot of time being a host and eating and sitting and speaking with your in-laws during their stay? Did you ask them if they were thirsty and serve them glasses of iced water? If you were inter-acting with your in-laws frequently, Praew might have seen you as part of the family and not a stranger.

If, however, you were distant from the in-laws, say, watching TV alone or reading a book in another corner or out with your friends, then I'm not so surprised.

On the other hand, perhaps Praew is just a spoiled little brat, which would be unusual but not unknown in Thailand.

## In The Stars

by Isla Star

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): If your birthday is during the coming week, the year ahead will offer chances to improve your prosperity. Your mental agility will enable you to overtake others along the path to success. This week, try to work out exactly what progress is realistically within your reach and don't give in to the temptation of trying to achieve too much. Seek out a Capricorn friend to enjoy some fun with this weekend.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Whether you are ready or not, a decision will have to be made this weekend. Librans will find it easier if they discuss the situation with a partner or close friend. Cancer is likely to see things from the same perspective but Sagittarius doesn't understand where you're coming from. An overlooked issue at work is about

to crop up again. If someone else is at fault, don't be prepared to take the blame.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Scorpios suffering from emotional ups and downs lately will appreciate getting off this roller coaster this week. During the rest of September your mood will be steadily upbeat and all your relationships will benefit from this. Where romance is concerned, a shy Libran is still unable to reveal their feelings, but you will receive indication of who this person is. Number 2 is lucky on Saturday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Your need to expand mentally should be satisfied this week. The latter half of September offers the opportunity to learn new skills. Promotion at work before the end of the year

is forecast and this will be a direct result of your self-improvement program. Love looks like taking an unexpected direction and you could find yourself temporarily stuck between a rock and a hard place.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): The air is clear for those of you who have unfinished business. A situation that you feel could be improved will benefit from more auspicious astral conditions this week. Where a new work project is concerned, it will be better to settle for slow, steady progress. Romantically, you find that the grass is definitely not greener elsewhere. The number 5 is lucky this weekend.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): You will be disappointed to discover this week that you aren't the only fish in the sea. Someone who you've been pinning romantic hopes on is about to reveal that their heart lies elsewhere. In the meantime, a Scorpio friend would like to become something more. Tuesday is the

best day for sorting a problem out with a difficult family member, but arrange to see them on neutral ground.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Those of you who are as keen as mustard to get a special project off the ground should succeed this week. Aries is ready to help, but establish exactly what the fee is beforehand. Romance in your life lately is more akin to the ships that pass in the night, but another encounter is forecast to happen when you least expect it. The number 7 can bring luck on Sunday.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): A payment is finally made this week. While it may not be as much as you expected to receive, it should be enough to tide you over. Tightening purse strings is recommended until the end of the month, but October should herald the start of a brighter financial period. Opposites attract when you encounter an attractive Capricorn this weekend. The scent of cinnamon encourages a spicier mood.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Late September sees you caught up in a whirlwind of action. If you will be moving residence, the

stars will encourage this to happen smoothly. However, energy levels will need to be kept topped up with a healthy diet and more rest than you think you need. Where personal relationships are concerned, you will soon come to realize that someone is not cold as ice after all.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Your natural charm can win the day where business is concerned, but you should also know when to play things cool. If a Cancerian colleague is acting mysteriously, you need to find out what's going on. A close relationship that's been floundering will also benefit from a soul-searching conversation. Wear a piece of copper to encourage more realistic expectations.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Wish upon a star this Saturday and your dream could come true. You have the power to get ahead for the rest of September but must practice thinking more positively. Thursday is the best day to discuss business finances – Aquarius is ready to listen to your grievances. Your social life is a source of pleasure this weekend, especially when you meet an alluring Piscean. Wear sea green to make a good impression.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Temptation knocks on your door this week. You will be particularly vulnerable on Monday and Tuesday, so shopping on those days is not advised if you are trying to save money. An overseas trip before the end of the year will cost more than you anticipate, so make allowances. The romantic skies are clear if you would like to get to know Scorpio better, but Taurus isn't interested.

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# Why did the expat cross the road?

Patong's not just about, bars, bevy and scantily-clad beauties. Some residents have issues regarding everyday life that need airing. This is not to insinuate a disrespect for Thailand or local people, but maybe a few things need to be analyzed from time to time so changes can be made for the better – to improve the standard of life for everybody, especially the tourists who don't understand how things really work here.

**Highway Blues:** A month ago I was a big advocate of the one-way system, explaining how the flow of traffic was much improved and how the tuk-tuk drivers detested it. Now I'm starting to see things in a different light.

From the point of view of a pedestrian, I believe the run-for-your-life effort that is sometimes required in crossing Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd is a major problem.

During the past two weeks I have witnessed countless near misses, often involving tourists and motorbike drivers. I am start-



## TRAWLIN'

By Alas Swan

ing to get a different slant on proceedings. For instance, I know we can't change things overnight, but I think zebras must be extinct in Patong, as everybody seems to ignore their crossings.

I also think the one-way system is turning into a super bike grand prix, with motorcycle riders swerving in and out of each other at manic pace, while cars just stop wherever and whenever they like, not using their indicators.

Pedestrians can take little comfort in the safety of the sidewalk either, as the latest craze seems to be driving your bike on the footpath when you need to go somewhere that is in the oppo-

site direction to the flow of traffic.

Parking is almost impossible for a car owner and the tuk-tuk mafia seem to occupy every single parking spot in Patong, while their other members troll for fares at 10 kilometers an hour in the right-hand lane on the beach road. Some say the tuk-tuk convoy on the beach road can be seen from space.

Now I have got that off my chest, I can get back to trawlin' the gutters without fear of being run down – well, at least not intentionally.

**Irish eyes are smiling.** At the moment I'm becoming slightly obsessive about visiting every Irish bar on the island. Recently, I ventured into the newly opened Irish Times Pub located in the Jungceylon complex.

I was very impressed with the air-conditioned wooden interior and the wide range of draft beers offered. The only problem was the lack of punters inside, but when high season rears its busy head the pub might reach full swing.



**ROLL BACK:** The Time Machine on Phisit Gorani Rd offers cheap beer and live music, including Thai favorites. Remember them?

**I'm a fungi.** Tourists and expats alike often seek my expertise as to where is the best place in Patong to eat pizza.

In my humble opinion it is the excellent Pizza Ristorante, at the top end of Soi Saensabai, that conveniently stays open until 4 am.

You can choose between thin-and-crispy or deep-pan pizza. Adhering to my Irish bar fetish, I order takeaway then wait in Lek Murphy's directly opposite and quench my appetite with a draft Tiger beer whilst nattering to some real good ol' Irish folk.

**Back in time.** I was recently trawlin' around Patong only to discover a newly opened live

music bar named The Time Machine. Situated on Phisit Gorani Rd, not too far after the Nanai Rd turn off, the Time Machine is a snug little bar with aircon and wooden décor.

A warm atmosphere welcomes you inside, where the band plays folk music and some Thai tunes. Definitely worth a visit. The very cheap beer will get you in the groove before you venture out trawlin' Bangla for some Patong hospitality.

*If you have any questions about a good night out in Patong, or opinions regarding my ranting and raving about the one-way system – feel free to drop me a line at wasnotwass@gmail.com*



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There exists a plethora of free software tools for all kinds of uses and purposes. I am certain that for any need or requirement you may have, there is a corresponding free software tool out there for you to get the job done.

In this edition of Pushing Buttons, I want cover a few of the tools that I am currently using – plus give you a few tips and tricks you might find useful.

But first I would like to take my hat off to the Thai team that won the Software Design category of Microsoft's Imagine Cup 2007 held last month in South Korea: Vasan Chienmanee-taveesin from Chulalongkorn University, Prachaya Phaisanwiphatpong, Jatupon Sukkasem and Pathompol Saeng-Uraiporn from Kasetsart University.

This was not the kind of third-world, podunk, backwater competition we are used to seeing glorified in the Thai media.

The team competed against teams from 54 other countries from around the globe in the most prestigious category, Software Design. Their winning application, called Live Book, enables Thais – and anybody else – to develop their skills in reading, writing and listening to English.

It works by reading a book page via a webcam and then annotating and enhancing the words and sentences using images, extra vocabulary and voice output which is then displayed on the monitor for interactive use.

The program purportedly also supports learning Chinese. If you have a fast Internet connection (or lots of patience and a slow one), you can view a heartwarming video of these fine young men as they run up to the stage waving Thai flags at: [http://www.ddj.com/architect/201800205?cid=RSSfeed\\_DDJ\\_All](http://www.ddj.com/architect/201800205?cid=RSSfeed_DDJ_All)

You can also visit the Imagine Cup web site at <http://www.imaginecup.com>

K. Phaisanwiphatpong exclaimed, "We tried our best to prove that Thailand innovation can be accepted on the global stage." And who said that Thais can't innovate? Oh yeah, that was our brainiac ICT Minister; in spite

# Getting tooled up for free



**Mind-mapping graphics software mimics how your brain organizes stuff, allowing you to annotate links with icons, images, files and Internet links, and accompany each node with text entries.**

**'uniCode for Thai' is a user-friendly virtual Thai keyboard that works with most XP-oriented software, including Microsoft Word and even MSN Messenger.**



of his atrocious, non-existent support for such efforts, I want to say, "Well done, lads!"

Unfortunately, most of us in Thailand don't have a fast enough Internet connection to view video when it is embedded into a media player on a webpage and it is not downloadable for offline viewing. It is so frustrating to be living in 2007 and still not be able to watch video streamed from the Internet.

I am currently using a free tool that I often use for my day job called Paros Proxy ([www.parosproxy.org](http://www.parosproxy.org)) to extract the necessary information to download video files from the Internet and then view them offline at top viewing quality.

I am having some success, but video embedded in Flash files are presently causing me grief. When I have it all figured out, I'll let you know in a future article.

For the rest of this article, I want to cover some free tools that I'm using and give some tricks and tips for using them.

About six months ago I decided I wanted to make a huge effort to learn Thai – not only

conversation, but also reading and writing. As I have a knack for making relatively simple efforts very difficult, my plan was to first gather all the learning Thai CDs, cassette tapes and books that I had accumulated over the years – and mostly never touched – and then go about devising a plan to splice the audio conversations into short sentences, accompany those with the corresponding written Thai and English translation, and then package this all into a computer program with drag and drop so that I could build my own conversations.

After working away for a couple of weeks on the project, I had to sideline it because I had so much new technology to learn for my day job. Now I am taking some vacation time and revisiting the project.

Of course, I can barely remember a damned thing that I did – besides seeing the files that I created on my hard disk – but at the same time I coincidentally ran across an interesting free program called FreeMind, which is what is called mind-mapping software ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mind\\_map](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mind_map)).

Different from a normal "to do" list, mind-mapping software is supposed to better mimic how

your brain organizes stuff, allowing you to put your ideas into a tree-like form. It also can annotate links with icons, images, files and Internet links, and accompany each node with text entries. My life will never be the same.

You can download FreeMind from: [http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Main_Page)

It's a Java application, so it should run on any operating system that has a Java runtime engine.

So now that I have my Learning Thai project mind-mapped out, I am updating it at every stage of progress. If I do have to drop it for a while, then it should be much easier to resume later.

Another valuable and popular tool that I am using is called Audacity.

On its homepage (<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>) is the following description: Audacity is free, open source software for recording and editing sounds. It is available for Mac OS X, Microsoft Windows, GNU/Linux and other operating systems.

What an understatement! I have browsed the Audacity support forums and it is extremely versatile:

1. Professional and amateur



musicians use it to mix sound tracks;

2. Volunteers for the blind are using it to edit and compile their own voice recordings of books;

3. Journalists and writers use it to make their own podcasts;

4. Others who have recordings and wish to remove the noise from them use it...

For simple old me, I am taking 30-minute to one-hour sound recordings of Thai-language instruction (all bought and paid for by me) and splicing them into individual sentences.

Next, I have the painstaking task of writing down the Thai along with the English translation from the book that corresponds to each sentence.

Unfortunately, I couldn't find any OCR (optical character recognition) software that could take a picture of a book page in Thai and transfer it into output that could be used in a word processing program or text editor, which might be why the Thai team in the Imagine Cup supported English and Chinese and not Thai.

I searched and found OCR software developed by HP and donated as open source software to Google (<http://code.google.com/p/tesseract-ocr/>).

I even managed to compile it and get it to read TIFF file images of English words, but unsurprisingly it doesn't support Thai so I had to forego it.

If I could enter a time machine, stay on it for six months to be able to recognize Thai, and then come back five minutes later, it would be a great and fun project to take up.

So, back to the drawing board. The first task was to buy a magnifying glass for reading, since Thai fonts are so small they are illegible to my aging eyes.

Next was to find a way to type in Thai; the easiest way is by using a free virtual keyboard called "unicode for Thai V3.1" that can be downloaded from: <http://www.kikiat.com/thai/index.html> Unfortunately, it runs on Windows only.

Once you have an editable Windows program open, you can click on the symbols you want and magically they will appear in your program. I am using Wordpad and .RTF format with a large font.

So there are the pieces of my project. What is missing is the software that I'll write to put all of this together, which certainly is beyond the scope of this article. I'll probably make it Web-based and write it in PHP or Java (both free) on Fedora Core Linux (free, of course).

And who said that open source (free) software was poor quality because who would want to do something and not get paid for it? Oh, yeah, that was our ICT Minister again.

*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](mailto:iggy69@gmail.com)*



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Edward Hyman, chairman of International Strategy And Investment Group (ISI), was interviewed on August 29 by Michael Bloomberg. Although often taken to be yet another economist with a point of view, Mr Hyman has a track record that his peers are likely to envy.

He has been rated the top economist on Wall Street by *Institutional Investor* for the past 27 years. He does not believe that the US is going into a recession and believes that the stock market is currently a good place to hold funds.

Mr Hyman has said that he believes the US Federal Reserve, aka "the Fed", has worked beautifully in engineering an economic slowdown to put the brakes on inflation. He said the panic reverberating from politicians, economists and fund managers are exactly the right signals at this stage of the economic cycle.

The Fed has been waiting for this to happen as evidence that its anti-inflationary policies are working. When markets, labor and politicians are worried about a coming recession, it means inflationary pressures are abating.

The fight against inflationary pressures was the Fed's real target. "You have to give them credit. I would give the Fed an 'A' rating," Mr Hyman said.

# Banks caught short with bad conduits

On economic growth, he sees the US economy growing at an annualized rate of 1% to 1.5% by the end of 2007, with an increase in 2008. Hyman said that history shows that the stock market should be going straight up after monetary policy is loosened.

Obviously, there is always a delay between the Fed reducing interest rates and its effects on the "real" economy. Most economists agree that this process takes six to nine months. Effects will be felt on the stock market immediately as the market is a discounting mechanism.

