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54 Burmese die in trafficking horror

RANONG (Gazette, Nation): Fifty-four Burmese, 17 men and 37 women, suffocated to death while being transported in the sealed container of a seafood delivery truck on April 9 en route from Ranong to Phuket.

Col Kraithong Chanthongbai of Suksamran District Police told the *Gazette* that police received a call from local people saying that a 10-wheeled truck had been left by the side of Petchkasem Rd in Village 3, Tambon Naka, Suksamran District, Ranong.

"Inside the container were 121 Burmese. We found 54 bodies: 17 men and 37 women. The other 67 were still alive," Col Kraithong said.

Although the container on the truck has a refrigeration unit to preserve seafood, it was not switched on, he said.

"Now 10 of them are still in Suksamran Hospital. The rest are being held in police custody as illegal immigrants. We will present this case to the court tomorrow," he added.

The survivors told police they were on their way to Phuket, he said.

"Those who died were dead for about an hour before we arrived," he said.

"They said they banged on the walls of the container, screaming for the driver to stop. When he did and opened the door to the container, he ran away," Col Kraithong said.

Col Kraithong confirmed that the truck, with Ranong commercial registration plates 70-0619, belongs to Rungruengsup Limited Partnership.

The driver, who police identified as Suchon Boonplong, 38, gave himself up on April 15.

The death of the 54 Burmese, including an eight-year-old



Workers move coffins containing bodies of the Burmese workers who suffocated while being transported in a sealed container from Ranong to Phuket.
Photo by The Nation.

girl, has drawn criticism from the international community over Thailand's treatment of illegal aliens and has highlighted the plight of those fleeing Myanmar.

On April 11, Thailand sent a message of condolence to Burma over the deaths.

Thailand also called for the Nay Pyi Taw government to sign a pact to combat human trafficking.

Foreign Minister Noppadon Pattama sent the letter of condolence to his Burmese counterpart Nyan Win saying that that the tragedy that killed the Burmese workers underscored the need for cooperation to fight against human trafficking.

"I hope that Thailand and Myanmar [Burma] will soon be

able to finalize and sign the Memorandum of Understanding on the Cooperation to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children," K. Noppadon said in the letter.

Thailand signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cooperation in the employment of workers in 2003, but the pact is in the process of national verification for Burmese workers in Thailand.

The new MOU would add impetus to the cooperation between the two countries, he said.

"Our joint efforts will undoubtedly contribute to preventing the recurrence of such a tragic incident, which shocked the peoples of both countries," Noppadon said.

Immigration launches island-wide raids

By Gazette Staff

PHUKET CITY: Following a crackdown ordered by new Phuket Immigration Police Superintendent Pol Col Chanatpol Yongbunjerd on April 10, more than 100 illegal aliens found working in Phuket were arrested and deported before the start of the Songkran holidays.

News of the arrests was distributed to the media during a special "meet the press" event hosted by Phuket Immigration at the Balé, opposite Phuket Immigration headquarters, on the night of April 12.

A nationwide crackdown was ordered by Immigration Police Bureau Commissioner Lt Gen Chatchawan Suksomchit on April 9, the same day 54 illegal immigrants suffocated in a truck while being transported to Phuket.

Phuket Immigration Deputy Superintendent Lt Col Chaya-wuth Chansomboon and Inspector Pol Maj Neti Khanboon were assigned to organize the Phuket sweep, which resulted in the arrests and subsequent deportation of 107 Burmese, including 43 women.

Also released to the press at the event were arrest and deportation statistics for 2007, during which Phuket Immigration arrested 3,622 illegal aliens, of whom 96% were Burmese. Deportations numbered 4,923 in 2007, with more than 95% of those deported being Burmese.

From January 1 to April 9, 2008, Phuket Immigration arrested 2,923 illegal aliens and deported a total of 3,362 people, including some arrested by other police units on the island. Again, the vast majority of deportees, more than 98%, were Burmese.

Appeal made for missing British tourist

PHUKET: The Immigration Police Tourist Assistance program is asking anyone with information about Daniel Christian Hall, who was last seen at the full moon party on Koh Pha-ngan on February 24, to contact them.

According to a report filed with police, no-one has heard from him since he abandoned all his belongings except his passport in his bungalow at Laem Son, Haad Yao, on Koh Pha-ngan.

It has also been established that no funds have been withdrawn from his account since February. The most recent withdrawal was an unsubstantial amount, "just enough to last a couple of days", the report said.

It has also been established that he has not been admitted as a patient at any of the local hospitals, the report said.

Mr Hall is 35 years old, about 180 centimeters tall and of average build.

Anyone with information that may lead to discovering Mr Hall's whereabouts is urged to contact that Immigration Police Tourist Assistance program at: alistairwhy@gmail.com

Middle Way meditation training

PHUKET CITY: The next Middle Way meditation session will be at Wang Kung restaurant, next to Suan Luang Park, April 20.

The teaching monk will be Phra Thada Jaranatharou from the Wat Dhammakaya in Pathum Thani.

Phra Thada has a degree in electrical engineering from King Mongkut Institute of Technology, North Bangkok Campus. He was ordained in April, 2004.

It will be Phra Thada's second teaching session in Phuket.

Registration will take place at 1 pm, with the 90-minute session to start at 1:30 pm.

For more information call 081-9793669 or 081-3704005, or visit www.meditationthai.org

Gambling arrests still top crime statistics

PHUKET: Arrests made for prostitution in Phuket decreased in March from the previous month, while the number of arrests for gambling shot up by 127 cases, according to monthly crime statistics released by Phuket Provincial Police.

During March, there were 304 arrests for gambling, 139 arrests for prostitution and 110 arrests for drug-related offenses, 58 of which involved *ya bah* (methamphetamine) with a total of 13,463.25 pills seized.

Twenty-five people were arrested for using cannabis, with a total of 5.8 kilograms confiscated. There were 18 arrests for inhalant abuse and seven for possession of *krathom* (an indigenous Thai plant that acts as a mild stimulant) with 270 leaves of the plant seized.

One person was arrested for possession of *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine) with 0.5 grams seized.

There were 75 cases of theft reported,

of which three involved motorcycles and two involved cars. Arrest were made in 39 of the cases.

No murders were recorded for March, despite Swedish tourist Hanna Backlund being stabbed to death in broad daylight at Mai Khao on March 15.

Nine arrests were made in connection with 12 reports of assault. Of four rapes reported, arrests were made in three of the cases.

Sompratch Saowakhon

Aussies help train Phuket lifeguards

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

KAMALA: Ahead of the rainy season arriving next month, when the rough surf along the west coast of Phuket becomes dangerous for all but experienced swimmers, Phuket lifeguards were trained in surf life saving techniques at Kamala Beach on April 12 and 13.

Conducting the training were experienced members of the Avoca Beach Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC) in New South Wales, Australia, who have competed in top-level surf life-saving competitions.

"Being a surf lifesaver in Australia is very serious. The Avoca Beach Surf Life Saving Club has about 800 lifeguards, ranging from children right through to elderly people, who help to take care of tourists on the beach," explained John Mitchell of Avoca Beach SLSC before the training.

"We want to raise the skills of Phuket lifeguards to international standards, so we are training them in how to rescue people who are in trouble in the water and how to use the latest lifeguard equipment.

"Some of Phuket's lifeguards receive training in Australia from Avoca Beach SLSC. The first four lifeguards from Phuket



Young members of the Avoca Beach Surf Life Saving Club in New South Wales, Australia, were part of the team that held a training session for Phuket beach guards at Kamala on April 12 and 13.

have already been trained and have come back to pass on what they have learned to other lifeguards here," he added.

Among the skills Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) lifeguards were trained in are basic first aid, basic and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, and how to identify all the factors that affect bathers and those using water for recreation.

More importantly for Phuket swimmers, the lifeguards were also taught to recognize and describe differing currents in surf zones – specifically, rips, inshore drift currents and holes – and to describe and demonstrate how to escape from a rip.

Finn dies of suspected heart failure

By Janyaporn Morel

KARON: Before moving ahead with any further investigation, police are waiting for medical analysis of the body of a Finnish tourist who died on the morning of April 9 at the Hilton Phuket Acadia Resort and Spa.

Capt Theerawuth Thepluan of Chalong Police Station identified the deceased as 46-year-old Onerva Kastehelmi Jakt-holm. She was found dead of apparent heart failure in her room on the fifth floor of the hotel.

"When we arrived, she was lying beside the bed. Her friend, also from Finland, was crying at her side. There were no injuries on her body," Capt Theerawuth said.

"Her friend told us that in the morning, Ms Jaktholm said she felt cramps in her chest and asked her friend to go get help. Her friend went for help, but Ms Jaktholm was dead by the time she returned," he said.

Ms Jakholm and her friend arrived in Phuket on March 30. They were due to return home on April 9, he added.

Phuket blood drive

PHUKET: The Phuket Provincial Chapter of the Red Cross will hold blood-donation sessions around the island at the following locations and times:

April 23: The Royal Thai Navy Third Naval Area Command, Cape Panwa, from 9 am to 4 pm.

April 27: Big C supercenter, on the bypass road, from 11 am to 7 pm.

The blood bank also accepts donations daily at its office in Vachira Phuket Hospital on Yaowarat Rd, Phuket City, open Monday to Friday (8:30 am to 8 pm) and Saturday and Sunday (8:30 am to 3 pm).

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Saphan Hin incinerator given top-level support

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

PHUKET CITY: A Prime Minister's Office inspector, who was in Phuket to review mega-projects for which the governor has requested funding, said that top priority should be given to having a second burner installed at the incineration plant at Saphan Hin.

Changthong Opassiriwit arrived in Phuket on April 8 and spent the day visiting the proposed project sites, including a 150-rai site of Treasury Department land earmarked for an international meetings and exhibition center in Mai Khao.

The next day, K. Changthong met with Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit and other officials to discuss mega-projects and several road-building projects for which the province has requested funding from the Interior Ministry's Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning.

K. Changthong said the second incinerator was the most pressing because five landfill pits in and around Koh Phee, where the current incinerator is located, are full.

A proposal by Phuket City to spend 52 million baht to expand capacity at the site would be only a short-term solution, allowing the area to amass garbage for two more years at most, he said.

"The island currently generates about 500 tonnes of garbage daily, which represents a 15% increase over the past two years," he said.

The single burner at the Saphan Hin plant, which was designed to house two burners, can burn only about 250 tonnes per day at optimal conditions.

As for the Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibition (MICE) center, K. Changthong agreed that the site in Mai Khao was appropriate, but said that



Prime Minister's Office inspector Changthong Opassiriwit said that top priority should be given to having a second burner installed at the incineration plant at Saphan Hin.

more study was needed.

Several road projects were also discussed. One was a proposal by Phuket City to construct a 600-meter elevated roadway over mangrove forest to connect Soi Sakdidet 3 to Saphan Hin, thus reducing commuting time to and from the popular recreational area for people arriving from the west and south.

Other road projects, for which central government funding has been sought by the gov-

ernor, include a new road from Sakoo to Koh Kaew and traffic overpasses or underpasses at Darasamuth Intersection near Central Festival Phuket, at Samkong Junction near Tesco-Lotus and at the Bangkhu three-way junction near the Boat Lagoon.

Funding for such infrastructure projects for Phuket was virtually put on hold under the government of former Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont.

American commits suicide in Rawai

By Sompratch Saowakhon

RAWAI: Chalong Police are treating as suicide the death of an American man found hanged from a bridge behind the Rawai Municipality offices early morning on April 8.

Lt Col Chana Suthimas of Chalong Police identified the man as Duane Willis Daugherty, aged 45.

A local resident called Chalong Police at 6:30 am, immediately after discovering Mr Daugherty's body, Lt Col Chana said.

The body was suspended by a red nylon rope tied to a railing on the bridge over Klong Pak-pang, he said.

Local residents assisted in

recovering Mr Daugherty's body from its position several meters above the canal, Lt Col Chana said.

Police found no evidence of foul play and recovered a suicide note from Mr Daugherty's pocket, he added.

The letter, which confirmed that Mr Daugherty took his own life, contained a request for a friend to organize a funeral in Thailand, said Lt Col Chana. The letter also indicated that Mr Daugherty emailed his sister with the reasons he wanted to die, the police officer added.

Lt Col Chana ruled out the possibility of murder.

He estimated the time of death at about two hours before the discovery of the body.

Patong restaurateur stabbed

PATONG: The owner of a restaurant off Sawasdirak Rd, near the Patong beachfront, is in stable condition after being stabbed early morning on April 10. He was allegedly stabbed by a drunk teenager who was dining in the restaurant.

Capt Jongserm Preecha of Kathu Police Station told the *Gazette* that he received a call from Patong Hospital at 3 am reporting that a man, unconscious after being stabbed, had been admitted to the emergency ward.

He identified the man as Narongchai Puttipat, 46, the owner of Sab Isarn restaurant in Soi Yai Yui, off Sawasdirak Rd.

"He was stabbed in his own restaurant at 2 am by a drunk man. We know only the assailant's nickname, Kea, that he is 19 years old and that he is from Pak Phanang in Nakhon Sri Thammarat," he said.

"K. Narongchai warned Kea about being drunk, which made Kea angry. He then stabbed K. Narongchai in his right ribcage with a pocket knife and ran away with four friends, who were sitting with him in the restaurant," Capt Jongserm said.

Although Capt Jongserm could not describe the exact nature of K. Narongchai's injury, he said the victim was rushed to Patong Hospital where doctors' recommended that he be transferred immediately to Vachira Phuket Hospital in Phuket City for surgery.

"Narongchai is recovering at Vachira Hospital. He is now in stable condition," he said.

"We have applied for an arrest warrant for Kea and are waiting for K. Narongchai to be well enough to file a statement," he added.

- Alin Boonkrungthong

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So you want to be a Thai?

Laws pertaining to Thai citizenship fall under the Nationality Act of 1965, the various sections of which contain all legal provisions with regards to Thai citizenship: how to get it, how to lose it – and how to get it back after it has been lost.

Thai nationality is most commonly obtained at birth, when it is automatically granted to any child of at least one Thai parent – regardless of whether the birth is inside or outside Thailand.

Unlike some countries, Thailand does not automatically grant citizenship to the children of two foreign parents – even if those children are born in Thailand.

Three sections of the Nationality Act of 1965 set out the conditions under which foreigners can apply for Thai nationality.

Section 9 allows a foreign woman married to a Thai man to apply for Thai citizenship on the basis of her marriage.

It should be noted that there is no corresponding provision for a foreign man to apply for Thai citizenship on the basis of marriage to a Thai woman.

However, Section 10 allows any foreigner who has lived in Thailand continuously for more than five years to apply for Thai citizenship under certain conditions – most notably that they already have permanent-resident status.

Section 11 confers upon the Minister of the Interior the right to award Thai nationality to any-

Thailand is a country renowned for its hospitality, a fact reflected by a liberal immigration policy that allows nationals of 42 nations to enter the country for up to 30 days for tourism purposes.

Many foreigners though, fall in love with the country and decide they want to stay longer, only to find that extending their stay entails major bureaucratic obstacles, such as having to do countless “visa runs” or to supply mountains of documentation in the hope that the Immigration Bureau will extend one’s permit-to-stay by a year.

One way of staying in Thailand long-term and enjoying the same rights as Thais is to follow the path to citizenship. Here *Gazette* reporter Janyaporn Morel looks at some of the issues involved.

one deemed as beneficial to the country, along with that person’s spouse and children, if any.

This section also contains provisions under which those who previously held Thai citizenship, but subsequently lost it, can regain Thai nationality.

LADIES FIRST

Last month, a provincial government committee in Phuket chaired by Phuket Vice-Governor Tri Augkaradacha met to accept an application under Section 9 by a Cambodian woman married to a Thai man for a change to Thai citizenship.

The applicant, 28-year-old Meng Chuong, has been married to 31-year-old Thalang native

Chalaem Takwan for eight years. The couple have a five-year-old son.

Mrs Chuong made her initial application for citizenship at the Phuket Provincial Police Station on October 25, 2007. According to Section 9, applicants for Thai citizenship must first apply to the provincial police station in the province where they live before the governor of that province can assign a provincial committee to consider the application.

In her statement to police at that time, Mrs Chuong told officers she has spent most of her time since getting married living and working in Thailand and that she now feels that Thailand is her home.

Although fluent in spoken Thai, she can only read and write a few words.

Documents required to be presented to the committee under a Section 9 application are relatively few: copies of the applicant’s passport; the Thai house registration (*tabien baan*) form for the abode in which the applicant lives; a marriage license registered more than three years before the date of application; documents proving that the Thai

husband has a monthly income of at least 15,000 baht, including the husband’s tax payment documents; a report from the Royal Thai Police confirming that the applicant has never been convicted of a drug offense or any other criminal charges; and a police report confirming the applicant’s initial statement made to police.

The provincial committee that interviewed the couple on March 3 accepted Mrs Chuong’s application for citizenship, but asked for more tax documents from her husband before sending it on to the Ministry of Interior (MoI) headquarters.

Once the application has been finally approved by the provincial committee, it will be forwarded to MoI headquarters in Bangkok for final approval, a process that typically takes more than a year.

Although there is no quota on the number of applicants for Thai citizenship, not many people have applied in Phuket in recent years. The Phuket Provincial Police have accepted just eight applications in the past five years. None of these have been forwarded to MoI headquarters.

The last two applications approved by the provincial committee, in August 2006, were submitted about six or seven years before under Section 10. In both cases, the applicants were men. Both are still awaiting final approval from the MoI before they can utter the magic words: “I am Thai.”

Having resided in Phuket for more than two decades, Australian-born yachtsman and manager of Amancruises Bill

O’Leary is a well-known foreigner living in Phuket. He was the first of two foreigners who went under the scrutiny of the provincial screening committee on August 17, 2006.

Bill, 46, told the committee that he loves Thailand, HM The King and feels as if he is Thai in his heart – even though he looks like a farang.

He told the *Gazette* after his application for citizenship was approved at the provincial level that the application process to gain permanent resident status was actually more difficult than applying for citizenship.

Much of his motivation in pursuing citizenship was not for himself, but his children, he explained. He and his wife Carolyn, also from Australia, have had four children, all of whom were born and raised in Phuket.

“I don’t want them to feel like foreigners in the country they were born and have spent their whole lives,” he said, noting that all his children speak Thai.

Bill also requested Thai nationality for his oldest son Timothy, now 13, under Section 11 of the Act.

The second applicant approved on the same day was Anil Vasant Ghadge, a 45-year-old from Poona, India married to Krissana Sombatong, a Thai citizen originally from Loei province.

The couple live together in Phuket City with their two children.

Mr Ghadge, an employee and shareholder of Canaly Phuket Collection Group Co Ltd, had been living in Thailand for 17 years, though at the time of his application he was only able to provide evidence of continual

Last month, a provincial committee in Phuket chaired by Phuket Vice Governor Tri Augkaradacha met to accept an application under Section 9 by a Cambodian woman married to a Thai man for a change to Thai citizenship.

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Meng Chuong, a Cambodian, is still waiting for the Ministry of the Interior to approve her application for Thai citizenship based on her marriage to a Thai man. There is no provision under existing law for a man to be granted Thai citizenship based solely on marriage to a Thai woman.

residence since the year 2000.

In having their applications approved at provincial level, both men had to have a minimum score of 50 points out of 100 as assessed by the committee in regard to numerous criteria as specified in Section 10.

Among the criteria for which points were assigned was Thai-language ability, marriage to a Thai woman and evidence of steady employment certified by the Labor Department.

Mr O'Leary was given 80 points, while Mr Ghadge was given 68 points.

After both men swore their love for Thailand and HM The King, they were asked to sing both the Thai national anthem and the Royal Anthem – as a local TV crew recorded the event for all to see.

Fortunately, both passed the test with flying colors and are now awaiting final approval from the MoI before they are declared full-fledged Thai citizens.

One foreigner who has fully completed the transition and been granted Thai citizenship is 48-year-old Stefan Krebs, who is managing director for a logistics company in Bangkok. He resides in Chalong with his wife of 20 years, Pornthip Khongpradit, and their children. Stefan received final approval for his Thai citizen-

ship from the MoI in 2003.

"I think it's normal to request citizenship after living in a country for 20 years. Now I don't have to do visa runs and all the other things that most foreign residents must do. I can set up a business, such as my noodle shop, without having to worry at all about problems with work permits," he said.

One of the few drawbacks of changing his citizenship is that he now has to apply for a visa to visit his native Switzerland just like any other Thai because Switzerland does not allow its citizens to hold dual nationality, he explained.

A Thai man who asked to be identified only as "Wut" is married to a Canadian woman whose Section 9 request to change her citizenship to Thai was finally approved seven years after she first applied in 1999.

"She is now a dual citizen enjoying all the same rights as every other Thai, including the right to vote," he said.

"The approval process became decidedly more difficult at the provincial level about seven years ago during the first Thaksin administration, when Pol Capt Purachai Piemsomboon was Interior Minister.

"The criteria became much more strict and many applications were returned for further review

by provincial review panels," he said.

"The move followed the 2001 revocation of Thai nationality to drug kingpin and United Wa State Army Southern Commander Wei Hsueh Kang (alias Prasit Cheevinnitipanya), who was granted Thai citizenship in 1985.

"He was convicted of selling drugs and sentenced to life imprisonment in 1988. The resulting scandal was largely responsible for strict new rules on citizenship put in place that remain in effect today," K. Wut added.

Among those affected by the rules are still-stateless indigenous people, such as some northern hill tribes and sea gypsies, he said. Meanwhile, Wei Hsueh Kang remains at large and is thought to be in Burma.

Eric, a 46-year-old British man who has been living in Thailand for three years, has been married to his Thai wife for 20 years. Their son enjoys dual nationality.

Although he loves Thailand, Eric said he feels very insecure under the constantly changing visa rules, capital controls and land ownership laws.

"When I arrived I was told that as long as I kept 400,000 in a Thai bank account I would be able to get an annual visa.

"The rules changed in 2007,

but I read that this only affected new applications and not those already in Thailand.

"However, at Immigration I was told that they now require proof of a minimum salary of 40,000 per month. This effectively means that to stay here I have to work here," he said.

"I would love to call Thailand my home, but I feel and am made to feel like a temporary visitor.

"I have considered applying for Thai nationality, but with the ever-changing rules it means little – I will always be a farang," he added.

Canadian Patricia Clarke, 34, first came to live in Bangkok for one year in 1995 and then returned to live in Phuket in 1999. Patricia lived together with a Thai man for 12 years before marrying him five years ago. They now have two children, aged three and one.

Patricia said life can be frustrating living in Thailand as foreigner, such as getting the paperwork organized to set up a business or apply for a work permit.

"Before I was married I had to leave the country every 90 days for visa renewal, which was

a hassle and expensive.

"But overall, life here is quite easy, especially when I think of how difficult things would be for my husband to live in Canada, where the bureaucracy in getting a visa is much more complicated.


"Also, he would have difficulty finding a job in his field at the same level he is here. I've never had any trouble finding work. Most of the difficulties I create for myself because I have not spent enough time to learn the language fluently and sometimes have a *jai rawn* (hot tempered) attitude," she said.

Although it would be relatively easy for Patricia to gain citizenship, she said she has never considered applying.


"I believe I would have to give up my Canadian citizenship in order to do so, and I would never do that.

"A Canadian passport is a very valuable. Even if I didn't have to renounce my Canadian citizenship, I probably wouldn't change to be Thai. I don't see any advantage in having a Thai nationality, as being an 'alien' resident in this country is relatively easy," she said.

After both men swore their love for Thailand and HM The King they were asked to sing both the Thai National anthem and the Royal Anthem.




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Queer News

Man stands by limbless bride

UDON THANI: Villagers from across the Northeast and as far away as Laos have been flocking to get a glimpse of a high-profile newlywed couple in Phen District. This couple are not celebrities, but a local Udon man and a female reticulated python he has fallen love with.

The happy groom, 35-year-old Sathian Khenkutrang, said he believes that he and the 12-foot snake were lovers in a former life. In the previous incarnation, K. Sathian was a bodyguard to Phrayanakho, a naga deity who lived in Beung Chuan in Tambon Na Phu, Phen district, he said.

K. Sathian fell in love with Sathida, the deity's daughter. Phrayanakho, however, did not approve of the relationship and had K. Sathian executed. He then cast out his daughter, who wasted away and died of a broken heart.

Sathida's spirit passed through a number of incarnations looking for her lost lover before being reunited with Sathian in this life, during which she happens to have the limbless form of a snake, K. Sathian explained.

On the morning of April 6, on hearing of this bizarre case of herpephillia, a *Daily News* reporter headed to Na Phu to find the couple, who were staying at the house of Yuan "Pu Yuan" Kongsuwan, 75, a spirit medium

who had been guiding them.

When the reporter got to the house, however, K. Pu Yuan said that the couple had left after being challenged by an assistant village chief a day earlier.

K. Pu Yuan said that Samrong Sinthutham, assistant chief of Na Phu Village 2, had come to his house and accused K. Sathian of being a scam artist. He demanded K. Sathian prove the truth of his tale about his wife by correctly predicting the numbers in an upcoming lottery draw.

Saying he was worried about the couple's health, he advised K. Sathian to keep his wife in a cage at night...

When villagers who had come to see the couple saw what K. Samrong was doing, they became angry and started to shout at him. In the end K. Samrong had to flee for his life to avoid being lynched.

Later, however, K. Samrong told the local news office to announce that the police and provisional livestock authorities were on the way to arrest K. Sathian and confiscate his unwieldy wife. K. Sathian therefore decided to head back to his home village, Ban Don Yannang in Udon's Muang district.

On hearing the news of K. Sathian's expulsion, the chief of Tambon Na Phu, no doubt ruing the lost revenue from visitors wanting to catch a glimpse of the cross-species couple, called a

meeting of the village committee. The committee decided to invite the couple back to stay in Wat Na Phu. The report, however, did not say whether K. Sathian would accept the offer.

The reporter then headed to Ban Don Yanang to find K. Sathian and his serpent bride. The road heading to the village was filled with traffic caused by people heading to see the couple. Cars were parked along the roadside for a full five kilometers. K. Sathian told the newshound that when he returned to the village, a miracle had happened: a storm sprang up out of nowhere, knocking down a tent erected outside his home, ripping the roof clean off the dwelling.

K. Sathian said that he became very dejected at this and began to think that, if he couldn't be happy with his wife in this life, maybe it would be better for the pair to die so that they could be reunited in the next life in more compatible forms.

That night, K. Sathian and his wife had to sleep in the small, half-destroyed house with his aunt and two nephews. His wife, apparently unhappy with this arrangement, bit his hand in the night, he said.

At 3 pm that afternoon, the onlookers were joined by Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Cooperatives Teerachai Saenkaew, who had come to see what all the fuss was about and offer some advice.

