

# Phuket Gazette

Volume 15 Issue 31 News Desk - Tel: 076-236555 August 2 - 8, 2008 Daily news at www.phuketgazette.net 25 Baht

The Gazette is published  
in association with

**The Nation**

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## Pian wins second term as Patong Mayor

By Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

PATONG: Pian Keesin won the Patong Municipality election for the seat as Patong Mayor July 27, defeating rival Somkiet Kuru by 577 votes.

Of the 11,460 eligible voters in the resort town, 7,849 voters (or 68%) turned out to cast ballots at the 23 polling stations set up around Patong.

Votes were cast from 8 am to 3 pm, after which the counting began, with the provisional count announcing Mayor Pian as the winner at about 8 pm.

Number one on the ballot sheet, Somkiet Kuru, who leads the Patong Gao Na (Patong Progress) party, scored 3,249 votes.

Mayor Pian, who leads the Rak Patong (Love Patong) party, scored 3,826 votes.

Of the new 18-member municipality council representing Patong's three electorates, 11 are from the Rak Patong party.

They are: Tanin Atthasap, Prasob Prateep na Thalang, Sahat Charoongklin, Manit Yhuyen, Pruedsapakom Sethong, Pradit Kongkaew, Pongsak Kaenlek, Thanechai Jaemjarat, Saichon Sombat, Weerapote Iebsap and Weerawit Kruesombat.

Khun Tanin, K. Mani, K. Pruedsapakom, K. Saichon and K. Weerapote all served on the previous municipality council.

The seven councilors from the Patong Gao Na party are: Boonrod Tiengnoi, Charoen Kwanyuen, Mana Panchalad, Narong Chue-yuan, Prasarn Nuchate, Prasert Pattakor and Boontaen Piromit.

Khun Charoen and K. Mana also both served on the previous council.

In the mayoral election,



**RE-ELECTED:** Patong Mayor Pian Keesin (above) has made finishing Phang Muang Rd his top priority. Photo by Yongyot Preurksarat

there were 411 spoiled ballots and 363 "no votes", whereby voters tick a box expressing their intention not to vote for either candidate.

In the council election, there were 398 spoiled ballots and 441 "no votes."

Chairat Sukkabal, who has for years been Deputy Mayor of Patong under Pian Keesin and is expected to fulfill that role for the next four years, told the *Gazette*, "We are happy with the result. Tomorrow [July 30] we will have a parade to thank all the people who voted for us.

"Our first priority is to finish the new road, Phang Muang Rd, because traffic in Patong is a serious problem. Second on our list is building Tessabaan Muang Patong School for local kids. We have drawn up details about what we would like the school to be, such as how many students will attend and what buildings are required, and will submit this to the new council for budget approval," he said.

"We have many other projects to complete in our new

term in office, of course including those we campaigned for, such as better power and water supply, and improvements in our wastewater treatment system.

As with any election in Thailand, complaints were filed with local election watchdog the Phuket Election Committee (PEC). However, no complaints were filed over votebuying.

PEC President Suparp Akkam explained, "The day before election day, two complaints were filed by Rak Patong candidates accusing the Patong Gao Na party of violating Rule 57 (5) of the Election Act.

"The first complaint alleged that Patong Gao Na candidates discredited specific Rak Patong candidates while campaigning in the run-up to the election. The second complaint alleged that a Patong Gao Na candidate directly discredited Rak Patong's Acting Deputy Mayor," Khun Suparp said.

However, leading up to the election, many of the campaign posters of Khun Somkiet posted

**Continued on page 2**

## Fishermen swamped by 'freak wave'

PATONG (*Gazette*, Kom Chad Leuk): The body of one of the three men who were dashed against rocks at Paradise Beach by a single large wave on July 26 was recovered July 28.

Cap Nithikorn Rawang, duty officer at Kathu Police Station, told the *Gazette* that the men were fishing off a rocky outcrop near Paradise Beach when they were swamped by a large wave at about 10 am.

Witnesses who saw the trio being dragged out to sea rescued two of the men: Suriya Wongsawat and Somsak Kingwongsa, both 40 years old.

The third man, 42-year-old Anusorn Pasomsap, disappeared in the rough surf, Capt Nithikorn said.

After failing to find Khun Anusorn, local villagers contacted police.

Police were delayed in reaching the scene, however, as the rocky point is inaccessible by car and surrounded by mountains between Tri Trang Beach and Patong, and is approximately a three-kilometer journey by boat, Cap Nithikorn explained.

"There is a small dirt track that goes there, but you can only walk there or go on an off-road bike, which meant it took a few hours before police could reach the scene," he said.

K. Anusorn was in Phuket on holiday. His body was recovered by Kusoldham Foundation volunteers and taken to Patong Hospital, he added.

Also on July 26, Chatchapol Tangpradit, chief of the Sea Information and Security Center, reported that off the

**Continued on page 2**



From page 1

## Pian wins Patong election

throughout the resort town were slashed by vandals.

Kathu Police Superintendent Col Grissak Songmoonark, said, "The media should not allow themselves to become political tools.

"I would rather not comment in depth on the issue because there are many possible reasons why the posters were slashed, depending on who slashed them."

"There are dozens of people hired to lobby for each candidate, meaning that the number of potential suspects is large.

"It is also strange that so many slashings could occur all over Patong and yet there are no witnesses to give any clues as to who the culprit may be," Col Grissak said.

From page 1

## Man dies at Paradise Beach

coast of Surat Thani, waves up to five meters tall swept two fishermen from their boat.

Both men were found alive floating off Koh Samui and recovered by another fishing boat.

Wanchai Sakudomchai, deputy director of the Phuket-based Southwest Coastal Division of the Thai Meteorological Department, said that heavy rains, especially off the coasts of Ranong, Phang Nga, Phuket and Krabi, over the following few days would create significantly stronger and bigger waves.

Operators of small boats should pay attention to the latest weather reports and exercise extreme caution when putting out to sea, he said.

Over the weekend, *Gazette* staff saw tourists swimming off Phuket's beaches despite red flags warning that it was not safe to do so.

# Phuket '69ers' to promote Thai ICT in China

By Janyaporn Morel

PHUKET CITY: Representatives from Phuket businesses and other organizations will travel to Nanning City in Guangxi, China, for the 5th China-Asean Expo (CAEXPO) to be held from October 22-25.

Phuket Vice-Governor Smith Palawatwichai met officers from the Department of Export Promotion (DEP), the Phuket Office of the Software Industries Promotion Agency (SIPA) and Phuket business operators at Phuket Provincial Hall on July 28 to discuss Phuket's representation at the event.

The expo will comprise 3,000 booths allocated in four pavilions: Pavilion of Commodity Trade, Pavilion of Investment Cooperation, Pavilion of Agricultural Applicable Technology and Pavilion of Cities of Charm.

DEP Deputy Director-General Niramol Charoenphao explained that Thailand will be represented in the Pavilion of Cities of Charm and that this year the DEP is planning to promote the nation's information and communications technology (ICT) as its star at the event along with the many other Thai products and services usually presented at international expo events.

Khun Niramol said that Thailand has been allocated 169 booths, of which the DEP has reserved 69 booths for Phuket and its business operators to display their products and services.

"We chose Phuket to be the country's representative as Phuket has very high potential in everything. We would like Phuket to present to foreign countries its capabilities in ICT to ensure foreigners that they can visit or invest in Phuket as it has up-to-date technology ready for them," she said.

"We hope that this year Phuket will be generate a lot of interest," she said.

By Akbar Khan

PHUKET CITY: In Phuket to officiate the opening of the new Phuket Provincial Immigration Office at Saphan Hin on July 29, Immigration Commissioner Lt Gen Chatchawan Suksomchit announced that he is shaking up his ranks to use technology so that they would be more effective in their jobs.

Gen Chatchawan, Thailand's top Immigration officer, said his goal is to improve national stability in order to restore investor confidence in the country.

He is on a national roadshow to spread his ideology, which he believes the Immigration Bureau can achieve through maintaining internal security, better administration and serving justice.

In order for the year ahead to be the "year of investment" for Thailand, radical changes are needed to keep up with the rapid development worldwide in the era of globalism, Gen Chatchawan said.

He explained that Immigration will introduce a real-time nationwide computer database called "Pisces" (Personal Identification Secure Comparison Evaluation System) as well as Advanced Passenger Process (APP) and Advanced Passenger Information (API) computer systems so that officers can quickly and more effectively process arrivals.

"The important synergies here are with organizations such as Interpol and government de-

# Immigration chief to 'boost security'

partments of many nations that are willing to join forces. Many nations are now supplying Thai Immigration with comprehensive data on known and suspected pedophiles," Gen Chatchawan said.

Regarding Immigration's role in apprehending illegal laborers, he said, "It is more important to make illegal workers legal as the country needs them. In the case of Burmese, they can work at rates that Thais will not accept and employers cannot afford to pay more - making them a necessity. Immigration therefore has a policy to legalize them and ensure that they all have correct documentation."

Speaking about the 54 Burmese who suffocated in a refrigeration truck en route to Phuket on April 9, Gen Chatchawan said, "By law, this incident cannot be classified as human trafficking as there was no employer identified as being involved, meaning that it was simply a violation of entering without passing a checkpoint.

"As far as the other related crimes, such as the shooting of an ex-police lieutenant suspected of playing a role in the deaths, it is the duty of local police to investigate."



Immigration Commission Pol Lt Gen Chatchawan Suksomchit.

However, Gen Chatchawan admitted, "I do not deny the fact that the integrity of government officials across the board must now be more closely monitored and action taken against those involved."

Other developments to boost national security include the formation of a Transnational Syndicate Crime Suppression Center and a task force to counter forgery of passports, visas and immigration stamps.

In addition, details of where foreigners reside, including satellite pictures, are now stored on a

centralized database and monitored for irregularities, he said.

"The system is not only to arrest illegal immigrants but also to offer higher levels of safety and protection to VIP visitors. In order for the database to be practical, only those with visas that allow longer stays and VIPs are monitored," Gen Chatchawan explained.

He added that networks are being established to share resources between Immigration and other national agencies, such as the Internal Security Operation Command (ISOC), Special Branch (*Santibaen*), Border Patrol and Provincial Police.

Also, informers may be issued an ID card that enables them to quickly report a suspicious foreigner and have the case taken seriously by Immigration.

Gen Chatchawan added that foreigners known to be honest, responsible and posing no threat to Thailand can be issued cards that will facilitate swift passage past immigration checkpoints.

Also, volunteer translators are helping out at Immigration offices and a 1178 hotline has been set up to provide clear, accurate information, he added.

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# Ceremony marks new Immigration office opening

PHUKET CITY: Gen Wiroj Phahonwet, Deputy Commissioner of the Royal Thai Police, arrived in Phuket to lead the opening ceremony of the new Immigration offices at Saphan Hin on July 29.

The three-story building, which sits on 341 square meters of land, was built at a cost of just over 12 million baht.

At 9:09 am, the ceremony started with a troupe of girls playing a march followed by a Buddhist ceremony.

After his speech, Gen Wiroj told the *Gazette*, "The new building comes not only with new modern technologies, but also more graceful and professional service."

"The original Phuket border offices were first built 80 years ago and have been upgraded three times. It is time to have a new office and a new image to help meet policy targets set by Commissioner Gen Patcharavat Wongsuwan," he said.

"The Immigration Bureau is



**Gen Wiroj Phahonwet, Deputy Commissioner of the Royal Thai Police.**

analogous to a watch-dog protecting his home," he added.

Asked whether current measures were sufficient to deal with undesirable foreigners staying in Thailand, Gen Wiroj explained, "We are concerned about terrorists and international crime syndicates as well as other undesirables, and rest assured with the new systems it should be easier to deal with all of these people to the satisfaction of the public."

## HRH Princess Ubol Ratana visits Phuket



PHUKET: HRH Princess Ubol Ratana Rajakanya arrived in Phuket July 26 for a three-day visit as part of her "To Be Number One" project to steer Thai children and youths away from drugs.

She attended the opening ceremony of the To Be Number One Friend Corner – a youth center where troubled teens can discuss their problems – at Muang Thalang School on July 28.

The Princess then moved to the Port Area at Jungceylon, Patong, for the To Be Number One Concert at 7 pm.

She returned to Bangkok on July 29.

Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit announced that Phuket has been selected as Thailand's model province for the To Be Number One project – the second time that Phuket has won this accolade.

In previous To Be Number One projects, a group of more than 1,000 people from Kathu were recognized for their efforts in organizing community activities with the aim of deterring children from drugs.

Similarly, students from Chalermprakit Somdejprasrinakarin Phuket, in Wichit, were awarded a certificate for holding an aerobic dance to raise awareness of drug-related issues.

## Nok Air ceases flights to Phuket

PHUKET: From August 1, low-cost carrier Nok Air will no longer operate flights between Phuket and Bangkok, the *Gazette* has confirmed.