In regards to the subprime problem, Mr Hyman says, "It's going to get worse. The cuts in interest rates will not do that much initially to ease the fallout from the subprime crisis. We're buying a future right now. We're buying a better outlook for the US economy to grow without inflation. Judging from history, the

housing recession could last another three years and subprime issues will linger."

The housing story in the US is obviously going to be a big issue for the politicians as the first primaries are not far away, the process carries on until the presidential elections in November 2008. President Bush may want both political parties to work in unison but with this taking place in the shadow of elections that is unlikely to happen.

One of the main areas of pressure is going to be the US\$417,000 (about 13.5 million baht) cap on mortgages that can be underwritten by US Federal housing associates the Federal Home Mortgage Corporation (aka "Freddie Mac") and the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae").

In light of the present situation, there is going to be intense pressure to raise this limit. At present, US\$417,000 is the maxi-

mum that can be financed and any loan in excess of this amount is referred to as a jumbo mortgage. The politicians are going to have a field day coming up with new options.

Apart from many sad stories emanating from the housing crisis, many borrowers entered the area of moral hazard. This term simply points out that where unwise or reckless decisions have taken place, people simply have to bear the consequences. The term also applies to companies, governments and others.

The shake up of global money markets due to sub-standard "commercial paper" being held by banks – that is, CDOs (Collateralized Debt Obligations) – saw another dubious entity, called conduits, come to the fore. Conduits are a new angle on the old banking practice of taking a client's assets, such as receivables and securities, and turning them into cash.

Banks have been very creative in adding to the list of assets that are in a conduit, including credit card receivables, car loans and mortgages.

In turn, the bank then sells these assets to large investors who are generally looking for a short-term investment that pays a higher return than traditionally offered by certificates of deposit or US Treasury Bills.

Recently, conduits have been incorporating assets from a variety of different banks and finance companies. This makes them much more opaque.

These conduits are designed to be bought on a 90-day contract with the investor either choosing to cash them in after this period or to extend the investment for another 90 days.

According to the *Wall Street*

*Journal*, notes issued for these conduits have reached alarming sizes, accounting for just under half of the US\$3 trillion (about 97.5 trillion baht) global "commercial paper" market.

The problem is exacerbated by many of these conduits holding assets that have longer-term maturities than the length of the "commercial paper" – 90 days. In some cases, even where a conduit does not hold mortgages, there is a natural concern being expressed by investors.

Some banks are finding it difficult to resell this paper when it matures and, in some cases, banks are being forced to step in to provide the funding themselves.

It is not just in the US that banks are having problems with conduits. HBOS, the fourth largest bank – by market capitalization – in the UK recently had to step in when a conduit with US\$36.7 billion (about 1.2 billion baht) in "commercial paper" outstanding ran into trouble. Barclays also had to step in on more than one situation.

More banks are going to have similar experiences, the one thing they will learn, and they should have known this already, is to check your credit quality and not to mismatch funding.

Conduits can work; there is nothing inherently wrong with the concept but they cannot be filled with goodies that would be more at home in a lucky packet.

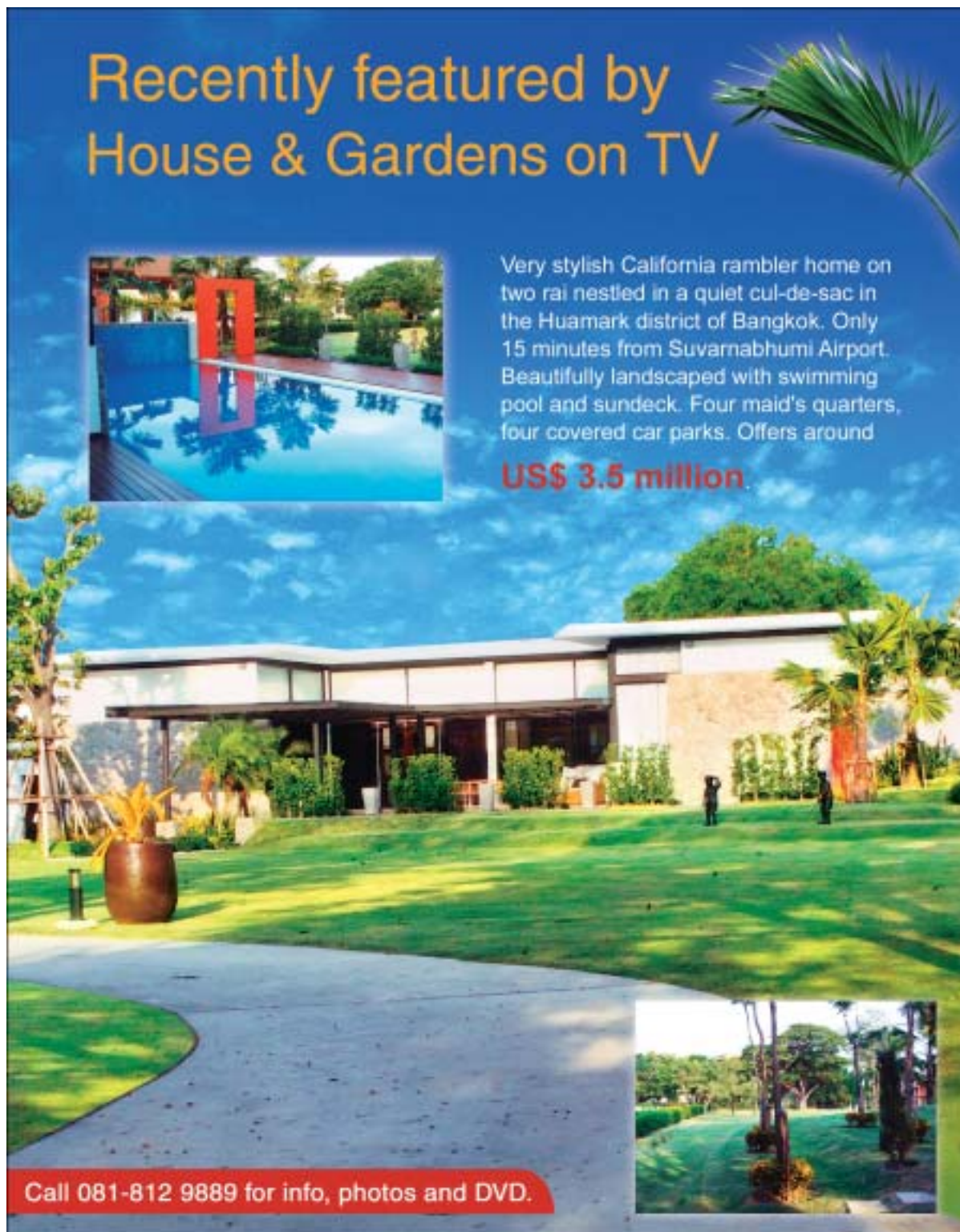
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By Richard G Watson

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## ON THE MOVE



**Anut Koonmart**, 33, from Srisaket, has been appointed Executive Sous Chef at JW Marriott Phuket Resort and Spa. He started his career 15 years ago in Bangkok, where he first worked at the Oriental Hotel and then at the Regent Hotel, Peninsula Hotel and the Merchant Court Hotel. He has also gained experience working in the US and Singapore. Before joining JW Marriott Phuket, he worked for four years as Executive Sous Chef at Hua Hin Marriott Resort and Spa.



**Wiwin Ong**, from Indonesia, has been appointed Director of Sales and Marketing at Sheraton Krabi Beach Resort. Ms Ong will be based in Bangkok and will oversee sales, marketing communications, conferences and reservations. She has more than 10 years' experience in the industry, having worked in several countries. Most recently, she was Director of Sales and Marketing at Hotel Padma in Bali and has held the same position at Le Royal Meridien Phuket Yacht Club.



American **Richard John Taffs** has been promoted to Director of Food & Beverage at JW Marriott Phuket Resort and Spa in Mai Khao. He has more than 20 years' experience in the hospitality industry, including working as Executive Chef at Intercontinental hotels in China, Taiwan and the Philippines, the Portman Shangri-La Hotel in China, Sheraton Park Tower Hotel in the UK, the Domaine de Bassibe in France and, most recently, at JW Marriott Hotel Bangkok.

# Phuket hailed Thailand's best fishing port

By Janyaporn Morel

**RASSADA:** Following recent renovations, Phuket Fishing Port is being hailed as a model for hygienic port operations and is set to become Thailand's tuna export hub after successfully qualifying as the country's first certified "hygienic" fishing port.

Port Manager Pramual Rakjai announced at the monthly Governor Meets The Press event on September 3 that after inspections by the Fishery Department in May this year, Phuket Fishing Port is now certified for standard hygienic operations.

The certificate was presented to Dr Suwichai Suparanont, Director of Thailand's Fishing Market Organization, by Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives Deputy Minister Dr Rungruang Isarangkura during a recent ceremony at Phuket Fishing Port.

Phuket Fishing Port's renovations were part of a 299-million-baht project, with support from both the Fishery Department and Fishing Market Organization, to improve hygiene standards of fishery operators in Phuket and nearby provinces.

The renovations, completed in July 2006, include facilities to ensure hygienic operations and transportation of seafood for fishery operators, on-site waste water treatment to supply clean water, and measures to check



**Most of the 20,000 metric tons of seafood that moves through Phuket Fishing Port annually is bound for export to Japan, which has an enormous appetite for tuna.**

**Phuket Fishing Port serves about 20 fishing boat operators, with a total of about 200 vessels, and processes some 20,000 metric tons of seafood worth over a billion baht annually. Most of the fish processed at the port is tuna bound for Japan.**

and prevent formalin contamination while preserving of fresh seafood.

"We are pleased to announce that all fresh seafood passing through the port meets international standards and is safe for consumption. No formalin was found in any of the samples examined in tests conducted by the

Fishery Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC), qualifying Phuket Fishing Port as a formalin-free

fishing port," K. Pramual said.

Formalin is 10% solution of formaldehyde in water, commonly used as a disinfectant.

"Our treated water complies with Pollution Control Department regulations for biological oxygen demand (BOD) levels. All wastewater from the port is released into the Tha Ching canal only after it is properly treated and has a BOD of about 16 ppm, far below the PCD maximum of 200 ppm," he added.

K. Pramual also emphasized that Phuket Fishing Port must continually train and assess plant operators, as certification is reviewed annually.

Phuket Fishing Port is now ready to be a center for tuna distribution, as Phuket has its own processed tuna factories and cold storage facilities to support this industry, K. Pramual said.

Moreover, with the international airport and its facilities, Phuket has all elements in place to support Phuket Fishing Port's development into a regional tuna export hub in the near future.

Phuket Fishing Port serves about 20 fishing boat operators, with a total of about 200 vessels. It also processes some 20,000 metric tons of seafood worth over a billion baht annually. Most of the fish processed at the port is tuna bound for Japan.



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## Soccer 7s to return to Phuket

By Matt Crook

PHUKET: This year will mark the fifth anniversary of the Phuket International Soccer 7s tournament, which is now Asia's largest soccer 7s competition.

The high demand for places in the tournament means that this year organizers have added a second auxiliary tournament, the Second Andaman Soccer 7s.

The tournaments are being organized by the Reperages Group and Australian organization Leisure Events, both of which organize similar events in Bangkok and Pattaya.

Each tournament will be divided into an open competition and a veterans (over 35s) competition. No prize money is up for grabs.

Phuket International Soccer 7s, to be held November 24 and 25, is already fully booked, with 32 teams preparing to do battle. Andaman International Soccer 7s still has some vacancies available; once again, up to 32 teams will face off for their moment of glory.

Matches will be held at Karon Stadium, with the evenings' post-match entertainment designated for Patong.

Last year, 40 teams from 15 countries took part in the tournament, including teams of former professional players from Germany, Australia and England.

At the time of writing, some 50 teams have confirmed participation across this year's two tournaments, including teams representing countries such as Singapore, Cambodia, China, Australia, Indonesia and many others.

For more information about both tournaments visit: [www.thai7s.com](http://www.thai7s.com)

# Tigress tames Turk, wins Thai hearts

By Skyler Swezy

**J**apanese Muay Thai fighter, Miriam Nakamoto captured the WPMO World Muay Thai Championship when she defeated Turkish-Thai boxer, Helena in a dramatic late-night fight during the Queen's Cup on August 12.

The fight, scheduled for the night of August 11, did not begin until 3:15 am August 12. Miriam, along with the thousands of impatient spectators who packed the makeshift ring set up at Sanam Luang, waited hours due to television delays and speeches from government officials.

The win for Miriam came despite her spending the previous night in hospital and receiving intravenous fluids to battle the flu. She weighed in at 63 kilograms, close to her walk-around weight, while the larger Helena, who had been training at Ramapo Gym in Bangkok, had to cut weight three times.

Miriam turned 31 the day after the Queen's Cup and had been training at Phuket's Tiger Muay Thai since April, first coming to Thailand as a contestant on the reality TV program Fight Girls. Her success on the show qualified her for a fight at Patong Stadium, where she won a split-decision against her Thai opponent.

Tiger Muay Thai owner, Will McNamara and Ray Elbe, a fighter and trainer at the camp, traveled with Miriam to the Queen's Cup to be in her corner. They believed if Miriam fought



**Tiger Muay Thai fighter Miriam Nakamoto sports her WPMO World Muay Thai Championship belt at the Queen's Cup, along with Will McNamara (right) and Ray Elbe (left) from Tiger Muay Thai Gym. Miriam defeated Helena from Turkey on August 12 at the Queen's Cup.**

her best fight she was likely to win.

"She's been in the game a long time and is very skilled. She's smart and has pro-boxing matches and knockouts under her belt. She's very, very skilled," said Ray.

When the fight began, both women came out strong, with Miriam winning the first round

landing inside leg kicks and punch combinations.

Initially, the crowd seemed to favor Helena, chanting "Turkey, Turkey" upon her entrance, but by the third round the crowd was swaying towards Miriam, who continued to deliver blows while Helena was continuously reprimanded for holding and choking.

The shift in support was completed in the final round when Helena and Miriam were locked against the ropes.

When the referee separated them, the Turkish fighter pulled on Miriam's shirt. "She was just a bad sport," said Will, "She tried to expose Miriam's breasts to the crowd."

Immediately after, Miriam responded by dropping Helena to the mat with a devastating kick. Seconds later, the two fighters locked up in Miriam's corner.

Helena was facing Ray, who was just outside the ropes. He pointed at her and yelled, "That's what you get." Helena

punched him in the face.

"At that point she lost the respect of the entire crowd; that's not Muay Thai," said Will.

The Judges scored Miriam as the winner of every round and she was presented with the WPMO World Muay Thai Championship belt.

It took Miriam nearly fifteen minutes to reach the locker room after she left the ring, as the crowd swarmed around her and fans scrambled to touch her, hug her, touch the belt, or get a photo with the new world champion.

"It was crazy. She really took the crowd," said Will.