K. Teerachai told K. Sa-



THE JOY OF SNACKS

After several months of covert renovations, Idea restaurant and pub on Yaowarat Rd finally unveiled its new look and brand with a few sadistic surprises.

The newly named Happiness bar and restaurant still serves beer and familiar Thai grub, but with the addition of 'Europain' food making its first appearance on the menu. The *Gazette* has been unable to confirm exactly how painful the food is.

thian that the government "was worried" about how he was living and joked that he would help find him a human wife if he liked.

K. Sathian replied that his snake was the only wife for him.

Saying he was worried about the couple's health, K. Teerachai advised K. Sathian to keep his wife in a cage at night, when pythons like to go out and hunt for prey.

K. Teerachai said he would instruct livestock officers to give K. Sathian some tips on feeding reptiles so he wouldn't have "any problems".

The minister also called for the public not to get too worked up over the couple, saying that it was just "a man and his snake",

nothing to get too excited about.

As for the wedding, K. Theerachai said it was a personal belief, which was OK, but he warned people not to believe everything they heard.

He also said that he was pleased to see the effect the couple were having on the local economy. He cautioned people, though, to keep their distance from K. Sathian's wife, especially when she is hungry.

K. Theerachai said that he hadn't brought a psychiatrist along with him as he didn't want to jump to conclusions about K. Sathian's mental state.

K. Sathian has yet to reveal whether or not the marriage had been consummated, however.

Source: *Daily News*

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PROMJAI DENTAL CLINIC

The Andaman motorcycle diaries

By Nick Davies

The Songkran weekend saw about 3,000 bikers roll into town for the Phuket Bike Week 2008, which was kick started on April 10 with the first Phuket exhibition of gleaming custom choppers and other iron steeds, old and new, showing their muscle in seven display areas at Jungceylon shopping center, Patong.

Big bike brands such as Harley-Davidson, Ducati, Triumph, Victory, KTM, Kawasaki, Honda, Yamaha, Suzuki and BMW, took to the stands to show off their latest superbikes, tour-bikes and even jet-skis in the buildup to the 14th Phuket Bike Week.

Riders cruised into Phuket from Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, America, Europe, Hong Kong, Japan and Korea.

One Canadian rider based in Kuala Lumpur said that he has been coming to Phuket for the bike week since the first gathering 14 years ago.

"It wasn't like this in the beginning," he said, gesturing at the paved roads and entertainment venues. "It was all just wooden planks back then."

Striding his custom-built chopper, this rider said his seven-gallon tank meant he only had to fill up with petrol once on the way from KL. "Much better than a Harley," he added.

The noise level rose considerably over the Songkran weekend as the big bike riders revved up for the Biker Weekend Party at Loma Park on the Patong beachfront, where stage per-

formers competed with the sound of passing choppers and sound systems blasting out beats from beachfront shops during the water-throwing madness.

The park had a summer festival atmosphere with bikers competing for prizes in competitions for custom bike designs. There were also stage performances by Thai artists, including folk singers, leather accessory makers

and gun twirling, whip cracking Wild West showmen. Thailand's very own Captain Jack – a Jack Sparrow (*Pirates of the Caribbean*) look-alike – was there, too.

Racy girls were present, draping themselves over the bikes in the hopes of winning the Miss Phuket Bike Week 2008 competition.

The gathering also gave bikers the chance to exchange sou-

venirs and paraphernalia. Others took the opportunity to hang “for sale” signs on their choppers while potential buyers were in town.

Bikers toured Phuket in an “Island Convoy” – organized by Heroes End, Phuket Big Bike Association, Kamala Riders and supported by the Cowboys Association, Indians and Reggie – stopping off at various points dur-

MAIN PICTURE: A 'pretty' shows off a pair of fishnet stockings and a Harley-Davidson motorcycle. **INSET:** The 1340cc Suzuki Hayabusa is the fastest production motorcycle in the world.

Photos by Dean Noble.

ing their tour to plant trees for what was dubbed the “Island Bike Cruise & Tree Planting for Global Warming”.

For motocross and stunt riding enthusiasts, there was also jumping action with a KTM motocross stunt show at Patong GoKart.

One bike enthusiast, who had come to Phuket especially to see the bikes in action, said, "This is great! it's my first time here for the Phuket Bike Week, but I'm definitely coming again next year."

"It's good to see so many bike enthusiast coming together in one place and I hope it helps people view bikers as people who care and want to make a contribution to the community by participating in charity events and tree planting. It's not all about having a load of noisy fun," he added.

The bikers also had a taste of Thai cuisine and culture with a gala dinner and Thai-style entertainment with traditional Thai performances at Thainaan restaurant. A few biker stories were told on stage, too.

On the Sunday, the final day of Phuket Bike Week 2008, bikers cooled off opposite the Graceland Hotel on the Patong beach road – their HQ for the four-day event – for wet and wild Songkran fun until the early hours.



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Tengku Bira Kotonila, president and founder of the Pattani United Liberation Organisation (Pulo), on April 8 called for a "peaceful resolution to the conflict" in the southernmost provinces, adding that the group is willing to listen to proposals by the Thai government.

In a short statement sent to *The Nation*, the exiled leader said he "wished to make clear that Pulo is fully committed to finding a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Pattani that has cost more than 3,000 lives since 2004."

"I give my full support and blessing to those who represent Pulo engaged in official dialogue with the Royal Thai Government.

Pulo has no wish to perpetuate violence and is willing to listen to proposals from the Royal Thai Government to build confidence, reduce violence and eventually agree on a lasting solution to the conflict," the statement said.

Tengku Biro, also known as Kabir Abdul Rahman, founded Pulo in 1968 while studying abroad in India. Since then, the movement has splintered into several factions.

Echoing Tengku Biro's statement was another exiled group, the General Union of The Pattani Revolutionary Students (GUPRS). The group said it welcomed the "ongoing dialogue between the Royal Thai Government and representatives of Pulo and BRN Coordinate" and urged all parties to "accelerate the dialogue process in the interests of bringing lasting peace and justice to the people of Pattani."

Previous negotiations between Pulo and the Thai government over ending the violence have called into question the extent of the influence the exiled leaders of the older separatist groups have over the new generation of insurgents.

Blackout. Suspected insurgents blew up four power relay lines

Pulo calls for peace



ANGELS OF THE ROAD

Villagers in Yala join the annual campaign to reduce road accidents during the "Seven Days of Danger" over the Songkran Festival holiday. Yala Governor Thira Mantharasak gave out stickers to passers-by.

and a mobile-phone transmitter tower in Narathiwat April 7, crippling power supply and cellphone coverage in Joh I Rong district.

Two of the power lines were blown up in the morning and the other two in the afternoon despite an increase in the number of troops deployed to the district, a hotly contested area between insurgents and security forces.

At the scenes of the attacks, police found pieces of wrist-watches that they believe formed part of the detonators.

As the five bombs were similar in size and composition, police believe the same group carried out all the attacks.

Authorities heading to in-

vestigate the three locations were stalled by more acts of sabotage, as insurgents blocked roads with nails and logs.

Paramilitary problems. A Ranger shot dead a policeman before himself being shot dead by soldiers in Pattani on April 6.

Sumek Kaowsuwan, 31, a Rangers paramilitary volunteer based in Narathiwat's Reuso district, had earlier absconded from his camp armed with a HK-33 assault rifle.

His commanding officer notified police to be on the lookout for the man and roadblocks were set up. When police at a roadblock on Route 410 in Yarang

district ordered Sumek to stop, Sumek opened fire with his assault rifle, hitting one officer twice in the chest. He then fled the scene.

The wounded officer, L/Cpl Suksan Jotnok, 27, was taken to Pattani Hospital, but later died from his injuries.

After being told of the incident, Maj Gen Kareerin Inkaow, Commander of Pattani Provincial Police, radioed for backup from all police and military in the area.

About five kilometers from the first firefight, Sumek came to an army checkpoint. He pulled up in front of where the soldiers were in the process of erecting a roadblock and, according to witnesses, asked them, "Have you got a problem?" before opening fire. The soldiers returned fire, killing Sumek.

A Rangers volunteer who knew Sumek said that before the incident, Sumek had requested a pass out of camp to go and withdraw money from an ATM, but had been refused. Sumek allegedly ignored the order and left the camp regardless.

Sumek, originally from

Songkhla, had been a Ranger for about seven months at the time of his death. He had previously been arrested on murder charges and had spent time in hospital with mental health problems.

Elephant attack. A mahout was left in a coma after being disemboweled by his elephant in Nakhon Sri Thammarat April 7.

Sunan Wannaphop, 53, was trying to get his 20-year-old bull elephant Luk Phrai to kneel so he could mount him, when the elephant became agitated and gored K. Sunan in the stomach with his tusks.

K. Sunan was taken to Maharaj Hospital for surgery but later slipped into a coma.

The owner of the elephant, K. Sunan's elder brother Nern, 54, told police that on the day of the attack, Luk Phrai had been brought back in a six-wheeled truck from Lansaka district, where he had been working on a rubber plantation.

K. Sunan ordered the elephant to kneel so he could climb on top and unlock the chains, but Luk Phrai stabbed him repeatedly, K. Nern said. He and other mahouts then brought Luk Phrai under control and chained him so K. Sunan could be rescued, K. Nern said.

Two days earlier, Luk Phrai had attacked another man, Nou Aphiwan, 46, while working in Lansaka. Witnesses said that Luk Phrai became angry when K. Nou tried to make him go out to work. The elephant repeatedly beat K. Nou with his trunk. K. Nou suffered four broken ribs, a broken leg and internal bleeding.

Phonphirom Funtrakul, a vet with the Phuan Chang Foundation, said that Luk Phrai's current owners had bought the elephant recently, and so the young bull may not have been completely familiar with them. "Elephants of [Luk Phrai's] age are like lively teenagers. If the new owners aren't careful, they can experience problems such as this," K. Phonphirom said.

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

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Notorious nightclub brawler Wan Yoo-bamrung, 33-year-old son of Interior Minister Chalermsak Yoobamrung, hopes to make a successful break from his past by entering the national political arena and eventually running for a seat in parliament.

He is starting out his quest with an appointed position, as secretary to the Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Public Health, where he will spearhead efforts to keep public restrooms clean across the country in his role as "Mr Happy Toilet".

K. Wan's bad boy image developed after he and his two brothers were charged in numerous cases of assault in Bangkok nightclub brawls between 2000 and 2004.

He was subsequently banned by the Criminal Court from entering nightclubs for a two-year period, the first order of its type ever handed down by that court.

After taking up his new role with the Health Ministry, K. Wan admitted that he was still far from a public-health poster boy because he still smoked and drank.

He said he was "trying to quit", however.

K. Wan believes his new mission could create a public perception of him as a good guy.

"It's my dream. I know I've made mistakes. Now I want to prove that I can work for society. I want to run for parliament in a general election. That might make people accept me."

"When I was young, people used to ask my father for help. They were all welcome to talk with the family."

Capital crisis. Family crises are making seven in every 100 people in Bangkok suicidal, a study by the Abac Poll Research Center and the Family Network Foundation has revealed.

The study asked more than 1,300 people in Bangkok and nearby provinces what problems they faced at home.

More than four of every 10 families quizzed were "small", with five or fewer members.

More than half of respondents say they have family members that drink. Nearly half of all families include a smoker. Almost 13% have trouble with addictive gamblers.

Family crises are making

'Notorious' Wan cleans up his image

seven in every 100 people suicidal, said network manager Wanchai Boonpracha.

About 55% said their income meets expenses, but 20% say it isn't enough to get by.

Overall, 42% said the financial crunch is causing them grief.

Chulalongkorn University scholar Sompong Jitradab said the results confirm that while many families struggle to make ends meet, they are still splashing cash on booze, cigarettes and betting. This leads to pressure and unhappiness.

Elderly suffering. Half of all people over 60 suffer from chronic health problems, the Public Health Ministry has reported. Of almost 7 million people aged between 60 and 79, more than 3 million suffer from heart disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, palsy and paralysis.

Ministry research released on April 13 to mark Elderly People's Day shows 1.3 million people require daily assistance. Another 500,000 live alone.

There are 652,000 people aged 80 to 90 in Thailand. Average life expectancies for Thais are now higher than ever: 79.1 years for men and 81.5 for women.

Songkran shooting. An 11-year-old boy on April 13 accidentally shot dead two eight-year-olds in Nakhon Phahom.

Police say Surin Kaewwan, the owner of the gun and a village chief, could be charged with murder if he is found to have left the loaded gun within the child's reach.

Surin possessed many unregistered firearms, all of which police have seized as evidence.

Victims Chatchanee U-mong and Kan Satho were shot in the chest.

Witnesses said the children were playing at Surin's house when the shootings occurred.

Bloody questions. The Thai



Wan Yoo-bamrung, son of Interior Minister Chalermsak Yoobamrung, poses with presenters in his new role as "Mr Happy Toilet" at the national campaign launch at Bangkok's Hualampong Train Station, long renowned for the less-than-happy state of its toilets.

Red Cross Society will scrap its controversial decision to question potential donors about same-sex relations as a way of ensuring that HIV-tainted blood does not enter the supply.

The chief of the society's national blood center, Dr Soisang Pikulsod, says it has decided

the current questionnaire asking donors about risky sexual behavior is "an obstacle for homosexu-

als to donate blood". The form was intended as a preliminary preventive measure to ensure infected blood is not given to transfusion patients, he said.

But homosexuals were offended by the question, so the society decided to scrap it and continue accepting their blood donations.

The society will add a question about risky sex in general to appease offended homosexual donors, he said.

No fooling around. Adultery is the major cause for family breakups and divorce in Thailand, according to a survey conducted by the Abac Poll Research Center.

The survey questioned 3,088 people in 18 provinces nationwide between March 25 and April 12. Almost 77% agreed that adultery was the primary cause of broken families.

Some 69% of divorced persons also agreed that adultery was the main cause of family breakups.

Physical attacks, drug addiction, a lack of responsible attitudes toward the family, gambling and alcoholism are other factors that bring about family breakups, according to the poll.

Dress right, dodge dengue. Public Health Ministry Permanent Secretary Dr Prat Bunyawongwiroj has advised people to wear light colors as a way of avoiding being bitten by mosquitoes carrying the virus that causes dengue fever.

Dengue-bearing mosquitoes prefer to suck blood from sweaty people with a high skin-surface temperature and wearing dark colors, he said.

Wearing light colors and bathing frequently can reduce the risk of being bitten, he said.

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

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Now and then: a photo flashback from Krabi's past

In the past few Across the Bay columns, we have looked at the early years of Krabi, following in the footsteps of SripHong Phukaolaun, from his arrival from China in 1927 to his rise in the political, business and social organizations of Krabi. K. SripHong's son, K. Chuan, went on to become Mayor of Krabi. He was a visionary in the development of tourism in the area.

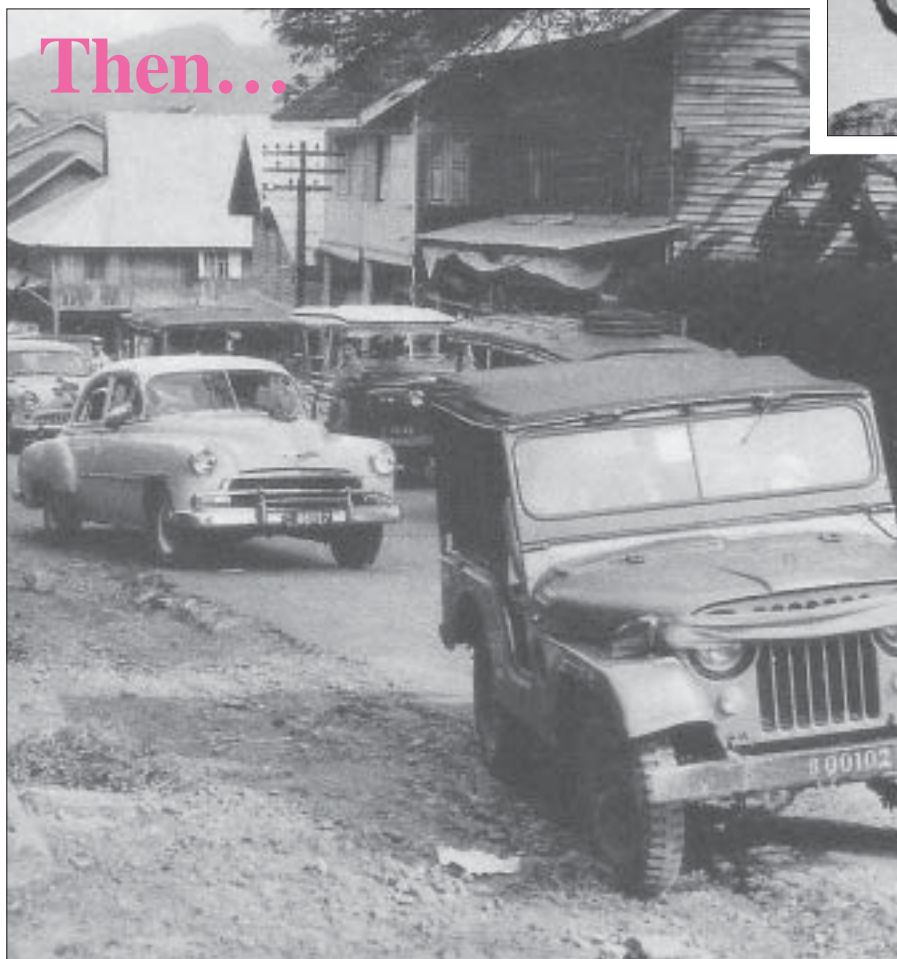
Potential investors thought K. Chuan was crazy when he bought the beachfront properties on Ao Nang Beach, but he built the Krabi Resort and proved them all wrong. For your scrapbook, here are some photos of old Krabi.



SripHong Phukaolaun (above, standing) attends to a blood donor in his position as the Head of the Red Cross in Krabi. This position is usually awarded to the wife of the Governor, however, the wife of the Governor was ill. K. SripHong, a leader in the community accepted the position, which he held for nearly 10 years.

He notes that he was the only man to have held this position in Thailand, and at the National Red Cross meeting in Bangkok, when the roll was called he was addressed as "Mrs SripHong Phukaolaun", at which time he stood up and pointed out that he was "Mr SripHong Phukaolaun".

Then...



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RIGHT: The same intersection today.

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Finding a new French connection

The Great Chef Series 2008 is a concept by local wine importer Steven Roberto to introduce the culinary innovation and expertise of talented chefs based in and around Phuket.

The venue was Vision's Wine Bar at Surin Beach, where food and wine aficionados can experience the combination of culinary innovation paired with specially selected wines to a concoct a gastronomic theme for an evening – something akin to the over-the-top television show Iron Chef, but with only one chef.

The Great Chef Series 2008 kicked off on March 26 with guest chef Jean Louis Leon of Aleenta Resort & Spa. Not only did Jean Louis tickle the taste buds with his imaginative culinary creations, but his passion for the craft was contagious and his gregarious nature warmed up the 30 guests for an intimate but lively affair.

“Jean Louis is such a gifted chef and a gregarious speaker. I let him create whatever dishes he was inspired to showcase and then my challenge was to find that perfect wine match. The guests enjoyed both the food and the wine. They also got a free cooking class because chef had to explain each dish as he prepared it,” Steven said.

The culinary journey began with mussel cream and mascarpone shot blinis, oscietra caviar with cauliflower and blue-cheese soup.

“As Chef Jean Louis is French and has a bit of swagger in him, the introductory drink was a French Pirate cocktail,” said Steven.

The next course was a flavoursome but light Abalone “Catalan”, prepared in the regional style of North Eastern



Chef Jean Louis Leon (main photo, right) of Aleenta Resort & Spa talks guests through the making of his culinary creations during the first of the Great Chef Series 2008 at enVision Wine Bar. Chefs from Aleenta Resort & Spa (inset) wok 'n' roll to serve up some tasty creations.

Spain. Catalan cuisine is characterized by blending ingredients found along the Mediterranean coast, relying on seafood for the base of dishes typically flavored with such ingredients as tomatoes, garlic, aubergines, red peppers, artichokes and, of course, olive oils.

“With the Abalone Catalan I paired a Louis Latour Chameroy,” Macon Villages. I used to dive for fresh abalone in California and always found that a steely, crisp and dry white Burgundy brings out the intensity of flavor in abalone,” said Steven.

As the meal progressed to the third course, Chef Jean Louis spread the culinary landscape further across the European continent, bringing traditional French

and Italian culinary concepts together with pan sautéed frog shanks and fresh farm egg fettuccini, hand made.

“For this contemporary dish, inspired by traditional continental concepts, I chose a Chateau d’Angeles Terroir de La Clape, Couteaux de Languedoc, which is a Viognier-Bourbelanc blend made by Eric Fabre, the former winemaker at Lafite Rothschild.

“Eric’s wines are bold and represent new thinking in French wine, which to me seemed perfectly suited to the inspiration of frog legs with egg fettuccini,” said Steven.

Earthy spices of Spain featured next with Chef Jean Louis’ creation of caramelized seared duck breast with mild spice and a smoky flavors of Spanish chorizo sauce and kipfler potato mash.

“With the caramelized

seared duck breast I repeated Eric’s wine but this time with the red, a syrah and Grenache blend, the Chateau d’Angeles Terroir de La Clape, Couteaux de Languedoc 2006. It is a gutsy and fruity wine, but not too heavy, so it was able to stand up to the gamey and spicy notes in the dish, without overpowering or being overpowered,” said Steven.

With the pairing of the food and wines, there was no need for a refresher, such as a sorbet, between courses. Instead, Chef Jean Louis kept up the earth-bound tempo by following with a course of marinated rump of lamb, lightened with citrus fruit and tahina dip sauce bourghul (steamed cracked wheat) with nuts and dried fruit lollipop.

“With the marinated lamb rump, I paired Sacha Lichine’s Cabernet-Merlot Vins Sans Frontieres, France 2005. It’s a great Merlot that is very smooth,

supple and balanced, with lots of herb notes that go with the gaminess of lamb.”

Sticking with European turf, Chef Jean Louis’ final course was aged Angus beef tenderloin polenta and pepperoni canelloni marsala sauce, before serving a rich dessert with hints of the orient: a white chocolate and coconut cocktail accompanied by lavender baked cheese cake.

Between them, Steven and Jean Loius maintained a French theme throughout the dinner that touched on surrounding regions of influence.

Next in the Great Chef Series is Executive Chef at Laguna Beach Resort Stefan Nietzsche, who will be at enVision on April 23.

For more information visit www.envision-phuket.com or email: steven@envision-phuket.com. Tel: 076-279790.

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Happily Ever After

Recent weddings in Phuket

Michael Chalermvong and Sudarat Thongprom were married recently at Thainaan restaurant.



Piyawat Kraithong and Nararat Koeikul recently celebrated their wedding at the Phuket Merlin Hotel.

Teacher to the

By Marque A. Rome

Illinois senator Barack Obama, if finally elected, will win his place in history not only as President of the United States, but as perhaps the most distinguished human product of the world's drive towards globalization. The term, which originally described convergence of mutual economic interests around the world, today connotes a true melding of cultures and races – of the world itself as melting pot.

A lesser-known product of globalization than Obama, but like him with roots in America's Midwest, is linguistics expert and English-teacher-training text author Marcia Fisk Ong. Marcia now resides in Phuket in a spacious Balinese-style Rawai home after living most of her adult life abroad.

What makes her a modest force in today's globalized culture is membership on the board of directors of TESOL Inc, an association of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, founded in 1964. TESOL – head-

quartered in Alexandria, Virginia – today has some 13,500 members in 140 countries.

Its tentacles spread wider still, however, owing to TESOL's affiliates – 98 organizations with membership exceeding 47,000. The group held a symposium in Bangkok in 2005.

"It's a not a top-down organization," explained Marcia. "Members want to share. It's bottom-up." Most TESOL members are professional educators with five to 30 years of experience. They form a vast and varied network; administrators are a healthy percentage of the total.

"TESOL doesn't tell members how to do their work." Instead it responds to – and acts as an advocate for – their concerns. The most recent survey (2006) of TESOL members shows that the necessity either of creating a standards framework for certifying English-language teachers, or at least of issuing guidelines for evaluating ESL/EFL teacher-effectiveness, are stand-out issues. This to no small degree reflects the impact of globalization on the profession.

In 1961, the year of Barack Obama's birth, it would have been laughable had anyone predicted, amid the bitter racial animosities of the time, that the mulatto son of a Kenyan goatherd and his white Wichita, Kansas wife would become the political phenomenon of two generations hence, cheered on by Americans of all races.

But that was then; this is now.

Globalization is changing the world at a dizzying pace and the old order is being toppled. In what is still sometimes called the Third World people are growing rich. Among the world's richest persons, if not the richest, is Hugo Slim, a Mexican. Others on the world's richest list include Indians, Chinese, Thais...

The meek have not inherited the earth – but look set to buy it.

An important factor in globalization – maybe the decisive factor – is adoption of English as world *lingua franca*. Almost a quarter of the world's population, some 1.3 billion, now speaks English to a greater or lesser extent. Most are non-native speakers or live in countries where English is not a native tongue.

Their number is increasing rapidly and ramifications of the trend are not wholly benign. Whole populations are adrift – native cultures degraded, native speech despised, individuals hopeless unless able to master globalized business culture and English. Call it an English imperative. Therefrom comes the boom in teaching the language and in training teachers of English.

Phuket is home to several schools that do both. Indeed, the latter abound in tourism destina-

Marcia Fisk Ong, author of 21 books on English teaching, says that the fast-growing business of training teachers in English as a second language (ESL) has 'no oversight' and is lacking recognized standards.

tions. Why? Because people fluent and armed with Teaching of English as a Second Language (TOEFL) certificates can parlay their skill into extended, often interesting, world tours, teaching a few hours on the side to pay for travel.

"One thing I'd like to see my organization do is create a set of standards for short-term teacher preparation," said Marcia, who has a master's degree in Applied Linguistics, "so that people who get certificates from these schools have something that says 'I was assessed in this way' and the people hiring them would know" [both what their training consists of and what their assessments amount to].

The present situation – in which no recognized standards prevail for ESL teaching graduates – is ripe for abuse. "There's no oversight," she said of language schools generally, "all they need is a business license. Nothing from the Ministry of Education says you must meet certain standards."

Marcia has both personal and professional experience in globalizing. Born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, her travels started early on: "My first consistent memories are of the Canal Zone," she said.

The Zone was a 1,432-square-kilometer strip on either side of the Panama Canal leased to the United States "in perpetuity"; it was turned over to Panama in 1979.