The move follows Nok Air stopping all its services between Bangkok and Krabi on July 1.

"Nok Air has no official statement regarding its marketing strategies, but if one looks carefully at what we are doing they might be able to figure it out," a source at budget airline told the *Gazette*.

"Since Nok Air started flying to Phuket and Krabi, the number of competing flights increased dramatically, making these routes very competitive."

"There is, however, little or no competition to many less-popular destinations and Nok Air has most probably taken the initiative to exploit this niche by pro-



**RARE BIRD: From August 1 Nok Air will no longer fly to Phuket.**

viding more lucrative services to other destinations in the South, such as Haad Yai, Trang and Nakhon Sri Thammarat," the source said.

## 'Death truck' families to receive B35k per victim

BANGKOK (TNA): Relatives of the 54 Burmese migrant workers who suffocated in the back of a seafood truck in Ranong on April 9 will receive 35,000 baht compensation for each relative who died while being illegally transported to Phuket, Suwanna Suwanjutha, director-general of the Rights and Liberties Protection Department, said on July 22.

The migrant workers died after the driver failed to turn on the air conditioning for the container, which was normally used to transport frozen food.

Khun Suwanna said the money will be awarded to relatives of 34 of the 54 victims at Victoria Point, so the recipients would not have to enter Thailand to receive the compensation.

Documents were being compiled to pay compensation to relatives of the 20 remaining victims, she said.

It was explained that another 65,000 baht will be paid to relatives of each victim in accordance with Thailand's automobile accident law if the victims were found to have not committed any crime.

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The amount of earth that fell on the three workers at the construction site, which is opposite Rattana Hill Apartments on 50 Pi Rd, was relatively small, but at the time of the landslide there were not many people around who could have helped rescue the victims. Workers had been given the day off work due to heavy rain the night before, making conditions at the site dangerous and difficult to work in.

The *Gazette* spoke to the contractor overseeing the wall's construction, Wannapong Suwan-najan, who said that the wall was actually being built to prevent landslides and that construction had already been underway for five days.

"Because of the heavy rain the night before, I told the workers not to work on the wall that day. However, one of the workers came to pick up a hammer near the wall under construction and was trapped when the earth fell on him," said Khun Wannapong.

He added that planks of wood had been driven into the earth horizontally as a measure to prevent a landslide while the wall was being built.

The investigating officer of the deaths of the workers, Capt Patak Kwunna of Kathu Police, told the *Gazette* that the police

# Development's slippery slope

Following the deaths of three construction workers on July 15 who were crushed by a landslide as they were building a wall on an apartment development at 50 Pi Rd in Patong, *Gazette* reporters Akbar Khan and Sompratch Saowakhon look into the guidelines and regulations governing construction sites in Phuket, especially in Patong, where several landslides have occurred over the past few years.

have asked K. Wannapong to pay compensation to the victims' families, adding that the landslide was an unfortunate accident.

The owner of the apartment project where the landslide occurred would not give his name or the name of the project under construction, but he told the *Gazette* that he had been asked by police to help with their investigations and that he'd informed police that the deaths of the workers was an accident.

He also said that although he is prepared to pay compensation to the families of the victims and that the families understand that the deaths were accidental, by law, he is not liable.

"It is the construction contractor who must go to court and the judge will determine the amount of compensation that must be paid to each of the three laborers," he said.

Patong Municipality officer Poonsak Naksena said that land-

slide-risk areas around Patong are checked regularly. However, the site of the most recent landslide was not considered a landslide-risk area because its elevation is less than 80 meters above sea level, so it was not routinely checked.

"We were aware of the construction of the wall and had already checked the site for safety. As the wall is not large and is being built on land where permission had been given to build the apartments, the owner was not required to ask for permission to build the wall," said K. Poonsak.

"The owner's intention was to build a wall to prevent landslides. It's an unfortunate coincidence that the laborers went to the site - after heavy rains the night before - at the same time as the landslide occurred," he added.

"We have reported the accident to the governor and the relevant provincial authorities, explaining the event to them in detail," said K. Poonsak, adding that since the landslide, Patong Municipality has been encouraging developers to seek more professional contractors who can ensure high levels of safety when carrying out construction work.

K. Poonsak explained that by law, no construction is allowed on land that is over 80 meters above sea level. He also said that developers are required to conduct an Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) before they are given permission to build on any land, regardless of which zone it is in.

"In my experience, most landslides have occurred at the sites of small construction projects rather than at the sites of larger ones, such as resorts. This is because developers of resorts have large budgets and

Homes and buildings above the apartment project are now dangerously close to the edge of the precipice left by the killer landslide.

are prepared to invest a lot in ensuring construction is carried out safely and that their buildings are constructed to high standards," said K. Poonsak.

"Patong is a small area that is being developed rapidly, making the land very expensive, which makes some developers try to find ways to reduce other costs. To them, it's not worth paying a lot of money for land if they can construct buildings only two or three stories high," he added.

Suppakorn Meetaew from the Patong City Planning Office told the *Gazette* that Phuket land is classified into eight different categories, called "zones". Each of the zones has different regulations governing the kind of construction allowed. The zones

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**A large L-shape was dug into the hillside to create a level surface for the apartment block, creating an unstable wall of dirt that crumbled in the rain.**

were introduced by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in 2002.

Zone 1 covers land that extends up to 50 meters from the coastline. Zone 2 is land extending another 150 meters from the boundary of Zone 1. Zone 3 is land that extends a further 200 meters inland from the boundary of Zone 2 or it can be used to designate land to be occupied by government buildings.

Zone 4 is for land in certain protected areas. This includes areas with historical buildings, such as those in Dibuk Rd, and other densely populated areas.

Zone 5 includes rural communities, agricultural areas and anywhere within a 100-meter radius of the following historical

sites: the site of the camp in Thalung district that was used by soldiers when warring with the Burmese, the home of Praya Vichit Songkram, Baan Bang Tao Mosque, the house of Tao Thepkasattri, Wat Chalong, Wat Tah Reua, Wat Thepkasattri, Wat Phra Tong, Wat Phra Nang Sang, Kao Baan Kian Mosque, Muang Klang Bangrong Wall, Thalung Pasak City Pillar and Muang Mai City Pillar.

Zone 6 is for land that is of an elevation anywhere between 40 and 80 meters above sea level, while Zone 7 covers land that is more than 80 meters above sea level. Zone 8 is reserved for other types of land not covered by zones 1 to 7.

K. Suppakorn explained

that only five of the eight zones cover land in Patong: zones 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7.

"The land where the landslide occurred is designated as zone-6 land as its elevation is between 40 and 80 meters above sea level. The building at this particular site can be no taller than eight meters," he said.

"There is another regulation, separate from the zoning laws, that does not allow construction on any land that has an incline of more than 35 degrees. In this case, construction of the apartment and the wall is allowed because the apartment and the wall are both less than eight meters tall and the construction site is on flat land," K. Suppakorn added.

The construction site is, in fact, on a hillside but it appears that an L-shape has been cut into the hillside to create a step, leaving a portion of flat land where there would otherwise be a slope. This has left a wall of earth several meters tall that is almost vertical, which is where the landslide occurred.

K. Suppakorn agreed with Patong Municipality's statement that the land at the site of the landslide was not on their list of landslide-risk areas. "We checked, and that site is not on the list," he said.

K. Suppakorn explained that the condition of the soil in Patong is loose and sandy, making the area prone to landslides after heavy rains. However, he pointed out that good engineers and contractors can prevent landslides by carrying out construction work safely. Covering the ground with rubber sheets to prevent the soil

becoming wet, using netting or constructing a temporary wall while construction of a permanent wall is underway are some examples.

"There have been many landslides in Patong in the past few years and there will be more if developers continue to ignore safety regulations," he said.

As a guideline for municipality officers to go by when assessing the potential risk of landslides, Kasetsart University professors have produced a 20-page booklet that explains the dangers posed by different rock and soil types.

The booklet explains problems associated with water runoff and how they are caused. It explains that trees and their root systems play a major role in preventing landslides and gives examples of the root systems of different kinds of trees.



**Land below an elevation of 80 meters is not routinely checked for landslide risks, says Poonsak Naksena of Patong Municipality.**

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Above: Wisit Kurattanavate, Chief of Muang District Office, officially opens the toy library, watched by the library's instigator and PCF Board member Acharn Pranee Sakulpipatana (left); Rien van Gendt of major donor the Van Leer Foundation; PCF President Niyom Tassanitpagorn (3rd from right), and Anurak Thansiriroj, managing director of co-sponsor Phuket International Hospital. Right: the kids get to the main point of the exercise – the toys. Below: Volunteers from the Phuket Technical College replace a broken tail light.



# First Toy Library opens

WICHIT: Muang District Chief Wisit Kurattanavate on July 29 officially opened Phuket's first toy library, which has been set up at the childcare center at Wat Thepnimit on Chao Fa East Rd.

Organized by the Phuket Community Foundation (PCF), Phuket International Hospital (PIH) and Wichit Municipality, which is responsible for the government-run childcare center, the toy library aims to give underprivileged children the chance to play with toys they otherwise would not be able to enjoy.

Khun Wisit said, "The toy library has toys and kids' books donated by Phuket people and foreigners. The project also includes storytelling for kids."

"All of this is very nice for our children. I would like to thank all the government officers involved, as well as the Van Leer Group Foundation and the businesspeople and other people involved," he said.

Rien van Gendt, executive director of Netherlands-based Van Leer Group Foundation, a



major provider of funds for the PCF, returned the compliment, saying, "I'd like to thank the Phuket Community Foundation, Phuket International Hospital and Wichit Municipality for such a nice project that's really good for the children."

PCF President Niyom Tassanitpagorn said, "This library will help children develop their creativity and learn to socialize. As the library has only just opened, children cannot borrow the toys and take them home just

yet – though that is the ultimate goal of this project. For now, we are still inviting donations of toys and kids' books."

The toy library is open daily from 7 am to 8:30 am, from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm and from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

Donations of toys or children's books may be dropped off at the PIH reception desk or given to PIH Marketing Manager Piyarat Kulvanich or any member of her team.

Naturally, a constant flow of donated toys will be required to replace those that break or wear out. Commitments from donors willing to underwrite a replacement program are also welcome.

For more information, contact Acharn Pranee Sakulpipatana (Tel: 081-6933576, Email: pranee.81@yahoo.com).

While the children were delving into the new toy boxes, students from Phuket Technology College were replacing broken motorbike tail lights free at the entrance to Wat Thepnimit in a PCF project aimed at helping save lives on Phuket's roads.

This is the second time the PCF has organized the free tail light project. The first time was in front of Surakul Stadium in November last year. Others involved in the free taillight project are Wichit Municipality, AR Holding Co Ltd, Ruampong Motor Co Ltd, South West Suzuki and Numsang Co Ltd.

The *Phuket Gazette* is a founder donor to the PCF.

## STAMPS

# New stamps show Bangkok for tourists

Thailand Post on July 11 launched another set of stamps in the Amazing Thailand collection, this time with 10 stamps in the theme of "Bangkok charm", highlighting some of the most prominent points of interest for tourists in Bangkok.

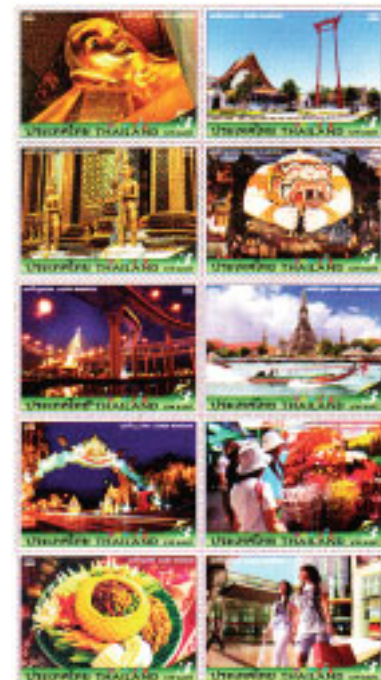
The first stamp shows the Reclining Buddha image at Wat Pho, widely regarded as one of the most beautiful of its kind.

The second design features an image of the Giant Swing, located in front of Wat Suthat Tehpwararam. The Giant Swing was built to play a part in the Brahmin swing ceremony during New Year celebrations.

An image of the traditional *nam prik* sauce adorns the third stamp. *Nam prik* is usually eaten with vegetables and comes in many different forms, each containing a mixture of Thai herbs.

On the fourth stamp is the Industrial Ring Road, a stretch of elevated, looping road with seven lanes connected to the Industrial Ring Road Bridge. The stamp shows the scene at night when the road and bridge are lit up.

The Chao Praya River is shown on the fifth stamp with the giant stupa of Wat Arunrajawanaram in the background – another symbol of Bangkok.