Miriam went home to California soon after the fight. It's likely she will soon return to Thailand and Tiger Muay Thai Gym, where she plans to train to defend her title next December at the King's Cup, also in Bangkok.

To view Miriam's fight at Saphan Hin in March 2006, visit: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxGBWCRKyNY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxGBWCRKyNY)

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# Plookpanya students spike their way to victory

By Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

SAPHAN HIN: Children from around Phuket took part in a mini-volleyball tournament organized by Aeronautical Radio of Thailand (AeroThai) at Saphan Hin stadium September 3 to 7. The tournament was open to children under 12 years old, with 10 girls' teams and three boys' teams competing.

The event, which saw teams battling it out for cash prizes and medals, was co-hosted by Phuket City Municipality.

In the boys' division, Plookpanya School emerged victorious, fending off stiff opposition from Kajornrangsang School in the final match to win 2-0 and take home the grand prize of 4,000 baht and a trophy. Muang Phuket Municipal School came in third place.

The girls' tournament saw a number of closely fought battles take place throughout the event, with Samkong School emerging as the victors, nabbing the 4,000 baht prize purse and first-place trophy.

Winners in the boys' division Plookpanya School had to settle for second place in the girls' competition, while Dowroong Wittaya



A player from Samkong School (in blue) looks to score against the team of Plookpanya School (in yellow) in the final of the AeroThai mini-volleyball tournament on September 7.

School finished up in third place.

Winners of each division will now go on to face about 150 other teams in a regional mini-volleyball tournament to take place November 12 to 17 at Saphan Hin stadium, again organized by Aeronautical Radio of Thailand.

Children from Phang Nga, Krabi, Ranong and Satun will face off with Phuket's finest to battle

it out for the 8,000-baht top prize and the winners' trophy in each division. The winners of the regional tournament will go on to compete in the national finals, to be held in Bangkok January 2008.

For more information about mini-volleyball in Phuket contact Phuket Youth Center. Tel: 076-216866, 076-250163. Website: www.youthcentre.th.edu (Thai language only).

## Singapore clinches Straits title in volleyball

PHUKET: Sportsmen from around the region gathered at Phuket Municipality Sports Complex at Saphan Hin from August 31 to September 2 to participate in the sixth annual Straits Games.

The Straits Games, organized to promote healthy relationships in the international lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community, began as a friendly annual sports event be-

tween the Leadership Program Graduates of Malaysia and the Men After Work of Singapore.

Since it's conception, interest has grown around the region.

Volleyball was the only team sport this year, with teams from Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand competing fiercely for the top spot.

Thailand-Patong and Thailand-Phuket made it to the semi-

finals, with Thailand-Phuket going head-to-head with Singapore in the finals. The final match was a hard battle for the Thai team, with the strong Singaporean side looking to wrap things up quickly as players began showing signs of fatigue.

Singapore overcame the Thai opposition to take the first set 25-22 and the second set 26-24 in a close-fought match.



## Spice wins media bowl-off

PHUKET: Aeronautical Radio of Thailand (AeroThai) organized a friendly bowling competition at CS Bowl Big C, Chalemprakiat Rd on August 30 to promote positive relations between AeroThai and the Phuket media.

Representatives from Phuket's media and AeroThai, a state enterprise under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, were put into twenty-four teams of not more than three persons to compete for the first prize of a ceramic salver trophy.

The winning team (pictured) of Achattaya Chuenniran (*Bangkok Post*) and Nongluck Jamkrajang and Nopparat Teerapappong (AeroThai) took first place with 1,400 points.

Sub Lt Anurat Chanahutanon (Nice FM), Uethawee Inthong and Songpol Thongluan (AeroThai) took the second spot with 1,350 points, while Munee Lealhang, Kanate Pongsukkawate and Sopol Kiamkarn (Provincial Public Relations Office) won third place with 1,200 points. Both teams took home small salvers as their prizes.

## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

PATONG: While the level of play in the Patong Darts League (PDL) has shown few signs of improvement, there has in recent weeks been a remarkable surge in interest of the rules and regulations of play.

The latest brouhaha involved a player for one side who turned up to play for another venue, much to the dismay of the opposing team, who happened to drop the beer leg on the night in question. While this type of thing has been going on for a long time, it has been decided that a new rule be added to prevent it from happening again.

The new rule is as follows: A player can change the bar he plays for, but cannot reverse the move in the same season. Put simply: A player who wants to remain with a team cannot play for another bar. Such a move will be considered non-reversible, effective until the end of the season.

Right, now back to actual darts action: Offshore took all three points on the road at Beach House to move into a first-place tie with Queen Mary, who beat Piccadilly 5-4, but then lost the beer leg after Piccadilly's Markus

stunned all present by flipping in a x11 on his first throw to win the beer leg.

There were five players with 140s in the match, with Queen Mary proprietor Steen (not the league secretary) winning the playoff.

Captains of all teams are encouraged to send all of their match information to darts@phuketgazette.net for inclusion in future articles here.

**September 4 results.** Market Bar\* 2 Dogs Bollocks 7; Queen Mary 5 Piccadilly\* 4;

Beach House 4 Offshore\* 5; Valhalla 4 Simply Red\* 5; Shakers bye. (\* = winner of beer leg)

**Standings.** 1.= Queen Mary, Offshore (8); 3. Dogs Bollocks (5); 4.= Shakers, Market Bar (4); 6.= Piccadilly, Simply Red (3); 8. Valhalla (1); 9. Beach House (0).

**September 18 match-ups.** Simply Red v Market Bar; Piccadilly v Shakers; Dogs Bollocks v Offshore; Beach House v Valhalla; Queen Mary = bye. (home teams listed first)

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## Design

by Suganya Semacote

Ratri Jazztaurant features an inverted roof and has no windows, affording an idyllic sea view from Kata Hill.



## Phuket's Pantheon turns design on its head

Open since late 2005, Ratri Jazztaurant brands itself as Phuket's funkiest eatery. You get live music and great sea views, all within the confines of a contemporary, Andaman building that reflects shades of Chinese, Malaysian, Thai and even Roman design.

"First of all, we wanted to make a restaurant that was a bit upmarket," said Manager Jay Ujin.

"In Phuket, as I see it, there are very few restaurants like this. Our aim was to make the restaurant airy, with a high ceiling so that the view can be seen from all areas. The restaurant is split into two areas: one for dining and a lounge space for relaxing and drinking."

Bangkok company Be Gray Co Ltd designed Ratri, a task that took about one year to complete as it went through a number of changes, explained K. Jay.

"It may look simple but a lot of work went into it," he said.

"The small details of the design work are what I call modern Oriental, with an emphasis on natural materials, such as wood, and a mix of Chinese, Thai and Muslim design."

"Be Gray has designed many projects, such as Sri Lanta Hotel and Sala Samui Resort. The

architect is a young, modern guy," said K. Jay.

"I chose light colors, like beige and cream, for the restaurant because I wanted it to have a natural feel, and light colors can assimilate well with natural colors. The earth tone of the wooden floor gels ideally with the overall color scheme and the whole thing complements the natural surroundings of the restaurant," said K. Jay.

One aspect of the design work that stands out is that Ratri Jazztaurant has no glass windows, leaving diners open to the elements.

When the weather turns, plastic curtains can be lowered to shield guests from wind and rain. Without windows, guests are brought closer to nature with the outdoor feel of the restaurant.

"I call Phuket a rich man's playground because it is a well-known destination for people of all ages. The island has five-star hotels and expensive real estate and receives frequent visits from celebrities.

"However, Phuket still misses out on having great restaurants that are trendy or chic with modern, interesting design. At Ratri Jazztaurant, people can enjoy the food and the atmosphere created by the design," said K. Jay.

Taking inspiration from the Pantheon in Rome, the open-air view of the sea is broken up by a number of columns. In total there are 23 pillars on the lower floor, and 10 on the upper floor, adding a touch of Roman style to the design work.

The use of pillars gives the restaurant an airy, clear atmosphere created by the openness of the dining and lounging spaces.

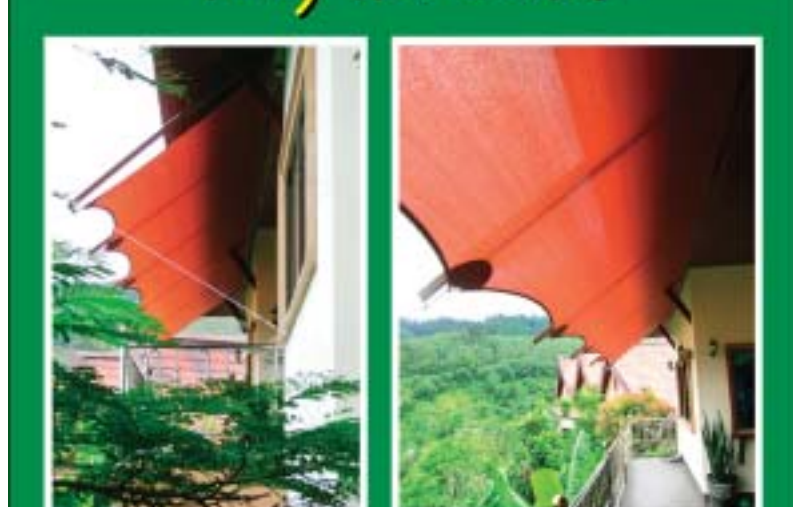
K. Jay said that the pillars are there to support the "upside-down roof". The inverted roof, which slopes up from the middle of the restaurant, was a simple way to make the restaurant stand out, added K. Jay.

Built in 125 AD, the Pantheon in Rome is one of the best-preserved buildings of its time in history, bearing testament to the advanced architectural and design work.

"In 2006, *Wallpaper Magazine* went so far as to give Ratri Jazztaurant the accolade of being the Pantheon of Phuket, a title K. Jay said he is very proud of. Though it may not be around for 2,000 years, Ratri Jazztaurant is a winner with its airy, spacious design.

For further information contact Jay at Ratri Jazztaurant. Tel: 089-8745286. Email: info@ratrijazztaurant.com


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## Construction

by Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

# Samkong Shrine to be ready for Vegetarian Fest

PHUKET CITY: The Hokkien shrine in Samkong known to the local Chinese community as the Lhim Hoo Tai Soo Shrine is undergoing major restoration and renovation in preparation for this year's Vegetarian Festival, which takes place from October 11 to 19.

The shrine on Yaowarat Rd was originally built over 100 years ago by Luang Soonthorn Jeen Pracha, who donated the land and set up the shrine to support the Chinese community in Samkong.

Somkuan Tansakun, president of the organizing committee of the annual Vegetarian Festival, is looking forward to completion of the restoration work in time for this year's festival.

"The renovation will ensure that we have a suitable central location to conduct activities during the vegetarian festival in October," he said.

Engjai "Pae Jai" Janerue, who conducts rites at Lhim Hoo

Tai Soo Shrine, told the *Gazette* that the Lhim Hoo Tai Soo Shrine has become increasingly popular over the years for Vegetarian Festival ceremonies since the first one was held there for the Samkong community in 2000.

"Once restoration of the shrine is complete, it will have the capacity to handle the increasing number of visitors, as space has been very limited," Pae Jai said.

"I have conducted ceremonies in the pavilion for the past seven years under a corrugated iron roof. The restoration is a much needed addition for the local community and influx of tourists during the vegetarian festival," he added.

Funding for the 2.09-million-baht restoration is from donations by the Chinese community and the backing of more than 100 fund-raising efforts by local shrine devotees.

The new multi-purpose building has been under construc-



Construction of new buildings for the 100-year-old Samkong shrine will provide much needed additional space in time for the upcoming vegetarian festival in October.

tion since July 3 and is due to be complete by October 13.

The hall, being built by Inter Korsang 2002 Co Ltd, will be only one level measuring 11 meters wide and 23 meters long.

The hall, which will have a total floor area of about 253

square meters, will be enclosed on only two sides by three-meter-high walls. The walls will be made of concrete and will actually form the property boundary bordering the neighboring plots.

The roof of the structure initially will be flat concrete so

that a roof can be added later after more funds have been raised, said K. Somkuan.

In addition to providing a place for activities to be held under shelter from the rain, the venue will also include a men's and a women's restroom.

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## Gardening

by Bloomin' Bert

**V**egetarians are a bit odd. I'm sorry if that upsets a few leaf munchers on the island, but it had to be said. We're not cows or sheep – we're omnivores; we're designed to eat both plants and meat.

All we have to do is look at our teeth to see that we're supposed to eat meat and plants. Human teeth are clearly designed for an omnivorous diet: incisors for slicing, and molars and premolars for grinding.

But why can some vegetarians be so annoying? It's obviously nothing to do with the fact that they simply must have specially prepared meals when eating out. "It might have been cooked in the same pan as your beef stroganoff." Oh, really?

Or how about "veggies" who continually preach to meat eaters, such as myself, to persuade us to change our eating habits? Believe me, I don't find their plates of tofu surprise the least bit appealing.

Then there's the whole idea of giving themselves a name because they eat a certain type of food. Am I an eateverythingarian? Of course not – that would be silly. So why do it?

Some vegetarians are a little

# MEAT EATERS UNITE

confused. I'm no expert in this regard, but isn't it kind of written in the veggie rulebook that you're not supposed to eat erm... meat? Thought so.

Then how come so many of these people eat fish? It's not cool to electrocute, shoot or have a cow mechanically whacked on the head so fast as to end its life as quick as humanely possible, but it's fine to take a fish from the water and slit its throat or simply wait for it to suffocate?

Vegans are even worse – they don't stop extolling the virtues of consuming grains and bean curd. Those who refuse to eat any form of food that comes from an animal often preach that it's the natural way; the "humane" way.

According to my dictionary, "humane" is defined as characterized by kindness, mercy and compassion. Could somebody pop over to Africa and have a chat with all those wicked lions. Perhaps someone could point out to them that all those gazelles don't want to be eaten.

The carnivores of the Savannah are hardly unique – after



**Pitcher plants may look pretty, but they're actually vicious meat eaters that like nothing more than a homemade fly soup.**

all, meat-eating animals exist the world over. Plants, of course, would never be that nasty. They're far more civilized. All they do is suck up water from the ground and sit there collecting sunlight. They could hardly be meat eaters. But, as with most

things, there's an exception to the rule.

This part of the world has one of the most distinctive carnivorous plants out there – the pitcher plant, or *mor khao mor kang ling* in Thai.

Nepenthes, or monkey cups, are some of the more common pitcher plants in Phuket. They are natives of Southeast Asia, India, Madagascar and Australia. Most are vines, but some remain compact and don't reach out much.

The pitcher, the plant is named after, is actually a huge swelling of the mid-vein in the leaf. Insects are attracted to its color and sweet secretions.

The slippery rim and the inner walls of the pitcher cause insects to fall into the digestive fluid at the bottom of the clever trap, where they meet an untimely demise.