"They spoke Spanish there. We had servants. I was too young to know the social pressures about having servants – I just knew there was a nice lady there who spoke Spanish." Today, Marcia speaks not only Spanish, but Portuguese, French and some Malay.

She has written 21 books on English teaching, contributed to numerous professional journals and led language-teaching workshops in more than a dozen countries on four continents.

Like most American students, she started language study in junior high school; unlike most Americans, she grew interested,



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- Monthana Rd, Patong
- Colisem Mutiplex, Phuket City
- Soi Paneang, Samkong
- Moo Baan Irawadee, Samkong

world



and decided to focus on linguistics at Michigan State University. "I did my bachelor's degree in French language and literature. The class that hooked me was Medieval Literature," but her favorite class was Romance Linguistics, which decided her field of study in graduate school.

Marcia met her husband, businessman Sam Ong, while at university. Sam was a fellow student. "His family was from Shanghai via Hong Kong, but he grew up in Brazil – and feels Brazilian; he doesn't speak Chinese."

It was a love-match. "He wanted to return to Brazil. I wanted to go. I couldn't get a visa unless I was married – so we got married. He's a very nice guy." The couple have two children, both now fully grown.

A 25-year member of TESOL, Marcia is also a member of the US State Department's English Language Fellows Program, in which capacity she attends seminars worldwide, giving talks on subjects as varied as the "Shifting Sands of English in the Middle East" and "Internet Treasure Hunt: A Web-Based Science Activity for Developing Critical Thinking Skills".

Her books are for "teachers under-trained or under-prepared" and she tries to make them simple enough for non-native speakers to use in conducting classes, designing courses, training teachers and training teacher-trainers.

"One-off programs don't

work; four-day seminars don't work. The only way is for [teacher-training programs] to be ongoing, so that teachers develop their own curricula." A central issue that has to be faced as globalized learning spreads into rural areas is that "there just aren't enough [English language] trainers." Thus the need for well-planned training guides and a reliable set of standards.

Marcia's latest textbook – the two-volume (with audio CD) *Teaching English to Young Learners* – was written with collaborator Vinodini Murugesan during a stint with the Malaysian Ministry of Education. It was published late last year by Compass Publishing.

But after nearly three decades of writing and teaching, she hints it may be her last. "I don't want to write anymore," she said, at least no more English books. Instead, she's turned to blogging – mostly on diving. Marcia is now an avid scuba diver and instructor, and has opened a tour company, Gekko Scuba Divers.

"Now I strip capital letters from my chats," she explained, "so people won't feel inferior for not using capitals or think I'm being judgmental."

And why not? Why not chuck out all the dogma if that's what it takes? After all, as the pace of change heats up, even a mild-mannered expert on applied linguistics can make a killing in the global economy – if only she learns how to use English right.

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This week



MODERN WOMEN: Sue Arnulphy (front, wearing orange blouse), newly-elected president of the Phuket International Women's Club (PIWC), poses with fellow PIWC members after the club's recent general meeting and monthly lunch, held at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort.



HEARTY RPM: Royal Phuket Marina developer Gulu Lalvani (left) welcomes Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit (center) to the opening of the RPM Health Club on March 28. They are joined by RPM Health Club Manager Hyden Rhodes.



POPPED IN: Roger Branstma (center), Director of Operations at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa, and Marketing Communications Manager Nampetch Tipaxsorn (left) welcome Nat Sakdatorn, winner of season four of the popular talent-spotting TV series Academy Fantasia. K. Nat stayed at the resort during his recent visit to Phuket to film a music video.



PLAQUE FOR PORT: David Turner (center), chief of the US Embassy Force Protection Detachment (FPD) in Thailand, hands FPD Special Consultant Bhuritt Maswongssa a plaque to commemorate the USS Hopper, USS Ingraham and USS Port Royal being in Phuket – the first time the warships have been in the same port at the same time for rest and recreation.



LIFESTYLE LIGHTING: PP-Design Studio Franchisee Chartchai Phattaranaphakul (right) and Bangkok-based German light designer Peer Piechnik celebrate the opening of the Phuket branch of PP-Design on April 5 at the Yaowarat Rd showroom in Phuket City.



NEW SKAL: Skal Phuket recently elected its new Executive Committee for 2008-9 at its monthly dinner at the Mangosteen Resort & Spa. Pictured (from left) are Treasurer Jaspal Singh, Secretary Jorge de la Torre, Vice-President Claude Sauter, outgoing President Hajo von Keller, incoming President Blandine Cressard, outgoing Treasurer Andrew Swatdipakdi and PR/Marketing Executive Fredy Munger.

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Ciao Bepy, you'll be missed

LARGER THAN LIFE

By Graham Doven

Owner of Toto restaurant and well-known resident of Phuket, Bepy Graziano di Ceneda passed away on the night of April 7 after a short illness.

A native of Florence, Italy, Bepy had a successful career in Thailand with his Toto Italian restaurant in Bangkok. During the past 15 years, three more Toto restaurants were established in Phuket.

He was a "larger than life" character around the Surin Beach and Cherng Talay areas, having retired to Phuket after an illness and then deciding that running his restaurants was more exciting than doing nothing.

Bepy bought some land at Surin Beach 15 years ago and built his retirement house.

A year or so, later he informed me that he was building another house, as he had decided to turn his existing house into a Toto restaurant.

The Four Amigos: (from left) Graham Doven, Merv, Frederico and Bepy at the start of the 10th Annual Mulligan Golf Tournament last month.



Later still, he closed his Bangkok restaurant and brought many of his long-time staff to Phuket.

Bepy then opened another restaurant in Cherng Talay, at the entrance of Laguna, and then

another in Kamala, which was later wiped out by the tsunami.

The Laguna Toto became a thriving restaurant providing excellent Italian cuisine.

Even though Bepy has passed away, we hope that his

establishments, including a couple of excellent pubs, will carry on in his absence.

With the "family" that Bepy built around him, including K. Sayern, whom Bepy called "Capitano" and who ran the

Bangkok Toto before moving to Phuket, Bepy's presence will remain.

We have lost a friend and a character whom we will miss. He wasn't always easy to get along with; he was a creative Italian who asked many of us for our opinions and rarely took any notice of what we told him.

However, Bepy has passed on and we hope that the people he loved – his friends, family and staff – will ensure the continuation of his work.

Bepy's many Thai staff, whom he loved, will be greatly saddened. Many of them saw Bepy as "Papa", but we hope that they will carry on a legacy of his work in the land that he adopted and loved.

He loved Phuket, his staff and those close to him, his golf and the Mulligan Golf Association, which he started nine years ago, his wine, his food and his friends.

Bepy told me many years ago that when he died, he would want his friends and family from Thailand to enjoy his restaurants, food and wine as a celebration of his life.

I think they will definitely respect his wishes, but for now, we will miss him. God bless him... ciao Bepy.

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Stepping out in summer styles

Central Festival launched its latest line of summer styles earlier this month, with a fashion parade on April 5 sporting the latest male and female designs with the theme Love the Earth. The clothing brands gracing the catwalk included Billabong, Bossini, British India, Claudia Kleid Weekend, Defry 01, edc by Esprit, GSP Sport, Lee, MC, Playwork, Sud Express and many more.

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A NIGHT AT THE OPERA

Skippers restaurant and bar at Royal Phuket Marina brought an extra touch of class to the island on March 21 with an open-air dinner accompanied by live performances of classical music and opera by a Bangkok Symphony Orchestra quartet.



VOCAL EFFORT: Opera singer Claire Cornielje (above) hits a high note.

TOP, LEFT: The event, presented by Azimut Yachts, saw a string quartet from the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra perform.

LEFT, ABOVE LEFT: Smart but casual, just the way Phuket people like it.

ABOVE: Guests also had the chance to climb aboard three new Azimut Yachts that were docked at the marina for local boat-brokers Simpson Marine, adding to the luxurious ambience of the evening.

Take me home!



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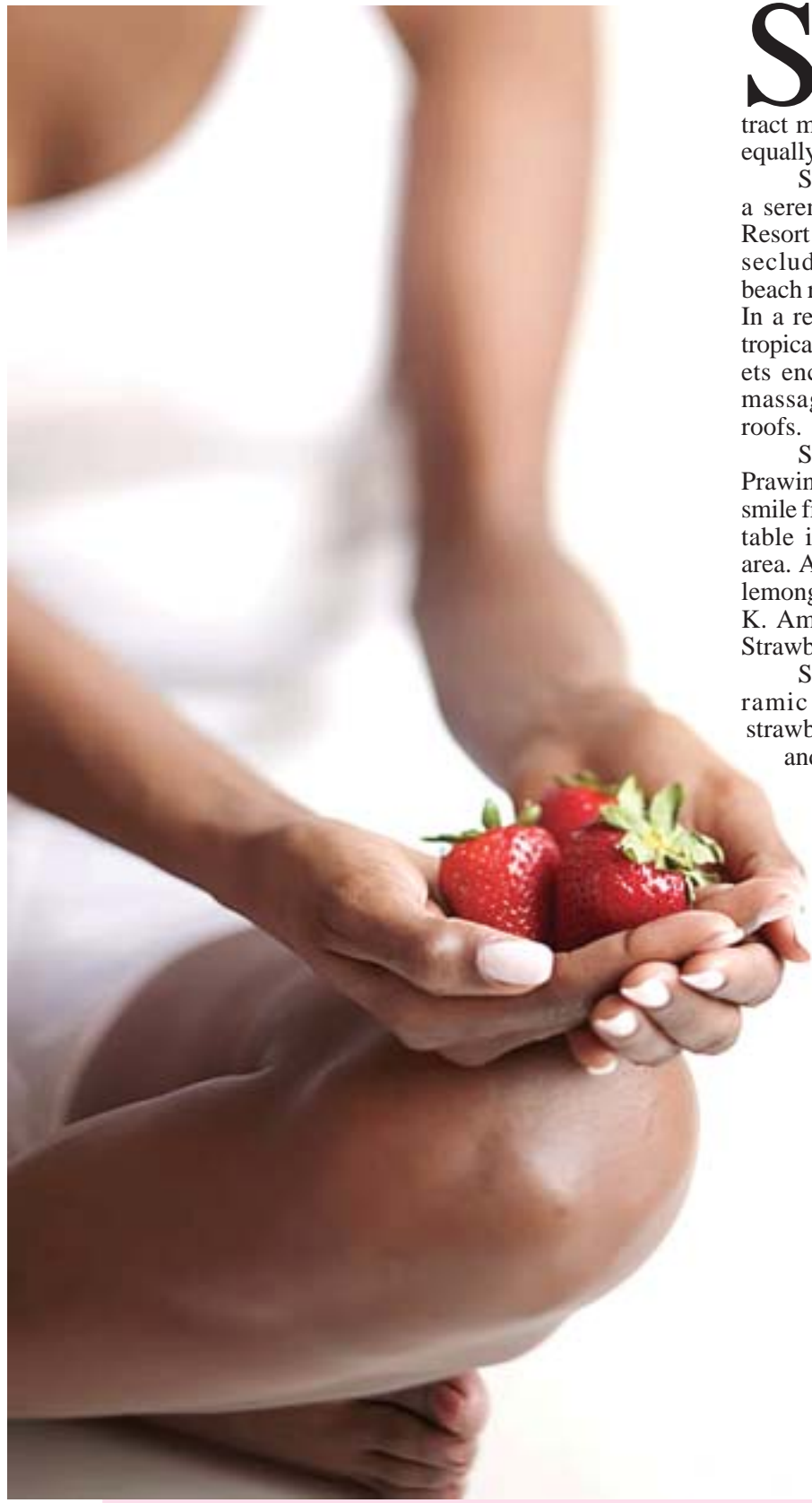
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Strawberry feels forever



Strawberries are delicious. Therefore, it's safe to assume that having whipped strawberry extract massaged into your skin is equally gratifying. It is.

Spa Cenvaree is tucked into a serene corner of the Centara Resort compound. The resort is secluded from Karon's busy beach road, where traffic rips by. In a removed and quiet setting, tropical ponds and bamboo thickets encircle a series of private massage rooms with thatched roofs.

Spa Manager Amornat Prawing greets customers with a smile from behind a dark wooden table in the alfresco reception area. A customary glass of cool lemongrass juice is produced as K. Amornat breaks down the Strawberry Rush treatment.

She motions to three ceramic bowls containing the strawberry body scrub, sea salt and lotus oil. Upon nudging the bowl of strawberry extract a frenzy of feasting ants scatter. K. Amornat appears slightly embarrassed by the small invaders, but they only affirm the body scrub's fruity sweetness, which contains vitamin C, antioxidants and honey blossom.

"Sure, you can eat some if you want to," K. Amornat responded to my smart-alec question.

"The strawberry



Strawberry is just one of the scrumptious ingredients in this soothing treatment.

body scrub contains chocolate and coconut to nourish the skin. The sea salt replenishes your skin. The lotus oil will calm you down and the massage gives you good blood circulation," she explained.

A massage therapist leads the way to a private room of earth-tone towels and terracotta tiles. A soft Thai ballad serenades the room as my two tired feet are dipped into a large bowl of lotus-scented water. After a pleasant footbath, it's strawberry rush time.

The red jelly, speckled with strawberry seeds, resembles jam, handfuls are gently spread across my sun-toasted epidermis. The marine crystals are then mixed with the fruit extract and rubbed across the body.

The scrub feels great but a word of advice to men, or women, with a healthy coat of body hair: don't be afraid to ask for more jelly, unless you don't mind having some extra leg hair rubbed off. Keep in mind there are more effective and less painful ways to remove unwanted fur.

After becoming the relaxed and antioxidized side of a peanut butter and strawberry jam sand-

wich, it's time for a rinse. A door from the massage room leads to a private Bali-style shower, where fresh air hits my newly-exposed skin.

Back on the pampering table the lotus massage oil's scent enters the nostrils, filling the body with calm. While I am face down, peering into a bowl of yellow and pink flowers, a pair of expert hands began kneading ones aching back muscles.

The knowing fingers steadily work lotus oil into the calves, thighs, back and shoulders until one reaches the point of complete relaxation that precedes deep sleep. A mental place where the only thought is, "This feels good."

The treatment ends in a drowsy abruptness, like a good dream. After a second dose of Bali shower therapy, its time to get dressed.

After two hours of body luxury, one enters the bustling streets of Karon emanating a lotus-strawberry scent with a head full of calm. Instead of scowling at accosting tailors, one simply sidesteps and carries on.

Spa MAGIC

By Skyler Swezy
Spa Cenvaree

The Strawberry Rush treatment is offered until April 30 and starts at a promotional price of 1,890 baht. Spa Cenvaree offers a full menu of spa treatments ranging from 795 to 3,800 baht. For more information call 02-7691234 ext. 6129 or visit www.centarahotelresorts.com

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

Until April 24. BIS IB Visual Arts Exhibition.

A display of works by graduating students of the British International School IB program at Room Limited gallery on the bypass road.

Open daily from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm.

Contact K. Gai. Tel: 076-238711-20 ext 3603. Email: saowarotm@bcis.ac.th Website: www.bcis.ac.th

Until April 20. Phuket International Cricket Sixes.

Winner of prestigious awards from the International Cricket Council and the Asian Cricket Council, the Phuket International Cricket Sixes will be held at Karon Municipal Stadium, with play from 9 am to 5:30 pm.

Phuket Sixes attracts club cricket teams from around the world, along with local Phuket sides, to enjoy the competition and camaraderie of cricket.

For details contact Mark Burns. Tel: +852-96365545. Email: media@phuketsixes.com Website: www.phuketsixes.com

April 21-24. Phuket Asian Senior Masters 2008.

Come watch the Phuket Asian Senior Masters 2008, a senior professional golf event. This event will have a full field of more than 140 senior golf professionals from more than 20 countries.

On April 21, there will be a pro-am tournament. Entry costs 30,000 baht per team of four golfers.

Play commences each day at 7:30 am. Free entry for spectators.

For more information contact Prachuab Subcharoen. Tel: 081-6072672. Email: thaiseniorgpa@thaiseniorgpa.com Website: www.thaiseniorgpa.com

April 20. PC Group Therapy – Laguna.

Join *Windows for Dummies...* author Woody Leonhard and his band of techie irregulars in a wide-ranging discussion of computer topics.

If you can't get your Windows to work right, if you need to find a decent Internet connection, if you're going to buy a computer in Thailand or if you need

to get one fixed, this is the place to be. 10 am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Laguna.

Contact Woody Leonhard. Tel: 089-1960940. Email: woody@khunwoody.com Website: www.khunwoody.com

April 26. Special BBQ Buffet Diner at Wine Connection Chalong.

Special BBQ Buffet dinner with a huge array of cheeses and dry specialties, such as Parma ham and coppa. All in one for a perfect Saturday evening, including a live band. Only 650+ baht per person.

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

April 26-May 17. Soldiers – Art Exhibition.

In his 20 paintings, Thaweasak Srithongdee questions what causes wars and destruction, whether it be past wars or current conflicts.

He looks at who is involved in the wars, the instigators and the victims. He also observes how nonsensical and destructive it is to have wars.

At D Gallery, Royal Phuket Marina, daily from 11 am to 7 pm.

Contact Bowie for further information. Tel: 076-360867. Email: bowie@dgallery.co.th Website: www.dgallery.co.th

April 27. PC and Mac Group Therapy – Chalong.

10 am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Chalong.

May 1. Labor Day (Public Holiday).

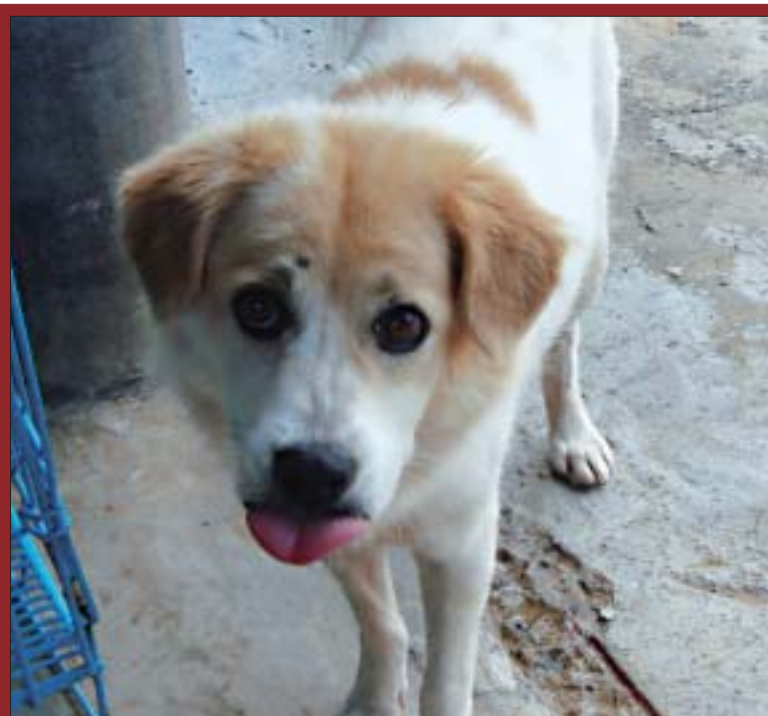
Public holiday for all commercial workers, but government offices will remain open.

May 3. Special BBQ Buffet Dinner at Wine Connection Bang Tao.

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

May 5. Coronation Day (Public Holiday).

Coronation Day commemorates the ascension to the throne of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej on May 5, 1950.

May 13. Boathouse Writers'

Dogs like Kiki here need all the help they can get. The Soi Dog foundation is holding an event in order to raise much-needed funds to support the many dogs looked after by the foundation.

Barefoot Bowling Soi Dog Foundation Fundraiser

May 11

Soi Dog Foundation together with Kamala Lawn Bowls Club presents Barefoot Bowling from 3 pm to 6 pm. Beginners welcome. 400 baht per person including bowls and tuition. Buffet at 150 baht per person. Booking essential.

First prize for the winning team is dinner for four at The Chedi and a one-year free membership to the bowls club (worth 6,000 baht). There will also be a raffle.

For more info and tickets contact Cristy. Tel: 084-054 4367. Email: cristy@soidog-foundation.org Website: www.soidog-foundation.org

Night with Collin Piprell.

Collin on "Seducing the Muse": "Half the people I know say that, someday, they want to write something. Most people never do. This talk aims to encourage those who'd like to write," says Collin.

Collin will focus on where ideas come from, psychological hurdles for new (and veteran) writers, and a strange phenomenon he calls the "muse effect".

Collin Piprell (www.collinpiprell.com) is a novelist, feature writer, journalist and editor. His books include adventure, thrillers, humor and science fiction. He's Canadian, educated in the UK, resident in Bangkok and

well traveled in Southeast Asia.

Mom Tri's Boathouse, 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

Contact Lisa Sol for details. Tel: 076-330015. Email: pr@boathousephuket.com Website: www.boathousephuket.com

May 14. Punchline Comedy Club – Live Stand-up Comedy.

Punchline Comedy Club in association with the London Comedy Store presents another night of live international stand-up comedy.

Three top comedians, two glass-filling intervals and a joke competition will fill a night of fun and laughter.

Comedians Paul Thorne, Tom Wigglesworth and Ian Moore will perform from 8 pm to 11 pm at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket.

Tickets are available from Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.

For further details contact Pete. Tel: 081-9565650. Email: info@phuketcomedy.com Web: www.phuketcomedy.com

May 19. Visakha Bucha Day (Public Holiday).

Visakha Bucha Day is observed on the day of the full moon during the sixth lunar month of the Thai calendar.

It is a day to commemorate three important incidents: the birth, the enlightenment and the passing away of the Buddha. Miraculously, although years apart, these events fell on the same date in the same month on the Buddhist calendar.

May 26-29. Phuket Celebrity Golf Tour.

The Phuket Celebrity Golf Tour is a unique event where players of all handicaps and abilities can play a round of golf with top football, snooker and entertainment celebrities from the UK.

Each evening, the group of celebrities will provide entertainment at the Phuket Graceland Resort & Spa in Patong.

Contact Jeff Ogden for details. Email: jsogden@talisman-energy.com

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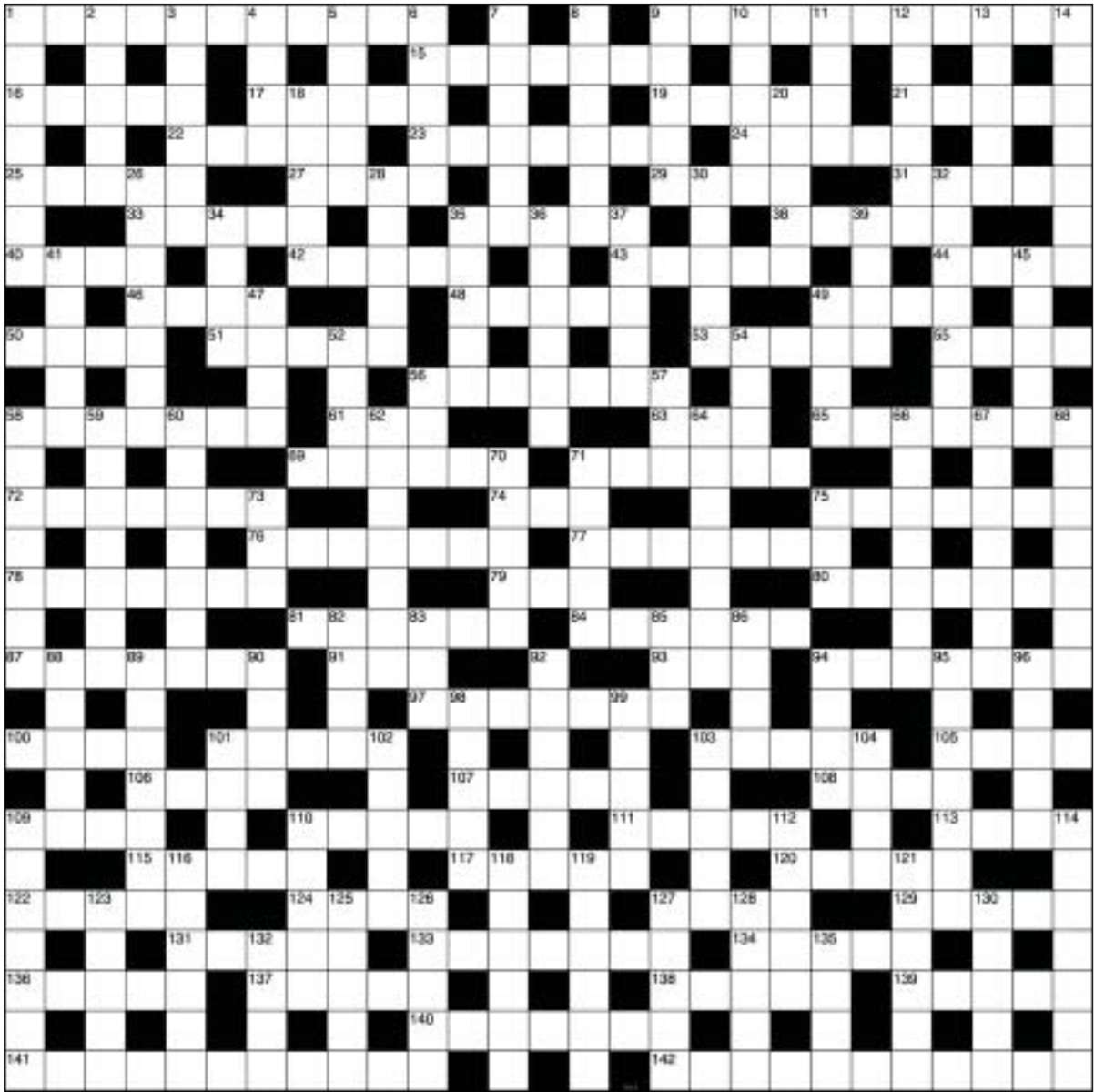


The BIG Crossword

Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid below are at least 25 words related to sports. The words may read vertically, horizontally or diagonally. They may also read right-to-left or down-to-up. Score: 15 or more, good; 20 or more, very good; 25 or more, excellent. Solution on the next page.