Wat Phrasirattana Sasadaram is the subject of the sixth stamp. The temple was built during the era of King Buddha Yodfa Chulaloke, or King Rama I, to contain the *tripitaka*, or movable throne. The temple has four arched entrances, each guarded by iron statues of an ogre, goddess and garuda, decorated with golf leaf.

The seventh stamp features a *Ramayana* painting hung at Wat Phrasirattana Sasadaram, a temple built after King Rama I's ascension to the throne.

On the eighth stamp are two girls strolling with shopping bags in front of Siam Paragon, one of Bangkok's largest malls.

Rajadamnoen Rd is featured on the ninth design. This road, widely regarded as one of Bangkok's most beautiful, was built in 1899 during the reign of King Rama V to link the Grand Palace with Dusit Palace.

The final stamp shows a scene at Chatuchak Weekend Market, the largest market in the world and a popular tourist attraction.

The stamps are on sale for 50 baht a set at any post office.

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# Dealer denies involvement in diamond heist

Arrest warrants have been issued for the July 25 theft of a 2,100-carat African white diamond in the Don Muang area of Bangkok, but the case is far from closed as the 315-million-baht gemstone remains missing.

The theft occurred while diamond broker and owner of Sapa International Service employment agency, Rinlaphas Punyajiraphat, 58, was meeting with a man posing as a potential buyer of the diamond and another 1,700-carat diamond owned by 71-year-old Jakkaphan Pramualsuk, who was also at the meeting.



The missing diamond.

While inspecting the larger diamond, the man snatched it and fled to a waiting car outside. He had duped K. Rinlaphas into bringing the diamonds

closer to the main-floor exit, purportedly to see them in a better light.

On July 28, the Don Muang police investigation team issued an arrest warrant for a 51-year-old Chiang Rai diamond dealer Promma Chanmali, who denied the charges.

Another arrest warrant was issued for a Thai man 170 centimeters tall, who was not named. Police said they were also searching for a man on a motorcycle who was near the scene and believed to have aided in the getaway.

The investigation will continue until all the thieves are caught and the diamond returned, police said.

**Action star resurfaces.** Internationally acclaimed star of the Muay Thai thriller *Ong-Bak*, Phanom Yeeram (aka Tony Jaa), turned up in his home province of Surin after his mysterious disappearance during the filming of the movie's sequel two months ago.

The actor had been meditating at a secret location and had turned off his phone, relatives said.

As to why he had disap-



The Sema Thai marionette troupe puts on a show at the Joe Louis Theater in Bangkok, following its Best Performance win at the World Festival of Puppet Art 2008 in Prague.

peared, Khun Phanom's relatives speculated that he may have been problems regarding the movie budget or the working conditions on the set, adding that K. Phanom was a meticulous perfectionist as well as a newcomer to the world of acting.

Before K. Phanom was found, Somsak Techaratanaprasert of Sahamongkol Films and

director Prachya Pinkaew made a plea for him to come out of hiding, saying he would be forgiven and would not be sued for damages for not completing the film. K. Phanom has since agreed to finish the film.

"Once filming is over, Phanom is going to become a monk to pay respect to his mother and father," said one of his relatives.

**Prem protester arrested.** Outspoken critic Daranee Chanchoengsilapakul, also known as "Da Torpedo", was arrested July 22 on lese majeste charges for allegedly making insulting statements against statesman and Privy Councilor General Prem.

After the September 2006 coup, Daranee - a former reporter - formed a group called the People's Council and was fiercely critical of the regime. Since the return to democracy, she has continued to join rallies against the People's Alliance for Democracy.

It's not the first time Da Torpedo's words have elicited a harsh response. At a rally last year, Yupa Im-deang, a nearby flower-seller who overheard Da's speech, was infuriated to the point of defecating and pasting her feces all over Da's face.

Daranee is now locked up in the same block as the "pastry-gate" briber of justice. No-one has been to visit her since and bail has been denied.

**The stench of murder.** On July 26, Nongpok District Police in Roi-et received a report that a bloated body had emerged from under the ground creating a big stink at Lamhouy Sai Village 17.

The corpse had a bullet lodged in the forehead and the body appeared to have been beaten with a large, hard object.

When police arrived they found a man hastily covering the

body with planks and old corrugated iron. They asked him what he was doing and he ran. Police gave chase and caught Maitree Matkumuang, who allegedly confessed to having killed the man he was trying to reburial, 39-year-old Somneuk Pantasima.

In Maitree's statements to police, he allegedly said, "Somneuk and I were sitting happily in our paddy-hut three days ago and when evening came I felt hungry so I asked him to cook me something."

"Somneuk shouted at me, 'You are younger than me, how dare you order an elder.' He then picked up a machete and so I ran away, carrying my single-shot rifle with me and shouting out 'Don't follow me.'"

"But he did follow and so I spun around and shot him once in the forehead, blowing him backwards. Although he was already dead I quickly dug a shallow grave. It was not really deep enough so I had to use my heavy hoe to beat the body deeper into the ground."

"When Somneuk's body rotted, it swelled, popping up again. I was afraid that it might attract attention so I came to rebury him and then you guys turned up."

After hearing this, police arrested Maitree on the spot.

**Storm wreaks havoc.** On July 26 at 10:30 am a 20-minute storm ripped through the Thungka sub-district in Chumporn, destroying more than 10 houses and a rubber plantation in Village 6 and knocking big trees down onto the Asia-41 road.

The storm also felled many power poles in the Tham Khun Krathing Cave area, leaving many villages without electricity.

Three fishing boats capsized at sea in the Chumporn estuary but there were no fatalities.

Sourced from The Nation, Daily Xpress and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.

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# Return flight for good

I've been on the road again, this time back to my roots in good 'ol America with its Obama-mania. Business has been quiet in Krabi, so I figured it was a good time to take a quick jaunt back to my homeland for some business and pleasure.

My first stop was to the west coast to visit a musician friend, Gary Gates. Gary plays at Encore Cafe in Ao Nang every year and he has just released a new live-acoustic CD, which was produced by Neil Young's manager. Gary lives in Santa Cruz in California, still a hip town famous for its beaches, surfing and liberal attitude – puff puff.

Next stop was Sonoma County, one of California's finest wine regions. I made sure I tasted as much wine as I could before returning to Thailand's relatively barren wine scene before heading off to everyone's favorite city: San Francisco.

The real reason for my trip was to give a presentation at the Annual Hazards and Disasters Conference in Denver, Colorado. Over the past two years, my partner at the Sriphong Phukaoluan Foundation, Apichat Lanlongsa and I have been researching tsunami relief efforts.

We have produced reports for the Asia Foundation and more recently three case studies on gender issues for the World Bank's upcoming report on the tsunami relief, which will be published later this year.

We also wrote a paper on the grassroots efforts by the



Short back and sides – and top: This barber shop was sponsored by the Sriphong Phukaoluan Foundation.

people on Phi Phi Island, so I presented this at the international disaster conference in Denver.

Most of us who lived through the tsunami and took part in the relief efforts can attest to seeing lots of outsiders with good intentions whose aid was inappropriate.

There were organizations with agendas that focused on self

promotion and their accountability to sponsors rather than the efficiency of their aid or the appropriateness of their actions, or even the intended beneficiaries.

The Denver conference was a rare opportunity to present the local perspective on disaster relief to a group of academics and policy makers. The conference was attended by over 400 PhDs and senior policy makers.

I was unsure about how strongly I should present my findings and how they would be received.

In the end, the people at the conference showed their support beyond my expectations and it seemed as if the people of Denver are some of the friendliest around.

**Culture charge.** An amusing incident occurred when I was at a traditional American Indian handicrafts shop. The cashier, a dark-haired Asiatic girl, must

have seen my Thai Air American Express Card and asked, "*Poot Thai dy mai, kha?*" I almost fell off my horse, as John Wayne would say.

After that, it was off to New York City, where there is always a buzz. I was going to see my family on the shores of New Jersey, where life never changes: beer, sun and barbecues.

On my way back to Thailand, the only downer was a seven-hour flight delay in New York. We sat in the plane on the tarmac for five and a half hours. Isn't there a law against that somewhere?

I've brought home lots of Obama-fad trinkets and an inner tube around my waist that attests to the good food and drink I enjoyed along the way.

**Top of the crops.** The Sriphong Phukaoluan Foundation – which I am director of and continually plugging in this column – has just won the Number 1 Foundation



## ACROSS THE BAY

By Gus Reynolds

for the Tsunami Affected Area for the second year in a row. This award comes from the League of Foundations, under patronage of His Majesty King Bhumipol Adulyadej.

Credit must go to all the volunteers, especially the teachers and administrators from the Krabi Municipal school district, the staff of Nok Air, the staff of the Krabi International Scout Camp and our generous sponsors, including the Starwood Group and Krabi Sheraton Beach Resort.

With the help of these and many other helping hands, all the children who lost parents to the tsunami are in school, clothed, well fed and receiving medical care.

But the problems faced by the guardians of the children and their families are of underemployment and the rising cost of living.

With rice and other food commodity prices skyrocketing along with oil, many families are struggling in their subsistence occupations of farming or fishing.

These people are not afraid of hard work. What they need is a framework to expand their businesses to create additional income. This necessitates an access to capital that many do not have.

As I have outlined in previous columns, the Sriphong Phukaoluan Foundation, also known as krabirelief.com, has established a Community Bank to make micro loans to these families.

This program has been officially established and the capitalization of the bank underway. We expect to start providing loans in the next two months.

As well as loans, the bank will provide technical training and instruction in farming, English language, bookkeeping and accounting, along with introducing basic business-management skills to help the families run their businesses profitably.

Any person interested in volunteering their skills to the Community Bank is encouraged to join our award-winning programs to help the community.

You can see more information at [www.krabirelief.com](http://www.krabirelief.com) or contact me at by email: [info@krabirelief.com](mailto:info@krabirelief.com)

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A bomb blast injured a municipality employee in Yala on July 26, but not before nearly 4,000 red-whiskered bulbuls were entered in the Asean Java Songbird Contest.

"The municipality holds the event to encourage bird-breeding development as well as other bird-related businesses, such as cage making," said Nakhon Yala Municipality Deputy Mayor Sathaporn Kanja-nabus.

Birds from Thailand took 10 awards, with Singaporean entrants tweeting off with two.

"The award will boost my bird's value," owner Ayu Babatee said, adding that his bird, named Sri Kelantan, could be worth as much as 1 million baht. Sri Kelantan was second runner-up in the middle-tone category.

As often happens in the South, however, the sound of happy chirping was soon shattered by a bomb blast. An explosion beside a Yala Municipality truck in a parking area set aside for the contest injured municipal employee Wittaya Chaisuwan while he and his colleagues were loading the truck.

Police said the bomb made a crater and that explosives were buried near the vehicle. The blast occurred after the contest had finished. No birds were reported harmed.

**Cop killed.** A police sergeant was shot dead outside his house in Trang's Yan Takhao district July 25.

The shooting was reported to Lt Chumphong Duangkong, duty officer at Ban Nai Kuan Police Station, at 7:30 pm. At the scene, police found the body of Sgt Somkiat Jaitrong, a squad leader at the same station, lying in a pool of blood. He had been shot twice in the face.

Witnesses reported that while Sgt Chumphong was outside washing his car, two men wearing full-face helmets pulled up on a red Honda Wave motorcycle. One of the men got off and shot Sgt Chumphong twice before the pair sped off.

Police said they are investigating the possibility that Sgt Chumphong was killed in a revenge attack as, at the time of his death, he was suspended from duty while being investigated over allegations that he was involved in a murder last year.

Police are also investigating

# Bombing shatters beauty of birdsong



## UP IN FLAMES

A soldier inspects the remains of a school in Ma-Yor district, Pattani, that was burned down by insurgents on the night of July 21.

whether a dispute Sgt Chumphong was having with relatives could have been a motive for his killing.

**Piles of pills.** Two suspected *ya bah* (methamphetamine) dealers were arrested in possession of more than 5,000 pills of the drug in Surat Thani July 20.

The arrests of Piyanat "Mem" Priyakon, 46, and Krason "Tuk" Noksir, 31, were announced by Maj Gen Thesa Siriawtho, commander of Surat Thani Provincial Police, at Muang Surat Thani Police Station.

Gen Thesa said that the pair were arrested in a raid on a well-known hotel in the city by a team led by Lt Col Worawit Charoen-suphaphon, an investigating inspector at the station.

In the room, police found 25 Ziploc bags each containing 200 orange *ya bah* pills embossed with the letters WY. They also found one bag containing 12 pills and a paper wrap with a further 10 pills, making a total of 5,022 pills.

Police seized 85,190 baht in cash, 73,000 baht of which was hidden in Piyanat's underpants.

**Cutting confusion.** The release of a new Pattani Malay-Thai dictionary, which the authors claim to be the most complete edition to date, was announced in Pattani July 21.

The release was chaired by Education Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat at the Emerald Hotel in Pattani. Khun Somchai said that

he hoped the dictionary would help foster peace and understanding between people in the Deep South.