The plant's nutrients are absorbed from the soup that results – how inhumane! By the way, the name "monkey cups" comes from the monkeys that occasionally drink the fluid in the pitchers. These are obviously monkeys that don't call waiters over to complain about flies in their bowls of soup.

Pitchers are highly ornamental, despite their unseemly habits. The leaves may be a dull green, but the pitcher is unique in

each species. They look exotic and delicate, but they're not. They're easily reproduced from cuttings or seeds and they are rapid growers.

Nepenthes pitcher plants like bright light without too much direct sun. About 50% sun or dappled shade is good – that black shade netting stuff is perfect. Sun burn usually appears as red or dead zones on the uppermost growth, facing the sun or light.

Water your pitcher plant regularly, without letting it dry out completely. They benefit from moist soil and the odd drenching to wash away accumulated salts. Use clean water, such as rain, distilled or purified water. At 10 baht per giant bottle, your watering bill will hardly break the bank.

After deciding exactly where you want your pitcher plant to grow, add a little water (about one or two centimeters) to the pitchers, as while they are being transported, the fluid that should be present often gets dumped out; sometimes these parched pitchers will dry out and die, and refilling helps combat this.

Pitchers and leaves die naturally as the plants grows, and these should be trimmed off for maximum growth. As many nepenthes are vines, you might want to prune the green stems back to encourage side shoots and a fuller, bushier plant.

The vines can also be trained up a stake or cage (as in the picture; a pitcher costing 5,000 baht, taken at the recent flower show at Saphan Hin) or left to hang low in an elevated container, such as a hanging basket.

Can you eat pitcher plants? I haven't a clue. A far more amusing thought would be whether a veggie would. Or more correctly, could. Could a meat-eating plant possibly sit on the same plate as their nut cutlets and millet? It wouldn't bother me, as I'm a staunch eateverythingarian. Except tofu. Yuck. Waiter!

**Want advice on your garden?**

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**R**oofs are probably the most difficult part of a house to keep clean. Over time roofs become home to road dust, tree sap, moss and mildew.

Moss and mildew usually start out by growing in wet, dark eaves. Left to their own devices, they work their way up the roof, moving steadily and staining more shingles as they go. Nearly all roofing materials – tile, slate, fiber, cement and in the worst case asbestos – can become dull and weakened by moss growth.

Moss acts like a sponge, absorbing water, which increases the weight and stress on the roof. It creates a dull, dirty appearance which can reduce the value of your home.

With some spare time, some low-tech equipment and no fear of heights, you can get rid of moss and mildew on the shingles or roof tiles and remove the stains left by the fungi.

If you plan on cleaning the roof by yourself, safety is a primary concern. Use a sturdy ladder and if your roof is very high or steeply sloped, it would be a good idea to wear a safety harness.

Also, shingles and tiles are slippery enough when dry. Once wet, they can become treacherous, so wear shoes or work boots with non-skid soles.

To make the cleaning solution, you need one gallon of hot water, a cup of household bleach, a quarter cup of laundry detergent and a quarter cup of tri-sodium phosphate (a white powder available at most hardware stores that is used as a cleaning agent), stain remover and degreaser.

Mix the cleaning solution in a two-gallon bucket and pour enough of the cleaner into either a low-pressure power spray washer or garden hose with a screw-on soft brush and a sprayer bottle.

Spray the solution onto the dirtiest areas of the shingles or tiles first. Then, spray the rest of

# Calling in the moss killer

the roof, making sure to cover every square inch. Refill the sprayer as necessary and spray the dirtiest areas a second time.

Allow the cleaner to soak for 20 to 30 minutes before using either the low-pressure power spray washer or the garden hose, with a screw-on soft brush, to clean the stained areas of the roof.

Then move on to the rest of the roof and scrub or spray it clean. Finally, use a garden hose to rinse the roof off well revealing a roof that looks brand-new.

Although cleaning a roof in this fashion is fairly common, many people often forget these simple handy hints:

1. Before washing the roof, attach garbage bags around the ends of the down spouts to avoid the toxic chemicals washing onto the lawn and killing the grass.

2. Make sure the hose is long enough to reach all parts of the roof.

3. Make sure you wear eye protection and thick rubber gloves when working with the strong moss-killing chemicals

4. Always wash the chemicals off the roof from the top downwards to avoid the corrosive chemicals getting into the shingles.

5. Be sure to rinse off the downspouts and the gutters in order to remove the corrosive solution from the metal after you have finished.

Drawbacks of this method is having to repeat the process each rainy season, which can eventually remove or roughen the surface of the roofing material, reducing its durability, and if not done thoroughly, the process can spread the moss spores rather than kill them.

An alternative and longer-lasting solution that doesn't re-



**WELCOME TO THE WET SEASON: Moss and mildew on the roof can reduce the value of your property.**

quire climbing onto the roof each year is using copper to remove and prevent the growth of moss, algae and lichen on the roof.

When copper is exposed to air and water, it oxidizes, creating a fungicide called copper sulphate or "copper irons", which is a highly-effective moss killer.

One such copper sulphate product is MOOSfree – a simple yet effective strip of 99.9% pure copper strands woven together that is laid the length of the roof

ridge and held in place with a "n" shaped strip of high-tech self-adhesive tape.

Installation is simply a case of sticking the strip to the ridge and letting the copper network release the moss killing copper sulphate over the years.

The strip will release copper sulphate over the whole roof with every downpour for up to 50 years. Because of the corrosive nature of the copper sulphate produced, it is important that gutters

are made from copper, stainless steel, aluminum or plastic.

Gutters made of zinc or titanium zinc must be coated, otherwise they will corrode from the contaminated run off.

There are several copper-based products on the market but the secret is in providing a large enough surface area and continuous protection with a steady release of the herbicidal chemicals.

MOOSfree uses 0.1-millimeter-thick copper strands that have been woven into a multi-layer knitted textile of 3,500 copper strands per meter, giving them the same surface area as a 100-centimeter-by-115cm copper sheet even though it is only 10cm wide.

The surface area is nearly doubled, due to the inclusion of a water-storing fleece, which holds the copper ions so they are not completely washed away with the next rainfall but are dispersed over the surface of the roof over time.

*Andreas Ruthe is Managing Director of Technical Construction Materials Asia Co., Ltd. (TCM Asia). He can be contacted at [ruthe@tcm-asia.com](mailto:ruthe@tcm-asia.com)*



## Home WORKS

By Andy Ruthe

ACTUAL IMAGE

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

### TROPICAL VILLA FOR SALE



Living area: 600sqm. Garden area: 6,400sqm (4 rai). Large 250sqm terrace. 3 bedrooms & 1 master bedroom with en-suite bathroom. Open-plan kitchen, living room, Jacuzzi, swimming pool, 100sqm of artificial rivers and charming island, 3-car garage & exterior parking. Completely furnished, foosball table and snooker table. Located at Pa Khlok, 5 mins from Ao Por, marina, golfing, etc. No sea view. Company formed since 2002. Chanote title. Price: 49 million baht. Project by international architects. For info, contact Tel: 081-8935270. Email: mrdupouy@yahoo.fr Please visit our website: [www.tropical-house.net](http://www.tropical-house.net)

### PHUKET RESIDENCE 4 NEW HOUSES FOR SALE!! (Nai Ham)

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  - Swimming Pool & Garden
  - Built To All European Standards
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- CALL 086-596-9601

### KATA BEACHFRONT LUXURY

5-star, exotic, 1 bedroom, spa, pools, ADSL, furnished. Price reduced to 8 million baht. Email: [asiasail@yahoo.com](mailto:asiasail@yahoo.com) For further details, please visit our website: <http://koumbele.com/kata1/>

### LAGUNA AREA VILLA

Luxury villa with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, swimming pool, garden. Great location near Laguna Village. Tel: 087-893-4636. Email: [annericphuket@hotmail.com](mailto:annericphuket@hotmail.com)



### Surin Beach - Modern Seaview Apartments for sale

Within 100 metres of the beach, 80 sqm. of living space. One bedroom, living room, European-style kitchen, fully furnished, air conditioning, hot water system, home security system, internet connection, television and satellite TV. The price starts from 6.5 million baht for the first-floor apartment. Please contact Ann 66 81 868 7676

### SOUTH END OF PATONG BAY



Patong Bay. Beautiful house in a top location. For detailed information about this house and the location see our website. Tall, spacious, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, pool and amazing sea view in the daytime and with stunning scenery over Patong in evening time. Located in Baan Suan Kamnan. A green, clean, quiet and lovely residential area at the south end of Patong Bay. House for sale at 30 million baht. Owner also open for lease or rental talks. Possibilities for first mortgage directly from owner. Partly off-shore payments are possible. Please contact Edwin at Tel: 086-7866350. Email: [buurmanb@hotmail.com](mailto:buurmanb@hotmail.com) Visit our website for more details. [www.patongbluepoint.com](http://www.patongbluepoint.com)

### KAMALA HOUSE

1 rai land, 2 bedrooms, hill view, big garden, quiet place. 8.9 million baht. Please call Tel: 081-6697814.

**12 RAI SHRIMP FARM**  
2.5 million baht. Includes house between Phuket and Krabi. 14km from Phang Nga Town. Contact Tel: 076-596-393, 089-5906943. Email: [nico.winder@gmail.com](mailto:nico.winder@gmail.com)

### KHAO LAK SHOPHOUSE FOR SALE

A 3-story shophouse on the main road in Khao Lak. 300 meters from the beach & shophouse center. Opposite Khao Lak Laguna Hotel. Tel: 084-8432949, 086-2717979.

### HOUSE FOR SALE

3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, garden, big kitchen, balcony, aircon, tank, furnished, near Kathu waterfall. Tel: 076-323696, 084-7597880.

### SURIN LAND FOR SALE

1,016sqm: 6 million baht. 996sqm: 5 million baht. 5-minute walk to Surin Beach. Call Tel: 081-8687676.

### LUXURY VILLAS



Close to Laguna. Best negotiable price. Brand new. 1,100sqm land, 4 bedrooms, pool, lotus pond & garden. Contact K.Gai. Tel: 081-7344324. For more info, please visit our website: [www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com](http://www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com)

### NAI HARN BEACH CONDO

Located in a lovely residence of 8 units. Modern, 60sqm of living space, sleeps up to 4 people. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom with Jacuzzi, spacious living room with European kitchen, full aircon, elegant furniture, cable TV. Nice terrace overlooking landscaped garden and swimming pool. Parking. Walking distance to beach. Only 2.6 million baht. Tel: 087-2815795. Email: [chausecyril@yahoo.fr](mailto:chausecyril@yahoo.fr)

### 18 ROOMS FOR SALE

18 rooms/bungalows on 5 rai of land with 14 years remaining on land lease. Lots of room for expansion. Photos and price provided on request. Tel: 081-7193375. Email: [resortonphiphi@hotmail.com](mailto:resortonphiphi@hotmail.com)

### POOL VILLA FOR SALE

Bang Tao, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, sat TV, Internet, auto door. Tel: 084-8516121. Email: [phuketmat@yahoo.com](mailto:phuketmat@yahoo.com) Visit our website: [www.phukethome.ws](http://www.phukethome.ws)

### NEW SEA VIEW CONDOMINIUM

Variety of units at 60, 120, and 180sqm. Overlooking Chalong Bay and Rawai Bay. Priced from 1.8 million baht. Contact Kuno at Tel: 081-9685963, 081-9685963. Email: [m@bayproject.com](mailto:m@bayproject.com)

### BEACHFRONT POOL VILLA

Located on a private beach. Priced at only 9 million baht. Contact Tel: 084-4422510. Email: [admin@thaisunshinedevelopments.com](mailto:admin@thaisunshinedevelopments.com) For details, visit our website: [www.thaisunshinedevelopments.com/sichon\\_beach.htm](http://www.thaisunshinedevelopments.com/sichon_beach.htm)

### BIG GOLF VILLA

Big luxurious villas for sale from 9 million baht. Only 25 meters to Loch Palm Golf Club. Please contact for details at Tel: 081-9685963. Email: [m@bayproject.com](mailto:m@bayproject.com)

### RAWAI BEACH CONDO

Sea view, foreign freehold. 550,000 baht. Tel: 086-940-8914. Email: [freeholdprop@yahoo.com](mailto:freeholdprop@yahoo.com)

### KARON LAND FOR SALE



15 million baht per rai, Chanote, hillside, panoramic sea view, quiet area. Please contact for additional information. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: [se\\_rim@hotmail.com](mailto:se_rim@hotmail.com)

### RAWAI BEACH VILLA

400sqm house, pool, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Garden and covered terrace. Price: 7.5 million baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: [freeholdprop@yahoo.com](mailto:freeholdprop@yahoo.com)

### RAWAI BEACH DUPLEX

15-year lease, 107sqm duplex house, pool, carport, garden. Price: 1.5 million baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: [freeholdprop@yahoo.com](mailto:freeholdprop@yahoo.com)

### LUXURY APARTMENT IN PATONG

with lots of elegant furniture. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, well-equipped kitchen. Clubhouse including swimming pool, snooker, sauna and bar. Comes with new Toyota Fortuner. You can have private swimming, just open the side door. Best views of Patong, especially when standing outside on the balcony. 190sqm in a nice location. Bring your baggage to stay immediately. Please contact the owner. Tel: 085-1982577.

### 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](mailto:freeholdprop@yahoo.com)

### 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. 6.2 million baht ono. Must sell due to move to Bangkok. Tel: 087-3865200.

### SHOPHOUSE IN CHALONG FOR SALE

As new condition, excellent location. Many extras. 4.3 million baht. Tel: 085-7987156 (Eng), 085-8831695 (Thai).

### 2-STORY TOWNHOUSE

Living area: 98.5sqm. Land plot: 144sqm. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, carport, and garden. 618,000 baht. Last payment: 1,472,000 baht. Tel: 081-4940450. Fax: 076-264517. Email: [linjee@gmail.com](mailto:linjee@gmail.com)

### 180SQM NEW PENTHOUSE



Panoramic sea view, 2-3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, large living room. From 8 million baht. Please contact me for a viewing. Tel: 081-9685963. Email: [kuno@bayproject.com](mailto:kuno@bayproject.com) For further details, please visit our website: <http://www.bayproject.com/invest/index.htm>

### HILLSIDE HOMES

for sale/barter. 4 brand-new, quiet, natural, luxurious 2-bedroom and 2-bathroom villas. Fully furnished with outdoor whirlpool. Approx 180sqm on a 100sq wah plot of land. In the most guarded, prestige estate of Saraburi. For sale at 4.75 million baht each or barter with seaview-land plots or condo development in Phuket. Call Tel: 081-8142040. Email: [sales@thaimartin.com](mailto:sales@thaimartin.com) Visit our website: [www.ziam.com](http://www.ziam.com)

### SEAVIEW PLOTS IN BANG TAO

Fantastic view, ready to build, underground utilities. Starting at 3 million baht. Call to view. Tel: 089-590-3665, 086-2670157. Email: [bannuaton@yahoo.com](mailto:bannuaton@yahoo.com)

### RAWAI BEACH CONDO

Sea view, foreign freehold. 650,000 baht. Tel: 086-940-8914. Email: [freeholdprop@yahoo.com](mailto:freeholdprop@yahoo.com)

### PATONG CONDOS

From 2.4 to 9.9 million baht. Located on Nanai Rd. Contact Marc. Tel: 085-7839062.