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



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Across

1. No-soil cultivation

9. Setting apart

15. Farce

16. Analyst, Sigmund...

17. Last Greek letter

19. Strolls

21. Cupboard handles

22. Censoring tone

23. Cleaver

24. Hawaiian naval base, ...Harbor

25. School saying

27. Tread

29. Household dirt

31. Eventuate

33. Church songs

35. Subsides

38. Pursue

40. Title

42. Crave, ...for

43. Collide

44. Cat

46. Biblical first man

48. Public persona

49. Allowed use of

50. Unruly child

51. Mausoleum, Taj...

53. Lucifer

55. Salt Lake City state

56. Binds

58. Well researched

61. Arrival time (1,1,1)

63. Set alight

65. Pubs

69. Identical beings

71. Actress, Elizabeth...

72. Percussionist

74. Maiden name indicator

75. Decked out

76. Canadian province

77. Mopped
78. Caught by lariat

79. Sharp humour

80. Juvenile

81. Open sores

84. Sings alpine-style

87. Bared

91. Lout

93. Verse

94. Spanish currency

97. Nassau is there

100. Dad

101. Postpone

103. Groucho's trademark

105. Predominant

106. Couturier, ...St Laurent

107. Encourage (3,2)

108. Country, Costa...

109. ...spumante

110. Flare

111. African antelope

113. As a gamble, on...

115. Audacity

117. Geld

120. Fencing swords

122. Ladder steps

124. Largest continent

127. Squeeze (into)

129. Pier

131. Hoax

133. Laughed through nose

134. City, ...Carlo

136. Wrath

137. Sir ...Newton

138. Wine, ...Riesling

139. Punctuation mark

140. Pizza herb

141. Licence

142. Misunderstand

Down

1. Actor, Dustin...

2. Inhabited, ...in

3. Former pupil (3,3)

4. Reed instrument

5. Bumbling

6. Imp

7. Rift Valley nation

8. Twilled table linen

9. Used needle & thread

10. Guzzles

11. Famed lioness

12. Leg/foot joints

13. Religious artefacts

14. Engine seals

18. Disorganised

20. Two-masted vessel

26. Cinema

28. Internet post

30. Russian mountains

32. Eighth planet

34. Respectful form of address (2'2)

35. Shoot (at)

36. Approached

37. Perfume

39. Yemen port

41. Chef's garment

45. Deposit eggs (of fish)

47. Pulp (potato)

49. Final

52. Cain's brother

54. Motor vehicle

56. Food tin

57. Crafty

58. Gratify

59. Solicits (5,2)

60. Self-important

62. Cigarette leaves

64. Uncouth (3-4)

66. TV watchers

67. Begin again

68. Unhappiness

70. Falls as blizzard

71. Touchy

73. Pole

75. Pesticide (1,1,1)

82. Ancient harp

83. Recede

85. ...& don'ts

86. Jacob's son

88. Takes bone photos (1-4)

89. Approving

90. Union fees

92. Obtains by begging

94. Melbourne Cup winner, ...Lap

95. As a group (2,5)

96. Living

98. Edit

99. Attach

101. Highly priced

102. Diameter halves

103. Seat

104. Widespread

109. Flight cost (3,4)

110. Introduces to solid food

112. Devil

114. Red pepper spice

116. Group loyalty, ...de corps

118. Summoned up

119. Ensnare

121. Ousts

123. Dark hours

125. Ice boot

126. Royal racecourse

127. Computer input device (1,1-3)

128. Out of place

130. Actress, Mary ...Moore

132. Helper

135. Mad Roman emperor
- Solution on next page

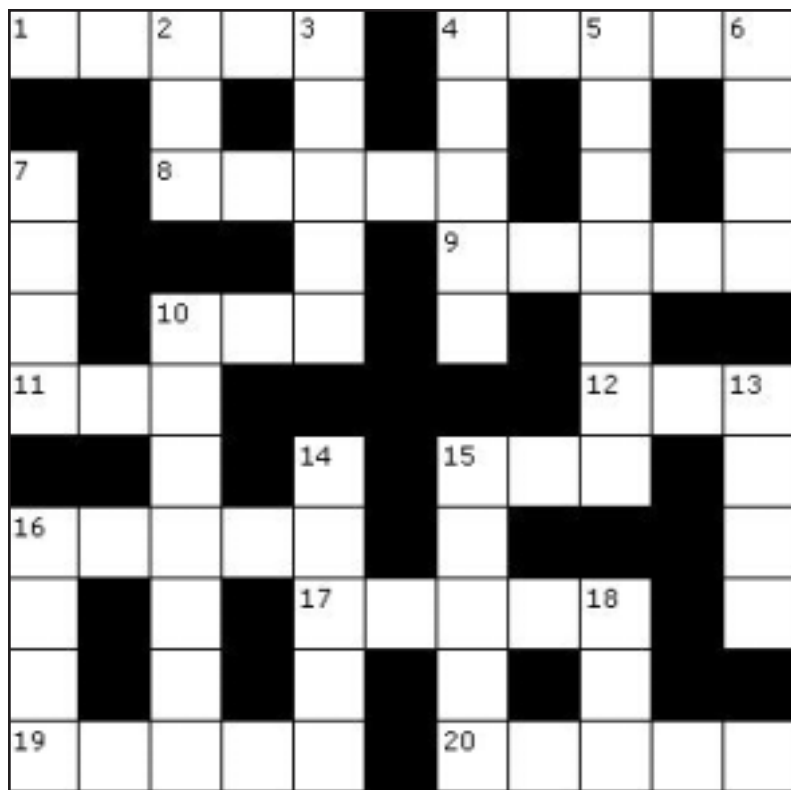
su|do|ku

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

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



Quick Crossword

Across

1. Sticky and sweet
4. Upmarket
8. Citrus fruit
9. Sound
10. Hand over money
11. Place to see animals
12. Movie star, ...Neill
15. Plane
16. ...Arabia
17. Last
19. Combine
20. Woolly animal

Down

2. None
3. Delicious
4. Amusing
5. Not in favor of
6. Massive
7. Relaxed music
10. Well liked
13. Rodents
14. Gun
15. Indian...
16. Smack
18. Not the truth

Solution below

Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



Kids! Ask Mum and Dad to help you find the answers to these questions. They're not easy but, if you do some research, you should be able to find the answers to all of them.

1. What was the Titanic's first port of call?
2. Which footballer has the most England international caps?
3. Ted Crilly and Dougal McGuire lived with which other priest?
4. Which is the only X-rated film to the Best Picture Oscar?
5. An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. What comes next?
6. Which NBA team does Kobe Bryant play for?
7. In which cartoon are Pongo and Perdita?
8. What is the capital of Belarus?
9. What color is Trafalgar Square on a UK Monopoly board?
10. Ganymede orbits around which planet?
11. Victor Meldrew was the lead character of which UK TV show?
12. From where Red Stripe lager originate?
13. What type of animal is the star *Racing Stripes*?
14. Who was the first woman to the Best Original Song Oscar?
15. How many white stripes are on the US flag?
16. What part did James Earl Jones play *Star Wars*?
17. Who originally sang *I Just Don't Know What to Do with Myself*?
18. Where is the world's first seven-star hotel?
19. Which colors were the stripes of Newcastle United FC's original kit?
20. How many times was Hulk Hogan WWE champion?

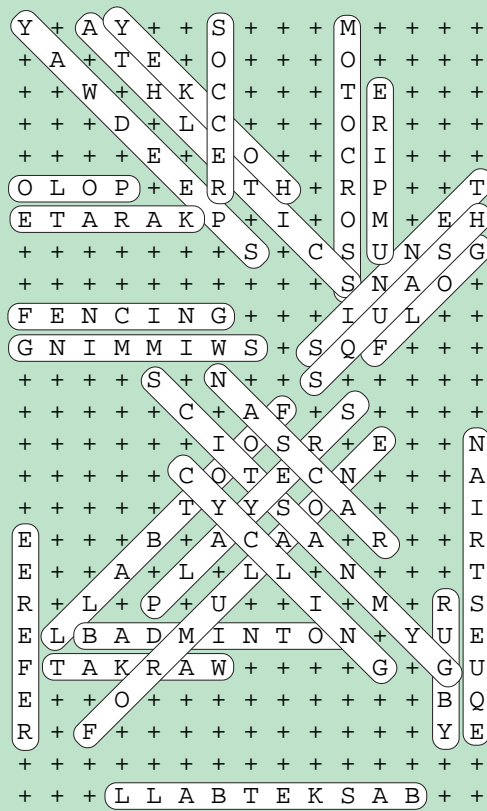
Answers below

Puzzle Solutions

Solution to this week's Quick Crossword

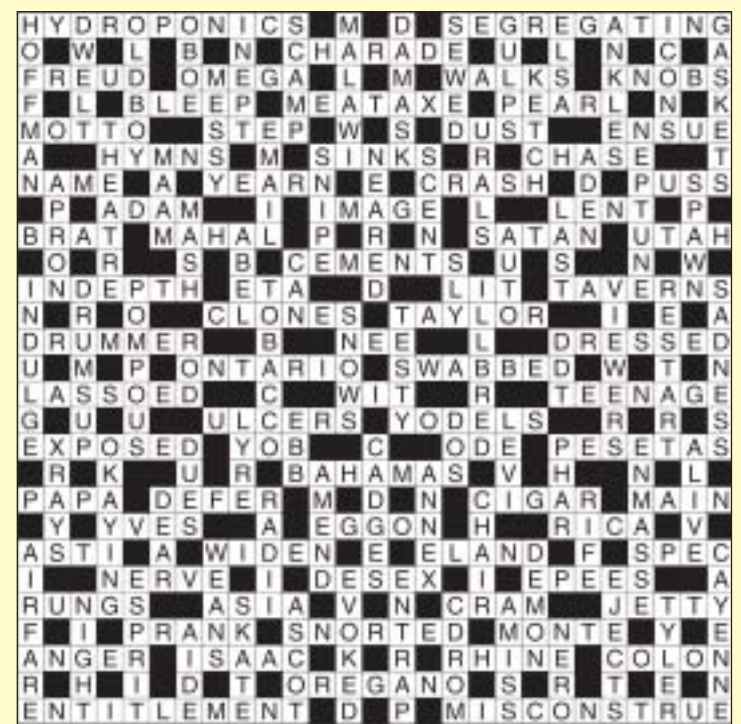


Hidden Words SOLUTION



Monster Quiz Answers

1. Cherbourg; 2. Peter Shilton (125); 3. Father Jack Hackett; 4. *Midnight Cowboy*; 5. A hand for a hand, a foot for a foot; 6. LA Lakers; 7. 101 Dalmatians; 8. Minsk; 9. Red; 10. Jupiter; 11. One Foot in the Grave; 12. Jamaica; 13. Zebra; 14. Barbra Streisand; 15. 6; 16. He provided the voice for Darth Vader; 17. Dusty Springfield; 18. Dubai; 19. Red and white; 20. Six.



Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

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ราคาเริ่มต้น 15.5 ล้านบาท
คอนโดมิเนียม 17 ห้อง
ราคาเริ่มต้น 3.9 ล้านบาท

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Mystery maneuvers stirred up problems off Phuket

The Second World War plunged the globe into one of the darkest eras of human history. Never before had armed conflict between nations led to such mass casualties as witnessed during the years from 1939 to 1945.

Closer to our homes in Phuket, the Asia-Pacific theater of the war saw many land and sea battles fought between Japanese and Allied forces.

Few people, however, have heard of a planned invasion that was supposed to have been carried out by Force 136, the British commanded army comprising soldiers mostly recruited from the indigenous population of the British Empire in Southeast Asia that was fighting the war against the Japanese.

The invasion, codenamed Operation Roga, was supposed to have been a planned invasion of Phuket Island.

When the Pacific war began in 1941, most of Britain's dominions in Southeast Asia came under threat of Japanese interests.

By late 1941, French Indo-China, Malaya and Singapore fell quickly to advancing Japanese armies. The Japanese were soon advancing towards Burma and India.

The situation in Siam, however, was quite different. In 1939, it was one of the few nations in the region maintaining its autonomy from any major European power.

Japanese diplomats took advantage of this situation. After some brief armed confrontation between Japanese and Thai troops when the Japanese tried to cross into Thailand, negotiations were opened and Prime Minister Phibulsongkram signed an alliance with Japan.

Shortly after, Thailand



This map illustrates how Phuket may have been used by the allies as a stepping stone to liberate Malaya, open up the Strait of Malacca and free Singapore from Japanese control.

port squadrons of fighter aircraft.

Most importantly, its location was exactly halfway between Rangoon and Singapore. The air force base on the island could have been used as a launching base for bombing operations to either of the two cities.

Some sources claim that the British realized the importance of this strategic advantage early on and had planned to occupy Phuket before the Japanese invasion began.

However, since it was Siamese territory, the invasion was put off until it was too late.

By 1945, the tides of war had turned and the Japanese were being pushed out of Southeast Asia by Allied forces.

The British offensive was aimed at recovering lost territory from Japanese control.

Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, the supreme Allied commander in Southeast Asia, received orders to liberate Burma as quickly as possible and then proceed with the invasion of Malaya.

The plan to liberate Malaya was to capture Burma, then march south by land through Tenasserim and the along the Isthmus of Kra to Malaya.

In early 1945, Lord Mountbatten proposed that the operation could actually be sped up by capturing Phuket and using it as a base for British troops to invade Malaya. This was Operation Roger.

Operation Roger never materialized and was taken off the invasion agenda in early-May of 1945. Phuket was never invaded. Little is known of the planned invasion or its intended scale.

Lord Mountbatten later revealed that Operation Roger was officially scrapped because of a shortage of landing-craft.

This was a chronic problem for the Southeast Asian command.

In *Code-breaker in the Far East*, Alan Stripp claims that even though a relevant explanation was provided by Lord Mountbatten for the cancellation of the invasion, it is possible that the operation may actually have begun and failed.

This claim is based on the large-scale mine-sweeping that took place in the sea off Phuket, as if in preparation for an invasion, even after Operation Roger had been called off.

Several Japanese senior commanders, who were captured and interrogated after the war, claimed that several British attempts to invade Phuket had taken place, with hundreds of Allied troops landing ashore only to be virtually wiped out for their efforts.

There were also complaints by Thai Army generals who said they had seen the British fleet maneuvering close to the Phuket. The whole scenario remains a mystery.

Anand Singh is an avid Phuket historian. He lived on Phuket from the age of 3 to 21. He is fluent in Thai and is currently completing his degree in economics at the University of Birmingham. Anand may be contacted at as.pkt@hotmail.com

LOOKING BACK

By Anand Singh

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Ultimate hippie chick bares all

One of the horrible things about growing old is that the glamorous hippie chicks of your wild 1960s youth are now old ladies, even grandmothers.

A wave of nostalgia washed over me as I gazed at the cover of *Wonderful Tonight* (Harmony Books, New York, 2007, 307pp), the autobiography of Pattie Boyd, wife and muse to George Harrison and Eric Clapton. They wrote "Something" and "Wonderful Tonight" for her.

She is posed on the cover photo in a pink miniskirt, white stockings, purple Tibetan beads and flowing blonde mane.

Her book, co-authored with Penny Junor, is an inside look at the rock 'n' roll royalty of the time. She knew everyone and, unlike many, never succumbed to alcoholism or drug addiction. She calls herself a "non-addictive personality".

Her upbringing was a world away from the working-class musicians who formed her social circle. Her ancestors worked for the Indian Raj.

She grew up in Kenya and attended convent boarding schools until she broke into modeling in London in the beginning of the Swinging Sixties, a time when everyone went to the same coffee bars, bis-

tros, shops, restaurants and pubs. Here's her take on the era:

"London belonged to the young. All the old class structures of our parents' generation were breaking down. All the old social mores were swept away. No one cared where you came from or what school you'd gone to, what accent you spoke with or how much money you had.

"All that mattered was what you could do, what you could create. Bohemian baronets smoked grass openly, dukes' daughters went out with hairdressers, and everyone put two fingers up to the conventions of their youth and the expectations of their families.

"The capital was abuzz with creativity, bristling with energy... Painters, poets, designers, admen, media figures, and, of course, musicians expressed themselves with fearlessness, freshness, and freedom.

"They wore fabulous frocks and flowery shirts and grew their hair long. It was a golden age, an exciting time to be alive. As a model, working for the most successful photographers in London, I was in the thick of it."

In March 1964, the early days of Beatlemania, Pattie Boyd landed a bit part

as a schoolgirl aboard a train in *A Hard Day's Night*.

"On first impressions, John seemed more cynical and brash than the others, Ringo the most endearing, Paul was cute, and George, with velvet brown eyes and dark chestnut hair, was the best looking man I'd ever seen," she recalls.

George asked her out and she turned him down as she had a photographer boyfriend at the time. But she reconsidered in time for another day's shooting and that was that. What's a photographer compared to one of the four kings of the world?

The former sheltered convent girl is soon off on a sailboat trip with George, John and Cynthia Lennon to the islands around Tahiti.

It's just the beginning of a lifetime of peripatetic travel. She's with the Beatles on their first acid trip and at the famous Indian retreat. Cooking and hostessing parties at George's country mansion con-

sumes her life in the 1960s.

Then one day she gets a strange and passionate love letter that she throws away. Eric Clapton calls and asks if she got his letter.

It would take years and a stint of heroin addiction for Clapton but Patti eventually decides to make the leap. In the future she would regret the move, but not the grand passion she experienced with Eric. A pity he was a drunk and a womanizer.

"I had known little about Eric when I had allowed him to seduce me away from George," she writes. "I had seen him as a romantic character, impetuous, free-spirited, and talented, not just as a musician

but as an artist, and I had built him up so much in my imagination that in the flesh he could never have lived up to my idealized image."

This marriage ends in divorce too, but till the end of the book Patti carries on partying and traveling the world. The ultimate hippie chick.



Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

Building a private library

There's a whole market for books on how to learn Thai. A given book might promise you that you'll learn Thai in 24 hours, that you'll speak like a native – and that you'll simultaneously cure cancer and world hunger in the process.

Chances are, you own at least one book like this. If you're anything like me, the act of buying the book gets you off the hook of actually reading it for at least a few months.

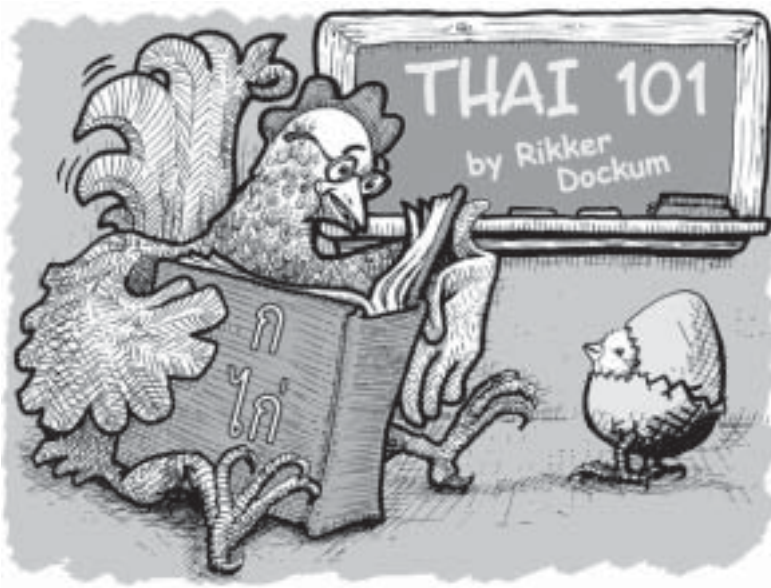
There are courses you can take at language schools and universities, ranging from beginning to advanced. Private tutors are a dime a dozen, though that's not their actual rate. If you're lucky, you work for a company that will fork out for some tuition.

One or more of these options may be right for you, but in the age of the Internet there's a lot you can do with nary a baht.

At the top of the list of my recommended strategies is to learn to type in Thai. Besides the fact that it's easier to push a button than a pencil, typing will open up learning opportunities. If you don't own a computer, just head to your local Internet shop.

There is no special software you need to be able to type Thai on a modern computer. This functionality is built in. You'll just need to set things up to be able to switch between Thai and English on your keyboard – the magic button is the one left of the key for the number "1" and is sensibly marked T/E on most keyboards sold in Thailand.

The process is the same for adding Thai as it is for adding any



language. Just type in the phrase "input languages" in a search engine box and click on the first hit that comes up: <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/setup/learnmore/tips/leidenfrost1.msp>

If you're a Mac user, just add the word Mac in the search engine box.

Once you're ready to go with input, you need to learn to type Thai. If this is out of your league at the moment, don't sweat it. But if you're up for the challenge, there's a free program

called, unsurprisingly, Thai Typing Tutor (www.users.bigpond.com/gurce/thai/type/). I used it, and you can't beat the price.

Dictionaries

A good dictionary is essential, but

any old one is often adequate. There are a number of free Internet dictionaries that will get you started. To name just a couple:

- thai-language.com is one of the earliest websites of its kind. It has many useful features, not the least of which is its dictionary of some 30,000 entries.

- thai2english.com is a relative newcomer, but its claim to fame is that you can paste in whole chunks of Thai and will feed you back a Romanized version with word-for-word translation. It's not perfect, but it's pretty darn good, especially if you're not sure if that random Thai email you got is important, or just trying to sell you some Viagra.

Discussion forums

There are quite a lot of people out there learning Thai. For me, this was a revelation. At the time, after two years of learning on my

own, I was delighted to discover some peers. Topics run the gamut from how to spell your name in Thai for that sick tattoo you're gonna get, to deciphering and translating entire passages of text. In addition to a discussion forum at thai-language.com, there are two other major players: thailandqa.com and thaivisa.com have quite active Thai language forums.

Other resources

There are a number of other good sites, including learningthai.com, and its more advanced sister-site spokenthai.com, which features podcasts and videos.

It's entirely possible to go from ABC to expert with the help of what's out there on the web

Rikker Dockum writes regularly at thai101.blogspot.com and can be contacted at: rdockum@gmail.com

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Call for gratitude

Suchon Boonplong, the man responsible for the manslaughter by negligence of 54 Burmese being smuggled into Thailand last week, finally turned himself over to police after a week on the run.

After giving himself up, Suchon was quoted by Region 8 Police Commander Gen Thani Tawitsri as saying that his reason for surrendering was that he "he might be killed to protect the identities of higher-ups in the human trafficking ring".

That statement in itself speaks volumes about the nature and scale of human trafficking rings that have existed in the Andaman region for decades, operated in full view of law enforcement officials who have done little or nothing to stop them.

Worse, there have been numerous reports – such as those by the now-defunct iTV network a few years ago – that police have been involved in extortion rackets targeting poor, mistreated aliens whose only crime is trying to eke out an existence somewhere other than the failed state they happened to be born in.

That this form of maltreatment continues was most recently demonstrated by the still-unsolved murder of 25-year-old Burmese laborer So Sung at a workers camp in Kathu on the night of March 30. So Sung was killed by a shotgun blast to the face in full view of fellow workers after he had the temerity to advise them not to yield to the demands of two thugs apparently posing as off-duty policemen.

It comes as little surprise that his murder remains unsolved, given the scores of unnamed bodies presumed to be the remains of unregistered Burmese workers that turn up on the island week after week, most often near the fishing piers on Koh Sireh, where many Burmese risk life and limb to provide Phuket with fresh seafood.

This editorial writer cannot remember even one of these cases ever being seriously investigated, let alone solved. These cases stand in stark contrast to the swift investigations conducted in more high-profile cases, such as the murder of Swedish tourist Hanna Backlund last month.

Phuket's emergence as a major tourism destination in the region owes a great deal to the unappreciated efforts of Burmese workers, who do the menial tasks in the construction industry that even poor migrant Thai workers from the northeast are unwilling to take on.

Even the dangerous work on Phuket's newest icon, the enormous Mingmongkol Buddha image in the the Nakkerd Hills, is mostly the result of hard work by Burmese laborers. For this and all their other efforts they deserve our thanks, but instead they get little back from our society apart from suspicion and contempt. – **The Editor**

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

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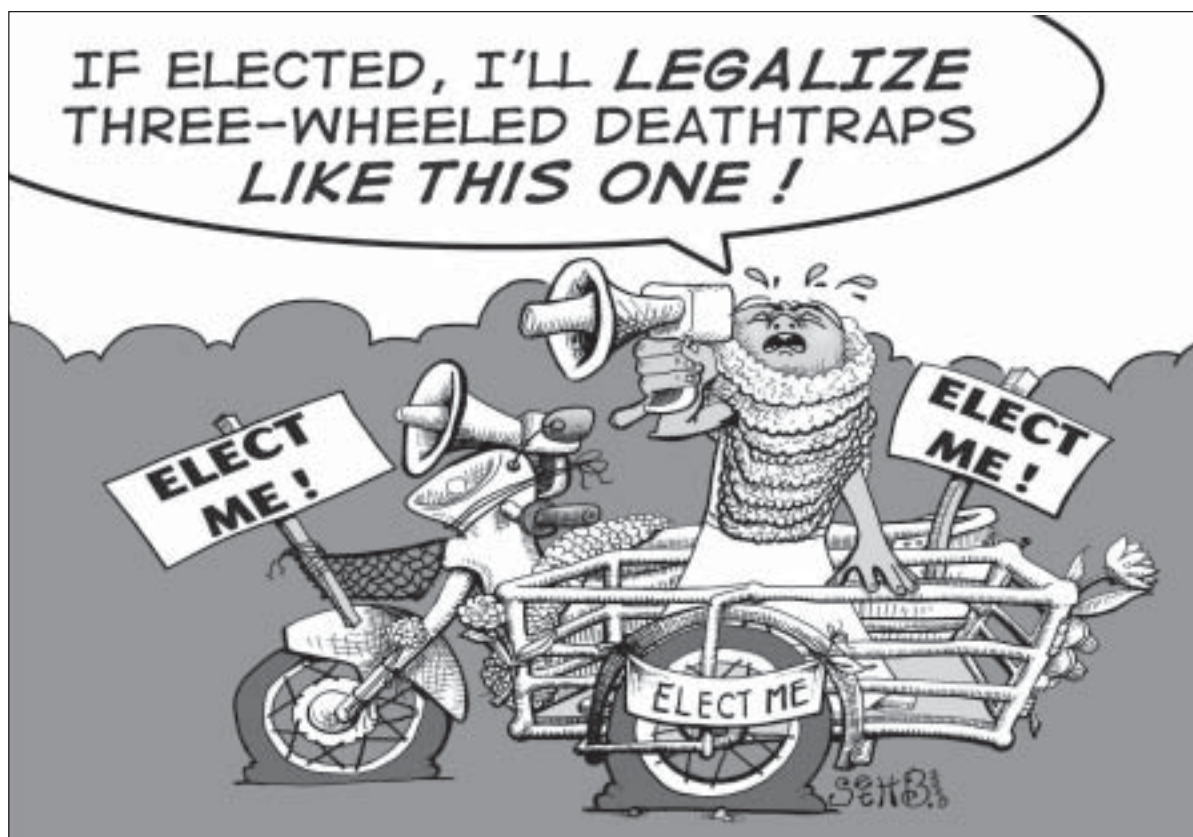
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Letters

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

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

Are those tears of laughter?

If I remember correctly, after the tsunami the governor said that he didn't want to see tuk-tuks and cars and motorcycle-hire companies on the beach road in Patong anymore. Please, let me laugh!