Three thousand sets of the dictionary complete with a CD version will be produced in the first print run to be sold on general release and distributed to organizations working in the region.

**Flirting with death.** A man who died after being shot six times outside a funeral in Chumphon's Lang Suan district in the early hours of July 21 may have been killed for flirting with his killer's wife.

The shooting was reported to Col Udon Letphetphaisan, deputy superintendent of Lang Suan Police Station, at 3:45 am. When police arrived at the scene, a house in Tambon Wang Takor, the victim, Yuthaphon "Joke" Dangmanee, 29, had already been taken to Lang Suan Hospital. He was then transferred to Chumphon Hospital, but died en route.

Thongchai Jaisanuk, a witness to the shooting, said that after the funeral, the victim walked out of the house yard with Sakon "Bao" Jukha, 33. Yuthaphon asked Sakon for a cigarette and Sakon handed him one along with a lighter. As Yuthaphon was lighting the cigarette, Sakon drew a revolver and aimed it at Yuthaphon.

Yuthaphon begged Sakon not to shoot and tried to run away, but Sakon fired all six rounds at him as he fled, K. Thongchai said. Sakon then drove off in his pickup truck towards Ranong.

Col Udon said that Yuthaphon and Sakon were known gamblers and would often meet at gambling dens. Sakon was normally accompanied by his wife, who would sell snacks at the dens. Yuthaphon liked to flirt and tease Sakon's wife.

Before the incident, Yuthaphon had been flirting with Sakon's wife as usual and this may have angered Sakon enough to make him kill his gambling rival, Col Udon said.

Police have not ruled out a gambling dispute as a motive for the killing, Col Udon added.

Police are now hunting for Sakon, who they believe is hiding out in Kawthaung, Burma.

Sourced from The Nation, Daily Xpress and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.

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By Natcha Yuttaworawit

Hidden behind the large Chinese shrine just south of the Heroines' Monument is one of Phuket's best kept historical secrets: the site of the family home of Praya Vichit Songkram, who could easily be considered the "father" of Phuket City.

Praya Vichit Songkram, or "Tut" to those close to him, was Governor of Tungka, the former name of the settlement now known as Phuket City, explained Capt Boonyarit Chaisuwan, an archaeologist of the Fine Arts Office at Thalang National Museum. Capt Boonyarit is responsible for researching and preserving the remains at the site.

Although records are a little rusty about when Khun Tut was born or even why he was titled Praya Vichit Songkram, which means "Lord of Vichit Songkram", said Capt Boonyarit, we do know that he came from a high-set Phuket family who today use the family name "Rattana-dilok Na Phuket".

His father, "Kaew", was tin-mining magnate with his family home set where Moo Baan Kettho in Kathu is today. Khun Kaew was given the title Phra Phuket (Lord of Phuket), which explains the name of Phra Phuket Kaew Rd that leads from the



These ruins were once the home of the 'father' of Phuket, Praya Vichit Songkram, Governor of Tungka.

## A piece of history awaits resurrection

heart of Kathu to the bypass road. Praya Vichit Songkram's own moniker explains the name

of the road leading from Moo Baan Kettho all the way into town, where he discovered large

deposits of tin near a small group of villages then called Tungka.

At that time, Thalang was famous for its tin. However, from 1849 to 1869, the volume of tin retrieved from Tungka easily surpassed that found at Thalang. In 1853, the capital was moved from Thalang to boomtown Tungka and K. Tut was titled Praya Vichit Songkram and moved to live in Tungka so he could oversee the tin-mining operations.

However, an uprising by tin miners in 1876 forced Praya Vichit Songkram to move house. Instead of moving back to his father's home at Kettho – Phra Phuket Kaew died in 1849 – he chose to quickly build a home of his own on the remains of his grandfather's house at Tah Reua.

The family plot at Tah Reua was fortified by walls forming a rectangular compound 124 meters long by 157 meters across, together enclosing 23.3 rai. The walls were 3.5m tall and 60 centimeters thick. At the mid-point along each boundary were lookout posts built into the wall where guards could keep an eye out for unwanted visitors.

The first building inside the main entrance was the formal residence, where business was conducted.

The two-story building was 17m long and 21m wide, with the front of the building elevated 1.5m off the ground. The foundations and sections of the tiled floors can still be seen today.

Although the building's exterior was contemporary Western in design, the interior incorporated the Muslim style of having guests enter the house rising on steps to the elevated welcoming area, then descend back to the ground level on entering the rear main part of the home where the offices were. The home was de-

signed as such in respect of Praya Vichit Songkram's ancestors, who were Indian Muslims.

Next to the main building was a pond, 15m wide and 20m long, which served as a reservoir for the compound and was connected to a nearby klong with supply regulated by a floodgate.

Although the structures were made of brick, over time they fell apart through neglect. Capt Boonyarit suggested that this was most likely because they were hastily built as Praya Vichit Songkram was keen to move into his new home as soon as possible.

He added that the slope of the land there means that every year during the rainy season the klong 80m to the south of the site breaks its banks and the site floods up to 50 centimeters deep, affecting the foundations.

The house was eventually seized by the government for non-payment of taxes, Capt Boonyarit said.

He explained that the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) aims to preserve the remains at the site and to transform the ruins into a learning center and historical tourism attraction.

"The Praya Vichit Songkram Residence is the most important historic site in Phuket because there are still walls and parts of buildings that are not found anywhere else – and this place tells a story from the past.

"The residence was registered as a historic site in 1985 by the Fine Arts Department. Since then, we have made some important discoveries, such as walls that separate the entire plot into three distinct areas," said Capt Boonyarit.

The residence had three parts, he explained: one was for visitors and official business, the second was Praya Vichit Songkram's private quarters and the third, at the rear, had storehouses and servants' quarters.

"A letter written by Somdej Krompraya Narisara Nuwattiwong during his visit to the southern provinces included a description of Praya Vichit Songkram Residence from when he was there in 1902. His letter described the layout of the residence, from which we have made several discoveries," he added.

"Now there are not many tourists because we have yet to develop the residence into a tourism attraction, but we want people to know about Phuket's history. Anyone who wants to know more details or wants to visit the residence can contact or call the Fine Arts Office at 076-311025 from Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm," said Capt Boonyarit.

The entrance to Praya Vichit Songkram Residence is on Thepkasattri Rd at Baan Tah Reua. Heading south from the Heroines' Monument, turn left at Soi Hua Tah behind Tah Reua Shrine, go straight about 100m then turn left, go straight and over the bridge, and you will see a blue sign on your left marked "Praya Vichit Songkram Residence". Entry is free.

# Sweet, Sexy & Spicy



## Baba

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The fried-and-boiled-fish combo is one of the most popular dishes at this smart little eatery.

# Ditsy diner serves bargain bites

Straddling the thin line between yin and yang, sweet 'n' sour, Bart and Lisa; Black & White, a restaurant on Wichit Songkhram Rd, puts it all together to offer great food at knockdown prices.

Attracting rabbles of university students from nearby Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus, the first thing you'll notice once you set foot in the restaurant is the simple yet striking decor in – you guessed it – black and white.

"These new-generation kids are looking for something different, which they can find here," said Nanthawat "Nut" Kaewla-mai, Black & White's manager.

But it's not just the new-wave designs that attract people to this hip hangout; the menu is loaded up with more than 70 European and Thai dishes – all for under 100 baht a piece.

One of the most popular dishes is the shrimp-crab-banana tempura with a sweet 'n' sour sauce (70 baht), said Khun Nut.

"We got the idea and recipe for the tempura from a friend who is a cook in Bangkok. I think we are the first restaurant to use this recipe in Phuket," he added.

"The tempura smells great when it's served right after it's been cooked," he said, explaining that the easy-to-prepare dish is crisp on the outside and soft on the inside; a formula that has won Black & White a loyal fanbase.

Also worth checking out is the fried-and-boiled-fish combo with dipping sauce (65 baht). There are two kinds of sauce: one

sour and one sweet. K. Nut said that the fish is a firm favorite with ladies watching their figures.

"We use a blend of herbs when preparing the boiled fish to give it some flavor and we only use a little oil with the fried fish, which makes it nice and crispy."

The fish dishes are mellow, with sauces that don't overpower the flavor of the fish as it melts in your mouth.

The shophouse restaurant has 16 large tables and complimentary iced water and hot tea are served with all meals. A free delivery service is available for customers who live in the area.

For a really cheap eat at Black & White, try the one-dish menu – a selection of more than 20 dishes priced between 30 and 50 baht each.

Other items on the menu include fried duck or shrimp with sweet 'n' sour dressing (65 baht), crunchy fried fish with spicy Thai herbs (40 baht), hot and spicy tuna salad (50 baht), shrimp cocktail (50 baht), and fish, beef, chicken and pork steaks.

With a tree shading the restaurant's forecourt, the eatery is great for lunch-time outings.


Putting all these dishes together is Black & White's chef Natchanan "Ann" Limsakul, who has worked as cook at Peach Hill Hotel in Kata.

*Black & White is located opposite the entrance to Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus, and is open from 8 am to 12 pm. For more information call 076-319420.*

## CHEAP eats

By Sompratch Saowakhon

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# Happily Ever After

## Recent weddings in Phuket



Silviu Savin and Raluca Gadei from Romania were married at Laguna Phuket's Chapel-on-the-Lagoon.

# All aboard the

Sakorn 'Tia' Boonyo and his four shipmates were the only all-Thai crew racing in the Six Senses Phuket Raceweek this year. Hot on the heels of an exciting four days of action on the water, Khun Tia and the crew spoke to *Gazette* reporter **Pathomporn Kaenkrachang** about life on *Ooh La La*.

It's pink, 23 feet long and for four days it was zipping around the coast at Chalong Bay. A distant cousin of the Loch Ness monster it ain't; *Ooh La La* was one of the 44 boats that raced in Phuket Raceweek from July 24 to 27.

While Aussies, Brits, Kiwis and all manner of other foreigners have traditionally taken center stage at Raceweek over the years, the crew of *Ooh La*



*La* were out to prove a point – Thai style – being the only all-Thai crew to enter this year's regatta.

The skipper of the boat, 31-year-old Sakorn "Tia" Boonyo, a native of landlocked Korat, has lived in Phuket half his life and was making his debut as captain of a vessel in a regatta.

Ong-art "Tam" Keawwantha was in charge of the foredeck, while the three deckhands, Suparp Wongwassana, Somporn "Porn" Pucharah and "Bang Buab" also played their part.

*Ooh La La*, a Hood 23 keelboat, raced in the Club Charter class, taking on experienced skippers, including Andrew de Bruin on *Awatea* and Horst "That's the way I..." Lakits on *Big A*. At the end of the regatta, *Ooh La La* finished in a respectable sixth place.

"The racing was good on the first day. We were all very excited and did well. We could not finish on the second day because of the strong winds, which meant that we ran over the allotted time.

"On the third day the conditions were very good and I was happy with how we performed. On the final day we took it easy and took advantage of our handicap," said Khun Tia.

"We showed what we can achieve in this event and we can take this experience and apply it

to our everyday lives. The minute you are on a boat, you have so many problems to solve and you have people's lives to look after," he added.

K. Tia is an old hand when it comes to sailing, first setting foot on a boat when he was 11 years old under the watchful eye of veteran sailor Nick Band, who taught the young seafarer the tricks of the trade.

K. Tia, who has raced in regattas in Singapore, Malaysia, Koh Samui and Hua Hin, gained enough experience over the years until he felt he was ready to skipper his own vessel.

Working hard and paying his dues, K. Tia has been involved in every King's Cup Regatta and several Phuket Raceweek regattas to date.

He now owns two boats: a new Hobie catamaran, which he may race in the Hua Hin Regatta at the end of this month, and *Ooh La La*.

Being small and agile, an all-Thai crew has a few advantages over its foreign counterparts, but the lack of experience of K. Tia's men put the pressure on the captain to get his boys through each race.

One of the obstacles K. Tia and his crew had to overcome was finding the funds to ensure the boat would be raced in the regatta. Each crew member has a job and therefore was unable

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# Ooh La La



**TEAM LA LA:** From left, Suparp, Tam, Bung Buab and Porn enjoy life on the water during the first day of this year's Six Senses Phuket Raceweek. Sakorn 'Tia' Boonyo (inset) was the skipper of the crew.

to spend much time on the boat before the event.

"For me, my work is to take tourists out on a boat. I also spend a lot of time fixing and cleaning it," said K. Tia.

With K. Tia at the helm, the five-man crew was made up of enthusiastic, albeit mostly inexperienced, sailors. K. Tia had to bring his men up to speed in two weeks before racing began.

By day, Khun Tam is a painter at Rawai Art Gallery. This year he has been part of a crew taking part in Ao Chalong Yacht Club regattas.