### HOUSE IN PATONG B4.7 MILLION

23sqm, furnished, 3 bedrooms, aircon, 1 bathroom, living room, kitchenette, washing machine. Tel: 081-5690664. Fax: 076-344485. Email: [sunsetap@ji-net.com](mailto:sunsetap@ji-net.com)

### BEAUTIFUL HOUSE FOR SALE



51.47sqm, in Chanakran Property Village, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Behind TOT Public Co Ltd in Chalong. The house is under construction and will be ready within one month. Price: 3.9 million baht. Please call for more details. Tel: 081-9562406.

### NICE HOUSE FOR SALE



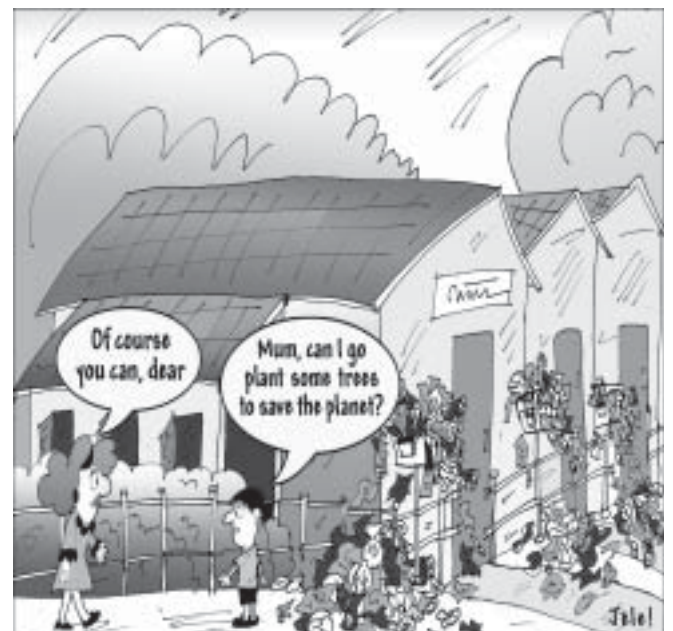
Perfect house, 4-5 bedrooms, ready to move in, includes 2006 Honda Jazz. Contact Tel: 081-8915296. Email: [hkthomesale18@yahoo.com](mailto:hkthomesale18@yahoo.com) For photos and details, visit our website: <http://www.jikkycar.com>

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land and villas for sale at the best prices in Thailand. Email: [admin@ideacon.biz](mailto:admin@ideacon.biz) For info, please visit our website: <http://www.thaisunshinedevelopments.com>

### LAND FOR SALE

8 rai coconut farm near Tapee River in Surat Thani. 80m wide. Electricity and water. Price: 4.5 million baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 089-0927697. Email: [matklang@hotmail.com](mailto:matklang@hotmail.com)





# Property Gazette

## BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



5 mins to Phuket airport, close to the beach, 10 rai. 120 million baht. Must see. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: gyb\_giff@hotmail.com

## AO POR LAND URGENT SALE



150 rai, Chanote, panoramic sea view. From 2.3 million baht per rai. Contact for more information. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: se\_rim@hotmail.com

## LUXURY VILLA NAI HARN RAWAI



720sqm land plot, guest-house, ADSL, UBC, sala, swimming pool. Quality building and finishing. 12.5 million baht. Must see! Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-7310283. Email: harrij@loxinfo.co.th

## MAGNIFICENT SEAVIEW



over many tropical islands toward Krabi and Phang Nga. Probably best views in Cape Yamu. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, large colonial mansion, on over large land plot with swimming pool. In finished exclusive development. Only 25 million baht. Tel: 086-2796283.

## HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 50sq wah, garden. Sell: 2.9 million baht. Rent: 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-5444400.

## SEAVIEW PLOTS IN BANG TAO

Fantastic view, ready to build, underground utilities. Starting at 3 million baht. Call to view. Tel: 089-590-3665, 086-2670157. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

## HILLSIDE LAND

1,760sqm. Chanote, quiet and exclusive area, private access. Located 1.2km west of Rawai Rd. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 085-7827551.

## NAI HARN HOME W/ POOL

Private, secluded, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, custom pool, located on over a 1 rai. 9.5 million baht. Tel: 087-2095174.

## PATONG HOUSE FOR SALE

Large, quiet hillside location, 270sqm living space. 3 to 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, living, dining, European kitchen, aircon, wood flooring throughout. Double carport, 4 balconies, small garden, partial sea views. Price: 7.8 million baht. Call Tel: 087-2681170.

## HOUSE FOR SALE


New 2-story house with open-plan kitchen, dining room, living room plus 2 separate living rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 en-suite bathrooms, laundry room, big verandas, 2 car parks. Located in Chalong area. Call Frank. Tel: 086-6831964.

## 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, Jacuzzi, restaurant. All rooms with aircon, TV, DVD player and ADSL. Parking available. 9 million baht. Tel: 076-346-065, 081-8914844. Email: joerg@phuket.ksc.co.th

## 2 BEACHHOUSES FOR SALE

Kamala: 15 million baht. Rawai Beach: 29.5 million baht. Both are ready to move in. Contact Marc at Tel: 085-7839062.



## Foreign Freehold Available

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[WWW.CHALONGBAYVIEW.COM](http://WWW.CHALONGBAYVIEW.COM) MOBILE: 087 898 7062

## CHERNG TALAY-MANIK



2 rai, hill views, Chanote, wall around land. Price: 5.9 million baht. Call Tel: 086-2746511.

## NEW 3-STORY COMMERCIAL

building. 2 bathrooms. Price: 4 million baht. Please contact Tel: 086-7432011.

## LAND INVESTMENT

30 rai full of palm trees in Kapong, Phang Nga. Priced at only 120,000 baht per rai. Financing available. Email: bourlis@hotmail.com

## KOH YAO YAI LAND FOR SALE

4.5 rai, Chanote, hillside panoramic sea view, close to beach. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-5955574. Email: kraisorn@ppfashionworld.com

## SEA VIEW

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Sea, bay and hill views. Great location. Tel: 081-6932250. Email: lumpoon@loxinfo.co.th

## 20-46 RAI IN KAMALA



All land has a fantastic sea view and good road access. Chanote. Land can be sold in divided plots. Thai owner. Price: 6 million baht per rai. Please contact Sakorn at Tel: 087-6050365. Email: tim.kamalaparadise@hotmail.com

## HOUSE FOR SALE

2-stories in a most desirable and secure estate. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, living room, kitchen, laundry room, set in fenced garden. Furnished, ADSL, UBC. Price: 7 million baht obo. Tel: 084-8439579. Fax: 076-323421. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

## LAND FOR SALE

1,728sqm of beautiful land. Just 150 meters off Bang Niang Beach in Khao Lak. Price: 4.5 million baht. Tel: 076-485614, 081-8912134. Fax: 076-485613. Email: info@iq-dive.com

## HIGH-QUALITY HOME



2 stories, 4 bedrooms, 1/2 rai in Rawai. Separate building with maid's unit, storeroom, laundry, large kitchen. 300m to Chalong Circle. Large living areas, 2-car garage. Too many features to list. Price: 12.5 million baht. Tel: 081-4776662. Email: verndono@yahoo.com

## BEACHFRONT SEAVIEW LAND

25 rai of fantastic beachfront land. 5-200 rai sea view plots in Patong and all over Phuket. Tel: 081-5395454. Fax: 076-260311. Email: mk@phuket-no1.com For further details, please visit our website: www.phuket-no1.com

## LAND IN KAMALA

All with Chanote. 5.5 rai in the most exclusive area near Kamala center, on flat land: 8.5 million baht per rai. Also, 6 rai with good sea view: 6 million baht per rai. 20 rai with best sea view in Kamala: 6 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

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# Property Gazette

## 3-STORY HOUSE FOR SALE



near Chalong circle. 405sqm, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, aircon, garage for 2 cars. Good location for your business. Contact Tel: 089-8742960. Email: pwarunee@hotmail.com

## KATHU GOLF VIEW LAND

1.9 million baht per rai. Near Loch Palm Golf Club and BIS. The land totals 70.5 rai (Nor Sor 3 Kor). Quiet and scenic with access to water, electricity and road (800 meters is roadside). Please contact Sumon for details. Tel: 076-352069, 081-6919346. Fax 076-261028. Email: sumon@ridethailand.com

## PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Unfinished duplex renovation project, directly on the 15<sup>th</sup> fairway. Tel: 087-5074395. Email: radrussell@gmail.com Please visit our website: www.fairway15.com

## 6 RAI IN KAMALA



Nice land with sea view and good road access. Chanote title. Thai owner. 6 million baht per rai. For more info, please contact Sakorn. Tel: 087-6050365. Email: tim.kamalaparadise@hotmail.com

## TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE

Chalong, fully furnished, all teak furnishings, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 2-car garage, utility room and 2 balconies. 7 million baht. Tel: 076-280709, 085-7950779.

## HOUSE FOR SALE

3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, garden, big kitchen, balcony, aircon, tank, furnished, near Kathu waterfall. Tel: 076-323696, 084-7597880.

## REDUCED 1 MILLION

Boutique hotel for sale. 6 rooms, busy restaurant-bar-tour desk on Nanai Rd. Only 2.5 million baht. Call Andrew. Tel: 087-2825086.

## KAMALA HOME @ 2.89 MIL BAHT

Furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Land: 200sqm. 100m to beach. Call Tel: 038-720980, 083-1206042. Fax: 038-720215. Email: cincharoen@exotiq.com

## KALIM BEACHFRONT LAND



Beautiful land for sale. 21-3-49 rai at Kalim Beach, Chanote title, water, electric. Tel: 081-7474742.

## HOUSE FOR URGENT SALE

Large 4<sup>+</sup> -bedroom house in Chalong. Up for urgent sale due to relocation. Selling at 10.5 million baht only. A bargain deal. Tel: 076-282211, 081-8926251. Email: mrsouza@hotmail.com For further details, visit our website: www.phuketdreamhome.com

## OCEANFRONT VILLA

5-star, on the beach, sale direct by owner. Only 29.5 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062.

## HOUSE FOR SALE

Villa California, Chao Fa East Rd. 2 bedrooms with aircons, 2 bathrooms, fully-fitted kitchen. 1.3 million baht. Tel: 089-8684644.

## 6 HOUSES, BANG TAO

All 6 for only 12.5 million baht. Unique investment. Call Marc. Tel: 085-7839062.

## HOUSE FOR SALE

Located near Laguna area. Living area: 150sqm. Land area: 650sqm. 7.5 million baht. Tel: 087-8938590.

## LAKESIDE HOUSE



130sq wah of land. 2-story house, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, living room, Chuanchuen lagoon. Contact Peggy. Tel: 081-8914664.

## 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

## FIRST CHOICE PATONG

New real estate agency looking to sell your property, condo, villas or commercial or residential land. Contact Mimi at Tel: 087-9766385 (English/French), or Linjee at Tel: 081-4940450 (Thai). Tel: 076-600151, 087-976-6385. Fax: 076-600153. Email: mimi@firstchoice-real-estate.com

## 250 HOUSES FOR SALE

We've got what you are looking for look. Ask Marc at Tel: 085-7839062. Visit www.phuketmarbella.com

## SUPERIOR HOUSE

for rent or sale. Situated in a secure and most desirable estate off Chao Fa West Rd. 2 stories, 3 bedrooms (2 w/ en-suite bathrooms). Living room, kitchen/diner, study. Laundry room, garage, fenced garden. ADSL/ UBC. 6.9 million baht. Tel: 084-8439579. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

## BIG HOUSE FOR SALE

Thalang area, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 532.2sqm, furnished, nice view, quiet. 8 million baht. Tel: 086-7401969.

## APARTMENT BUILDING

Profitable business, returning a healthy 12% yield. Apartment building, consisting of 21 studios, manager's cottage, mini mart and other associated businesses. Currently trading at 75% occupancy. A great business with scope to expand profits further. Tel: 087-9484300. Email: grants.construction@gmail.com

## Properties For Rent

### HOUSE FOR RENT

Chao Fa area. 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 2 aircons (in bedroom and drawing room), fully furnished, 2 car parks. 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-9728686.

### NEW HOUSE FOR RENT

3-bedroom house in Baan Pa Khlok. Garden and shared pool. Quiet area. 14,000 baht per month. Call Aom. Tel: 076-527594, 089-1957623. Email: beccamyers@hotmail.com

### B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. Price: 8,000 baht per month. Contact Tel: 081-6923163.

### MISSION HEIGHTS

Luxury 4-bedroom house for rent. Large swimming pool, garden service included. Long or short term. 60,000 baht per month. Call K. So. Tel: 081-3444473.

### NEW CHALONG HOME

Furnished, 2-bedroom home for rent with telephone, UBC, and aircon. Contact for price. Tel: 089-6521473.

### CHALONG SHOPHOUSE

This new 3-story shophouse is available for long-term lease. Ideal for home office/ shop accommodation. Inquiries at Tel: 089-6521473.

### CHALONG HOUSE

for rent in Land & Houses. 3 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircon, TV, UBC. Tel: 081-9560241, 089-4740645.

### RAWAI BEACH STUDIO

Furnished, kitchen, ADSL, UBC, aircon. 4,500 baht per month. Contact Khun Noki. Tel: 086-6865567.

### KARON STUDIO APARTMENTS

New, luxury rooms. Good prices & 5 mins to Karon Beach. ADSL. Five room styles. Daily: from 550 baht. Monthly: 9,000 baht. Tel: 076-398436-7, 086-5945121, 089-7247148. Fax: 076-398436-7. www.karonstudio.com

### 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

### 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. Call Tel: 081-8924311.

### RAWAI BEACH VILLA

Furnished house, pool, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, garden, terrace and covered carport, UBC, safe. Rent: 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

### 4-BEDROOM VIP KATHU VILLA

for rent. Pool, aircon, maid. 4km to BIS school. Lake, golf & valley views, quiet on private hill. 1-year rent: 65,000 baht per month. Contact Noi. Tel: 087-2698492.

### BOAT LAGOON LUXURY

Waterfront townhouses for rent. 2 & 3 bedrooms, UBC, TV. Long- or short-term rent from 35,000 baht per month. Call K. So. Tel: 081-3444473.

### BANG TAO HOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, pool, 2 levels, big living room. Tel: 084-8516121. Email: phuketmat@yahoo.com

### BEACHFRONT HOUSE

for rent. 1-4 bedrooms. Contact for specific details. Tel: 076-381181, 076-381189.