They returned just a few weeks later and, once again, you couldn't find an empty parking space there to save your life. Listen: Go to the beach road after 11 pm and try to park your motorcycle or, mission impossible, your car.

The governor also said that he didn't want to see mass clearings of tress anymore. Let me cry this time.

Richard Market
By email

I'll miss you, Phuket

My family and I are certainly no strangers to lovely Phuket, as we stay there every year. We have just returned from another fantastic 21 days there and I am very saddened, as my wife and two children have implored me never to return.

The one and only reason is the silly one-way system in Patong. We had to run for our lives on many occasions as it is near impossible to cross the road outside the new shopping center.

My five-year-old son is still having nightmares after seeing his mother being clipped by a motorcycle and landing flat on her face.

This has really sickened me as I truly love the place, but all my wife says now is, "They don't mind taking all the money we have saved all year, but no-one is prepared to let us as a little family cross the roads in safety."

Maybe I can talk her round in a few years, but at the moment I feel she is right.

Many thanks and I will truly miss Phuket.

Nigel O'Kane
England

SDF v Thalang: it's the dogs

After reading the letter from James Hardcastle ("Dog shelter is a shock and a shame", *Gazette* April 12 issue), the Soi Dog Foundation (SDF) would like to make it clear that it has no connection whatsoever with the government dog pound in Thalang.

The SDF was asked to leave there in November last year following an announcement that the facility had a budget to run independently.

The SDF has its own center, which is located in Mai Khao.

The pound staff on site at the government shelter in Thalang will not allow the SDF to remove sick and injured dogs for treatment, but SDF is currently allowed to provide some emergency treatment on site, which it is doing at its own expense.

The SDF welcomes visitors to its center. Call 081-7884222 or visit www.soidog.org for directions.

John Dalley
Soi Dog Foundation

Keep those little ladies in check

I agree mostly with what Graham [Doven] says (in "Larger than Life", p17 of the April 5 issue of the *Gazette*), but, for 371,000 baht over 20 years, I could buy many washing machines. At one kilogram a day at 50 baht a kilo, that's what it comes to over 20 years.

Now my little lady wants to throw away the machines that make work easier, but she watches TV while ironing anyway.

Perhaps Graham can address the mop and vacuum cleaner in his next issue.

Needless to say, I always enjoy reading Graham's insightful column.

David A Crompton.
Patong

What's holding up the baht buses?

As a visitor to Phuket three to four times a year for the past 25 years, I look forward to a system that will allow a round-trip tuk-tuk or baht-bus type of service, getting on and off as desired at an appropriate local rate.

Besides providing a very convenient, reasonably priced service that is also profitable, it would go a long way towards reducing congestion. What is the problem with instigating this? Local politics?

Mike
By email

Doused with diligence

Experiencing the Songkran festivities in Phuket for the first time was a refreshing change from Bangkok.

Although many people in Phuket still ended up with injuries resulting from carelessness on the roads, people were generally gentle and considerate.

Also, hats off to the police for confiscating the more powerful and potentially blinding water guns.

Stanley Rosenberg
Phuket City

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

Turtle release fell short of expectations

On Friday, March 28, I was one of the many tourists who flocked to the Sea Turtle Release Ceremony held at the Sheraton Grand Laguna. We were one of the 80 groups of people who donated 2,000 baht to the project.

While we were happy to contribute to the project, hosted by the Royal Thai Navy and the Phuket Marine Biological Center, I have to say that we were appalled by how poorly organized the event was.

The master of ceremonies was annoyingly loud, screaming into her microphone as people tried to participate in the different games and activities between 4 pm and 6 pm.

There was too much waiting time for such a huge crowd of people.

Right at the beginning of the event, at 4 pm, we had to queue for half an hour to make our donation in return for a ticket to release one of the turtles. But the turtle release ceremony was at 6:15 pm.

Many families were there with very young children in the scorchingly hot weather.

Worst of all though, when everyone headed to the beach to release the turtles, the organizers did not give us clear directions ahead of time regarding the way we should properly set them free.

There was a bottleneck at

FIRST PERSON

The Sea Turtle Release Ceremony held at Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket on March 28 saw 80 groups of people descend on the resort to release turtles into the sea. The event takes place every year to raise awareness of the turtles.

Grace Wong, a Hong Kong national visiting Phuket, was one of the people who paid 2,000 baht to release a turtle.

Here, Grace talks about her disappointment with how the event was organized, from the panicked MC to the disoriented turtles whose fate, Grace says, remains unknown.



the entrance where we were supposed to get our turtles because everyone was pushing and shoving to get to the head of the line.

The MC was delirious because of the chaos and kept shouting louder and louder.

Then, when we were able to get a hold of our turtle and walk it towards the sea, we were blocked by all the other tourists waiting on the sand and in the water to see the turtles.

There was no clear path for the turtles to enter the water. Those poor 10-month-old turtles that had been on the pristine

Similan Islands, were faced with dozens of people standing in the water where they were supposed to find their way.

Our turtle tried to turn back as soon as I put him down on the sand.

Considering that the Royal Thai Navy was involved, I'm shocked that there was not a better security system in place to keep the tourists and other viewers away from the turtles' route.

Instead, the poor female master of ceremonies picked up a boat paddle and started threatening to hit people if they did not

get out of the way. Nobody else seemed to be doing anything to help with crowd control.

I'd be surprised if many of the 80 turtles survived this disastrous "introduction" to the sea.

The event was a great concept to generate more awareness about the turtles, but if the real concern was about the future welfare of the turtles, the whole event was a catastrophe.

In the future, if this ceremony is organized again, I would suggest doing away with the hours of activities around it, which were mainly publicity stunts for

the Laguna resorts.

A simple ceremony, limited only to those people who donated to the cause, would have been a much better idea.

Next time, please make sure there is a clear path for the turtles to find their way into the water, rather than a sea of human legs splashing around them.

Laguna Resorts & Hotels Plc replies:

Laguna Phuket has organized the Sea Turtle Conservation Ceremony for 14 consecutive years, not only to raise awareness about the plight of the endangered sea turtles, but also to "give back" to the local community and to the natural environment in which we operate.

With continuous support from the Royal Thai Navy and the Phuket Marine Biological Center, we are proud and grateful that our fund raising event has always received growing interest and support from locals and tourists alike with each passing year.

We regret that some of our guests at this year's event did not enjoy their experience.

We would like to thank guests who have provided feedback on the event.

We would also like to assure them that all comments and suggestions will be taken into consideration for the Sea Turtle Conservation Ceremony to be held next year.

I have a friend who is relocating to Phuket and he wants to bring his pet cat with him. How difficult or easy is it to do this? Does the cat need proof of vaccinations and other documents?

Da Su
Australia

John Dalley of the Soi Dog Foundation replies:

Providing you follow the rules, importing a pet cat into Thailand is fairly straightforward. You can bring the cat in as accompanied baggage. Some airlines even allow the cat to travel with you in the cabin or as cargo.

In addition to the rules below, you should have your cat microchipped and the microchip number should appear on the official document and you should have the cat vaccinated against rabies at least 21 days before travel even if your country of origin is rabies-free.

The document referred to must be stamped by an approved government vet from the exporting country's Department of Livestock or equivalent.

Depending on point of en-

Importing a pet to Phuket

Issues & ANSWERS

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try, if your cat is taken as accompanied baggage you may be allowed to pass immigration without any further formalities.

However, officially you have to fill in an import license and your cat be checked by a veterinarian during office hours, generally 9 am to 5 pm.

If at the point of entry the officials insist on this and it is outside normal hours, then the cat may be held at the airport until the veterinarian arrives, or they may allow you to take the cat

home on the basis that you return the next working day.

Please note, I have never heard of an animal being refused entry or quarantined if the rules have been complied with.

Department of Livestock Development rules for importing cats and dogs:

1.) A health certificate in English, signed or further endorsed by a full-time authorized veterinary official of the government of the exporting country, if it is previously acknowledged by a veterinary surgeon, stating: 1.1) number and species; 1.2) breed, sex, age and color or animal identification; 1.3) name and address of the owner; 1.4) certification of condition items (2) to (5).

2) The animals must come from an area where animal diseases are under control. They are found to be healthy, free from any signs of infectious and contagious

diseases, including ecto-parasitism, at the time of export and fit to travel.

3) The country has been free from rabies for at least 12 months OR the animals are vaccinated against rabies with an official-approved vaccine not less than 21 days before departure. (In practice the cat should be vaccinated against rabies.)

4) EITHER a) The dog is vaccinated against leptospirosis at least 21 days before departure OR b) The dog is subjected to a test for leptospirosis with negative result during the 30 days before departure.

5) The animals shall be vaccinated against other significant infectious or contagious diseases (distemper, hepatitis and parvovirus) with an official-approved vaccine at least 21 days before departure.

6) The animals must be conveyed in nose-and-paw

proof crates designed to avoid any risk of injury or unnecessary suffering.

7) The animals are not allowed to be exposed to other animals if they have to be landed in transit at any approved intermediate port.

They shall not be allowed to leave the precinct of the port except to an officially approved transit quarantine area.

8) The animals may be subjected to quarantine at approved premises for a period of at least 30 days upon arrival during which they shall be submitted to tests and/or treatments deemed necessary. The importer/owner shall be fully charged for the incurred expenses.

9) Failure to follow the import procedures may result in returning the animals to the country of origin or destroying them without compensation.

Here in sunny Pattaya, where wild boasts of past achievements are passed around from bar stool to bar stool, you come across all manner of oddballs, weirdos and, of course, cheapskates.

If all the bombast, bluster and exaggeration spluttering forth from the mouths of some of the biggest BS artists the world is ever likely to see could be corralled into a form of kinetic energy, we could keep the neon lights of Walking Street illuminated through anything short of a nuclear meltdown.

As an example, consider the story of the Englishman who claimed to have been in an elite military regiment (not necessarily the SAS) and later worked as a nightclub bouncer and bodyguard to rich and powerful persons – apparently.

Sat on his bar stool, an acquaintance spoke of the Englishman, saying, “I think he was telling lies because whenever I saw him in a restaurant or a bar or sitting anywhere he always had his back to the door.”

He continued, “If you know anything about the characteristics of the people who do the kind of work he claimed to have done, you’d know they always position themselves so they can see what’s going on around them.”

Perhaps he was more worried about what might emanate from the direction of the kitchen than the potential dangers bursting through the front door. Like many oth-

The Running of the Balloon Chasers

ers before him, this Englishman was on a blag and his eyes were said to continually scour the bar for complimentary peanuts and snacks.



Certain Indian tribes (the North American ones with tomahawks and bows and arrows, not the people with curry restaurants in Birmingham and tailors’ shops on the beach road) would test the veracity of their enemies by making them run the gauntlet. This leads me to an idea I’ve had for improving our reputation in the international community and giving the freaks of the neighborhood a challenge to prove their worth.

We already have the annual Pattaya Marathon for people who enjoy running long distances in stifling heat – and then there’s the Jester’s Fair, with its Tour de France-like pushbike ride, but I believe City Hall could create a world-class trifecta by introducing the Running of the Balloon Chasers.

There would be an almost endless supply of participants, as Pattaya is inter-

nationally famous for the number of people who spend their afternoons and evenings scouring the sois in search of places where colored balloons are hung – a sure indication of an impending free buffet.

To make it more interesting and encourage audience participation, the hunt for these balloons could be combined with Pattaya’s own version of the running of the gauntlet. The bar owners, who have conducted free buffets at their establishments in the previous 12 months, would be the soldiers, while the Cheap Charlies would be the runners.

To prevent serious injury, the bar owners would be armed with a choice of limp cucumber or overripe banana.

There would be no beating about the head, for the simple reason that it is impossible to knock sense into these people and there is a strong chance the victims will try and eat the weaponry.

To add to the international flavor, there could also be the Running of the Two-legged Sheep. This would take place at

night and would involve corralling all the Chinese, Korean and Japanese tour-bus groups and seeing how fast they can move through the various places marked on their tour itineraries. The rules would be strict in that only one in 10 persons would be permitted not to finish their bottle of cola in each establishment.

At the finish, the winning team is the one that has lost no more than 10% of its numbers to wily massage parlor girls, go-go dancers, karaoke singers or simply forgetting which group they were with before inadvertently joining another team.

News bulletins in English-speaking nations regularly run “Only in America” sketches. A Running of the Balloon Chasers could eventually see them adding an “Only in Pattaya” piece for the amusement of viewers.

Would the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Pattaya Office, please send their marketing check to me, care of the Plonkers R Us Bar, Soi 6.

In The Stars

by Isla Star

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): If you are celebrating a birthday this week, you will be pleasantly surprised by the extra attention you receive. A long lost friend is forecast to reappear and this could result in romance. Cupid is set to be busy on your behalf. If you are already in a committed relationship, expect your partner to show how much they care in an inventive way. The number 4 can be lucky on Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Any business concerning property will be slow to get off the ground until the end of the month. In the meantime, if you are impatient,

turn your attention elsewhere. Personal relationships could use fresh energy; your tendency to take someone’s support for granted could lead to a heated argument this weekend. Finances are well-starred on Monday when an agreement is finally made in your favor.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): Unwelcome extra tasks could mean extra hours at work this week. Wednesday is best to discuss the sore subject of unpaid overtime as the stars will support your efforts to be quietly determined. If you’re still searching for a soulmate, you could meet a likely target for

your affections in an unusual setting this weekend.

LEO (July 24-August 22): If you are annoyed that you didn’t follow up a hot business tip last month, you should get a second chance to pursue the matter this week. Romance with another Leo is forecast to cool down, but your interests are set to focus on a mysterious Scorpio. If you are planning to relocate, a wild goose chase causes frustration on Monday, but a better offer is due before the end of April.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Your luck in love is better starred this week and you will receive a confidence boost when someone shows interest and won’t take “no” for an answer. Where business affairs are concerned, a forgotten obligation comes back to haunt you. Thursday is best to eat humble pie. Investments made before the end of this month are well starred; Aquarius has an interesting tip this weekend.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): You will have cause to regret words spoken in the heat of the moment this weekend. If family members begin to irritate you, keep your distance from them, instead of retaliating. Last-minute hitches at work could cramp your style on Monday, but progress is smooth sailing after then. Consult a sensible Arian before making financial decisions. Wear leaf green to help you feel as fresh as a forest.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): You could regret a recent financial decision. Although it’s probably too late to backtrack, you should be able to negotiate delaying payment until your cash flow is healthier. Travel is highlighted during the remainder of April; an overseas trip will motivate you to relocate. Tuesday is best for salvaging a friendship that suffered from a misunderstanding last month. Meditate on a lotus pond to help untangle your thoughts.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): You appreciate the benefit of a lesson learned earlier this year when it comes to business negotiations. The stars will support property investments in the pipeline, but keep some details to yourself until a deal is sealed. Romance with Taurus continues to add sparkle to your life and a hot date this Sunday convinces you that this relationship is set to succeed.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Your common sense will prove useful this weekend when an Aquarian friend is on the verge of making a rather risky investment. Emotions are subject to ups and downs when a personal relationship is put to the test midweek. You should realize that you have the power to decide whether life is a mountain or a beach, and use it. Wearing hot pink can help to boost your confidence.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): You should resign yourself to the fact that a particular business deal will be realized only when the buffaloes come home. A more promising scheme will be presented by Aries at the end of the month. Your diplomatic skills ensure that a bureaucratic meeting goes smoothly midweek and this should result in a thorny issue being buried. The best day for pursuing love is Sunday. The number 8 can be lucky on Thursday.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): You should be riding on the crest of a wave until the end of April. By keeping your ears to the ground this weekend, you could learn of something to your advantage. Money matters require last-minute checking on Monday when someone in authority miscalculates. Savings are particularly well-starred at the moment and you will be considering further investment. The spicy scent of ginger enhances your appeal.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): A game of snakes and bamboo ladders becomes tedious this weekend. If you need to know whether any progress will be made with a new personal relationship, instigate a conversation on Tuesday. The stars will support your efforts to get to the bottom of the matter. If you are already committed, you could find your partner hard to understand during the coming days, but rocking the boat isn’t recommended.

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Using Vista's fonts with XP

In the past month, I've seen three PowerPoint slide shows here in Phuket that looked absolutely horrible. Truth be told, two of them were mine. The text became twisted around with some slides turning out almost illegible.

The example you can see here came from one of my messed-up presentations. The slide on the left, which I created with Vista and PowerPoint 2007, looks fine.

When I packed up the presentation and tried to show it on a laptop running Windows XP and Office 2003, I had the result you see on the right. The text wrapped around and was cut off halfway. Not a pretty sight.

If you've had similar problems with PowerPoint presentations – or Word documents or Excel spreadsheets that flip-flop around when transported from Office 2007 to Office 2003 – there's an easy, fast, free solution.

Microsoft introduced a slew of new fonts with Windows Vista and used one of them, Calibri, as the default font throughout much of Office 2007. If you encounter a document, spreadsheet or slide that doesn't look right when opened on an XP machine, the root of the problem may lie in the fonts used.

Windows Vista brought six brand-new fonts to the screens and printers of Windows users: three sans serif fonts (Calibri, Candara and Corbel), two serif fonts (Cambria and Constantia) and one monospaced font (Consolas). Designed from the ground up to improve on-screen legibility, all six fonts scale well from tiny point sizes to very large.

Unless you change the default setting, new Word documents created in Word 2007 appear in 11-point Calibri.

New Excel 2007 spreadsheets use 11-point Calibri as well. New PowerPoint 2007 presentations come up with 44-point Calibri for headings and 32-point Calibri for main body text, shrinking in size with various indent levels.

They look good, as long as you always work in Office 2007. But switching between Office 2007 and Office 2003 or XP can cause an extreme loss of, uh, face. Say you create a PowerPoint presentation in Office 2007. PowerPoint automatically adjusts the text on every slide to fit the Calibri font. Slick.

If you save that presentation – even if you're careful to save it in PowerPoint 97-2003 format – the Calibri font remains inside the presentation.

That's not a problem if you open the presentation on a computer that has the Calibri font installed, but if you run the presentation on a Windows XP/Office

Everybody had a good time at the Staff Party



Everybody had a good time at the Staff Party



The PowerPoint slide on the left was created with Vista and Office 2007. On the right, you see the same slide shown on a computer with Windows XP and Office 2003. If your PowerPoint slides don't travel well, there's a reason – and a solution.

2003 machine without Calibri, you discover quickly that the text doesn't wrap correctly.

If you try to take a PowerPoint 2007 presentation on the road using an old Windows XP/Office 2003 laptop, the text on the slides gets goofy when you play the slideshow. That's what happened in my messed-up presentation. The culprit? A missing font.

When you run the slideshow, PowerPoint knows it needs Calibri, but if Windows can't supply that font, it is substituted with another; typically Arial.

The problem is that Arial isn't quite the same, so the text doesn't line up correctly. Some slides may be automatically reformatted with disastrous results

and a meticulously crafted, gorgeous presentation can turn into a childish pastiche without you lifting a finger.

As you probably know, Office 2007 includes new file formats for several applications: Word 2007 documents appear as .docx files, Excel 2007 workbooks are .xlsx files, PowerPoint presentations come up as .pptx and so on.

As part of the Office 2007 rollout, Microsoft developed a set of free translators that allow you to open Office 2007 format files in Office 2003 and XP. The free Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack for Word, Excel and PowerPoint 2007 file formats plugs into Office 2003 or Office XP and allows you to open the newer versions of the files.

The Compatibility Pack also includes all six new fonts, totally

.com/3xr4tt) and click the Download button. There's no Windows Genuine Advantage hurdle, no confirmation that you have any version of Office installed. Double-click on the downloaded file called FileFormatConverters.exe. The installer takes a minute or two.

When the installer finishes, you can verify immediately that the Calibri, Cambria, Candara, Consolas, Constantia and Corbel fonts are available in every Windows application.

Attention Mac users: Response to the first Mac Group Therapy session was overwhelming. There was standing room only at one point. I'm going to continue to run Mac Group Therapy sessions on the fourth Sunday of every month, starting April 27, between 10 am and noon, at the Sandwich Shoppe in Chalong.

If you have questions about your Mac or you need a fast Internet connection to fulfill your life, bring your computer, your problems, your mother-in-law and let's see what we can do. Absolute novices always welcome. See the *Gazette* Events Calendar for details.

Woody (www.AskWoody.com) writes computer books "For Dummies" and articles.

KHUN WOODY'S COMPUTER

PC Group Therapy

Join Woody and other Windows victims at his Sunday morning PC Group Therapy sessions, co-sponsored by the Phuket Gazette. On April 20, from 10 am to noon, he'll be at the Sandwich Shoppe near the main entrance to Laguna. On April 27, he'll bring together both PC and Mac victims at the Sandwich Shoppe in Chalong, one kilometer north of Chalong Circle next to Wine Connection. And on May 4, he'll be at the Sandwich Shoppe at Aroonsom Plaza in Patong, near Andaman Beach Suites. Sessions are designed to help everybody – even (especially!) complete computer novices – and they're absolutely free. Driving instructions at www.KhunWoody.com.

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It was a commonly held belief that China's stock market was safe to invest in, at least until the end of the Olympic Games this year. Underpinning this theory was the idea that China's government would stop any slide in the market before the Olympics if only to save national "face".

Fortunately, the government was shrewd enough to realize that determined market moves are beyond the capacity of governments to control.

This column had also warned investors that, while China had a booming economy, its stock market had long since lost touch with reality, trading at its peak at a price/earnings ratio of around 45. Some estimates were even as high as 70.

The largest index in China, the Shanghai Composite Index, reached 6,000 before falling to around 3,500 at the end of the first quarter of 2008. This represents

China's stock market topples off its podium

a loss of more than 40% – a "crash" in anyone's language.

Other emerging markets, for example Vietnam, fell more than 50% and India fell 25%. In general, the most popular markets suffered the most. Stock market indexes in Thailand and Malaysia were areas of comparative stability.

Despite all the worries about sub-prime losses and the state of the economy, US stock market, as measured by the Dow Jones Industrial Index, fell by only 9% from its record high set in October 2007.

The broader Standard & Poors (S&P) 500 index fell 13%. However, substantial interest rate cuts by the US central bank (the Federal Reserve) did much to cushion the economic blows hitting the US economy.

Prominent US economist Larry Kudlow pointed out with respect to the falling US dollar that "no country has ever devalued its way to prosperity".

However, there are signs that foreign investors, including Sovereign Wealth Funds, are starting to circle the US economy with enormous

amounts of liquidity "sitting on the sidelines" waiting for investment opportunities.

The difference between this slowdown/recession in the US, compared with previous equivalents in the economic cycle, is the speed at which the US Federal Reserve had reacted to the situation.

In a matter of months, interest rates, as measured by "Fed Fund Rates", have fallen from 5.25% to 2.25%. Ben Bernanke, Chairman of the Fed, and his colleagues deserve credit for the speed and decisiveness of their actions.

The current situation is serious, with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) citing the "largest financial crisis in the US since the Great Depression". The IMF also recently cut its forecast for global economic growth for 2008 from 4.1% to 3.7%. It additionally noted that it may have to further reduce its outlook to 3% – not technically a global recession, but it will feel like one.

The Asian Development Bank cut its Asian growth forecast (excluding Japan) for 2008 from 8.2% to 7.6%. This is still very healthy.

Thailand's finance minister, Surapong Suebwonglee, said he believes that 6% growth for 2008 is well within reach. Malaysia is also targeting 6% growth and the *Wall Street Journal* reported that in the first quarter of 2008 it may have exceeded this figure.

For much of Asia, the biggest problem this year appears to be inflationary pressures, which are being felt strongly in mainly the energy and commodity sectors. Rising rice prices and shortages are making headlines.

The price of Thai rice rose 140% since April 2007, reported the *International Herald Tri-*

bune, which quoted Kwanchai Gomez, executive director of the Thai Rice Federation, a research center: "Nobody has ever seen such a jump in the price of rice, certainly not in my lifetime – and that's a long time."

However, inflation is a relative concept. Zimbabwe is a clear leader in this field, and only this field, with current inflation estimated by the *Financial Times* to be 250,000% to 400,000%.

Shortly after issuing a Z\$500,000 banknote the central bank issued Z\$25 million and Z\$50 million banknotes. Unfortunately, the latter will probably not be enough to buy a loaf of bread. Robert Mugabe has been president of that country since 1980.

When he came to power, the Zimbabwe dollar was at parity with the US dollar.

Through total mismanagement, he has turned his country from a food exporter to an importer. It is estimated that 25% of Zimbabwe's population have fled to South Africa as illegal economic immigrants.

They frequently risk crossing crocodile-infested rivers to escape. In case the reader mistakenly believes that Robert Mugabe never had a decent chance in life, he actually has seven degrees from UK universities.

He is also Zimbabwe's wealthiest man, a billionaire – not in "Zim dollars", but US dollars.

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

MONEY TALKS



By Richard G. Watson

VITAL STATISTICS: COMPANY REGISTRATIONS

	March 2006	March 2007	March 2008
Limited company registrations	194	97	129
Limited partnership registrations	29	27	36
Limited companies changed	328	389	411
Limited partnerships changed	43	31	50
Companies deregistered	7	12	10
Partnerships deregistered	1	10	16

Source: Phuket Business Development Office



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ON THE MOVE

Malaysian **Shafar Jamaludin** has been appointed Director of Sales & Marketing at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa. Mr Jamaludin has 14 years' experience in the international hotel industry, including working as Director of Events at The Empire Hotel and Country Club in Brunei. He graduated in hotel and catering management at the University Teknologi MARA in Malaysia and in hotel and tourism management at the Tokyo YMCA International Hotel School, in Japan.



Sukhum Trongcharoen, from Bangkok, has been appointed Senior Accounts Manager at the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa. K. Sukhum has been in the hotel industry for six years. His background includes working as Convention Service Manager at Le Royal Meridien Bangkok, and Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit. Before moving to Phuket, he was JW Marriott Thailand's Cluster Event Booking Center Manager. K. Sukhum has an arts degree from Thammasat University.



Wasana Pumsuwan has been appointed Director of Rooms at the Renaissance Koh Samui Resort & Spa. K. Wasana has more than 10 years' experience in this position. Before this appointment, she was Front Office Manager at Anantara Koh Samui. Her experience includes working at Hotel Nikko Manila, in the Philippines, and at the Muang Kulapan Hotel on Koh Samui. In her new role, K. Wasana is in charge of room operations, Front Office, Housekeeping and the Quan Spa.



By Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

KATA-KARON: In a move to boost its visual presence in Phuket Kasikorn Bank in March donated 2,530 umbrellas and 90 tents emblazoned with the bank's colors and logos to deck chair rental operators at Kata-Karon Beach.