K. Tam and K. Tia, friends now for two years, were brought together by their love of all things nautical. K. Tam said that he dreams of saving up enough money to buy his own boat and sail around the world, adding that he prefers drifting around the open sea rather than tearing across the waves in regattas.

K. Tia and K. Porn are buddies from their time in Krabi together, having known each other for more than a decade. K. Porn spends most of his time taking care of his business, Sea Cliff-S Rock Climbing shop in Krabi.

Quenching his thirst for new life experiences, K. Suparp offered to join the crew even

though he had never raced before.

K. Suparp, who spends most of his time working as a guitarist at events around the island, said that it was a real buzz to be given the chance to race in a regatta.

Over the four short days of the regatta, K. Suparp learned a great deal about sailing and was elated to be out on the water for such a long time, he said.

Fisherman and Rawai native Bang Buab is a long-time friend of K. Tia. Although he had never taken part in a regatta, he said that it was his common sense that made him a valuable asset to the *Ooh La La* crew.

"I would like to get more Thai people into sailing," said K. Tia, adding that his lifelong ambition is to become a professional sailor.

K. Tia hopes to take the same crew with him to compete in the Hua Hin Regatta next month, but he is unsure whether this will happen given the short time the quintuplet have to train together.

While K. Tia and K. Tam will carry on sailing, the other three said that they would be up for the challenge if called upon, but ultimately sailing is only a passing interest for them.

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# This week



**ALL HANDS ON DECK:** The Laguna Phuket Social Committee, a team of management and staff volunteers, led by Niyom Tassaneetipakorn, Senior Assistant Vice President – Corporate Affairs and Community Relations, Laguna Resorts & Hotels Plc (3<sup>rd</sup> from left), and Prasert Boonchu, Hotel Manager, Allamanda Laguna Phuket (4<sup>th</sup> from right), take part in a Big Cleaning Day at Baan Klongsai School in Phang Nga as part of its ongoing community-service program.



**BOXING BREAK:** Cheraim Spa's Japanese Guest Service Agent Miho Katsumi (right), Spa Manager Panjaporn Limpanavisit (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and Sales Executive Natthinee Namsuriya (left) welcome Strawweight world boxing challenger Junichi Ebisuoka (3<sup>rd</sup> from right) and his brother at the Spa Village on their recent visit.



**PASSING THE TORCH (above):** The new Rotary Club of Patong President Michael Massey (3<sup>rd</sup> from right), along with members of the club, poses at the Installation of President Club Committee Member ceremony held at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, in Patong, on July 12.


**SPLASH OF COLOR (right):** Australian artist Zoe Young joins guests Jim and Karen Mullin at the opening of her exhibition 'Phuket... the colourful island' on July 17 at The Boathouse in Kata.



**SPIN WIN:** Sportathlon (Thailand) held the "2008 The Ultimate Star Trac Fitness Party" on July 5 at the Millennium Resort. Mark Elliott Buchanan (center), Managing Director of Sportathlon (Thailand), and Renald Cox (right), Business Development Manager of Star Trac Fitness, present a 60,000-baht spinning bike to Panom Pruekphuet (left), Manager of Patong Scuba & Tour and winner of the event's lucky draw prize.



**NEW VILLA FIESTA:** General Manager Peter Komposch (center, in suit) celebrated the soft opening of Dusit Thani Pool Villas on July 15 with a longdrum procession accompanied by Lucky (center, with trunk). Staff also welcomed the pool villas' first guests, the Ismails from Kuwait, with a cocktail party.




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**Y**ou know those days when you wake up late, rush to eat breakfast and end up running to catch the bus to school? You have a math test in the morning, you struggle through the rest of the day and then, finally, you're back home.

But wait, there's more. You have homework to do and... you know the rest. Cheer up. After reading about school life in another country, I think we have it easy here in Thailand.

I'm talking about Japanese schools. Two months ago I became obsessed with all things Japanese. Maybe it's because I love reading Manga or maybe it's the cute language and the traditional dress. I find Japanese customs interesting and funny to learn. That was why I started thinking about a Japanese exchange so that I could go and study there, so I looked for some information about Japanese schools.

After digging up some info, my enthusiasm started to waiver and my smile slowly disappeared with every word I read.

By the time Japanese children have finished elementary school, they already know half of the Japanese alphabet. Don't laugh. There are about 2,000 characters in all. They are called *kanji* and are similar to the symbols the Chinese use.

Japanese also uses nearly 100 phonetic characters – *kana*.

# Just be happy you don't go to school in Japan

The Japanese system of writing is regarded as one of the most complicated in the world.

Books and newspapers are written vertically, from top to bottom, starting at the right-hand side of the page. Maths and science are written horizontally, from left to right. What a headache.

Most Japanese students go to school on Saturday mornings as well as week days, making a total of 210 days a year spent in class. Students also spend an additional 30 days doing school activities, such as field trips and sports days. In Thailand and Italy, most students spend about 180 days in school, including days spent doing activities.

Japanese students are taught music in primary school and they even learn how to read music, such as Bach and Brahms, and to play it on one or two instruments. In Thailand, you can



join the school orchestra and then maybe you'll have the chance to compete with other schools in competitions.

In Japan, children take their own lunch to school. Classrooms are converted to lunchrooms at break because most schools don't

have cafeterias. Students are expected to keep their classrooms and hallways clean. In Thailand, each school has a large area where students can buy their lunch. Thai students also have to clean their classrooms. In Italy, students have a snack in the morning, but usually go home for lunch.

The time a Japanese student is in class is only half the story. There is a lot more studying to be done outside of regular schooling. The *juku* is a special private school for afternoons, evenings and weekends. Some students even go to a *juku* before regular school begins. In Thailand, there is a similar system in the form of tutoring or extra study lessons if we don't understand a subject.

In Italy, you have to study by yourself. If you don't understand something, you ask your friends or a teacher to go over it with you, but mostly it's up to you.

Why do Japanese students work so hard? The main reason is that their future careers will depend on them going to university and the students who go to the best universities normally get the best jobs. Competition for places at the top universities is fierce.

When high school students have exams coming, they stay up late. There is a Japanese saying that goes, "Sleep four hours, pass, sleep five hours, fail."

Once students are at university, they do not have to work nearly as hard as in high school. The reputation of their university is often enough to give them a bright future.

University exams are still important, though. A student's mother will often take an active role in helping her child study, taking on the role of a *kyoiku mama* (education mother) to help with homework and give tests. If a child is too sick to go to school, the mother may go instead and take notes.

This isn't the case in Italy, where students study constantly, but strike a balance between work and relaxation.

Thailand's system is similar to Japan's, but less stressful. The competition for university places in Japan is too much. *Seppuku* is a ritual suicide traditionally performed by samurai as part of their honor code. I hope Japanese students don't think that they would rather die than fail their exams.

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Coloring and glossing lips is a 5,000-year-old fashion, which is still very much alive and perpetuated by modern models and movies.

Babylonians crushed semi-precious stones to smear on their lips as one of the first known lipsticks. Egyptians are said to have used henna and the purple-reds of iodine and bromine, adding fish scales for shimmer. The poisons in bromine gave rise to the phrase "kiss of death".

Cleopatra's red lip pigment was made from crushed carmine beetles mixed with ant's eggs.

England's Queen Elizabeth I embraced the fashion of blood-red lips on chalk-white faces, as did the men of those days. Their lipstick was made from beeswax and plant extracts, but then in 1653, pastor Thomas Hall led a movement proclaiming that painting of faces was the "devil's work".

Lipstick was outlawed in England in the 1770s for its alluring qualities. Women who wore it were accused of seducing men into marriage. Some were even tried as witches.

Queen Victoria was not amused with lipstick either, but by the 1900s, bold lips were all over Europe, boosted by their appearance in the burgeoning film industry with Hazel Bishop introducing kiss-proof lipstick and Max Factor creating its first lip gloss in the 1930s.

Fast forwarding to the present, sparkling, wet-sheen lip gloss over subdued lipstick of natural tones is the current trend being fleshed



out by make-up moguls. Let's take a look at what's on offer:

MAC Heatherette's Lipglass, traditionally in hot pink, offers a shiny gloss for the day and a sparkling gloss for evenings priced at around 750 baht. Others in the collection include soft mid-tone coral, fuchsia pink and pastel pink.

Oriflame! Promises "kissy lips" with two shades of MAXI Lip Gloss, which also moisturize and plump up the lips for 279 baht.

Red Earth's High Shine Lip Plumping Gloss and Ultra Glazed Lip Gloss will give lips

a glow and keep them moist for about 500 baht. Red Earth also does a bright Hollywood Shine with vanilla fragrance.

Lancôme has launched a nine-fruit-color range of lip glosses called Juicy Tube Tunes that taste like the fruits they imitate, including Disco Melon, Strawberry Funk, Marshmallow Electro and Mulberry Blues.

The Body Shop also has a line of ultra-shiny, sheer tinted, wet-look lip glosses that offer "intense moisturization and conditioning for the lips", each subtly scented with a passion fruit fragrance.

# SUPER SHINY

## MAKE YOUR OWN LIP GLOSS

It's safe to assume that some of the commercial lip gloss products listed here may be made of the kind of ingredients you'd rather not know about, especially considering they are going on lips.

Without going into the gory details of animal byproducts and petrochemicals and artificial colors made from oxides and dioxides, there are gentler, more natural alternative ways to gloss up the lips. Those who are fans of the Body Shop's anti-animal testing stance and the natural ingredients it uses will probably enjoy having a go at making all-natural lip gloss at home.

To make the gloss, use a cosmetic-grade oil that is a liquid at room temperature and another oil that is solid at room temperature. The blend should have more of the liquid oil than the solid oil.

Cosmetic-grade oils at room temperature include evening primrose, sweet almond, jojoba, apricot kernel, avocado, grapeseed, rosehip seed, hemp seed, macadamia, olive or sunflower. Choose one of these to make up about 40% of the homemade gloss mixture.

Using heat, mix the liquid oil with an oil that is solid at room temperature, such as coconut, soy butter, coffee butter, lanolin, palm, mango butter or African shea butter. This will make up about 25% of the blend.

Also add a wax to make up another 20% of the mixture, such as cosmetic-grade beeswax, hemp wax or candelilla wax. The remaining 15% of the base ingredients should be a cosmetic-grade oil that is brittle at room temperature, such as cocoa butter or palm kernel oil.

Melt them together and add color such as food coloring or, to keep it 100% natural, try a natural pigment extracted from flowers or berries. There are many kinds out there offering a surprisingly wide range of tones and colors.

For **orange** tones use turmeric or saffron leaves. **Pink** can be achieved with strawberries, cherries, raspberries and rose petals. Adding a little mint and lemon juice to these pigments activates the alkaloids in them to make a brilliant pink. For a fuller **red**, the easiest obtainable natural ingredient in this region is hibiscus flower extract, or add red cabbage or mulberry extract for a deeper **purple**.

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They came, they sailed, they partied. This year's Phuket Raceweek attracted a record fleet of 45 yachts. As always, the crews partied as hard as they sailed. Ratri Jazztaurant and Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa were the venues. Evason's Executive Chef Justin Maikhem did a fantastic job of providing spectacular spreads of delicious Thai and international dishes for the feeding frenzies.

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# It's 'shop 'til you drop' in Malaysia's Mega Sale

By Able Wanamakok

Looking back on my recent trip to Malaysia, I realize how much more of the world I need to see. I've always thought of myself as a savvy traveler – having lived in four different countries and spending considerable time in each of them – but my quick trip to Malaysia showed me that there is so much to see in a single country.

Cultural and historical sight-seeing aside – of which there is plenty to experience in Malaysia – I was there to do what most tourists do there: shop.

So my first stop was Kuala Lumpur to attend the opening of the country's Mega Sale Carnival 2008, which is being held until the end of September.

The mega sale is a way of attracting international shoppers with discounts offered at shopping outlets nationwide on a wide range of products.

The city has a love affair with shopping malls. They are in abundance and shoppers are treated to all kinds of interesting attractions.

To name just a few, there are 1 Utama, Berjaya Times Square, The Gardens, Mid Valley Mega Mall and the seven-story Pavilion Kuala Lumpur.

A large area of the 1 Utama is dedicated to outdoor-type activities. It has a huge sports zone, which includes Asia's largest indoor climbing wall, a 36-lane bowling alley, arcade, karaoke center and softball park.

A trend that is only just beginning to take shape in Phuket, or anywhere in Thailand for that matter, is a resort attached to a mall. In this case, it's the 540-hectare A'Famosa Resort, where you



**ON YER BIKE:** Malaysia has something for everyone, with great food, rich culture and oodles of shopping. The transport's nifty, too.

can chill out for a few nights with a mall nearby and an animal safari.

Adding to the adventurous theme of the resort is the A'Famosa Water World with seven water slides and a wave pool.

After the sun has gone down, there is Cowboy Town with 4D movie theaters and discos. The safari theme also ex-

tends here with petting zoos.