### QUIET AND SAFE SINGLE HOUSE

5km from Laguna Phuket. Furnished, UBC, satellite TV, telephone line, Internet, big garden. 3 bedrooms, 2 aircons, 2 big bathrooms, bathtub, hot water. Short- or long-term rent. 16,000 baht per month or 13,000 baht for 1-year lump sum. Contact Tel: 087-4172757 (English), or 086-6829804 (Thai).

### RAWAI SEAVIEW APARTMENT

New deluxe studio. Full kitchen, cable, DVD, great view, furnished. Long-term rent: 6,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-0571420.

### KAMALA VILLA

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# Property Gazette

## HOUSE FOR RENT IN RAWAI



Fully furnished, 1 bedroom, fan, cable, 29" TV, hot water, oven, store-room, washing machine, kitchen utensils, fenced yard, nice & safe area. Call Tok. Tel: 087-2668728.

## PATONG BAY VIEW HOME



Enjoy the views from this 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom house. Full kitchen, dining area, pool, ADSL, UBC. The view says it all! Price: 50,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-8821963. Email: benlee53@hotmail.com

## HOUSE FOR RENT



Soi Ruam Nanachart, Saiyuan, Rawai. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big garden, aircon, furnished, telephone, ADSL, 5 minutes to Nai Harn Beach. Long-term rent, only 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-215-367, 081-5351570.

## PATONG TOWER CONDO



Beautiful Patong Tower beach condo with stunning 280-degree panoramic views of the sea, hills and town. Large outdoor patio and wrap-around balcony. Completely renovated, Internet and washing machine. Available from March 1, 2007. Contact Tel: +11-861-381-6344147. For more details, visit our website: [www.patongtowerrental.com](http://www.patongtowerrental.com)

## HOUSE FOR RENT



Already paid for 2 months. If you take it, you have to pay 8 months and then we will make a new contract. 1 million baht in furnishing. Possibility to sell furniture separately or as a whole. Located 600 meters from beach. Rent: 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-446-3002. Email: mariodiams@yahoo.fr

## 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. Contact Tel: 081-3971835.

## KATA LUXURY APARTMENT

1-, 2- and 3-bedroom apartments, 2 bathrooms, en-suite in master, fully fitted, teak kitchen, huge terrace, parking, furnished or unfurnished. Long or short term. Starting at 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-5926890. Email: northwest98@yahoo.com

## TWO CONDOS IN PATONG TOWER

for rent. 1 condo with one bedroom, kitchen and large living room. 1 condo with two bedrooms, large living room, teak kitchen. Daily: 1,200 baht. Weekly: 7,000. Monthly: 25,000. Tel: 087-2770552, 087-2773086. Email: lhanfirm@online.no

**RAWAI BEACH DUPLEX** homes, 93sqm each, pool, garden, parking. Promotion: 15,000 baht per month. Call Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

## LAGUNA RENTAL HOUSES

22-25,000 and 30,000 baht per month. Long term. Tel: 085-7839062.

## HOUSE FOR RENT

Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, cable TV, ADSL. 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-9732917. Email: brunuiviv@hotmail.com

## SHOPHOUSE BLOCK

5 terraced houses for rent on the bypass road. 35,000 baht per month. Please contact K. Vachira. Tel: 081-3269495.

## TWO-STORY SHOPHOUSE

for rent on the beautiful island of Koh Tao. Ideal for a business and perfectly situated in the main market. Rent from 23,000 baht per month with no key money. Terms negotiable. Contact Ricky. Tel: 089-4852635. Email: schizm72@hotmail.com

## MODERN CONDO RENTAL PATONG

Rent an ultra-modern, spacious 95sqm, fully-furnished, hotel serviced apartment from Phuket's renowned BYD Lofts. Built-in TEKA kitchens with all utensils, terrace, bath, 43" plasma TV, DVD, free Internet. Just bring your clothes. Rental rates @ 5,500 baht per day, inclusive of an excellent breakfast spread. Valid only until 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October 2007. Tel: 076-343024-7. Fax: 076-343028. Email: manager@bydlofts.com

## PANWA BEACH HOUSE

2 rooms, nice terrace. For rent in September or for long term. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-2717071.

## 100SQM FURNISHED STUDIO

Overlooking lake, golf and Kathu Valley. Most private and quiet area. Pool, Internet, UBC. Long-term rent: 16,000 baht per month. Contact Noi. Tel: 087-2698492.

## APARTMENT FOR RENT

New apartment with swimming pool and security guard. From 18,000 baht per month. Call for more info. Tel: 081-9685963. Email: m@bayproject.com

## SPACIOUS HOME

Beautiful view, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, pool, aircon. Long term. Price: 60,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-2817605. Email: nigelnpixie@yahoo.com.au

## HOUSE AT THE SANDS

Attached to the Sands resort with the benefit of all resort facilities. Overlooking a lagoon to the front and national park to the rear. Living room, kitchen, toilet and yard on the ground floor. Two bedrooms each with king-size beds, en-suite bathrooms, dressing rooms and balconies on the first floor. Private rooftop sala. Email: jackt@ardencraig.fsnet.co.uk For details, please visit our website: [www.phukethouserental.co.uk](http://www.phukethouserental.co.uk)

## 4 BEDROOMS EN-SUITE

Large luxury villa in Rawai. For short- or long-term rent. Plasma TV, UBC, cable, aircon, big pool, garden. Tel: 086-2790837, 081-5377137.

## NEW NAI HARN VILLA

Private gated, furnished, cable TV. Yearly rent: 300,000 baht. Tel: 081-3709661. Email: one5thave@yahoo.com

## CHALONG LONG TERM

Nice area. Swimming pools. 3 bedrooms: 35,000 baht per month. 4 bedrooms: 60,000 baht per month. Negotiable to right tenant. Tel: 076-383059, 086-281-7605. Fax: 076-383059. Email: nigelnpixie@yahoo.com.au

## MODERN HOUSES, QUIET LOCATION

2 houses in Nai Harn for long-term rent only. 2 bedrooms, en-suite bathroom, UBC, ADSL, alarm, full aircon, ceiling fans, big terrace, tropical garden, fenced in, small pets allowed, garage w/ 100sqm storage. 5 minutes to the beach, beautiful view. Only 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-8744050. Email: happyjo@procom.in.th

## 2-BEDROOM APARTMENT IN SURIN

A few minutes from Surin & Bang Tao Beaches. Common pool, aircon, bedroom fans, timber floors, fully furnished, phone. 30,000 baht per month. Contact Harry. Tel: 081-2731740.

## KARON STUDIO APARTMENTS

New, luxury rooms. Good prices & 5 mins to Karon Beach. ADSL. Five room styles. Daily: from 550 baht. Monthly: 9,000 baht. Tel: 076-398436-7, 086-5945121, 089-7247148. Fax: 076-398436-7. [www.karonstudio.com](http://www.karonstudio.com)

## PENTHOUSE FOR RENT

12<sup>th</sup> floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, hot water, aircon, TV, cable, swimming pool. Mr Harry. Patong Grand Condominium. Tel: 089-8745227. Email: harrynarula@gmail.com

## SUPER RENTAL OFFER

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, Cherg Talay area. 25,000 baht per month. Also, Laguna area for 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-7839062.

## BARGAIN SEAVIEW HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large 1-story villa with its own swimming pool, lawned big garden. Private development. Cape Yamu. Close to British International School. Great sea views. Only 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-2796283.

## SEAVIEW HILLSIDE APARTMENT

5-star seaview studio apartment with swimming pool near Lotus. Daily, monthly, or yearly rates available. Only 12 units in apartment. Yearly rate: 12,500 to 44,500 baht. Tel: 081-8779292. Email: prakaisriroj@hotmail.com For further details, visit our website: [www.gracegardensphuket.com](http://www.gracegardensphuket.com)

## PATONG HOUSE RENT/LEASE

Beautiful house on 50 Pi Rd. 2 bedrooms, large living room with open kitchen, sea view, garden, parking, etc. Can take over the lease. 7 years and 7 months left. Buy the lease as an investment for 2 million baht. Minimum 1-year lease: 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-2802424. Email: mdamkvist@yahoo.com

## TOURIST INFO SHOP

Small shop for rent in Karon in front of guesthouse. Good location. Tel: 086-2718254.

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#### Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

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#### Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

Fax: 076-344523

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Srisoontorn Rd, Cherg Talay

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# Boats & Marine

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200 passengers. Length: 29.9m Beam: 5.0m Draft: 1.2m, Two 500hp engines. Diesel, air-conditioning. Hull made from steel. 40 kVA generator. 6.5 million baht. Call for details. Tel: 076-212172, 081-894 7565. Fax: 076-212252. Email: info@seacano.net Website: www.seacano.net/charter\_boat.html

## SEA RAY 360 H/T

This sleek lined hardtop is ready to please the most discerning of buyers. High speed in comfort. Highly recommended for viewing. Contact Simpson Marine. Tel: 076-239768.

## FIBERGLASS DIVE CATAMANRAN

36-ft Cougar catamaran for sale. Twin 230hp Volvo Penta diesel engines. Price: 5.5 million baht. Contact for more info. Tel: 076-485614, 081-8912134. Fax: 076-485613. Email: info@iq-dive.com

## FISH/DIVE 6M CENTRE CONSOLE

H/Duty plate alloy import "MAKOCRAFT" The most complete offshore rig in Thailand. Every option is fitted! Full Thai commercial survey on Galv. trailer. Cost 1.48 million baht. Talk about cash buy. Contact for more information. Tel: 083-3927150. Email: makocraft@hotmail.com

## SUNSEEKER PORTOFINO

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No engine, brand new. 550,000 baht. Please contact for more details. Tel: 076-200977, 089-9710749.

## SCUBA TOUR BOAT

Excellent condition, quality construction, well maintained, built 2005, 14m long, 3.5m wide. Galley, sundeck, toilet, shower, dive deck, bridge, diving platform. Solid hardwood. Hino 6-cylinder 189hp diesel engine. Tank holders x 36. Price: 1.6 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-6489628. Email: wrecks@loxinfo.co.th

## 17.5-METER DIVING BOAT



For sale or charter, width 4.5m. Diesel engine, 320hp generator at 20kW. 30 person capacity. Great buy. Price: 890,000 baht. Call Tel: 081-9680571.

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## INDONESIAN BOAT

Thai-registered wooden boat for sale or rent. 65ft long, 18ft wide, 30 tonnes. Email: shaanxi.xian@vipmail.hu or p.atiss@freemail.hu

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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. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-9390176. Email: beaver@tstf.net

## 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. Contact for more information. Tel: 076-248120. Email: wpdrake@hotmail.com Specifics for Montauk 170 available by visiting our website: http://www.whaler.com

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Ready to sail to any local island. Very good condition. Only 180,000 baht. Very fast NZ-SEA pro-kayak: 45,000 baht. Tel: 087-2795021. Email: bbee\_1@hotmail.com

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## KENWOOD SSB

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- Male / Female, native English speaking
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**Tour Leader for diving liveboard**

- Male
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- Good technical understanding
- High safety skills
- Good communication skills and likes to communicate and deal with people

**Tour Leader for snorkeling vessel**

- Male/Female
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- Language skill, English + German more language are an advantage
- Good communication skills and likes to communicate and deal with people

**Guide for snorkeling vessel**

- Male/Female, Thai
- Must have Thai Guide license
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Only motivated, positive individuals should apply for this exciting opportunity to work in our professional and dynamic team.

Interested applicants please send your application including a fully CV and Photo to Moby Dick Co., Ltd., 383 Patak Road, Karon, Phuket, Attn: Mrs. Garcon-Suiteran or call +66 76 398 370 or email: heike@moby-dick-adventures.com for more information

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**PIPS** Phuket's premier property management company is looking for suitable, qualified candidates for the following positions:

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- 2 Marketing Manager 1 position: 3 years in Hospitality related marketing, experience web, print, signage, dealing with agent.
- 3 Executive Housekeeper 1 position: 3 years HK-Supervisor in 3 star plus hotel or similar.
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Please send your application with a recent photo to Human Resource Dept. Phuket Island Property Services Co., LTD ( PIPS ) 482 Srisoonthorn Road Chonglaly, Thalang, Phuket 83110 Tel : 076 270 750 Fax : 076 270 751 Email : hr@pipsphuket.com

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PERMANENT POSITIONS	TEMPORARY POSITIONS
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<b>FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVICE</b> Assistant Manager Restaurant Service Attendant	Service Attendants
<b>HOUSEKEEPING</b> Room Attendant Public area attendants	Room Attendants Laundry Attendants
<b>FRONT OFFICE</b> Airport Representative Bellboy/driver Assistant Manager/Resort Host	Bellboys
<b>SPA</b> Assistant Spa Manager Spa therapist Spa Attendant	Spa Therapists
<b>RECREATION</b>	Recreation Attendants
<b>SALES &amp; MARKETING</b> Sales & Marketing Coordinator	

Contact in person at the Human Resources Department 60/1 Moo 6, Srisoonthorn Road, Thalang District, Phuket Tel. 076 310 354 Fax: 076 310 299 E-mail: hr@trisara.com

**1<sup>st</sup> AudioVisual.co.th**

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## ENTHUSIASTIC PERSON

for small guesthouse in Karon. Take care of reception, staff, tourists, give info, etc. Please contact for more details at Tel: 086-2718254.

## ADMINISTRATOR

with good English skills, age 18-25, single and must have driver's license. Also, teacher for children. Please contact for details. Tel: 076-239209, 084-1885828.

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**Opportunities Available:**

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Thai Nationality. An exciting position with high earning potential & the opportunity to travel worldwide. You will be expected to liaise with new and existing clients via telephone (no cold calling) and at international exhibitions. You need to be enthusiastic, positive & possess great team spirit. This position demands both exceptional task management & strong English skills.
- Administrator**  
Thai Nationality. Enthusiastic and well organized candidate required. Basic office skill including computer database, good command of spoken and written English, good interpersonal skills, team player and service-minded.
- Sales Executive**  
Responsible for one-to-one selling to multi-national clients. You need to possess excellent communication skills and be willing to go the extra miles for our clients. Excellent earning potential for both dedicated and enthusiastic sales people. Basic salary + commission.