The donation of umbrellas emulates a similar public awareness campaign by Siam Commercial Bank (SCB), which has donated a total of 8,000 umbrellas and 110 tent pavilions to deck chair rental operators at Kata, Karon and Patong beaches at a cost of about 4 million baht since the 2004 tsunami.

The umbrella donations also come at a time when the number of Kasikorn Bank customer service outlets is on the rise, with currently 90 ATM points in Phuket compared to SCB's 102 ATMs.

Other SCB customer service points in Phuket include 23 branches, 22 exchange booths and a total of 300 bankers employed on the island, while Kasikorn Bank has nine branches and nine currency exchange booths with a total of 170 employees in Phuket.

Department Head of Corporate Business Marketing for Kasikorn Bank, Chaowapat Lertwongsatien, admitted that the donation of umbrellas was good for business but said that the bank was not making attempts to measure any increase in the number of customers as a result of the increased visual presence of the donated umbrellas.

"The umbrella donation is just one of the Community Service Relations (CSR) projects we

Banks bring out brollies to bolster awareness



BATTLE OF THE 'BRELLAS: Kasikorn and Siam Commercial banks are linnig the beaches at Kata-Karon and Patong with a multitude of colorful umbrellas and tents.

tiveness because the aim of this initiative is to support the public. We will continue to help vendors out by donating equipment every two years because that is the estimated lifespan of the beach umbrellas," K Thursak said.

"It's good public relations for us because the umbrellas are adorned with our logo creating a very visible testament that we are actively doing something to help – that we are putting something back into the community," he added.

are involved in. Last year Kasikorn Bank organised a charity run in conjunction with Karon municipality. We also operate an education scholarship program for underprivileged children," he said.

"The Kasikorn Bank umbrellas were donated at a cost of 1.35 million with the tents costing a total of 2.10 million baht. Kasikorn Bank has also donated 200,000 baht in cash to Karon Municipality towards upkeep of the beach front area," added K. Chaowapat.

Thursak Chusab, manager

of SCB in Karon is unconcerned that Kasikorn is providing umbrellas for deck chair rental operators who SCB used to supply.

"The municipality has now allowed Kasikorn bank to donate beach umbrellas as well but we are not concerned about competi-

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Spritley Penalosa retains title against Sor Vorapin

By Scot Mallon

Filipino fighter Gerry Penalosa (53-6-2, 36 KOs) has improved with age like a fine wine. The 35-year-old WBO bantamweight champion on April 6 demonstrated that his considerable boxing skills are intact, out-boxing and punishing Ratanachai Sor Vorapin of Thailand (72-10, 48 KOs) for seven rounds at Arena Stadium in Manila before referee Gino Rodriguez stopped the bout in round eight.

The two fought in November 2000, with Penalosa stopping the Thai in the sixth round.

With nearly 150 fights between them, the main issue was about who could still come up with the goods at this late point in both their careers.

Penalosa was coming off a surprising one-punch, sixth-round KO victory over Jhonny Gonzalez to win the title.

After losing his title to Gonzalez, Sor Vorapin had won seven in a row, albeit against low-quality opposition.

In the beginning of the fight, the pair of southpaws fought cautiously, probing with their jabs and looking for openings.

Penalosa began using double jabs, straight lefts and left hooks to the body. Sor Vorapin waded in, pounding away at the body and attempting to land looping left bombs.

By the fourth round, it was clear Sor Vorapin had only one gear, but Penalosa was cruising into a higher gear.

At the end of the round. He pinned Sor Vorapin up against the ropes and unleashed a flurry of punches that nearly dropped the Thai.

This proved to be a picture of things to come. Penalosa was clearly in charge by the fifth round, when he began landing three-, four- and five-punch combinations with ease.

Sor Vorapin came to win the



Ratanachai Sor Vorapin (main picture, right) scores with a punch to the body of champion Gerry Penalosa. A right hook from Penalosa inset, (right) puts Sor Vorapin down to the canvas.

round, but was plainly outgunned.

Penalosa was the faster, sharper and stronger fighter. The Thai continued to flail away at the body of Penalosa, but his punches were wild and often missed. Once more the Thai nearly went down, held up only by his will and massive legs.

In the eighth round, Sor Vorapin continued to press forward, but the champion knew victory was within his grasp.

Penalosa pushed the Thai fighter towards the ropes and released a right-hook, right-upper-cut, left-hook combination that nearly sent the Thai down for the third time in the bout.

Quickly realizing Sor Vorapin was still on his feet, Penalosa stepped in and discharged a volley of punches that finally sent his opponent to the canvas.

Sor Vorapin, a fighter who never met a punch his face didn't like, refused to stay down.

With blood streaming from his nose, he stood up to meet his fate. Penalosa walked in and unleashed another volley of punches, prompting the referee's stoppage at 2:31 of the round.

The Filipino was ahead on all three scorecards when the fight was stopped.

In the post-fight press conference, the always-smiling Penalosa asked compatriot Rey "Boom-Boom" Bautista to please let him have first crack at WBO super bantamweight champion Daniel Ponce de Leon, saying, "Rey, please, I don't have so many years left. Let me go first." Last year, de Leon defeated Penalosa by a 12-round unanimous decision and Bautista via first-round knockout.

Although Sor Vorapin is the younger of the two fighters, he is older in ring years and certainly looks to be near the end of his long career.

With 80-plus fights in boxing and approximately 150 fights in Muay Thai, Sor Vorapin's body has little left.

Asked whether he will retire, Sor Vorapin laughed and said, "I like fighting, I don't want to stop fighting - I will not stop. I'll stop only when my son or my wife asks me to."

On the undercard, ALA Boxing Gym's Michael Domingo (35-14-2, 14 KOs) destroyed Thai bantamweight Thepnimit Sor Chitpattana (18-3, 7 KOs) in just two rounds; Sor Chitpattana had been out of action for more than a year.

Super bantamweight Rey Bautista scored an easy second-



round KO over Genaro Camargo and in an IBF super flyweight title eliminator between two undefeated fighters, AJ Banal of the Philippines scored a fourth-round TKO over Uruguay's Caril Herrera.

Also on the card, super bantamweight Ciso "Kid Terrible" Morales caught the attention of visiting Golden Boy Promotion executives when he scored a fifth-round TKO over Korea's Yoo Shin Kim.

On March 31 at Rajamangala Stadium, Bangkok, an eliminator for the WBA super bantamweight title saw Poon-sawat Kratingdaenggym (33-1, 23 KOs) score a surprisingly easy 11th-round TKO over former world champion Somsak Sithchatchawal (56-3-1, 44 KOs).

Poonsawat, who used his superior boxing skills to batter the weight-drained Sithchatchawal, is now the mandatory challenger for the WBA super bantamweight title held by Caballero.

Forty-three-year-old former world champion Jeff "The Mar-rickville Mauler" Fenech (28-3-1, 21 KOs) of Australia recently announced he'll fight Azumah Nelson (39-5-2, 28 KOs) on June 24 in Pattaya.

Fenech originally announced plans to fight Thailand's former boxing and Muay Thai champion Samart Payakarun (21-2, 12 KOs), but the Thai decided to forgo the bout. Fenech stopped Payakarun in four rounds in 1987.

Nelson, who is now 49 years old and living in Accra, Ghana, fought to a draw with Fenech in 1991 and knocked out the Australian in 1992.

Fenech, who last fought in 1996, promoted shows in Australia and has trained Danny Green, Mike Tyson and several other boxers since retiring.

Scott Mallon is a Bangkok-based boxing writer and freelance journalist. He is a member of Ring magazine's ratings advisory panel.

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Bright star earns trip to Man City

PHUKET: Twelve-year-old Sutthipong Yaifai will have the trip of a lifetime when he travels all expenses paid to England to train with Manchester City from April 22 to April 30.

Sutthipong was one of 130 children at tryouts in Bangkok held last week.

He will join 14 other boys and one girl for the training camp in the UK, which will also give the youngsters the chance to watch Manchester City take on Fulham in the Barclays Premier League on April 26.

Sutthipong is a member of Youth Football Home (YFH), a registered charity that offers homes to orphaned and destitute boys.

Boys from YFH took part in the Phuket Fair Play Junior League throughout January and February, with three teams from YFH taking on teams from five



Youth soccer player Sutthipong Yaifai will travel to England to train with Manchester City, as well as watch City take on Fulham at the The City of Manchester stadium (pictured).

other Phuket schools.

On May 5, YFH will welcome children from Hong Kong FC to take part in an eight-team tournament, with matches to be held daily from 11 am at YFH in Thepkasattri, in Thalang.

For further information about Youth Football Home call 076-512524 or email yfh_phuket@hotmail.com

PATONG POOL LEAGUE

**Knockout standings after April 5
(red indicates eliminated)**

	Team	Pts	Singles	Doubles	BL	BLG
1	Anchor Bar	11	6	3	2	2
2	Montes	8	4	2	2	2
3	Offshore Bar	7	5	2	0	0
4	Thunder Bar	6	4	2	0	0
5	Skylight II	6	2	2	2	2
6	Black Dragon	5	4	1	0	0
7	Frog Club	5	2	1	2	2
8	No Name Bar	4	1	1	2	2
9	Shakers	3	2	1	0	1
10	Lek Murphy's	0	0	0	0	0

For further information about the Patong Pool League call Murray at 086-1511600.

PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

PATONG: There were no real surprises in April 8 play, except that Queen Mary lost another point when they dropped the beer leg to Simply Red after winning 8-1 in the main competition.

Ulf of Piccadilly, playing in one of his last matches of the season before his return to sunny Sweden, closed out the beer leg with X1.

In other matches, Beach House stopped a resurgent Market Bar 6-3 before blowing a 400-point lead to lose the beer leg.

Send match details to darts@phuketgazette.net for inclusion in this forum.

April 8 results: Simply Red* 1 Queen Mary 8; Valhalla 4 Dogs Bollocks* 5; Shakers 3 Piccadilly* 6; Sick Buffalo 2 Offshore* 7; Market Bar* 3 Beach House 6 (* winner of beer leg).

Standings: 1. Queen Mary (34 pts.); 2. Piccadilly (33); 3. Dogs Bollocks (21); 4. Offshore (20); 5. Shakers (17). 6.= Market Bar, Sick Buffalo (16); 8.= Valhalla, Beach House (14); 10. Simply Red (10).

April 22 match-ups: Shakers v Queen Mary; Market Bar v Dogs Bollocks; Beach House v Piccadilly; Offshore v Valhalla; Sick Buffalo v Simply Red (home team first).

PHUKET: The Asian Celebrity Golf Tour charity event will arrive in Phuket for some golfing fun and a rare opportunity for amateurs of all handicaps to play a round of golf with some familiar faces.

Arriving fresh from Europe will be a troupe of overseas golf teams, including a number of celebrities from the worlds of football, soccer and entertainment.

Among the celebs expected to make the trip to Phuket are former Bolton Wanderers captain Mike Walsh, ex-West Ham hard man Julian Dicks, snooker trickster John Virgo and the "people's champion" Jimmy White.

All the celebs have a keen interest in golf. After retiring from professional football, Julian Dicks took up golf and turned professional, only to have his career shortened by a knee injury. He still manages to play for fun and will be looking forward to a couple of rounds in Phuket.

The golfing action will take place at sister-courses Loch Palm and Red Mountain in Kathu. Both courses are situated on the site of an old tin mine.

Each hole, crafted from the many rock cliffs and canyons in the area, offers stunning views over Phuket. The two courses stretch to about 7,000 yards each from the pro-tees playing to a regular par 72 for each day's play.

The demanding courses will test the celebrities and their playing partners to their limits.

After each day's play, golfers will be able to relax and sink a few drinks in the country-style club house.

The 36-hole competition will follow a Stableford format, which means that scoring will be based on the results of each hole, rather than a traditional "lowest-score-overall wins" format.

Handicaps will be played to three-quarters of a player's full handicap to a maximum of 28.

Prizes will be awarded for the best celebrity Stableford score, the best team Stableford score and

Phuket golfers to take on touring celebs

there will be daily prizes for nearest to the pin and the longest drive.

Teams will leave Europe on May 25 and arrive in Phuket May 26. After a couple of days of relaxation, the golfers will tee-off for play at Loch Palm on May 28 and Red Mountain on May 29.

On the evening of May 29 there will be a gala dinner and prize ceremony hosted by the celebrities. Two hours of live entertainment will be accompanied by an auction of world-class memorabilia in aid of the charity Children of Phuket.

Providing entertainment will be singers Peter Conway, Colin Gibson (winner of UK talent show *Stars in Their Eyes*) and comedians Steve Womack and Mikey Gunn.

Tickets for the gala dinner are available from the Yorkshire Inn and Tai Leisure Club, both in Patong, priced at 2,900 baht, including a four-course meal.

Other celebrities slated to appear in Phuket are footballers

Graham Rix, Luther Blissett, Kevin Reeves, Mickey Adams and Frank McAvennie, snooker stars Willie Thorne, Ray "the voice of snooker" Edmonds, Tony Knowles, Joe Johnson and Mike Hallet, and entertainer John Leeze.

The event is being jointly organized by Hi5 Golf, Sport in Spain and the The Yorkshire Inn Group.

The gala dinner will take place at Gracelands Hotel Resort in Patong.

An Amateurs Golf Tour Package is available for players wishing to tee-off with the celebrities. For 30,000 baht, players will be able to attend the welcome reception on May 26, a day's practice and evening drinks on May 27, two days of tournament play on May 28 and 29, and the gala dinner, also to be held on May 29.

For further information contact Ian Morgan (Tel: 087-8926899. Email: info@yorkshireinn.com) or Jeffrey Ogden (Tel: +60(0)14-6622981. Email: jsogden@talismen-energy.com).

Call for underwater cleanup

PATONG: Snorkelers and qualified SCUBA divers are invited to take part in Earth Day Cleanup with Scuba Cat Diving on April 22.

The all-day cleanup at Racha Yai Island has limited places available and early registration is recommended.

The event is being held to help the local environment. A certificate of participation and complimentary T-shirt will be given to each person who takes part.

At the end of the day there will be a barbecue at Scuba Cat Diving Patong.

Contact for further information. Tel: 076-293120-1. Email: shop@scubacat.com Website: www.scubacat.com

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Gardening

by Bloomin' Bert

Essential toys for garden boys

I like toys. Not the plastic fire engine or "Transformers – robots in disguise" variety, but proper toys. Blokes' toys. Blokes' toys are different. They're cool. Computer accessories are a perfect example. An XXXGB external hard drive is never big enough. Even though you haven't even come close to filling up the original hard drive, the latest, greatest, fastest hard drive ever offered is too tempting to resist. I must have one.

I just bought a slick little light that plugs into the side of my laptop; a silver flexi thing with an LED light on the end. Will I ever use it? Probably not. Did I have to buy it? Absolutely. It's the same with computers – we're all suckers for the latest model available, even though the computer we already have is totally adequate.

It's the same with televisions. A bloke simply can't be satisfied when there aren't enough inches. Perhaps I should rephrase that. TV screens, that is. You want 29 inches? Or 34 inches, perhaps? Piffle – the latest 54" high-definition widescreen LCD is an essential purchase. This is one of those things that requires absolutely no discussion with the wife; it just has to happen.

I'm also a big fan of BIY – Bodge It Yourself. Why pay someone to do that DIY job at home when you can bodge it yourself? There are plenty of options available to the BIYer to enable him to bodge any job successfully, from big, grunting power tools such as cordless drills and nail guns to big expensive workbenches that are never used, and, of course, a shed in which

A MAN'S WORK IS NEVER DONE:
Snip-happy gardeners need to splash out on the pruning shears to avoid untimely blade snaps.



to store all these must-have accessories.

When it comes to justifying toys and gadgets, I prefer to call them "tools". A far more grown-up term. I've even been called one myself, on occasion. Fortunately, there are tools that you may be able to justify to the wife – the ones you use in the garden.

There's certainly plenty of choice when it comes to gardening tools. But which ones do you need? What do you do with them?

Quality tools, the expensive ones, are designed to last for years, but they need to be cared for and maintained. If you go for bargain-basement tools, maintaining them is less of a problem. When they wear out, throw them away. Easy.

If you do spend a reason-

able amount of money on them, maintaining your garden tools on a regular basis will ensure that they will always be ready to do what they're supposed to do. Following a few basic rules will add years of life to them:

Always remove all soil from your digging tools after each use. Don't put your tools away wet. Allow them to dry completely before storing to prevent rust and handle rot.

After each use, wipe the metal parts of pruners and shears with an oily rag. Alternatively, wipe the tools dry with a clean rag, and then spray them lightly with a something like Sonax or WD40.

Sharpen your cutting tools as well as the blades of shovels and spades during the gardening season. It's best to use a whet-

stone for sharpening cutting tools. A file should be used to remove nicks and to smooth the edge of your shovels and trowels. Alternatively take them to some bloke who can do that for you.

Thoroughly clean any tools that have been used for chemical applications. Bear in mind that fertilizers and other chemicals will probably corrode metal parts.

For extra rust prevention, fill a bucket with builder's sand and pour a liter of motor oil over it. You can use this as a shovel cleaner/oiler each time you put your tools away by pushing each tool into the oily sand several times. You can also use this bucket as a shovel stand.

So what tools should you have? The most obvious bloke's answer is "as many as possible", but in reality you can get away

with the bare minimum.

A spade would be a good start, along with a decent-sized shovel. By the way, to clear up any confusion, a spade is used for digging holes and a shovel is for shoveling; scooping stuff up and moving it around. Simple as that.

You'll also need a trowel, for re-potting and so on. I would go for the most expensive you can find, as the handles on the cheaper versions can become painful after a while.

A rake is good for leaves and grass cuttings, with a "bow" shape between the blade and the handle if possible, which acts like a mini shock-absorber.

Finally, a decent pair of secateurs, or pruning shears. The better ones come with a spare blade, for when you inevitably snap one by trying to "snip" through what is basically a tree trunk.

If you have a decent-sized garden, you'll probably want a pruning saw. They have larger cutting teeth than a normal saw, for the quick cuts through branches and limbs more than a centimeter in diameter.

I'm not convinced that spade-and-wheelbarrow shopping falls into the same category as amplifiers, computer accessories and TVs, but at least the wife will approve. Even better, let her choose. You can then take your new purchases home and let her put them to good use while you sit back and enjoy a well-deserved beer – just blame me. Cheers.

Want to know more about a plant in your garden?
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Construction Update

by Janyaporn Morel

Golf course aims for swingers in the fast lane

CHALONG: The 1.2-billion-baht Phunaka Golf Course, under construction on 200 rai of land near Wat Luang Phu Supa, will be the seventh golf course in Phuket and is expected to be open to golfers by early next year.

Suwat Wangkiat, general manager of Phuket Green Co Ltd, the developer behind the project, told the *Gazette* that the land has been divided into sections for a nine-hole golf course, a driving range and a housing estate. Another 30 rai beside the main plot has been reserved for a condominium building, work on which will commence in the near future, with details to be released soon.

"About 130 rai is reserved for a golf course, another 50 rai will be a driving range and about 20 rai is for a housing estate that will comprise 25 units of two- and three-bedroom pool villas.

"Construction of the golf

course began in July last year and should be complete by the end of the year. We will then start work on the housing project, units of which will be sold leasehold. Villas will be built on plots ranging from 150 square wah (600 square meters) to 200sq wah (800sqm) and prices will be between 10 and 15 million baht," K. Suwat said.

The course is now 75% complete. Work on the clubhouse and driving range is slated to begin in May.

"The clubhouse is set to cover 900sqm. It will be a one-story building that comprises facilities such as a restaurant, toilets, lockers, a karaoke room, souvenir shop and a shop where golfers can buy and hire equipment. There will also be a fitness center," K. Suwat said.

"The building for the driving range will be two stories, with 28 bays per floor. The driving range

will cover a total of 2,000sqm. Once the golf facilities and housing estate are finished, we will start work on the condominium project, which will be tailored for visiting golfers," he added.

Although Phuket already has several golf courses, not few offer nighttime golfing, as Phunaka Golf Course will, said K. Suwat.

"Our target customers for the golf course and driving range are local people, especially women, because they can come here in the evenings to play or drive. Groups of golfers will be able to tee-off as late as 9 pm and the driving range will be open until 11 pm," he said.

"Many local people enjoy playing nine-hole courses, so by opening this course, people will be able to come and play a quick round before or after work. We are aiming our services at women and beginners," he added.

"We are also targeting the foreign market, especially tour groups. We will have a golf academy where golfers can receive tuition to European stan-



Bypass safety barrier on its way

PHUKET CITY: Work on the 755-meter-long concrete barrier being built along the right-hand side of the northbound lane of the bypass road is about 50 % complete.

The construction, which is being carried out by contractor Cholphida Construction Ltd, is expected to be finished about mid-May, Phuket Provincial Highway Office (PPHO) deputy director Termphan Noksaeng has told the *Gazette*.

The roadside barrier starts about 50 meters before Wat Rassadaram and will finish by the Hill Hut Restaurant.

The barrier is being built to stop vehicles from sliding into the medium-strip ditch or, worse, continuing onto the wrong side of the road and into oncoming traffic.

A budget of 1.9 million baht is being funded by PPHO.

dards. We are working with European pro-golfer Oliver Best, who will take care of the academy," he said.

"We are also aiming to attract Korean golfers who normally go to learn golf in Australia or the US, which can be very expensive. Once the academy is set up, it will be to the same standard as US

schools," added K. Suwat. Phunaka Golf Course has been designed by Jon Morrow, who also designed Red Mountain Golf Course.

For details contact Phuket Green Co Ltd, 3/3 Village 5 Thepkasattri Rd, Thalang. Tel: 076-314107-9.

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Leveling the playing field

There is a revolution going on around the world – one without guns, bombs or politicians. In this brave new world, small businesses and individuals have access to global consumers in a way that could not have been imagined 10 years ago.

While the chords of these words sound similar to a corporate marketing pitch, even the smallest business now has access to a wealth of free resources.

Access to a globally diverse range of customers has long been the competitive calling card of international brands.

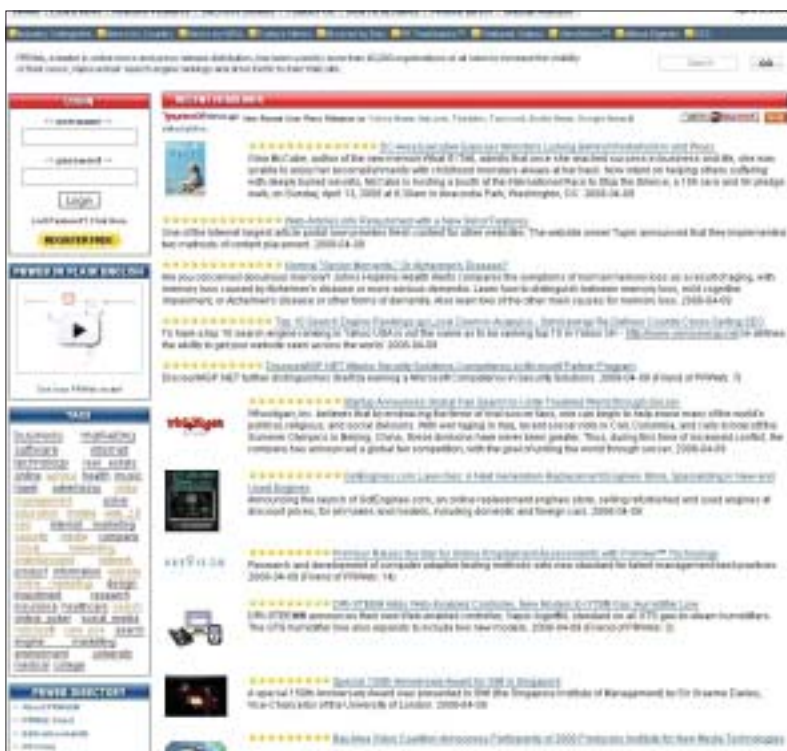
These brands had access to markets that small businesses could never afford... until the Internet came along and anyone with a modicum of intelligence, access to a PC and a product to sell suddenly had access to a mountain of resources that anyone could scale.

For a property developer or service provider, casting a marketing net as wide as possible means tapping into a multitude of distribution avenues.

Let's start with public relations. While once only the elite could retain overseas, high-level public relations, firms today can use pioneering websites, such as www.prweb.com and www.prlog.com, that allow businesses to write their own press releases, determine target distribution, access international news wires and then have the press releases picked up by search engines.

With online samples and the ability to source professional advice, anyone can write a press release, provide a photo caption and then distribute the end product.

Moving on to media, the pay-per-click and banner-advertising industries have become important consumer-marketing avenues that are key to creating sales conversions. Google's Adwords (www.adwords.google.com), key-word listings and



Using a service such as the one offered by www.prweb.com means that small businesses with low budgets can now effectively distribute press releases detailing their new products.

online ads, and Yahoo's ad engine (www.overture.com) are fundamental tools available to everyone, no matter how large or small a company's budget is.

Banner advertising is another way of reaching a target clientele.

Take a look at the banner ads on www.phuketgazette.net as an example of businesses looking to convert clicks into customers.

Now that we've tapped into online PR, advertising and pay-per-click, how do you quantify and analyze the return on investment of that marketing spend?

Every businessperson wants a return on their investment and today's Internet tools allow you access to information that can create detailed operating metrics and analysis of the cost of customer conversions.

Google Analytics (www.google.com/analytics) offers a free tool that can compile a large amount of data about a website. Not only are small businesses using analytics, but large, inter-

national firms have also been attracted to the product's dynamic offerings.

The search engine optimization (SEO) function is a key way of understanding web suc-

cess and failure, as well as being a central tool in developing new strategies. Do a quick exercise with your favorite search engine: Type in "SEO" and see the variety of web-based options available. New online developments are being released before the dust has settled on the old products. The ability to capture video feeds of products or projects has become an increasingly powerful tool.

YouTube.com is now the leader in international audio-visual media, with big and small businesses alike now posting ads and teasers and looking to hit a wide range of consumers.

Anyone with access to a video camera can post content for free, link to their websites and increase clicks to their commercial offerings.

YouTube recently unveiled a tool that allows users to track

information about who is playing their videos, enabling metrics on the source of these potential clients.

As we move deeper into the realms of Web 2.0, the volume of resources available may seem overwhelming.



PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

But anyone with patience, a little knowledge of computers and a marketing approach can now start to level the playing field once dominated by high-brow, international brands.

In this new age of technology, the success of a business may be just a mouse-click away.

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

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Home of the Week

Patong

Green dream up for auction

This two-story, three-bedroom, villa with two en-suite bathrooms over looks Patong from its 324sqm hillside perch. Located in an affluent area, the residence offers uninterrupted views of the sea, while being a short distance from Jungceylon shopping center and Patong's entertainment district.