For less of the modern and a little more of the historical, China Town offers a more subdued experience and a chance to pig out on some great food.

At the Royal Selangor Visitor Center, you can learn all about pewter making and a heritage that dates back to 1885, when Royal Selangor founder Yong Koon first

arrived in Malaysia (then known as Malaya) from China.

He built his empire and produced high-quality pewter to sell around the world.

For foodies on a historical mission, I recommend a trip to the famous Restoran Ole Sayang in Melaka City. As soon as you enter the restaurant you are bombarded by images of the owner's ancestors, with paintings adorning the walls.

The food is a fusion of Chinese and Malay called *Nyonya* cuisine, which comes from when the first Chinese settlers at Mal-

acca formed a hybrid community with the locals. *Nyonya* is unique for its dazzling spices. The hybrid food tastes and smells great.

It's nice to travel a short distance to experience a variety of attractions and Malaysia has every angle covered, from shopping to eating out, with a splash of history for good measure.

Whether you're a solo traveler, a couple or a whole family, Malaysia has a lot to offer and it's easy to reach from Phuket, with airlines such as Air Asia and Malaysia Airlines offering regular flights from Phuket.



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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**August 3. PC Group Therapy – Patong.**

Is your Internet connection driving you nuts? Ready to throw your PC out the, uh, window? Need advice on where to buy a computer, or get one repaired? Join *For Dummies* author Woody Leonhard for his weekly Group Therapy sessions from 10 am to midday. They're free.

Novices most welcome – no experience necessary. Bring your questions, bring your computer, bring your mother-in-law and your worry beads, and let's see if we can sort things out.

From 10 am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Patong. For directions see the website. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.

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

**August 10. PC Group Therapy – Laguna.**

From 10 am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Laguna.

**August 12. HM The Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday).**

HM The Queen's Birthday is also marked as Mother's Day in Thailand.

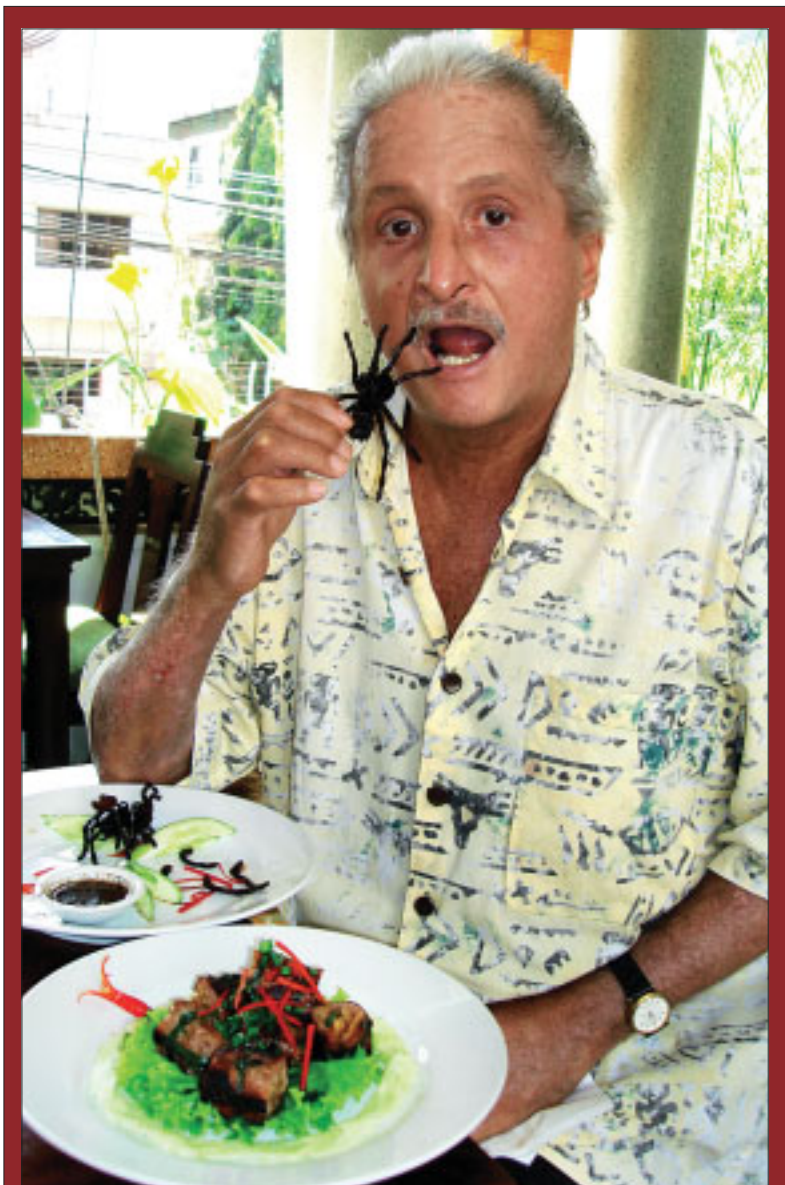
**August 22-September 26. Muhammad Rojana-Udomsat Exhibition.**

August 22 sees the opening of an exhibition by Muhammad Rojana-Udomsat, a famous Thai painter with a 28-year painting career. His works have been shown in Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, China, Taiwan and Indonesia. The exhibition at Art Rendezvous Gallery in Phuket City will remain open until 26 September.

Contact Patrick Bois for details. Tel: 076-219095. Email: art.rdv@gmail.com Website: www.art-rendezvous-gallery.com

**September 13. SDF Tails at Twilight Annual Fundraising Bone a Fit.**

The Soi Dog Foundation will hold its annual fundraiser "Tails at Twilight Annual Fundraising Bone A Fit" on September 13 at the Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa.



**EVERYTHING BUT DIET:** Writer Frank Visakay will be on hand at Mom Tri's Boathouse to talk about how to take your own writing to the next level.

**Boathouse Writers' Night with Frank Visakay, August 13.**

In a change from the previously advertised Writers' Night, Frank Visakay, not Jim Newport, will give a presentation titled "How to Become a Published Author". He will talk about such subjects such as the first sentence, writer's block, what sells and why, obtaining an agent, and how to write a best-seller.

Frank Visakay is a writer whose credits include the travel guide *Adventure Cambodia*, the Thailand-based novel *Everything But Die* and his recently published memoirs *Jasmine Fever*, *Confessions of a Jaded Expat*.

After traveling around the world twice, Frank has called Phuket his home for the past 10 years and now lives with his faithful companion, Look Chai, a German Shepherd in Rawai. The show starts at 7 pm

For more information contact Lisa Sol. Tel: 076-330015. Email: pr@boathousephuket.com Website: www.boathousephuket.com

It will be a private beach party extravaganza with raffles, auctions and a prize draw.

The ticket price of 2,000 baht includes a buffet dinner, free-flow beer and wine, non-stop entertainment, and lots of fun at the beautiful venue.

For tickets contact Cristy. Tel: 085-4734636. Email: cristy@soidog-foundation.org Website: www.soidog-foundation.org

**September 16. Punchline Comedy Club Live Stand-Up Comedy.**

The Punchline Comedy Club, in association with the London Comedy Store, returns to Phuket for a night of international stand-up comedy. More details will be released soon. Expect a madcap night of laughs.

**September 29-October 7. Phuket Vegetarian Festival.**

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

Though the origins of the festival are unclear, it celebrates the Chinese community's belief that a strict vegetarian diet will purify mind and body and constitute merit-making.

Sacred rituals are performed at all Chinese temples in Phuket. The processions from each temple show spectacles of strict vegetarians, known as devotees, ostensibly possessed by gods, piercing their tongues, cheeks and other parts of the anatomy with sharp implements. The devotees apparently feel no pain and show no sign of real injury.

**October 23. Chulalongkorn Day (Public Holiday)**

Chulalongkorn Day commemorates the reign of Rama V, who is best remembered for abolishing slavery in Thailand.

**November 19-22. Phuket International Sportfishing Tournament 2008.**

Registration at Captain Hook on November 19, from 6 pm. Fishing days are November 20, 21 and 22, starting at 8 am.

Free food and beer for all anglers. For more information, contact Uwe Schitteck. Tel: 081-719 5766. Email: uweschitteck@yahoo.com

**November 29. Phuket International Women's Club Annual Ball.**

The Phuket International Women's Club Annual Ball will be held at The Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort and Spa. This year's theme is "Diamonds are Forever".

This is the main fundraising event for the PIWC Scholarship program.

PIWC has helped more than 550 students and young people to receive an education.

Further details to be announced via the *Gazette* soon.

For more information contact Sue Arnulphy. Tel: 087-2776948. Email: arnulphy@loxinfo.co.th

**December 5. HM The King's Birthday (Public Holiday).**

HM The King's Birthday. Also marked as Fathers' Day in Thailand.

**December 7. 2008 Laguna Phuket Triathlon.**

Southeast Asia's premier multi-sport event, the Laguna Phuket Triathlon, presented by Thai Airways International, the Tourism Authority of Thailand and Herbalife, is now in its 15th year.

The 1.8km swim, 55km bike ride and 12km run offers a US\$20,000 pro prize purse.

The event expects to attract some 800 athletes from more than 30 countries competing in both the individual triathlon and the Herbalife Corporate Challenge Team Relay.

A 6km fun run for 500 participants will also take place.

For further information call 076-324060 or visit www.laguna-phukettriathlon.com

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The suspension of all services by One-Two-Go, Thailand's first low-cost carrier, from July 22 to September 17, is a hiccup for Phuket coming as it does in the low season, but it also sends some worrying signals about the short-term future of airline services to Phuket as the industry copes with high fuel prices.

Of the three Thailand-based low-cost carriers (LCCs) servicing Phuket, One-Two-Go was perhaps, predictably, the first of the three local carriers to feel the full impact of the fuel crisis.

The crash at Phuket International Airport in September last year and subsequent negative publicity over safety issues, coupled with high fuel costs, have not helped its chances of maintaining the same services as before.

Now adding to the airline's woes is the 30-day suspension of One-Two-Go's services imposed by the Thai authorities due to alleged safety infractions.

It appears One-Two-Go and its parent Orient Thai are the only two Thai airlines under suspension. One-Two-Go's owners have vowed to keep flying. The outcome of this issue and its effect on the airline and, consequently, Phuket remains to be seen.

The current fuel crisis buffeting aviation is also hurting low-cost carriers Nok Air and Thai Air Asia. Nok Air has been under its own cloud recently, having to consider cutbacks in the struggle to continue operating. Nok air cancelled its Phuket services from August 1, but otherwise, so far, it is staying aloft.

Thai Air Asia is a more robust carrier than One-Two-Go and Nok Air in terms of its route structure. It also has more international services than the other two. Thai Air Asia has, however, also been forced to restructure schedules due to rising fuel prices.



One-Two-Go is gone. Partly that was because of problems with its safety record, but the airline was also facing the same challenges affecting all airlines and, indeed, all transport: soaring world oil prices.

The current fuel situation facing One-Two-Go and, to a lesser degree, Nok Air and Thai Air Asia, is common in the low-cost carrier environment.

Ryanair, like One-Two-Go, was a pioneer and the first LCC in Europe.

It has a wide route network throughout Britain and Continental Europe. Yet it, too, is being forced to cut routes and close terminals in Europe because of high fuel costs. Others are ex-

pected to follow. Jetstar, the Qantas long-haul LCC, canceled its Phuket-Singapore route a few months ago.

There are severe pressures put on airlines facing high fuel prices, especially low-cost carriers. First, jet fuel costs a great deal more than ordinary fuel for land vehicles because it is highly refined.

Second, the low-cost model is based on providing a service at the least possible cost. Margins for airline carriers are extremely thin and LCCs especially so.

Third, few LCCs hedge their fuel bills ahead to meet contingencies like this current spike in prices. It only takes a major operating disaster, such as abnormally high fuel prices, to knock all profitable equations off the balance sheet.

In Asia, LCCs face greater hurdles in maintaining good profitability than their counterparts in Europe. The business model was slower to take off in Asia because of concerns including the availability of lower-priced secondary airports and the greater distances the carriers would have to fly on a point-to-point (airport-to-airport) basis.

But once carriers like One-Two-Go led the way, others were quick to follow. Consequently,

there has been rapid growth – and some failures – in Asia already. More airlines are expected to join. The number of LCCs has grown rapidly to comprise around 25% of the world's aviation, but they are simply hitting a wall of high costs.

So what will be the long-term effect of the fuel prices on Phuket? Well, local tourism authorities and the hospitality industry in particular are doubly concerned since there is no immediate end in sight to the high fuel prices burdening airlines, particularly LCCs.

Three specific concerns are: What airline capacity will be available to service the island when the high season hits?

How can the local tourism industry plan ahead if more carriers suspend or stop services? And will the same number of charter flights, which increasingly take up slots at Phuket International Airport, come this year?

This last factor must be closely watched. Charter flights generally travel long routes to Phuket, from points in Scandinavia and Russia.