Email your CV with photo to adminphuket@oceanestates.com

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## YACHT BASE MANAGER

for our new base in Langkawi. You must have experience in the yacht charter business and have good technical skills. Please send your resume via email. Tel: 081-9704020. Email: thailand@dreamyachtcharter.com

## MARKETING MANAGER

A premier property management and villa-rental company needs a Thai national with an outgoing personality, strong English and strong communication skills. 3-years experience in travel/hospitality marketing channels including Web, print and signage. Ability to deal with agents is essential. Good salary and perks include phone and fuel allowance. Please submit resume with photo to interview. Tel: 076-270750. Fax: 076-270751. Email: hr@pipsphuket.com

## CLIENT RELATIONS

Bright, clear-thinking person is required for our office. Must be a good communicator, have good written and spoken English and be able to work with minimum supervision. Salary commensurate with experience. Contact Tel: 076-348117, 081-970 3028. Fax: 076-348118. Email: rob@sailing-thailand.com Send CV by email or fax. For more info, please visit our website: www.sailing-thailand.com

## ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Vibrant Thai company with Australian expertise wants you and your energy, ideas and enthusiasm. Come and talk to us for more information. Tel: 084-1845162. Please visit our website: http://www.shades.co.th

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Still haven't found the perfect candidate?  
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)!**



# Island Job Mart

## Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette requires:

### Web Programmers (2)

To cope with the rapid development of the Gazette Online, we require two additional Programmers to join our Web team. Qualified candidates, Thai Nationals, male or female, age 23 up, must have:

- A Bachelor's Degree or higher in Computer Science or IT-related field
- At least 2 years of experience in Intranet and Web Programming
- Knowledge of asp, php, JavaScript, Flash (action script), MS Sql Server, MySQL, VB, com-components, etc
- Good analytical skills
- Ability to work well under pressure
- Strong written and spoken English-language skills

Good salary and benefits are available for the right candidates, as is the opportunity to contribute to the further development of the highly-trafficked PhuketGazette.Net. Qualified programmers are invited to send a resume to Khun Seubsak Sahaworapun, IT Manager, at [big@phuketgazette.net](mailto:big@phuketgazette.net).

### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai  
A. Muang, Phuket 83000

## Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

### Advertising Sales

- Thai, age 26 up with an outgoing personality
- Experience in sales and marketing
- Good command of written and spoken English
- Must have drivers license

### Distribution Marketing Person

- Thai age 26 up
- Reasonable command of written and spoken English
- PC experience in Word, Excel & Internet
- Good administrator

### Administration Assistant (2 positions)

The successful candidate will be a Thai national age 26 up 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](mailto:ann@phuketgazette.net)

### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai,  
A. Muang, Phuket 83000

## Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

### Assistant Accountant

- Thai, age 23 up
- Bachelor's degree or higher (in any field)
- Reasonable command of written and spoken English
- Accounting experience would be an advantage, but the Gazette is willing to provide training for a novice with good interpersonal skills and unquestioned honesty

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to [fon@phuketgazette.net](mailto:fon@phuketgazette.net)

### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai,  
A. Muang, Phuket 83000

### LUXURY YACHT CHARTER

Select following crew members:

Chief engineer

First mate

Mate

Cook/crew

Chief stewardess

Stewardess (2)

Full time position for Thai nationality with good experience and English skills.

Send CV with photo and expected salary to email: [mariozanasi@tamata-phuket.com](mailto:mariozanasi@tamata-phuket.com)

### SECRETARY WANTED

Experienced secretary with good English and computer skills. Basic knowledge of accounting and government procedures. Most important is being able to work independently and show initiative. Talk to K. Annie. Contact Tel: 076-282211, 087-8837296. Email: [info@origopub.com](mailto:info@origopub.com)

### JUNIOR ACCOUNTANT

Bachelor's degree in Accounting. Knowledge of taxation reporting. A/P-A/R ledger. Tel: 076-239111. Fax: 076-238974. Email: [suporn@asia-marine.net](mailto:suporn@asia-marine.net)

### CHALLENGING MODEL CASTING

Challenging model casting for 3- to 13-year-old boys and girls, Western-mixed Thai and Thai at MyClip Studios. Contact K. Varintara for additional details. Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm. Tel: 076-380610, 081-7370623. Fax: 076-380612. For more details, please visit our website: [www.myclipstudios.com](http://www.myclipstudios.com)

### SWEDISH & GERMAN SPEAKING

Siam Safari Nature Tours are looking for Swedish-, Danish- and/or German-speaking staff for the upcoming high season. Please contact Tel: 076-280116, 081-7973420. Fax: 076-280107. Email: [landersson1@spray.se](mailto:landersson1@spray.se) Visit our website: <http://www.siamsafari.com>

### GRAPHIC DESIGNER WANTED

Freelance or full time. Must have basic English skills. Contact for more information at Tel: 085-8877414. Email: [rico@southernpartner.com](mailto:rico@southernpartner.com)

### SMILEY KIDZ DAYCARE CENTER

Staff required for new day care center. Personal assistant, Thai teachers, cleaning ladies. Interested applicants should send a CV to us by email. Tel: 084-0068736. Email: [info@smiley-kidz.com](mailto:info@smiley-kidz.com)

### GRAPHIC DESIGNER WANTED

We are expanding and are looking for a graphic designer with strong skills in Adobe CS3, specifically Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. Thai nationals only. Tel: 076-282211, 081-8926251. Email: [info@origopub.com](mailto:info@origopub.com)

### HOTEL JOBS

We currently require 1 cook, 1 English-speaking receptionist and 2 waitresses. Email: [info@club-coconut-resort.info](mailto:info@club-coconut-resort.info)

### NANNY WANTED

We are looking for an English-speaking nanny in Patong. Please contact for details at Tel: 084-6470468.

### Phuket Based Company, 24-Hour Operation International Service Concept Now Recruiting Top Quality Personnel

#### Operations Manager

- Thai, male or female, age 30+, friendly, energetic, enthusiastic.
- Fluent in spoken/written English, other language skills are a plus.
- Computer literate, Word/Excel, creative, quick learner.
- Experience with managerial skills, staff control, team builder.
- High negotiation skills and self-motivated.
- Positive attitude in resolving customer issues.

#### Secretary/Assistant to GM

- Thai, male or female, age 25+
- Must be fluent in spoken and written English.
- Typing and computer literate, Word/Excel, bookkeeping.
- Experience with secretarial skills and translation.
- Positive attitude, Languages Skills a Plus.

#### Sales and Marketing Manager

- Male or female, age 25+, energetic, enthusiastic.
- Must be fluent in spoken and written English.
- Computer literate, Word/Excel.
- Previous experience essential, must have driver's license.
- High negotiation skills, other language skills are a plus.

#### Sales and Marketing Representatives. Telephone/Operators Personnel.

Email application letter, Resume in Word, Passport size Photo, Current and Expected Salary, and Position applying for to the G.M  
[MailEasyLink@aol.com](mailto:MailEasyLink@aol.com)

### CALL CENTER SEEKING GERMANS

Intercallservice Co Ltd are seeking a native German-speaking person for our call center in Phuket to support our customers in Germany. We offer a 5-day week with good social benefits and work permit. Great atmosphere. Please contact us for more details concerning the position. Call Mr Korn at Intercallservice Co Ltd. Tel: 076-280929, 089-8739123. Email: [korn@intercallservice.com](mailto:korn@intercallservice.com)

### PHUKET LAW FIRM

Looking for 2 Thai lawyers. Interested applicants, send your resume/photo to email: [scphuket@yahoo.com](mailto:scphuket@yahoo.com)

### OFFICE ASSISTANT (URGENT)

Bachelor's degree  
- Good English  
- Organizational skills  
- Neat appearance  
Please contact for additional information at Tel: 076-296321. Please send resume or contact to email: [info@stoneymonday.com](mailto:info@stoneymonday.com)

### TELEMARKETING EXECUTIVE

We have a number of opportunities to work in an expanding company in south-east Asia. Are you money oriented, goal driven, have confident & polite telephone manners? Interested in working abroad? If so, apply now by sending your CV to email: [ronsmith99@gmail.com](mailto:ronsmith99@gmail.com) Native English speaker only. Flights and accommodations will be paid for. Please contact for more information at Tel: 087-7731327. Email: [ronsmith99@gmail.com](mailto:ronsmith99@gmail.com)

### P/T ASSISTANT

Personal assistant. Thai lady required part time with very flexible hours. Must have good English and computer skills. Contact for information at Tel: 086-2790837.

### BYD LOFTS RECEPTION STAFF

The BYD lofts in Patong are upmarket hotel-apartments. We are urgently seeking the following team players:

- Reception (male or female)
- Night auditor (male)
- Maids and roomboys
- Restaurant staff

Please contact for details at Tel: 076-343024-7. Fax: 076-343028. Email: [manager@bydlofts.com](mailto:manager@bydlofts.com) For further details, please visit our website: [www.bydlofts.com](http://www.bydlofts.com)

### Employment Wanted

#### GERMAN CHEF-COOK

is staying from November on in Phuket and looking for an employment in a restaurant or hotel. 30 years of experience in international, Thai, Mexican and German cuisine. Creative, speaking German, English, Thai, French and some Spanish. Contact Tel and Fax: 0049-7732- 971863. Mobile: 0049-175-8486783. Email: [peter.oakburner@freenet.de](mailto:peter.oakburner@freenet.de)

#### SWISS CHEF

Swiss Chef would like to work in a fresh contemporary kitchen, with good teamwork and concepts (Higxienny, C.C.D good manufacture praxis). Contact for more information Tel: 087-8821499

#### PART-TIME HOUSEKEEPER

I wish to work part time for foreign clients only. Limited to the Ao Makham area only. Please contact for additional details. Tel: 084-6279610.

#### CERTIFIED ENGLISH TEACHER

American female English teacher available for immediate F/T or P/T work. Extensive background in hospitality & business. Please contact me for CV. Tel: 085-7858150. Email: [ariyana\\_gant@yahoo.com](mailto:ariyana_gant@yahoo.com)



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### MOUNTAIN BIKE

LA Spectrum, 21 speed, 3 months old. New: 7,100 baht. Offers welcome. Contact Tel: 085-0942366.

### RESTAURANT / CATERING

equipment. Commercial fridge and freezer, oven, serving sets and more. Contact Tel: 081-5369079.

### FRENCH ROTISSERIE

for chickens. Can hold up to 20 chickens. 220v. 80,000 baht. Tel: 083-1025444.

### BLACK PEARL

necklace from Tahiti for sale. 19 pearls, 10 to 17mm. Good price. Please contact for details. Tel: 083-1025444.

## Bulletins

### SPONSOR A NEEDY CHILD

The Phuket International Women's Club is a voluntary organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of our donors and sponsors - small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor. Contact Carol (Tel: 087-4178860 or carol.fryer@piwc.info) or Sue (Tel: 087-2776948 or sue.arnulphy@piwc.info).

### 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. Please contact for additional information.

K. Carol at  
Tel: 087-4178860,  
email: carol@aplusplus  
software.com  
or K. Sue at  
Tel: 087-2776948.  
Email:  
arnulphy@loxinfo.co.th

## Business Opportunities

### ANGEL SEAVIEW

room & restaurant. For lease: 60-80 seat restaurant with 4 bedrooms, all with sea view. Tel: 085-8885144.

### PATONG HOTELS

for sale. 8 rooms, 32 million baht. 18 rooms, 55 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062. Email: sales@phuketmarbella.com

### PATONG BAR

and restaurant. Prominent position at Patong Beach, seats 80, good turnover and profits. Call Raymond for full details. Tel: 084-8494562. Email: curtains\_unlimited@hotmail.com

### WANTED: SHOPHOUSE

Must be in Patong, Kata or Karon - in a good location, without key money and with rental direct from owner/landlord. Tel: 087-4717253, 084-4436085. Email: cold\_ko@hotmail.com

### BUSINESS SPACE WANTED

Looking for small business space. Please contact me if you have or know of something available. Tel: 083-1058885. Email: hkmellin@hotmail.com

### RESTAURANT

for sale in Nai Harn. 40 seats with equipment. Ready to start. 1 million baht. Tel: 081-6070184.

### GUESTHOUSE

for sale includes bar, 60-seat shop, spa, swimming pool, 5 rooms, 32sqm each. Chong Talay next to Laguna. 29-year lease. Tel: 083-1823751.

### HAIR AND BEAUTY

salon for sale. Fully equipped in Kata, very low rent. Tel: 081-0804702. Email: clickblade@yahoo.com

### PATONG RESTAURANT FOR LEASE

Visible from Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, a newly remodeled and fully equipped restaurant with seating for 40 located inside hotel, available now. All you need is food and staff. 2-minute walk to Jungceylon. No key money and lease term negotiable. 35,000 baht per month with all utilities included. Pay 6 months rent and 6-month deposit. Great opportunity and a must see! Tel: 085-7932477. Email: garyteets@yahoo.com For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.lawanresidence.com>

### BAR FOR SALE

Very good location. Soi off Bangla Rd. Lease contract finishes June 2010. Good price, high season coming so be quick. Tel: 089-5872694. Email: djn1690@hotmail.com

### WHOLESALE FRANCHISE

Only one of its kind in all of Phuket. Priced at 3 million baht. Return on investment in less than 24 months! Email: admin@ideacon.biz Be your own boss, for info please visit our website: [www.idealcon.biz/wholesale\\_franchise.htm](http://www.idealcon.biz/wholesale_franchise.htm)

### INVESTOR/PARTNER

Required for bar in busy Bangla Rd area. For information, please contact after 6 pm at Tel: 084-8436792, 6684-8436792 (Int'l).

### BAR FOR SALE/RENT

Soi Sukhumvit. Good price. 1-year contract for 3 more years. Tel: 087-0145817.

### NEW PATONG LUXURY CLUB

All new. Construction finished on June 1st. Excellent location. 50m from the beach. 6- or 12-year lease available. 100% ready to open tomorrow. Great opportunity. Space available for restaurant below. This place won't last long. Call now! Tel: 084-6644050. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

### RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Kata Beach, 3 bedrooms, TV, pool table, fully stocked, seats 80. Tel: 089-5880839.

### BEER BAR BANGLA

Please call K. Kevin. Tel: 084-7300190.

### SHORT-TERM LOANS

Real-estate loans. 15% + fees. Secured by real estate only. Tel: 086-9421930.

### GUESTHOUSE PATONG

Please call K. Kevin. Tel: 084-7300190.

### BEER BAR BANGLA

Please call K. Kevin. Tel: 084-7300190.

### GUESTHOUSE

for lease. Best location in Patong Beach. 50m to Bangla Rd. 15 brand-new rooms and a restaurant. Only 2.3 million baht to take over 9-year contract. Tel: 086-0043008, 084-0535780. Email: info@ayudhya.net Visit our website: [www.ayudhya.net](http://www.ayudhya.net)

### POOLBAR FOR SALE OR RENT

Excellent location in Patong. Bangla Rd near Rock Hard and Seduction disco. Fully equipped and operational, well decorated, 10 pool tables, 200sqm in size. For information, call K. Kees in the afternoon or evening. Management contact optional. Great business opportunity. Contact for more information. Tel: 081-8267129.

### INTERNET CAFE

8 computers, all fixtures, 10-month lease left, able to extend 3 more years. Quick sale at 275,000 baht, or 375,000 baht with 3-year lease. Situated on busy Nanai Rd. Email: bmudablue@aol.com

### MASSAGE SHOP

for sale. Top location, ready for high season. Contact for more information. Tel: 085-7910071.