The house is located at Soi Sevatasai, off Nanai Road in Patong and was built approximately nine years ago by the CEO of Patong-based company: Maneesri construction. The main living area on the upper floor has a large lounge with wall-to-wall tinted glass doors that open onto the front balcony. A balcony also wraps around two sides of the master bedroom, allowing for cool breezes and spectacular views.

The larger of the other two bedrooms has sliding glass doors leading to a side balcony. A covered terrace at the front provides a kitchen and outdoor dining area. There is parking space for at least two vehicles on the private driveway in front of the property.

An additional studio apartment with its own private entrance accessed from the front



This house is located in Soi Sevatasai, off Nanai Rd, and was built approximately nine years ago by the CEO of Patong-based company Maneesri construction.

gates is ideal as separate accommodation for a live-in maid or as guests' quarters. The studio comprises an indoor Western-style kitchen, covered outdoor Thai kitchen area, a balcony and a fully tiled bathroom.

The new owner will have the option of adding extra rooms or facilities to the property, such as an indoor swimming pool, a gym or possibly more apartments, as there is space for expansion underneath the building.

The sale is the subject of a court order and is in the hands of the Phuket Legal Execution Department. It will be auctioned at

10 am on May 1 at 74/168-169 Phoonphol Plaza, Phoonphol Rd. The opening bid is set at 5.8 million baht.

To participate in the auction a refundable 50,000-baht entry deposit must be paid at the Legal Execution Department office. To confirm the time and location of the auction, please call: 076-217090-9 (Thai language) or visit www.led.go.th

For a Google Map link showing the auction address, and any recent updates visit: www.patongvilla.wetpaint.com To contact the owner directly email: geoffphuket@gmail.com.



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Property Gazette

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NEW COMMERCIAL BUILDING

for sale. 3 stories near Loch Palm Golf Club. 3.9 million baht. Tel: 084-3081853, 087-2799500.

CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

in Rawai at Sai Yuan. Perfect location, quiet area. 70sq wah/85sq wah/100sq wah. Starting prices between 1.45 and 1.6 million baht. Tel: 084-6268105.

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LAST SEAVIEW LAND FOR SALE



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AO POR LAND, URGENT SALE



150 rai, Chanote, panoramic sea view. From 2.3 million baht per rai. Contact for more info. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: se_rim@hotmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

We have land plots ranging from 1 rai to 365 rai. Best Patong location. Sizes: 11 rai and 20 rai, beachfront. Bang Tao. 350m from the beach. 14 rai in Chalong. For details and pictures please visit: www.thai sunrealestate.com

NEW RAWAI POOL VILLA

400sqm. 3-4 bed. 300m from Rawai Pier. Price: 7.5 million baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

GOLF VILLA, 87 MILLION BAHT

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condo in Rawai, 250m from the pier. 580,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

ON THE BEACH

2-bedroom apartment in North Patong. Foreign freehold, top floor, pool. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-2765117. Email for photos. Email: jihshand@gmail.com

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NEW HOTEL FOR SALE

Nanai Rd, Patong Beach, 1.5 rai. 50 rooms, swimming pool. Under construction; nearly finished. Asking price: 230 million baht. Sale by owner. No Agents! Tel: 087-2709093. Email: anut samantamit@gmail.com

TOWNHOUSE

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HOUSE FOR SALE

in Chalong. Bargain. 2 stories, 4 bedrooms. 3.2 million baht. Tel: 081-7475293.

SURIN BEACH LAND FOR SALE

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VILLA FOR SALE



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INEXPENSIVE LAND

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SEAVIEW LAND IN YAMU

For sale: 1,360sqm of land, good for development. Close to luxury residence projects. Tel: 081-9580373. Email: mammimg@hotmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

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Property Gazette

PATONG BAY SEAVIEW



Beautiful house for sale in Baan Suan Kamnan. South End of Patong Bay. A relaxed residential area without traffic. Here you wake up to the sound of birds. The house offers stunning sea views in daytime and lively scenery of Patong bay in the evening. This foreign freehold house with private pool has Chanite title. The 4-bedroom house is recently fully upgraded to Western luxury standards (new designer-kitchen, bathrooms, wooden floors, and windows). It is located on a solid hillside 70 meters above and 100 meters from the sea. Price: 30 million baht. Price includes 2 separate apartments (next door). Come and have a look at what we are talking about. Call Edwin 086-7866350. Email: buurmanb@hotmail.com

SAI YUAN HOUSE FOR SALE



Two-story house with additional living space in the attic. Sea view, 640sqm. 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, car park. Nice garden, big swimming pool. A few minutes to Naiham Beach. Please call for more information. Tel: 084-8475700, 087-8987642. Email: mom_48@yahoo.com

HOUSE FOR SALE, KATHU



Built October 2006. Offer terms: freehold. House type: detached. Asking price: 6.8 million baht. 3 bedrooms (all en suite). Total land area: 375sqm. Title deeds: Chanote. Amenities: Tesco Lotus 10 minutes. Central 10 minutes. BIS 10 minutes. Reason for selling: Relocating to Krabi. Tel: 081-9565650. Or Email: mailpete@hotmail.com Full details visit www.kathu-property.com

HEAVEN ON EARTH



5-bedroom, Thai-style villa in Phuket. Magnificent Phang Nga Bay view. 3 big bedrooms (en suite) with sea views. Private swimming pool. 730.8sqm land plot. Construction area approx 573sqm. Full security service. Located at Rommai Chailay Estate. 27 million baht. Tel: 081-7191705. Email: layan@loxinfo.co.th

Baan Suan Pana
PHUKET

Phase I houses for sale or long-term rent. Very private with mountain view, 2 bedrooms, living room, bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished, Sat TV, ADSL, UBC.

Contact : 089-7243669

COCONUT ISLAND LAND



for sale. 4.5 rai, Chanote, hillside panoramic sea view, close to beach. 14 million baht. Please call K. Bouddha for more information. Tel: 089-2900484.

PATONG PRIME LAND FOR SALE

6 rai of prime land near Kris condo project. Please contact Ae on Tel: 086-2861952 between 11 am and 7 pm. Email: patongland@gmail.com For details see www.patongland.coilpage.biz

SHOPHOUSE

3-story shophouse next to Chevrolet on the bypass road. Contact me for details. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

KAMALA BEACH LAND

Nice building lot near beach. Hill views. Very private and quiet. Tel: 083-2803232.

TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE

Boat Lagoon luxury. 3-bedroom waterfront townhouse. Rooftop Jacuzzi and marble floors. 10.7 million baht or best cash offer. Contact K. So. Tel: 081-8622962.

PHANG NGA BAY VILLAS

Two boutique seaview villas for sale near Cape Yamu. Each with 4 bedrooms, gym, study, games room, 10 meter pool, lounge, Western kitchens, dining room, two rooms for maids. Tel: 076-283288, 081-2737326. Fax: 076-283288. Email: info@kykinternational.com For further information visit at www.kykinternational.com

URGENT SALE 3.5M BAHT MISSION HILLS

- 1/2 rai chanote land
- New 3-bedroom home
- Lockup garage
- Near international golf course
- Underground power

Expensive homes being built on adjoining lots. May consider 1million baht part-exchange. Tel: 081-2704291 or 081-8924804

LUXURY VILLA IN CHALONG

Luxury villa situated in a private estate in Chalong area. Land: 1,000sqm. 3-story house: 770sqm. 6 bedrooms with aircon and en-suite bathrooms. Living room, dining area, private swimming pool. Chanote. Tel: 081-9583341. Email: lavilla.phuket@gmail.com

KARON LAND FOR SALE



15 million baht per rai, Chanote. Hillside, panoramic sea views, quiet area. Contact for details. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: se_rim@hotmail.com

CONDO 95sqm

Foreign freehold. Two bedrooms. Top-floor penthouse with hillside view of Patong. 3 mins from Bangla Rd, 4 mins from Jungceylon. 5 mins from beach. Furnished with 42" plasma TV. Swimming pool on roof. 24-hour security, garage. Leasehold 30 + 30 + 30. Bargain at 12 million baht. Please call Tel: 086-6917573. Or Email: steve8888peach@hotmail.co.uk

PROPERTIES FOR SALE

and rent. For a more personalized approach to your property, please visit us at www.phuketproperties.com. If you are a real estate developer or owner you may list your properties with us. Contact K. Noi or Julie. Tel: 081-8931360, 081-7192903.

PENTHOUSE FOR QUICK SALE

2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, lake views. 105sqm. Newly furnished with shared swimming pool. UK builder. Private sale at 5.4 million baht. Tel: 081-8943839 (Don). Email: paddypower99@yahoo.com

LAGUNA TOWNHOUSE

Brand new 5-bedroom townhouse. Comes with pool and Laguna membership. Only 18.5 million baht. Call Tel: 085-7839062.

PATONG SEAVIEW LAND

5 rai with Chanote. 3 minutes from Patong Beach. Near Sea Pearl Projects. Please call Tel: 085-7839062.

KHAO KARD-AO MAKHAM



Chanote. 16 rai with panoramic view near Ao Makham towards Cape Panwa. Wide road-access directly to the site. 6 million baht per rai. Please contact at Tel: 081-5399269 or Email: talayan@yahoo.com

HOUSE FOR QUICK SALE



Discounted from 2.9 to 2.7 million baht. House on big land plot, 294sqm. Ready to move in, with kitchen, cable TV, telephone, air con and 3 carports. Call! Tel: 089-8737865. Email: nuchpn@hotmail.com

TWIN HOUSE RESORT 1.9 MILLION BAHT

Twin house, 80sqm, includes terrace, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, furnishing, aircon, clubhouse, security guard, resort facilities, common pool, 200sqm, quiet area, 5 mins to Nai Yang Beach. Call Tel: 076-245966, 085-7842004. Fax: 076-245962. Email us at: info@thailandpropertygroup.com. More information at: www.thailandpropertygroup.com/development_detail.php?idc=184

KOH SAMUI LAND FOR SALE

2 rai of land with one house, six bungalows and 10 rows of houses. Ideal for rentals. Near beach. Chanote title. Asking price 30 million baht. No agents! Tel: 087-270-9093. Email: anutsaman.tamit@gmail.com

RAWAI SEAVIEW HOUSE

3 stories. 3 bedrooms. Pool. Garden. 11 million baht. Tel: 081-7839062. Website: www.phuketdir.com/poolseahouse

WATERFRONT CONDO FOR SALE

Waterfront condo in Boat Lagoon for sale. Tel: 076-273466. Fax: 076-238948. Email: info@phuketpropertytrip.com For further details, please visit our website at: www.phuketpropertytrip.com

LUXURY APARTMENT, KATA

70sqm in luxury, newly-built complex, 400m from Kata Beach. Pool, steam sauna, top kitchen, Jacuzzi. Come and look. From 2.9 million baht, full luxurious furnishings. Tel: 089-6525664.

BANG TAO LAND

Nearly 2 rai with Chanote title at Ao Bang Tao. Very good location for business. Price: 16 million baht. Tel: 087-6899679.

LAND AND HOUSE

Land for sale in Land and House Park, Phuket. Please call for more information. Tel: 086-3320864.

2-BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE IN KATHU

Brand new development opposite Loch Palm golf course. 80 sqm, 2 beds, 2 baths, private parking. 10 minutes to Tesco, Central and Patong. 2 million baht. Tel: 081-8959568, 0862738978. Email: philipmason69@hotmail.com

BUILDING FOR SALE
in busy area, Soi Sai Nam Yen, Patong Beach

- 4 stories, first floor has large area convenient for restaurant or bar.
- 8 apartments on floor 2, 3, 4.
- Chanote title, electricity
- 2 minutes to the beach

Asking price: 50 million baht.

Call 087-2709093, 081-8687676

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Chalong, 250sq.wah, 5 bedrooms en suite, 4x16 swimming pool with Jacuzzi, fully furnished, ADSL Internet, garden, home theater, office room, aircon. Buy 16.8 MB, For Rent 240,000 B/month

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www.naraplacephuket.com

Property Gazette

WELL-BUILT VILLA



2 years old. Rawai-Nai Ham. Large pool and sala, 400 sqm plot, nice garden, 3 bathrooms, 2 large bedrooms with en suite, spacious lounge, Western kitchen, True TV, solar panel, security-fitted windows and door. 7.9 million baht. Tel: 081-0860521.

BANG WAD DAM, NICE PLOT



Nice plot overlooking natural lagoon behind Bang Wad Dam. Approx 26 rai, sloped land, access road, water and electricity. Good for residential project. 2.5 million baht per rai (negotiable). Tel: 081-5399269. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

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

ABSOLUTE BEACHFRONT LAND



in Khao Lak, Phang Nga. 400 rai. 4 million baht per rai. Chanote. Separate plots at 6 million baht per rai. Urgent sale! Tel: 081-5399269.

BIG HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



1.5 km from Central Festival. Attached to Suan Luang park. 300sq wah. 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 9 aircons. Garden pond. Fully furnished. Fitness facilities. European kitchen. 2 living rooms. Contact Mongkon. Tel: 084-0628040.

UNIQUE & ELEGANT HOME/OFFICE



This property, ideally located on Samkong Rd, Phuket City, represents the ultimate in a comfortable home with adjoining office suite. Recently refurbished and tastefully decorated at a cost of more than 4 million baht, this property is now available for discerning home buyers. The home consists of: master bedroom with balcony, elegant en-suite "spa" bathroom, large second bedroom with balcony and en-suite bathroom and a third double bedroom with balcony. The property has a maid's bedroom and separate toilet/shower. The fitted kitchen features an adjoining breakfast/dining area. The home also offers a vast, comfortable sitting room with contoured ceiling and atmospheric lighting. The adjoining 3-level office suite is ideally suited for numerous business opportunities. The property features an attractive garden and 2-vehicle carport. Asking price is a realistic 8.5 million baht. Call 081-7191705.

KATHU, BARGAIN TOWNHOUSE, NEW

New 2-story, 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom townhouse in sought-after area close to markets, Big C, Central and 10 mins from Patong. Extended living room, termite pit and some new furniture, has lock-up driveway, security, etc. 1.75 million baht if you pay transfer costs. Do not miss out; it will not last. Worth viewing. Call 080-7197147 now to arrange or Email: pmoney@hotmai.com

TROPICAL POOL VILLA

in Chalong. Brand-new, spacious, 2-bedroom villa with deluxe kitchen and large living area. Priced to sell. Tel: 089-6521473.

REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE

Smart, modern, 1 bedroom condo. Furnished, parking, tennis court, 40m pool, lush tropical garden. Reduced from 3.8m to 3.3m baht. Tel: 087-2650118. Email: ant_p_clark@yahoo.co.uk

KHAO LAK: INVESTING PROPERTY

Land beside Sofitel Magic Lagoon Khao Lak. 50 rai (66mx136m), Chanote. 40 million baht total. Call Krit. Tel: 081-9804641.

KARON BEACHFRONT

land for sale. 10.5 rai with Chanote. Good location for business (hotel & resort). Asking: 250 million baht. No agents! Tel: 087-2709093. Email: anut_samantamit@gmail.com

HOUSE FOR SALE, KATHU

Delightful 2-story, 3-bedroom house in quiet "farang" area. 375sqm. 6.8 million baht. Owner relocating. Tel: 081-9565650. Email: mailpete@hotmail.com For details, see www.kathu-property.com

BAAN BENJAMAS

Two bedroom townhouse refurbished in 2006. Walking distance to Jungceylon and the beach. 5.3 million baht. Tel: 083-3941397.

NEW HOUSE IN RAWAI

4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, swimming pool. 425sqm of land with Chanote title. Price: 7.5 million baht. Tel: 087-8887676.

SEAVIEW LAND

14 rai of seaview land located on a hillside in Rawai. Hill views. 6 million baht per rai. Contact Tip. Tel: 086-949-6480. Email: thipsee84@hotmail.com

HOUSE FOR SALE



in Irawadee 2 Project, located near Khao Khad Viewpoint. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, fully furnished. Only 1.5 million baht. Please contact to view. Tel: 087-2770978. Email: koyangle99@hotmail.com

PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

On the main road to Cherrng Talay and Surin. 43 rai, 1 ngan, 85 sq wah. Sale by owner. 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-9562406. Email: phatsarar@gmail.com

KAMALA SEAVIEW LAND

6 rai with Chanote. can be divided. All with good sea view. Road, water & electricity supply. Price from 6 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

NEW HOME FOR SALE

2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Close to Boat Lagoon and British International School. Tel: 081-9580373.

CHALONG SHOPHOUSE

Modern building on busy soi. 5.25 million baht. Tel: 084-8419040, 081-7974061.

LAND & HOUSES PARK



at Parichart Village 35/20 Soi 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 aircons, some furniture, 50sq wah, garden. Chalong area. Urgent sale! 4 million baht, must see. Contact Nina. Tel: 087-6899679, 087-2681341. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

KOH SAMUI LAND FOR SALE

2 rai with one house, six bungalows and 10 rows of houses. Ideal for rentals. Near beach. Chanote title. Asking price: 30 million baht. No agents! Tel: 087-2709093. Email: anut_samantamit@gmail.com

SEA VIEW IN KAMALA

Small plots, 1 rai. Very good sea view. Road, water & electricity supply with Chanote. Price from 7.5 million per rai. Tel: 087-6050365. Email: tim@kamalaparadise.com

HOUSE IN PATONG

1-story house, furnished, 23sq wah, 3 bedrooms with aircon, 1 bathroom with hot water, living room, kitchen. Tel: 076-341724, 081-569-0664. Fax: 076-344485. Email: sunsetap@ji-net.com

GREAT SHOPHOUSE

for sale. 3 years old with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Excellent location on busy Chao Fa West Rd. 6 million baht. Contact K. Piyanute. Tel: 081-8926991.

LAGUNA TOWNHOUSE

59/09. 2 stories. 3 bedrooms. Unique lake-and-golf-course view. Only 24 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062.

POOL VILLA FOR SALE OR RENT

4 bedrooms with terraces, 6 bathrooms, pool with Jacuzzi, living, dining, Western kitchen, maid's room, solar power, hot water, sala, BBQ, parking for 3 cars, electric gate and nice tropical garden set on 1,606sqm of land with over 400sqm of living area. Price: 25 million baht. Special rate for short-term rental. Tel: 081-9707019. Email: nisaya19@yahoo.com

PATONG GUESTHOUSE

Located in Paradise complex, Patong Beach. Furnished, 8 rooms, 4 floors. Available for freehold sale. 5.5 million baht. Tel: 076-290393, 086-588-8383. Email: sumalee1955@yahoo.com

RAWAI BEACH, PHUKET

220sqm plot in Rawai. Price: 1.5 million baht. Bigger plots also available. Build 2-story house and get view of the sea and hills. I can build a house for you with my team of engineers. Contact Steve. Tel: 086-0760141. Email: thanque4@gmail.com

RAWAI BARGAIN! 3.5 MILLION BAHT

Room for pool. Must see! Safe soi. 2 bedrooms, open-plan living. 2 balconies, 200sqm garden, double garage, fully furnished. Tel: 084-8446476. Email: dildalarge@yahoo.co.uk

RAWAI SEAVIEW HOUSE

New, super modern, furnished. Best location. 2 or 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, garage, garden. Freehold sale by owner. 11 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062 or visit: www.phuketdir.com/poolseahouse

KAMALA CONDO SALE

1 bedroom. 650sqm. Communal pool. Service. Quick sale only 2.3 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062.

1 RAI, GREAT SEA VIEW, KAMALA

1 rai of land in Kamala, stunning view. Price: 10.5 million baht. Tel: 081-8921097. Email: info@swethai-realestate.com

HOUSE FOR SALE IN KATHU

Property built in October 2006. Freehold. Detached. Asking price: 6.8 million baht. 3 bedrooms (all en suite). Total land area: 375sqm. Title deed: Chanote. Tesco-Lotus 10 mins away, Central 10 mins away, BIS 10 mins away. Reason for selling: owner relocating to Krabi. Tel: 081-9565650. For further details, please visit our website at www.kathu-property.com

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Property Gazette

Properties For Rent

NEW VILLA FOR RENT IN



Nai Harn, near Sai Yuan Rd. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room. Fully furnished, open-plan Western kitchen, 8mx4m pool and lovely 800sqm garden. Gardening and pool cleaning included. For long-term rent. Call Paew at 089-9725378 or Wolfgang at 083-3888036.

NEW, NICE, CHEAP

House for rent in small village near Khao Khad-Ao Yon. 13,000 baht per month. Furnished. Email: kwanarune@hotmail.com

PATONG BEACH CONDO

Panoramic sea view, 1 bedroom, 90 meters from the beach. ADSL, 42" plasma TV, DVD REC and pool. Call for more info. Tel: 084-8473304.

PATONG TOWER SEAVIEW

Luxury apartment, affordable prices. Tel: +4550285700. Email: ken_soerensen@hotmail.com For further details, please visit our website at: www.patongtower.dk

BAAN NEARN KHAO SEA VIEW



Only 10 minutes away from British International School, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, master bed with en-suite bathroom, hot shower, 5 air cons, dining room, Western style kitchen, cable TV with True TV, phone line, ADSL, parking lot. Ready to move in. For at least 6 months contract, rental at 35,000 baht. Monthly fee. Please call 081-3700660 for further details.

PHUKET VILLA, DAORUNG



House for rent, 55sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, no phone line, unfurnished. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-2709093.

NEW FURNISHED VILLAS



Close to Laguna. 300sqm, 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen and pool. Long- or short-term rent. Tel: 081-7344324. www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com

QUALITY 4-BEDROOM HOUSE
Two-story house in secure estate. Fully furnished. With aircon. 2 phones. True TV. Large concrete walled yard. 300 meters from Chalong Pier. Long term rent: 45,000 baht a month. Tel: 081-5697127.

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NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins from Rawai & Nai Harn beaches. 162-sqm. 2 bedrooms with private bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. 3 air cons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage service. Please contact K. Nui. Tel: 087-3830936.

KATA HOUSE FOR RENT

On the hill. 2 bed, 1 bathroom, living room, kitchen, balcony. Quiet, fully furnished. 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-3670991.

RAWAI RENTAL W. BAAN SUAN POOL

1, 2 or 3 bedrooms. From 9,000 baht/month. 300 meters from Rawai Pier. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

POOL VILLA IN NAI HARN

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, 25,000 baht per month long term. Tel: 076-288047, 081-8941660. Email: cottrell@loxinfo.co.th

PATONG TOWER CONDO

One, two or three bedroom condos. All newly renovated. Tel: 087-2770552, 087-2773086.

HOUSE FOR RENT
in Srisuchart Grand Ville 3 Project. 3 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms. Some furniture. 1 car park. Garden area. Good location. Tel: 081-7372595.

2-BEDROOM VILLA
with air conditioning. Well furnished. 19,000 baht/month. 1-year rental. Tel: 081-004-6328. Email: goggshere@hotmail.com



Need help finding property for rent?

081-777-4-799

www.phuketeasyrent.com

JUNGLE COTTAGE IN TOWN



Tewana Village in the Chalong area is a hideaway from city life. Short drive from the beach and Central. One furnished double bedroom. Great design. Air conditioning. 17,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-4926883. http://www.unclechaihome.com/model2.htm

CHALONG SHOPHOUSE

This new 3-story shophouse is available for long-term lease. Ideal for home office/shop accommodation. Inquiries at: 089-6521473.

STUDIO APARTMENT IN KAMALA

Private kitchen, air con, True TV, ADSL, pool. 4,000 baht per week; 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8500568.

B.I. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6923163.

NEW CHALONG HOME

2-bedroom, furnished home for rent. Phone line, True TV, aircon. Tel: 089-6521473.

KATHU HOUSE

Modern, furnished house. True TV. Phone line. 17,000 baht/month. Tel: 085-6919182.

HOUSE FOR RENT OR SALE



1.5 km from Central Festival near Suanluang public park. 82sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished. European kitchen. Garden. Call Mongkon at Tel: 084-0628040.

BEACHFRONT CONDO

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

KAMALA VILLAS FOR RENT

Beautiful, 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, everything included, private estate, security. Long-term rent for low season. Tel: 086-9437598.

STUNNING SEAVIEW APARTMENT

for rent in Patong. Quiet Location. A must-see. From 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-2553700. Email: m.higson@hotmail.com For further details and many photos, please visit our website at www.kalimbay.spaces.live.com

KAMALA BEACH

Very nice houses and apartments for rent. 2 to 4 bedrooms, fully furnished near beach. 15,000-30,000 baht/month. Tel: 083-2803232.

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre?
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PRICED TO SELL

Power Cruiser built in 2001. Twin Cummins engines, radar, sounder, GPS, radio, water maker, full galley, 4 double cabins and much more. Tel: 081-9390176. Email us at beaver@tstf.net. Must be seen. For details please see our website at www.phuketisland.com

HULL SPEED BOAT

Great price: 450,000 baht. 33 feet, 3 years old. As new. Tel: 083-2029620. Email: vidoq_co@yahoo.fr

ESTATE SALE

24ft fiberglass and wood construction. 2.5 liter diesel inboard outboard. Many extras. Teak interior. Price: 500,000 baht. Tel: 076-388478, 083-5207308. Email: gerybfoster@hotmail.com

FIBERGLASS RUN-ABOUT

Small fibreglass speedboat with 15hp Yamaha outboard in good condition. 14 feet long, newly restored and painted. 120,000 baht, including launch trailer. Can be seen at Boat Lagoon. Tel: 076-321203, 081-9681975. Email: leonbowles@gmail.com

22 FT CLASSIC SPEED BOAT

22 ft Classic Runabouts. Beautifully crafted by Naga Marine. Hull is made of cedar strip planks, West System Epoxy. Deck and interior is meticulously decorated with highly polished Mahogany. Powered by Mercury 210hp Sport Jet. (V Drive/inboard Turbo Diesel package also available). Please contact for more information and price. Can be shipped in container for international buyer. Tel: 081-9598047. Fax: 086-4806533 or Email: pokism@mac.com. For further details please visit: www.nagamarine.com

FAMILY SAILING DINGHY

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CHOLAMARK HYPERLON RIB

3.9 meters. Good condition. 15hp Yamaha engine. 110,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-5399560. Email: oyscove@loxinfo.co.th

HOBIE CATS AND JET-SKI

Hobies: 20, 17 or 16ft on trailers. Jet-ski: Seadoo 130hp, 78 hours of use and on trailer. Inflatable, RIB, Gemini, 3.1 million baht, Hyperlon, as new. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-2697138.