The global recession also affects these regions and charter operators will have to take fuel costs into account to develop financially viable packages to Phuket, although Russia may be

protected by its oil wealth.

The consequences of the other factors will be determined by the decisions made by the airlines themselves over the coming months.

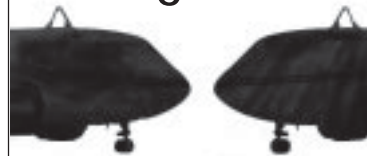
These decisions will in turn depend on the cost of fuel and the strength of the airlines' business models to withstand the hard knocks that the aviation industry seems to have endured in rapid succession over the last few years – all of them having a knock-on effect on tourism and destinations such as Phuket.

Thai aviation authorities are also becoming tougher on safety issues, affecting all airlines servicing the mainland and Phuket.

It is not all bad news. Some 300 Japanese tourists arrived from Narita, Japan, on a Thai Airways Boeing 777-200 in July. It was the first flight of the resumed Narita-Phuket route since the service was suspended after the 2004 tsunami.

This positive sign merely underlines the fact that Phuket remains a premier tourist destination built almost entirely around the aviation industry.

## Talking Planes



by  
Alastair Carthew

*Alastair Carthew is a former journalist in the UK, Australia and New Zealand with more than a decade's experience working in aviation corporate affairs in Asia-Pacific. He now resides in Phuket and can be by email to: [alastaircarthew@gmail.com](mailto:alastaircarthew@gmail.com)*

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## In The Stars

by Isla Star

# Get set to find your lost love, Leo

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): If your birthday is this week, the year ahead should bring joy in personal relationships. Many Leos will be reunited with a long-lost loved ones – whatever your situation, commitment is in the air. Work will demand more flexibility, but monetary rewards are strongly highlighted. Friends appreciate your talent for spotting bargains this week. The number 9 is lucky on Monday.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Another earth sign would like to know what makes you tick. If you have just emerged from a troubled relationship, guard against becoming involved again too soon. The same applies to business affairs. The stars suggest that an enticing offer made mid-week is too good to be true. Wearing the colors coffee and cream encourage insight.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Your lethargic mood this weekend is likely to irritate a partner who plans on making up for lost social time. Laid-back Librans should compromise in order to avoid an argument.

Money begins to flow and this should continue until mid-month. Investments involving overseas property are well starred. The scent of amber can encourage a steady balance of energy.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Your outlook for August is positive, but the coming week could bring work-related problems. If you find it difficult not to voice your opinion, remember that silence is sometimes golden. Romance with Pisces appears to have more chance of success than a relationship with Gemini. Sunday is best for a family get-together; your entertainment skills will be enjoyed by all.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Sagittarians still searching for their soul mate will be heartened by a meeting this weekend. The other person concerned will be impressed by your sensitive approach. At work, the air is clear for talks of promotion and you could soon find yourself in a higher position. Thursday is best for reminding someone of a debt; if you ignore this situation for

much longer, it will be too late.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): An out-of-the-blue invitation to travel catches you by surprise this week. It should be able to juggle responsibilities in order to get away and a change of scenery will brighten your outlook. Absence could also make someone's heart grow fonder where romance is concerned. Your bank balance needs careful monitoring until the middle of the month. Wear the color peach to encourage inner harmony.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Building castles in the air can be your favorite occupation, but try to maintain a realistic outlook during August. A new partner appears set on trying to change you and those who are blinded by love may miss the warning signs. If you're already in a committed relationship, your partner comes up with surprising ideas for socializing. The number 3 can be lucky this weekend.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Those of you who are be-

ginning to tire of the monotony of work receive inspiration for change this week. August will bring lifestyle alterations, one of which will involve a personal relationship. Cupid is about to shoot an arrow in your direction and mutual attraction with another water sign could lead to an interesting date. Wearing electric blue can help to spark off more energy.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Better progress can be made at work by sowing seeds and waiting more patiently for results. Impatient Arians will have nothing to gain by forcing events to take place. Sagittarius would like to get to know you more intimately. Tuesday is best for putting personal finances in order. Wear ice blue to encourage a cooler attitude.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Your instincts are diamond sharp during August and you should be the first to take advantage of a business opportunity. Money matters are highlighted positively this weekend, but close relationships are likely to be affected by misunder-

standings. You are advised to be more open and honest about your hopes and desires. Wear ruby red to exude warmth.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Your enjoyment of the social scene could be compromised when Aries tries to steal your limelight this weekend. Spending time at home with close friends is certain to bring more satisfaction. Work becomes more challenging when you are given new responsibilities, but this could lead to friction with jealous colleagues. Keep your enthusiasm low to avoid stirring the pot. The number 7 can be lucky on Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Having slashed some unnecessary outgoings last month, you could find yourself with money to burn in August. Treat yourself; next Tuesday is the most auspicious day for a productive shopping expedition. Romance begins to brew when a persistent Pisces tempts you out of your shell this weekend. Incorporating mandarin orange and lime green into your home will stimulate your creativity.



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ANDAMAN SEA



## ON THE MOVE

Phuket native **Panjama Leamsuwan** has been appointed Director of Sales and Marketing of Outrigger Hotels (Thailand). In her new position, Khun Panjama is responsible for Outrigger Hotels in Thailand, West Sands Outrigger Resort Phuket and Outrigger Serenity Terraces Resort, which will open early 2009 in Rawai. She has previously worked as Director of Sales and Marketing for Alila Hotels, as well as for three years at the Trisara Hotel Phuket. She has held key sales and marketing positions at the Layan Beach Resort, Laguna Resorts & Hotels and the Diamond Cliff Resort & Spa. K. Panjama holds a master of arts degree with a major in public relations from Chulalongkorn University and a master of economics degree from the University of Sydney.



**Michael Boele** from Germany was recently appointed General Manager of The Paradise Koh Yao. Mr Boele began working in the hotel industry as a Food and Beverage Executive, with subsequent senior management assignments in leading boutique-style properties while working for Abercrombie & Kent. He then moved to Switzerland to work for Klosters ski resort and onto France to work for Courchevel ski resort. As a Hotel Consultant and Corporate Chef for Saga Holidays, he traveled the world reviewing and improving the standards of contracted properties. Mr Boele then decided to relocate to Thailand, a country he has been familiar with for more than 20 years.



Songkhla native **Naruemon Pechruttanamunee** has been appointed Revenue Manager of Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket. Khun Naruemon graduated from the International Program with an MBA majoring in hospitality and tourism management from the faculty of service industries, Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus. Her experience includes working as Business Development Officer for Software Industry Promotion Agency (SIPA) Phuket and as Sales and Marketing Analyst for Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket. K. Naruemon has undertaken courses in Opera PMS Training by Micros-Fidelio Thailand and TRUST Voyager Hotel System Training.



# IMF raises its forecasts for world growth

The "global slowdown", as current economic conditions are often called, is still the strongest manifestation of this economic event in history. For example, in mid-July the International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced in its latest update to its *World Economic Outlook* that it was increasing its forecasts for global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2008 and 2009.

It edged up its estimates for US GDP growth in 2009 from 0.6% to 0.8%. The IMF, also forecast that the US housing market would hit bottom in the next few quarters. This, combined with an unpleasant second half of 2008 for the US, prescribes an outlook ranging from flat to "decline modestly" conditions.

The IMF also raised estimates for Euro Zone growth for 2008 to 1.7%, up from their earlier estimate of 1.4% GDP.

Despite all the negative sentiment about the UK economy, the IMF expects UK GDP to rise 1.8% this year and 1.7% in 2009. It previously forecast 1.6% for both years.

The IMF's Japan forecast should have been left unchanged. However, it was raised by 0.1%. A week later, the Japanese downgraded their estimate of growth for the current fiscal year (ending March 2009) by 0.7%.

The *Wall Street Journal* commented that the IMF's previous update in April drew criticism from US and Euro governments and even the World Bank. It is important that estimates of future data being provided by institutions such as the IMF are untainted by political pressure. Economic crystal balls are difficult enough to see through; the addition of politicians makes them opaque.

The IMF looks vulnerable. In its heyday it had a very important role to play as witnessed by its involvement in the 1997 Asian financial crisis.

From the IMF's standpoint, business has been awful for years. No countries have been walking into a liquidity crisis. Failed states such as Somalia and Zimbabwe are far beyond the ability of the IMF to rescue. The rest of the world has had little need for their services, especially when the future and relevance of the IMF keeps resurfacing sporadically in the financial media, which diminishes the fund's role.

However, presuming their forecasts are roughly accurate, and even though the Japanese government still expects 1.3% GDP growth, we are still looking at healthy global economic growth. The IMF predicts a 4.1% global GDP growth rate for 2008, up from a previous estimate of 3.7%. For 2009, estimations have been raised from 3.8% to 3.9%.

In general, the global economy is in very good shape. There are problems, such as inflation, energy prices and the credit crunch, but there is also good news indicative of global strength. Thai exports have reached a record high, up 27.4% over the past year. There are also strong signs of life in the corporate sector with the takeover of Anheuser-Busch, America's largest brewer, by Dutch brewery giant Inbev, a US\$50-billion-plus deal. Swiss pharmaceutical giant Roche is buying out the shares that it does not currently

own in US biotech group Genentech, a US\$44-billion deal.

Much smaller, and generally under the radar screen, have been several purchases of US companies by Russian groups on the acquisition trail. To date, the US government has been amicable to these Russian and other deals. A weak dollar, attractive business opportunities and foreign companies with deep pockets are finding good value in the US.

Growth in many major economies is at low levels and this is not conducive to creating inflation. Naturally, secondary price rises will continue due to invested input prices. However, many industries will find they are not in a position to pass on much of the cost increases they are suffering. The economic term for this is "lacking pricing power".

The global pie is growing and, while it may take some time for markets to settle, stock markets may surprise investors by reaching a bottom later this year. Bottoms in markets are difficult animals to judge. This is partly because of some investors having "short positions" to drive down prices, but they are followed by "short covering", whereby the stock sold "short" has to be bought back to create demand.

It is virtually impossible to tell the difference between a short covering rally and a recovery as they usually become a blend. The danger for investors is to be sucked into a "bear market rally" that fizzles out and turns rapidly downwards. There are still concerns that Wall Street analysts' opinions on corporate profits are too optimistic for the months to come.

Next week's article will show that investors could have stayed in the stock market and received a reasonable return. Eventually, it all comes down to the fund manager.

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



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By Richard G. Watson

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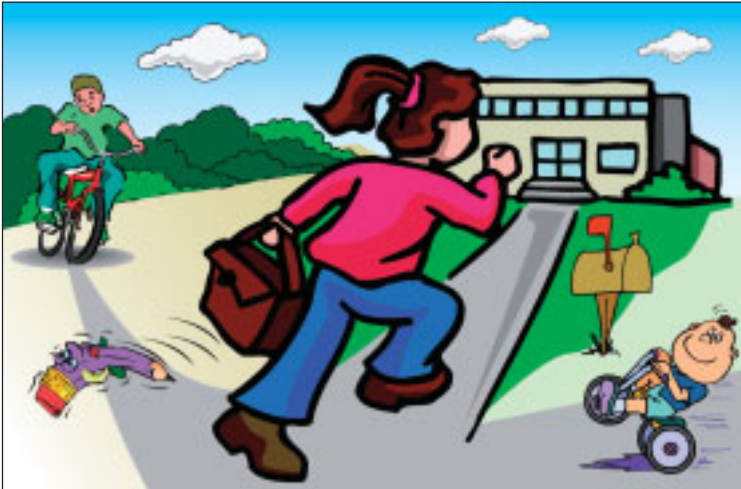


# Puzzles

## Spot the Difference



Can you find the seven differences between the two cartoons below? And can you find them faster than the rest of the family?