### SHOP FOR RENT

Patong Beach, Soi Banzan, only 100m from Carrefour. It's 60sqm and is possible to make contract for long-term rental. Contact for more information. Tel: 087-2869095, 086-2837656 (English).

### TEACHING OFFICE

The place is ready for teaching or to make an office. Includes parking. 32sqm, 2 aircons, telephone and Internet with ADSL. Please contact for more details. Tel: 076-296-613, 083-3906709. Email: private\_language@yahoo.com

### BARGAIN BUY

Bar/restaurant for sale on Nanai Rd, fully stocked, own soundsystem, large kitchen, two rooms, pool table, TV, 3+3-year contract. 800,000 baht. Tel: 085-7973904.

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Selling Going Concerns  
**NIGHT CLUB**  
BEST LEASE/LOCATION IN PATONG.  
If you want to buy or sell a business  
Call Kevin 084-7300190.  
Email: kevin@tsba.info  
[www.tsba.info](http://www.tsba.info)

## Business Products & Services

### WEB PAGE

only 3,000 baht includes design and printing. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-2350969. Email: sales@lfr-asia.com Website: [www.lfr-asia.com](http://www.lfr-asia.com)

### SATELLITE CABLE TV

Multichoice for 3,600 baht per year. Movies, sport, music, Arabic, European, Asian news, etc. Hotels, condos, apartments. Resort repairs and upgrades are welcome. Tel: 089-4746998. Email: mpshop.sattv@gmail.com For details visit our website: [www.mpsattv.com](http://www.mpsattv.com)

### INFLATABLE GAMES

Sumo wrestling, football, gladiator, eliminator. Ideal for parties. Tel: 076-321651. Visit our website: [www.phuketinflatablegames.com](http://www.phuketinflatablegames.com)

### FITTED WARDROBES

Built-in kitchen, built-in living-room furniture. Interior design drawings. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-321651. Website: [www.modernlife-furniture.net](http://www.modernlife-furniture.net)

### CHIROPRACTIC

Dr. Richard Cracknell  
Tel: 076-330889.  
[www.chiropractic-phuket.com](http://www.chiropractic-phuket.com)

### OSTEOPATH

Tel: 076-388524,  
081-6072343.  
[www.garnettsymonds.com](http://www.garnettsymonds.com)

### PROJECTOR SYSTEMS

Enjoy a TV screen up to 150" that is ideal for showing all sporting events, etc. Supplied and installed by British tradesmen from 49,995 baht. Tel: 089-5319987, 089-0491785. Website: [phukethomecinema.com](http://phukethomecinema.com)

## DIET LIBERATION

Sunday Sept 23  
Workshop / Seminar

[www.tri-lifecoach.info/event](http://www.tri-lifecoach.info/event)

### Live in Patong?

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# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

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CALL **EVE** 089-195-4877, 081-535-2637

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- 3 Star hotel with single room - Breakfast - Lunch - Insurance - TV/DVD - Comfortable Reclining	- Round Trip Ferry Transfer - Lunch - Soft drink - Visa Fee
<b>Penang 4,900 baht</b>	<b>Ranong 1,500 baht</b>

### Call For Booking

Thai or English: 081-0803414 (Khun Ning)  
English: 081-8540061 (Khun Geoff)  
Office contact: 076-304072-4.  
info@bangkoklegalservice.com

## VISA & LEGAL SERVICES



Company registration 2,229 baht; 1-year visa 7,900 baht; retirement visa 7,900 baht; work permit 7,900 baht; UK&US visa 19,999 baht. No more visa runs, get a 1-year visa for only 7,900 baht. Establish your Thai company today to buy land or start your business for only 2,229 baht. Property title search, sales contract and land registration. Thailand's largest legal service network. Always low prices by our licensed Thai lawyers.

Tel: 076-290376, 076-290487.

Email: info@siam-legal.com

For additional information, please visit our website: www.siam-legal.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.

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Tel: 076-236124, 02-5113264, 081-9377219.

Email: Andaman Legal@gmail.com, solicitor40@aol.com  
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## Computers

### IMAC INTEL 17"

like new 2 GB RAM, 160 HD, iLife 2008. Original, still under 2-year protection plan. 33,000 baht. Tel: 087-2849690. Contact by phone or email: fullmoonlaser@hotmail.com

### 2 LAPTOPS

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## ADVANCED

hosting services. We are dedicated to providing reliable Web-hosting solutions of the highest quality. All of our plans come with a 99.9% uptime guarantee. Our focus is on reliability, uptime, and customer support. For further details, Tel: 076-296443. Fax: 076-296427. Email: office@gasservweb.com

## Golf Stuff

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Ben Sayers clubs, putter and bag. 30,000 baht. Contact Micky. Tel: 087-8885944.

### SENFINA S-YARD LADYS DRIVER

Excellent condition. Superb Japanese-made forged-titanium driver. 11.5 loft. Head cover included. 15,000 baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 086-2742250. Email: petemorrow@hotmail.com

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**INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION OF FOREIGN DRIVERS LICENSE**

- < 5,000 baht, valid up to 10 years
- < 6,000 baht, valid up to 20 years
- < 100% legal
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Address: Baan Suan Place, 38/3 Moo 5, Soi Bang Yai, Phuket.  
Tel: 084-4068736 Fax: 076-209058.  
Email: iaa@intllicense.com www.intllicense.com

### ROLEX

Rolex Daytona 18k/ss diamond dial, serial no A1998, model 16528. For sale at offers around 300,000 baht. Tel: 076-292729, 084-4404608. Email: symonds\_9@hotmail.com

## Mobile Phones

### ASUS P535 NEW EURO VERSION

3 months old, 2 GB RAM, Destinator 6.0, Windows mobile 6. New: 24,900 baht. Sell: 18,000 baht. Tel: 087-2849690. Please contact by phone or email: fullmoonlaser@hotmail.com

### SATELITE ERICSSON R190

Satelite/GSM capable. Comes with leather case. 30,000 baht new; will sell for 15,000. Please contact for more information.

Tel: 076-512602, 081-7373116.

Email: davy.polky@yahoo.com

## Notice

## Public Notice

**Mrs. Boonchira U-Thaisawat** holding Thai ID Card # 3 3299 0018761 1 A.K.A. "Ed" or "Base" is no longer employed by and has no association with PCD Consultants/Mr. Eric Dohlon

## Public Notice

PCD Consultants/Mr. Eric Dohlon would like to inform all customers to contact our office in regards to their insurance needs. Particularly:

1. Payment of insurance premiums.
2. The issuing of new policies.
3. The renewal of existing policies.

If you are contacted by anyone claiming to be your insurance broker other than Mr. Eric Dohlon or authorized PCD staff and are not sure of what to do, call us for confirmation.

Office telephone numbers: 076-225215 and 076-234546  
Eric Dohlon mobile Tel: 089-6493012, PCD Office mobile Tel: 089-7297631

## Personals

### LADY COMPANION

I am an international single businessman and have come to live in Phuket. I live a five-star lifestyle, and I would like to meet a lively, intelligent and attractive lady for companionship. If you are interested. Email: phuketwanderer@googlemail.com

### BACKGAMMON

Retired businessman looking for backgammon players in Phuket. Tel: 081-5778443.

## Personal Services

### TAROT WORKSHOP

September 30. 4 Sundays, 3-5pm, learn to read Kabbalah. 3,990 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-6478519.

### ENGLISH LESSONS

for your staff. Thai lady teacher experienced in teaching staff & service personnel. English with specific application to their jobs and serving your customers. Individual or group courses with your business requirement in mind. Call me for further information. Tel: 081-7971497. Email: churee77@hotmail.com

## CHILDCARE AND BABYSITTING

I am a young bilingual woman available for babysitting, childcare, basic tutoring and general activities with children ages one day to 10 years. I am half Austrian/half Thai and speak fluent Thai and English. Tel: 081-6911492. Email: ambrozina\_85@hotmail.com  
For further details, please see my website at: www.imagevux.com/amber/

### JUST ASK ME

What property you want to buy and I'll find it for you. Please contact to K. Marc. Tel: 085-7839062.

## Pets

### FREE TO A GOOD HOME

2 handsome dogs. Male, neutered. Easy care, live outside. Well-trained, child-friendly, fine around other dogs. Travel well. Love the beach and walks. English owner has to leave Phuket soon. If you think you can provide a loving home, please call Clare.

Tel: 083-3906700, or 086-4702787 (evening).

### JEAB'S JUMPING CASTLES

8 models.

For children's parties. Please contact for more information.

Tel: 081-8939742.

www.

phuketjumpingcastles.com

### GAS PIZZA OVENS

2 ovens for 15,000 baht. Must pick up. Tel: 085-4734619, 089-5934125. Email: pirates.pizza@gmail.com

### BILINGUAL NURSERY

Nature Kids Nursery opening in September in Mai Khao area for children aged 2-5. Tel: 081-8936001.

Take me home with you!



Soi Dog Foundation Tel: 081-7884222



**Need wheels? *Check out [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)***



# Wheels & Motors

## 4 x 4s

### ISUZU DMAX CAP4 4X4

2004, 3L turbo, Highlander, 76,000km, 5 speed, new 20,000-baht Bridgestone tires, new 40,000-baht stereo, 8 months of tax/ins. 515,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-7880980, 081-1752754. Email: rjmenzies@lycos.com

### NISSAN FRONTIER 4-DOOR 2007

395,000 baht. Please contact for information. Tel: 086-1542255.

### MITSUBISHI STRADA

VG turbo, Grandis D-cab. 4x4, 2003, one owner. 68,000km. Full Mitsubishi-service history. Immaculate condition. 475,000 baht. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-0875487. Email: divesdowndeep@gmail.com

### KIA SPORTAGE

4x4, aircon, good condition. 195,000 baht. Please contact for additional details. Tel: 085-0942366.

### 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 contact Alasdair Junor for more information. Tel: 083-9889507.

### 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

### RESTORED LANDROVER



Rebuilt from frame up, now like new. 2.7 diesel, power winch, tow hitch and more. Price: 375,000 baht obo. Tel: 089-5934125, 085-4734619. Email: piratespizzagmail.com

### TOYOTA VIGO 3.0 2004



Excellent condition, top model, automatic, 51,000km, leather interior, CD/mp3, custom alloy wheels, Carryboy, full Toyota service history, first-class insurance. 100,000km guarantee. 570,000 baht ono. Call Tel: 084-9451338. Email: christian.strommar@hotmail.com

### FORD RANGER

Open cab, blue, 13,000km, CD/VCD/TV. 1st owner, excellent condition. 350,000 baht. Tel: 089-5880839.

## Motorbikes

### HONDA PHANTOM

Black. 2 years old. 4,500km. Many extras. 70,000 baht ono. Tel: 087-2665697. Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

### SUZUKI HAYABUSA 1,300 GSXR



Production year 2004, black and gold, 22,000km. Dual Akrapovic slip-ons, steering damper, Galespeed gold wheels, race clutch/rear brake, original Hayabusa tank cover, sport windshield replacement, convertible passenger seat. Permanent positioning lights, custom plate frame, etc. Tel: 081-0862112. Email: clickconnect@gmail.com

### 400CC HONDA STEED

Good condition, includes green book, tax, insurance. Price 120,000 baht. Please contact Tel: 084-0596294.

### CUSTOM VFR 400 NC30

Excellent condition, runs very well, green book, new tires, new brakes, taxed and insured, 21,000km. Price: 110,000 baht. First to see will buy. Be quick! Tel: 084-8386209. Email: nstretch4@hotmail.com

### HONDA VALKYRIE

Beautiful Super Tourer Honda Valkyrie. 2002 model. 1,520cc, 110hp. Reverse gear, 10,000km, new battery and tires. Green book. Price: 450,000 baht. Tel: 076-388633, 086-6829709. Email: weidner@loxinfo.co.th

### HONDA VFR 400



Perfect Camel replica. In top-class condition (1995; 17,000km). New parts, new tires & brakes. Amazing sound, recently serviced. With green book at only 125,000 baht. Call Tel: 085-7821200. Email: mazen\_kinj@hotmail.com

### SCOOTERS FOR SALE

JRD 125 turbo, automatic, Snow-T, silver, 3 months old. 20,000 baht. (New: 44,500 baht). JRD 125 turbo, automatic, Joop Joop Yellow, 1-month old. 20,000 baht. (New: 34,900 baht). Extra mounted tail box: 1,500 baht, fits either bike. Buy both for only 35,000 baht. You save 43,400 baht. Reason for selling, bought a pickup truck. Tel: 081-2719390. Email: graham@luxuryyachtsthailand.com

### JRD QUEST 2003

18,000km, red color. 19,500 baht. Tel: 087-2849690. Email: fullmoonbeach@hotmail.com

### YAMAHA NOUVO AUTO 2002

20,000km, blue, good condition. Quick sale at firm price of 17,000 baht. Please contact for additional information at Tel: 085-2723771.

### BIG BIKE

Suzuki GSXR 1,100cc, 1991 model in fair condition. Red and black, new tires and battery. 70,000 baht ono. Please contact for more information at Tel: 076-292729, 084-440-4608. Email: symonds\_9@hotmail.com

## Rentals

### 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. For more information on specific vehicles, contact Tel: 089-8314703. Email: a1carrent@myway.com

### NEW VIOS FOR RENT



Many types of cars for long-term rent. Price: 10,000-18,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-5388567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

### SUZUKI CARIBIAN

10,000 baht per month. Full insurance. Long-term discount. Tel: 089-4727304.

### JIKKY CAR RENT

Many types of new cars. Low prices and good conditions. Insurance included. Tel: 081-8915296. Email: jikkycar@yahoo.com

### FORD ESCAPE FOR RENT OR SALE

Black, year 2006. 4x4. 50,000km. Only 18 months old. Perfect truck for Phuket. For rent at 10,000 baht per week or 30,000 baht per month. For sale at 1 million baht. Tel: 081-8917499. Fax: 076-342906. Email: jacques@southsiam.net

### NEW TRUCK FOR RENT

Chevy Colorado Highlander, standard black, leather, JVC stereo. Long-term rent: 12,000 baht per month obo. Tel: 087-2803686.

## Vans

### VW VOLKSWAGEN VAN



Avanet tax insurance and original book. 195,000 baht ono. Please contact for more information at Tel: 087-1466622, 087-2714388.

## Wanted

### SECONDHAND FORTUNER

Looking for secondhand Fortuner. Priced at around 800,000 baht. Please contact for more details at Tel: 081-7190379.

### CAR OR TRUCK WANTED

Must be in very good condition with legal paper service record. Prefer Toyota or Honda. Willing to pay up to 200,000 baht. Contact David for more information. Tel: 085-7908241.

### TOYOTA FORTUNER

I'm looking for a secondhand Fortuner. No accidents. Perfect condition. Please contact for additional information at Tel: 086-2718254.

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