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3 ensuite cabins with 2 crew cabins
Full safety equipment
Raymarine E120 chartplotters
Raytheon ST60 dual system
36 mile radar
Simrad VHF's

1,100,000 Euro



Mason 44

\$199,000 USD



Ferro 62 Ketch

\$147,500 USD



Riviera 3000

4,100,000 THB



Jeanneau Prestige 34

159,000 Euro

Available Exclusively through Lee Marine



Dealership Office
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Martin Holmes
Tel: 076 235 003
Fax: 076 273 319
email: info@leemarine.com

Brokerage Office
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman
Mobile: 081 094 1530 / 01 968 1437
Tel/Fax: 076 239 729
email: brokerage@leemarine.com

Yacht Haven Marina Office
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket
Contact: Jim Poulsen
Mobile: 081 891 3237
Tel/Fax: 076 206 260
email: yachthaven@leemarine.com

Pataya Office
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach
Contact: Mark Heath
Mobile: 081 7879408
Tel: 038 235 061 Fax: 038 235 062
Email: mark@leemarine.com



Find more classified ads
"Boats & Marine"
at www.phuketgazette.net!

Island Job Mart

PHP DEV/GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Need PHP-programmer and graphic designer. Studio 51 Co Ltd. Tel: 084-6644050. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

HOTEL STAFF

Patong hotel needs 1 receptionist with good English skills. Tel: 081-8921621.

SWEDISH FEMALE

travel consultant. We are an expanding travel agency located in Phuket City. We are looking for a Swedish female travel consultant, 25+. Computer/Internet knowledge essential along with a past in the travel industry. Organizational skills and a good knowledge of Thailand is much desired. Contact for more information. Tel: 076-246427, 081-7879454. Email: andersp@loxinfo.co.th

TEACHERS REQUIRED

Work for ECC at schools in Phuket City. Teach children of all ages. Contact Neil. Tel: 089-1398453. Email: neilg@ecc.ac.th

SITE-BUILDING SUPERVISOR

Development and construction company seeks foreigner to fill position of site-building supervisor. Minimum experience required. For more info call Tel: 086-0626210 or Email: patrick@oceanicglobal.com

GOOD COMMISSION

Thai or foreigner with good English, computer skills and 2-3 years experience in the property industry. Please contact for further information. Tel: 087-3877182.

SALES STAFF WANTED

New company is looking for experienced Thai sales staff. English language required. For more information call Tel: 084-6470468.

SALES & MARKETING

Successful company requires enthusiastic and energetic people. All positions are open to experienced and inexperienced staff. For sales and marketing rates up to 20% in commission are given. Best marketing rates in Phuket. Big opportunities for career development within an expanding company. Thai staff receive a basic salary + commission. Please contact Keith for marketing. Tel: 080-0818870. Shane for sales. Tel: 089-6469500

SMILEY KIDZ NURSERY SCHOOL

1 female pre-school teacher needed for school in Chalong. Native English speakers only. Tel: 084-0068736. Please email your CV to info@smiley-kidz.com



Assistant to Marketing Manager

Our busy Marketing Department requires an organised Thai person who can assist the co-ordination of many marketing activities.

- MUST •** Speak and write fluently English
- MUST •** Be Very organised
- MUST •** Have Microsoft office skills
- MUST •** Be Easy going and work well with people
- Knowledge of the media would be an advantage.



PLEASE WRITE (IN ENGLISH) TO:
ian@lersuang.com
and include CV and Experience

Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

Reporter

The successful candidate will be a Thai national with initiative, an outgoing personality and plenty of experience about the world and how it works. Also essential are the ability to communicate in English, both spoken and written, and a car.

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to editor@phuketgazette.net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai, A. Muang
Phuket 83000 Tel: 076-236555



Anantara Resort and Spa Phuket, Mai Khao Beach Opening September 2008

Are you a spirited individual who believes in delivering luxurious heartfelt hospitality? Do you want to ensure every guest leaves with an amazing story to tell? Then, Anantara wants you to apply for a career at our new flagship property.



To be part of the Anantara story, you must like using your initiative, show genuine and natural warmth to colleagues as well as guests, act with honesty and integrity at all times, and be proud to deliver the unparalleled experience that is Anantara.

We are seeking leaders, supervisors and line associates for the following departments:

- Finance
- Kitchen
- Engineering
- Front Office, Housekeeping
- Revenue Management
- Recreation and Fitness, Spa
- Food and Beverage Service
- Human Resources and Training

All associates will enjoy flexible rostering with a minimum 6 days off per month and work an average 45 hours per week.

Transport to and from Phuket Town will be provided.

Submit your CV with covering letter stating the position you are applying for and the reasons you would like to be part of Anantara by April 18th to email address recruit_phuket@anantara.com

Good Luck with your application!



ASIA-PACIFIC

GREAT WORKFORCE GREAT WORKPLACE

Marriott Vacation Club, Asia Pacific, a leader in the global vacation ownership business, is looking for competent individuals and active professionals to join our team in the following positions

• MARKETING EXECUTIVE	10 Positions
• OWNER REFERRAL EXECUTIVE	1 Position
• RECEPTIONIST	3 Positions
• RESERVATION OFFICER	2 Positions
• GUEST RELATION EXECUTIVE	2 Positions
• SALES EXECUTIVE - JAPANESE	1 Position
• MARKETING EXECUTIVE - JAPANESE	1 Position
• OWNER REFERRAL ASSISTANT MANAGER	1 Position
• GUEST ACTIVITY PLANNER	1 Position
• ACTIVITY GUIDE	2 Positions
• MARKETING EXECUTIVE - MANDARIN	1 Position
• SALES EXECUTIVE - MANDARIN	1 Position

All positions are based in Phuket at various location including Patong, Surin, Kamala and Mai Khao and require self-motivated, confident people with excellent interpersonal skills and pro-active. An intermediate degree and good English is necessary.

Candidates with the above qualifications should submit a resume with a recent photograph to the Director of Human Resources at pansak.l@marriotthotels.com or fax 076 348 354 or mail to:

MVCI, Asia Pacific
230 Maikhao, Talang
Phuket 83110, Thailand

Or Apply in person
on Monday - Friday
at 10.00 am - 3.00 pm

For more information, please visit our website at www.marriott.com

campbell kane

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd., the developer of Cape Yamu Residential Villas, The Bay, and The Yamu Resort Hotel and Villas, is seeking an experienced senior sales agent and financial controller/chief accountant for all three of its properties in Phuket. These are luxury oceanfront homes selling for between one and eight million USD each.

Lead Villa Sales Agent

Responsibilities include:

- Showing the properties to prospective buyers
- Answering queries from customers, both on the phone and in writing
- Tracking sales leads and issuing a daily sales report
- Coordinating with outside sales agents
- Maintaining the sales office and sales materials
- After-sales service including completion of sales contracts and lease registration

Qualification

- Thai national with 5 years' successful track record selling luxury property to foreigners
- Excellent of communication skills in English, oral and written
- Familiarity with Thai real estate law is a plus
- Pleasant personality and professional appearance

Remuneration:

The position provides an excellent salary, competitive sales bonuses and full benefits.

Financial Controller/Chief Accountant

Qualification

- Male or female, age 30 years up
- Thai nationality
- Bachelor's degree in accounting or qualified accountant
- Minimum 3 years' experience from the construction and property development sector
- Fluent in English
- Knowledge of local legal/tax/accounting practices
- Usable knowledge of needed tools such as Microsoft Windows-Excel, Quick Books, Data Base, Outlook
- Motivated and energetic individual

Please send resumé with covering letter stating salary expectations to
annie@campbellkane.com

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd., 28/7 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Rd., Koh Kaew, Phuket 83000 Thailand
Tel: +66 (0)76-204008-9 Fax: +66 (0)76-239836

Island Job Mart

for the perfect trip...just click!
HotelTravel.com

Looking for a change? Would you like to work in a dynamic and global environment? Would you like to live on a beautiful island with all the comfort of an international destination?

HotelTravel.com is a leading international online travel information and hotel reservation service. We are a multi-cultural company, employing experienced and knowledgeable staff from six continents. We pride ourselves in our ability to provide unparalleled customer service in eight different languages.

We are currently accepting applications for the following position:

Travel Writer (full time)

Job Responsibilities:

- ▶ Create/edit travel guides
- ▶ Administer a travel-related forum (answering customer's travel-related questions)
- ▶ Write articles for tangent E-zine, online monthly travel magazine
- ▶ Create/edit hotel information

Qualifications:

Prospective applicants should have the following skills/experience:

- ▶ Native English speaker
- ▶ Excellent creative writing skills with a firm grasp of correct grammar and spelling
- ▶ Curiosity and passion for travel
- ▶ Ability to work to deadlines
- ▶ Internet research savvy
- ▶ Travel industry, marketing, or journalism experience would be an advantage.

Only motivated, positive individuals should apply for this exciting opportunity to work in HotelTravel.com's professional and supportive environment.

Interested applicants should submit an application, including CV, to careers@hoteltravel.com or call +66 76 282 808 Mr. Anupab Satakorn for further information.

SUNNAV บริษัท ชินนาฟ จำกัด
บริษัทในเครือบางกอกกรีน ดำเนินธุรกิจเกี่ยวกับการท่องเที่ยวทางทะเล
สร้าง และซ่อมเรือยอช์

URGENTLY WANTED
MANAGER PHUKET BRANCH: 1 POSITION
Good salary, bonus, commission,
social security, living expenses

ติดต่อฝ่ายบุคคล 02-4292877-9
42 หมู่ 6 เขตหนองสาหร่าย 4 อ.สามพราน จ.นครปฐม
email: personnel@bangkokgreen.com www.sunnav.com

INTLAW OFFICE
สำนักงานทนายความ นานาชาติ และ เอเชีย

Looking for a Contract Coordinator or Thai Lawyer

- ▶ Aged between 25-35 years old
- ▶ Bachelor's degree
- ▶ Speak, read and write good English
- ▶ Contract work in English
- ▶ Experience is an advantage

Please send your resumé, recent photo and expected salary to
Administration Manager at
International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd.
17/6 Chaofa Road, Talaad Nuea, Muang, Phuket 83000
manager_phuket@phuket-realestate-law.com

CBRE
CB RICHARD ELLIS

Seeking a new challenge?

We offer an incredible array of career choices and plenty of room for professional growth, locally and globally, and we are looking for people with the following attributes:

- Constantly exceeds the call of duty
- Intelligent and innovative
- A daring spirit with exceptional vision

At CB Richard Ellis, we believe in providing a challenging environment that cultivates and rewards productivity and creativity at all levels of the organization. We encourage new ideas and empower our people to constantly look for better ways to meet the needs of our clients. We do not wait to see what the next industry trend will be we set it. If this sounds like you, we would like to see your resumé.

Property Manager

- Bachelor's/Master's degree in Business Administration, Hotel Management or related field
- Fast-moving and service-minded
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills and proven team leadership skills
- Excellent in both written and spoken English

Assistant Property Manager

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Secretarial or any other related field
- Good command of English; computer literate
- Good interpersonal relationship skills, hardworking, a team player and service-minded

Receptionist

- Bachelor's in any related fields
- Good command of written & spoken English
- Service-minded

Office Clerk

- Higher vocational school in any related field
- Fair command of English; computer literate

Technician Supervisor

- Higher vocational in Electrical, Electronics or any related field
- Fair command of English
- 3 years' experience in M&E systems from a hotel is an advantage.

CBRE
CB RICHARD ELLIS

CB Richard Ellis (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
12/9 Moo 4, Thepkasatthi Rd.,
T. Kohkaew, Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel. 076-239967 Fax. 076-239971
Email: wanpen.duangjit@cbre.co.th

PEARL ISLAND PROPERTY

Sales and marketing. 2 positions. Qualified candidates, age 25-35, must have a bachelor's degree and a minimum of one year's experience in property sales and marketing. Must also be fluent in English (written and spoken), have a driving license and be proactive with good presentation and computer skills. Tel: 076-362600, 081-970 4173. Fax: 076-362602. Please contact by email and enclose your CV. Email: joop@anchanvillas.com For further details please visit our website at www.anchanvillas.com

REPUTABLE LAW FIRM SEEKS

1. Executive Assistant
 - Good English
 - Excellent organizational skills
 - Translation skills
2. Junior Assistant
 - Good English
 - Ability to work in a team
3. Junior Accountant
 - Ability to comprehend simple accounting data

Salary and benefits subject to experience. Please contact for additional details. Tel: 085-1618251. Email: siripansa_pond@hotmail.com

CHEF & WAITRESS - JUNGCEYLON

Chefs and waitresses wanted for a restaurant/cafe opening soon at Jungceylon shopping center. Good location! Contact K. Oh for more information at Tel: 087-8810300 or Email: thommm@online.no

REAL ESTATE STAFF

Thai staff only. One accountant, female, 5 years' experience, can sign for a minimum of 4 million baht. Must speak and write English. One sales person, female, must speak English. One secretary, must speak and write good English. Contact for details. Tel: 076-203487, 089-8736889. Email: wnammatapetersen@hotmail.com

MARINE TECHNICIAN

Sailing yacht-charter company is looking for a technical manager. Good salary for qualified candidate. Email: thailand@dreamyachtcharter.com

QSI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

of Phuket, an American-style school, has the following anticipated vacancies for the 2008/09 school year: pre-school teacher and a high school English teacher (not ESL). Successful candidates will be native English speakers, have at least a bachelor's degree and hold appropriate teacher certification. Letters of interest may be emailed to alansiporin@qsi.org Please include your resume and references and be prepared to document qualifications.

SALES STAFF FOR CONDO

Following a huge sales success on our current project, we are launching a new project, Sea-view Haven Lagoon Condo Phase 2. Our company is seeking sales staff who meet the following requirements: 1. Fluent in English, both spoken and written; 2. Attractive, outgoing personality; 3. Experience required. Tel: 081-5976195. Forward your CV via email. unique_property@hotmail.com

TELEMARKETING

Progressive company seeks English-speaking telemarketing staff to work from Chalong office. Hours to suit. Experience useful, but not essential. Good rates of commission offered. Tel: 081-8337836.

SALES EXECUTIVE WANTED

Sell advertising space in *Adrenaline Sports and Lifestyle SE Asia* magazine. Qualifications: Between 28 and 42 yrs old. 5 years' experience in marketing and sales to big companies. Excellent personality, interpersonal, communication, negotiation and problem-solving skills. Good written and spoken English. Tel: 075-637754, 086-6970379. Email: niikii.k@gmail.com or visit our website: www.adrenalineseasia.com

EDEN DIVERS PHUKET

We are looking for a driver to pick up customers and take care of equipment. Contact Kandy. Tel: 085-7654677.

SALES POSITIONS

Wine Connection is looking for sales executives. 3 positions are available. Foreigners as well as Thais are encouraged to apply. Positions are available in Phuket, Khao Lak and Krabi. Salary, commissions and monthly support package offered. Apply today at Wine Connection Chalong. Tel: 076-282411. Fax: 076-282414. Email: gmphuket@wineconnection.co.th

MANAGER & STAFF NEEDED

1. Thai female manager with 3-5 years experience in hotel or resort management. Must speak and write perfect English.
2. Electrical engineer. Must speak English.

Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-8736889. Send your CV by Email: wnammatapetersen@hotmail.com

SALES STAFF WANTED

English speaker. Experience in sales would be an advantage. We offer excellent benefits and commissions. Please contact Michael for additional details at Tel: 081-8937720. Email: salesteam@bayproject.com

Employment Wanted

IRISHMAN 42
Seeking position in any field. Experienced driver - bus and heavy goods vehicles. Tel: 076-381920, 085-7920452. Email: pj_duignan@yahoo.ie

HOTEL, DIVING, SALES

Male, 43, Swiss national, sales manager (13 years of advertising experience), hotel business (head waiter) and diving (PADI instructor). Fluent in German, English and French (basic knowledge of Thai and Italian). I am looking forward to hearing from you soon, kind regards, Stefan. Tel: 087-2684981. Email: stefanhaldenstein@hotmail.com

Looking for a job?
Looking for a better quality candidate?
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at www.phuketgazette.net/!

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

Articles For Sale

MULTIGYM

Large, four stations, excellent condition. Moving so must sell quickly. Any offers considered. 087-2752808. Email: LWA_liz@hotmail.com

FRIDGE

Mirage fridge for bar. 60X60x175cm. 10,000 baht. Tel: 084-7447618.

MONITOR FOR SALE

Fujitsu Siemens 17" CRT monitor for sale. 1,000 baht. Based in Khao Lak. Tel: 076-443149, 086-2811945. Email: mike@ethailand.com

BANG TAO GYM

Secondhand gym equipment for sale. Good price. Tel: 081-5250078.

MONGOOSE

Rockodile, 21-speed, 1 month old. 7,000 baht. Cold-drink refrigerator, 2ftx5ft: 4,000 baht. Desktop computer. Compaq: 8,000 baht. Tel: 084-6288450.

SHOW HOME: 390,000 BAHT

1-bedroom home built to Australian standards as a display, export unit, fully installed on your land. Ideal for small lot; can be relocated easily. Tel: 076-281283, 081-8924804. Please see website for info: www.safe wayphuket.com

REFRIGERATOR

Mitsubishi, stainless steel, 17 cubic feet, 3 years old (like new). 5,000 baht. Tel: 089-7240110. Email: drew1470@yahoo.ca

MOVING SALE

Please call 086-9507788. Website: www.picasaweb.google.co.th/king kongsimon/simonfurniture

SIERRA WIRELESS

8,000 baht, not XP, not Vista. Patong. Call after 2pm. Tel: 076-296351, 081-0862772. Email: thewizardofrockandroll@gmail.com

FRIDGE FOR SALE

Large, 3-door. Excellent condition. 27,000 baht ono. Contact Dean. Tel: 087-2847407.

Articles Wanted

HOME DECORATIONS FOR HOTEL ROOMS

or for your home. The Phendek foundation is offering about 78 teakwood carvings in frames sized 100x45cm, as well as a number of teakwood statues. Money for these items will be used for 2008 scholarships. Call Arunee (Thai) Tel: 086-9438136 or Chris (Eng) at 081-5393668.

FREEZER WANTED

Small freezer wanted, suitable for home use. No fridge, just freezer. Email: alanphuket@hotmail.com

FORMING ARTISTS' COMMUNITY

International artist living on Phuket wishing to organize local artists and people interested in art to share work and ideas to better the community and each of us individually. Tel: 076-381937, 087-0716063. Fax: 076-381937. Email: tbokich@tbokich.com

SPONSOR

a needy child. The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of 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 K. Sue (Tel: 087-2776948 or email: sue.arnulphy@piwc.info).

Business Opportunities

HOTEL FOR SALE

in central Patong. Long lease. Good value for money. Long- and short-term stays. Excellent location. Many backpacker and bar staff clients. Phone Mark for further information. Tel: 085-0300612.

PALM FARM

90,000 palms, 300 species, set in beautiful countryside at Ban Beung, Chonburi. The land and three-bedroom bungalow is rented. Established 13 years. Farang owner working away and has no time. It's an enjoyable, healthy hobby as well as a business. 40 million baht in stock. Giving it away at 2.5 million baht due to ill health. Tel: 02-3939642, 085-2441122 (K. Yupin on 081-9490636). Email: chrisred87@yahoo.com

GUESTHOUSE IN KATA

for sale. 3 rooms, kitchen. Offer good price. Tel: 083-3381625.

ROOFTOP RESTAURANT

for rent on the top floor of Sinthavee Hotel, Phuket City. Convenient for a restaurant or bar. Also, a discotheque on the 2nd floor (with license). Email: allservices29@gmail.com

SALON & SPA

for lease or rent with all equipment included. In the basement of Fantasia in Phuket City. Tel: 086-5930086.

BOOKS FOR SALE

Many language books and about 5,000 used books with shelf. Quick sale: 350,000 baht. Contact K. Pui. Tel: 084-1705552.

GREAT DEAL! BUSINESS SALES & RENTAL UNIT

- Hotel for sale: 3 rai, newly renovated boutique resort, great deal, best location in Patong.
- Hotel for sale: 55 rooms in 5-rai area, small luxury resort located in the quiet end of Patong. New construction, clean and great atmosphere.
- Hotel for rent: best location in Phuket City.

Please contact via email for an appointment. Email: allservices29@gmail.com

GUESTHOUSE AT LAGUNA

Restaurant. Spa. Swimming pool. 29-year lease. 4.2 million baht. Buy or rent. Tel: 083-1823751.

CRUISE BUSINESS FOR SALE

Turnkey, fully equipped 24m boat (would make a nice private pleasure boat). Website, company, etc. 9 million baht ono. Tel: 086-9520772. Email: kurtfy@yahoo.com

SUCCESSFUL BAR FOR SALE

On Nanai Rd. League pool table, 42" plasma TV, own sound system, fully stocked. 31-month lease on bar, cheap rent, 750,000 baht. Tel: 084-8520862.

BUSINESS FOR RENT

English-school center and law office for rent in Phuket City. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-6072489.

BAKERY AND RESTAURANT

for sale. Please visit www.bakeryforsale.info

BAR/RESTAURANT FOR SALE

One of the busiest bars on Nanai Rd. Established for 11 years with year-round trade. Known for good food. Pool table & dart board with established teams in pool leagues and darts league. TV projector & 6ft screen. Website and Wi-Fi Internet. 4-year lease with reasonable monthly rent. Contact for more info. Tel: 084-8379068. Email: dna muswell@hotmail.com Website: www.offshorebarphuket.com

PHI PHI

13-bedroom guesthouse for sale. Tel: 081-7475293.

PATONG GO-GO

bar. Well-established go-go bar in prime Patong location on popular soi off Bangla Rd. Rent is 30,000 baht per month. Staff accommodation on site. Price 2.6 million baht. Tel: 084-7300190.

Bulletins

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Mission Hospital
Phuket City
Wed and Sun 7 pm

Bangkok Phuket Hospital
Phuket City
Fri 7 pm

Patong Hospital Patong
Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun
at 7 pm and Fri at 8 pm

Chalong Health
Clinic-near Chalong Circle
Tues 1 pm

For Phuket info (English)
call 081-9564031,
081-8912895

Scandinavian speaking Group
Wat Karen School-Karon
Tue and Sat 7 pm
Tel 081-2732053 (Nor)
087-2795636 (Nor)
086-7458910 (Swe)

For info on other Thailand
AA meetings inquire
at Tel: 02-2318300
(for Thai language press 3)
www.aathailand.org or
email info@aathailand.org
phuketaa@yahoo.com

STOP

BAR FOR RENT/SALE

Selling due to partnership problems. Newly set up in Soi Sea Dragon. This is possibly the Bar in the most beautiful location in Patong.

- 2 Units.
- Top location near Soi Bangla.
- 12 small rooms.
- Top video/audio equipment (around 60,000 music titles).
- Bar front can be closed off with awning.
- Running as a gogo bar is possible, (4 air conditioners).
- 2 years lease.

Fully Equipped
Photos at www.holgervolp.com

Take-over as soon as possible!
For more information Tel: Osi +66(0)848483495
Holger +66(0)895903968
Email: stop-bar@holgervolp.com

Agents for Classified Advertising

PHUKET

Julapan Stationery

Chaofa East Rd (next to Siam Commercial Bank)

Tel: 076-282254

K.L. Mart

Patak Rd, Chalong

Tel: 076-280400/3

Fax: 076-280403

Earth Language School

Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-232398/9

Fax: 076-232398

Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

Fax: 076-211230

Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

Fax: 076-344523

41 Minimart

Srisoontorn Rd, Cherng Talay

Tel/Fax: 076-324312

Deli Supermarket

Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-342275

Fax: 076-344314

Live in Patong?

Place your GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS at Taurus Travel

Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Kai (076-344321-2)

GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're PAID!
Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published simultaneously - and FREE - in the Gazette Online!

The Gazette is always on top in Google!

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

NIGHTCLUB IN KATA CENTER



KATA NIGHT BAZAAR
3.5 MILLION BAHT OR
PARTNERSHIP 50%.

- The only night club in Kata-Karon and Chalong area. No competition!
 - 3-story (mezzanine/balcony included), stock room, kitchen.
 - Disco is located in a 'government zoning area'.
 - Top brand sound, lighting, effects and visual equipment and systems, new with 2-year warranties.
 - Have government licence.
 - All materials, equipment, furniture, air condition and coolers are new with warranties.
 - Third floor has 4 newly furnished rooms with cable TV and air conditioning.
 - 2 rooms with balcony and gardens/city view (Kata).
 - 2 rooms without balcony and sea view.
- Tel: 087-6899679. Email: allservices29@gmail.com

HOTEL IN PATONG



Bromma Guesthouse, Patong. 3 units, 4 floors. Total interior area of 800sqm on 400sqm of land. 40 million baht. Tel: 089-2909567. For further details, please see our website at: www.brommathaihouse.com

BARS AND GUESTHOUSES

Bangla and Nanai. Many business opportunities. For further details and more information please visit: www.janepropertyphuket.com

BAR FOR SALE

Great Patong location. Contact Kevin for more information. Tel: 084-7300190.

NIGHTCLUB FOR SALE

in central Patong. 500sqm. Long lease. Contact Lee on Tel: 086-6109230.

SEAVIEW GUESTHOUSE

And restaurant in Patong. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-7300190.

ELEGANT SHOPHOUSE

Bargain, 4-story shophouse with Chanote. There is a fully equipped restaurant on 1st and 2nd floors. Fully furnished apartment on 3rd and 4th floors. Value: 6.7 million baht. Now priced at only 5.5 million baht. Have to move out. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-8915602.

GUESTHOUSE AND RESTAURANT

in Patong for sale or for rent. Located opposite the main entrance from Royal Paradise Hotel. Comprises 6 guest rooms with shower, toilet, air conditioning, TV. Much comfort. Staff rooms and restaurant with very nice equipment. Kitchen in good condition with high standard equipment. 14 million baht. 081-8956587, 086-2697093, 001-491726730124. Email: torudofpanz@hotmail.com

NEW NANA PLAZA IN PATONG

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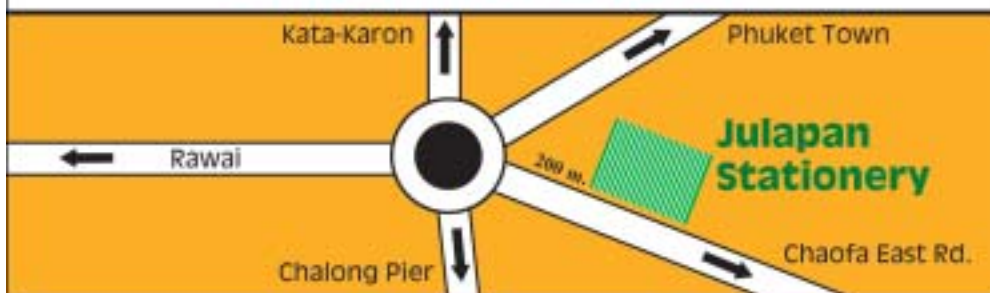
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