### su | do | ku

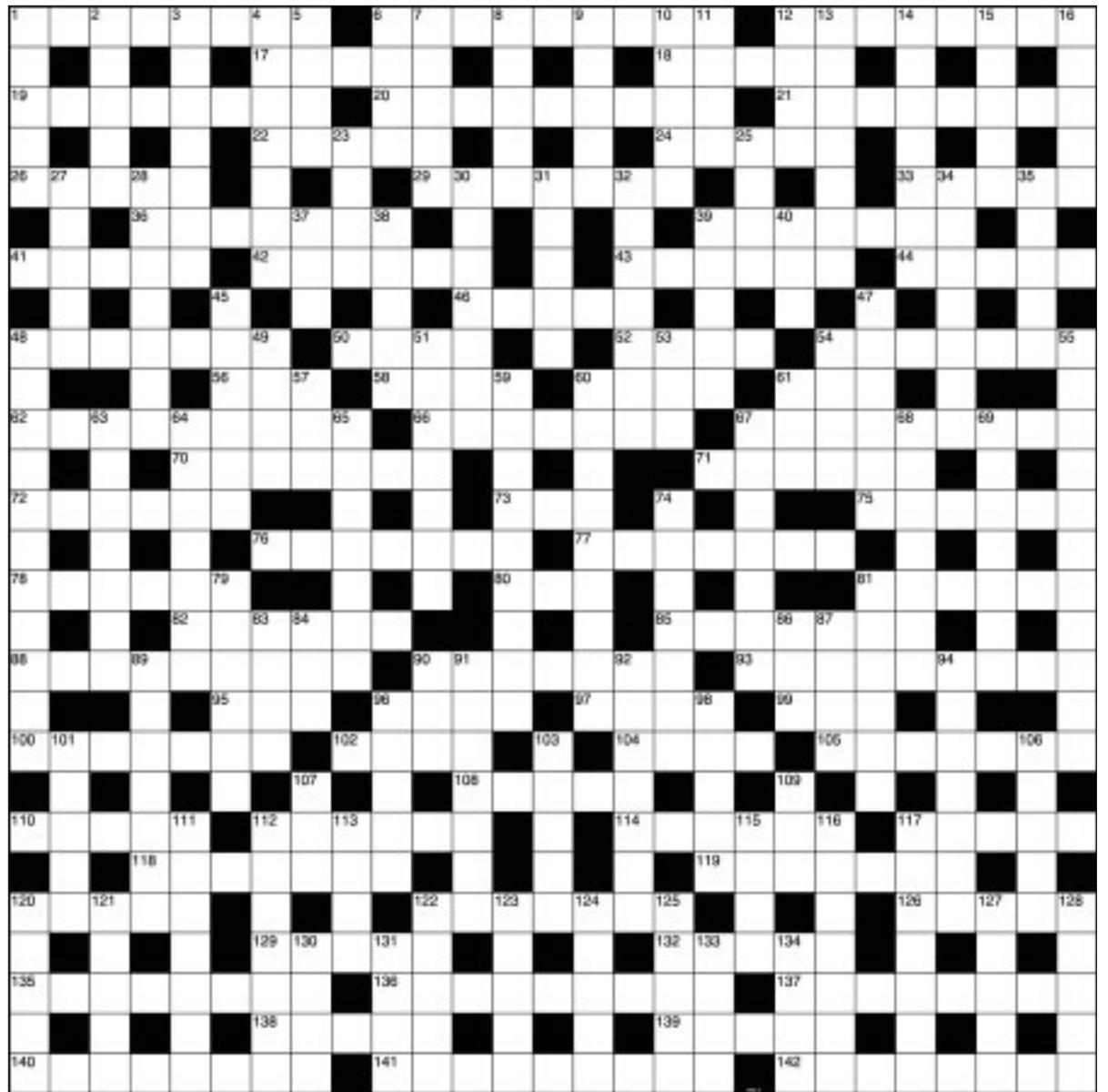
© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

The principle of 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. Guess if you will, but each Sudoku puzzle can be solved using logic alone. Beware: this puzzle has only one solution, which is on the next page.

# The BIG Crossword



© Lovatts Publications Pty Ltd

### Across

1. Intuition
6. Property holder
12. Jumping fences
17. Addictive practice
18. Dictum
19. Eavesdrop
20. Cast doubt upon
21. Cadgers
22. Bar seat
24. Minimum
26. Country bumpkin
29. Curtly
33. Fertile desert spot
36. Purifies
39. Wealthy
41. Command
42. Scented bag
43. Busted
44. Cold meal
46. Weighty
48. Musical beats
50. Arabian prince
52. Feel pain
54. Descriptive nickname
56. Orange seed
58. Holland's cheese
60. Obligation
61. Wine barrel
62. Butterfly pupa
66. Select group member
67. Holding back (growth)
70. Titillating material
71. Fast water scooter
72. Humble
73. Louse egg
75. Chaperone
76. Royal emblems
77. Gave (medal)
78. Magic potion
80. Fellows

81. US atomic test site, ...Atoll
82. Cowgirl, Annie...
85. Model of excellence
88. Throttled
90. Acrid
93. Meanest
95. Gallivant
96. Sharp twinge
97. Melee
99. Flavor enhancer
100. Porters
102. Upper limbs
104. Midge
105. Emotionally affected
108. Thin end of the...
110. Short spoofs
112. Asap
114. Ribbed
117. Gibberish, double...
118. Carve (initials)
119. Hankered
120. Positive pole
122. California's San...Fault
126. Measuring device
129. Type of chutney
132. Explorer, ...Polo
135. Fiendish
136. Arranges
137. Affluence
138. Calibrate again
139. Walkway between pews
140. Vacations
141. Heaters
142. Towards the margin

### Down

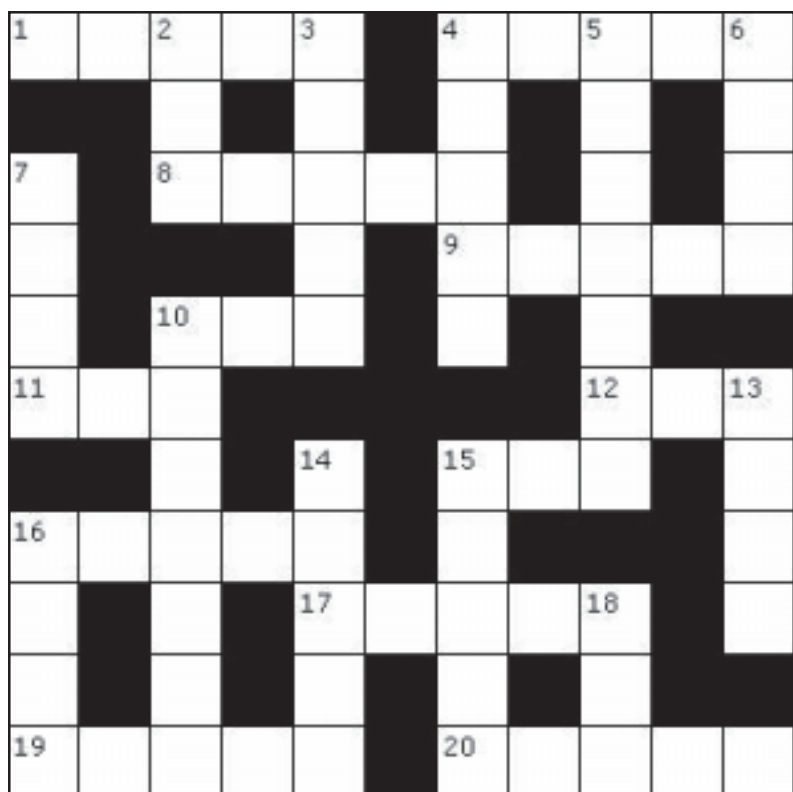
1. Piano key material
2. Tiny dot
3. Asthmatic's aid
4. Car frame
5. Sour

6. Swimming pool
7. At an angle
8. Interior decoration
9. In what place?
10. Charlotte, Anne &...Bronte
11. Gauge worth of
12. Boo &...
13. Countless
14. Australian wild dogs
15. Articles
16. Blasts of wind
23. Oil-exporting cartel
25. Go berserk, run...
27. Chat show hostess, ...Winfrey
28. Stiffly
30. Enchant
31. Throwing weapon
32. Tripoli natives
34. Changed suitably
35. Visual representation
37. ...King Cole
38. Guilt
39. Adult caterpillars
40. The Simpsons' neighbor, ...Flanders
45. Relate (information)
47. Clever, quick on the...
48. Rewarded
49. Missile chamber
51. In a perfect world
53. Trim
54. Devours
55. Miserly
57. Deep hole
59. Wrongly dubbing
60. Petroleum carrier
61. Animal doctor
63. Redder
64. Bout
65. Chose, ...out
67. Gives

68. Hazarding
69. Hero-worship
74. Thames palace, ...Court
79. Frayed
81. Small drums
83. Ku Klux...
84. Piloted
86. Bank cash dispenser
87. Heart (of matter)
89. Made fizzy
90. Actress, ...Ferris
91. Not bound by oath
92. W African republic
94. Incorporate
96. Susceptible
98. Later than expected
101. Relative, next...(2,3)
103. Snake, death...
106. Master of Ceremonies
107. Brassiere
109. Poetic term for field
111. Smiled derisively
112. First
113. Stove
115. Equipment
116. Wilted
117. Director, Cecil B...
120. Foolish
121. Entrails
122. Major artery
123. UAE sheikhdom, Abu...
124. Eject from home
125. Vilification, ...campaign
127. Fungal skin disease
128. Coral bars
130. Pub drinks
131. Viable project
133. In existing condition (2,2)
134. Composer, ...Porter

**Solution on next page**





## Quick Crossword

### Across

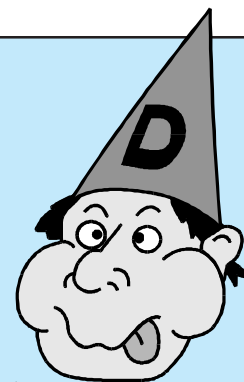
1. Sugary
4. Fake
8. Golden...
9. Brownish yellow
10. Serves alcohol
11. England's drink
12. Large bird
15. Boating implement
16. Write, Mark...
17. ...Springer
19. Comedian, Bill...
20. Bees make this

### Down

2. Adam's partner
3. Fierce cat
4. Snap
5. Risk-taker
6. Mark
7. Change eating habits
10. Islands
13. Not pretty
14. Have fun
15. Talkshow host
16. Powder
18. Japan's currency

*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 sport combines map reading with cross-country?          | 8. Which tourist attraction has Goat Island at its center?              | 15. What was Mel Gibson's controversial 1995 movie?                |
| 2. Who won this year's NBA playoffs?                            | 9. Who is Batman's alter-ego?   | 16. How many Formula One world championships did Ayrton Senna win? |
| 3. What military rank is James Bond?                            | 10. Who famously said, "The buck stops here"?                           | 17. Whose autobiography is called <i>Hello, I must be going</i> ?  |
| 4. What is Garfield's favorite food?                            | 11. Which letter is right of C on a qwerty keyboard?                    | 18. How many nations boycotted the Moscow Olympics?                |
| 5. From which fruit is the essential oil neroli obtained?       | 12. How many lawful wives may a Muslim have?                            | 19. Where would you find Café Del Mar?                             |
| 6. The name of which type of people means "eaters of raw meat"? | 13. How many strings does a Spanish guitar have?                        | 20. Who directed <i>Jurassic Park</i> ?                            |
| 7. What is the capital of Poland?                               | 14. Before managing England, which club did Sven-Goran Ericsson manage? |  |

*Answers below*

*The Monster Quiz is provided by John Aldous, Quiz Master at the Green Man Pub. He can be contacted at Southern Wholesale Meat, procurer of local and imported products. Email: info@swmeat.com*

# Puzzle Solutions

### Solution to this week's Quick crossword



### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Orienteering; 2. Boston Celtics; 3. Commander (Royal Navy); 4. Lasagna; 5. Orange; 6. Eskimos; (Inuit); 7. Warsaw; 8. Niagara Falls; 9. Bruce Wayne; 10. Harry S. Truman; 11. V; 12. 4; 13. 6; 14. Lazio; 15. *The Passion of the Christ*; 16. 3; 17. Groucho Marx; 18. 62; 19. Ibiza; 20. Steven Spielberg.

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

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

### Solution to this week's Cartoon Puzzle





# REVOLUTIONARY DRUDGE

There are times when you're reading a crappy novel and you get to a passage so bad that you toss the book aside. That moment came to me maybe a hundred pages into *Johnny One-Eye* (W.W. Norton & Company, New York, 2008, 479pp).

Author Jerome Charyn bills this turgid tome as "A Tale of the American Revolution". It stars George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Lafayette, Benedict Arnold, the Howe brothers and General Clinton. And Johnny One-Eye. Brought up in a New York brothel, educated at King's College, he accompanies Benedict Arnold on his unsuccessful invasion of Quebec, where he loses an eye to a British bayonet.

Back in New York, he is set upon at night by a pair of thugs, but who rides to his rescue on a white stallion? George Washington!

That's when I wanted to throw the book. But I had already invested several hours in it and, as a book reviewer, I was bound to finish what I started. So I trudged on grimly to the end, hoping that things would turn better, only to report: this is a crappy novel.

Johnny One-Eye thinks he's an orphan who grew up running errands for the nuns on Holy Ground, the hookers of the finest brothel on Robinson Street. But it turns out that his mother is really the



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

brothel's madam, the flame-haired Gertrude Jennings who reads Aristotle and Aeschylus but had started out as a tavern girl in New Jersey, where she had tended a sick and penniless veteran of the French and Indian War, but became pregnant and fled to New York, where she gave birth to Johnny One-Eye, whose father is none other than... George Washington!

George Washington loves Johnny. So does Lafayette and Benedict Arnold and British Admiral Richard "Black Dick" Howe. But for his pains, Johnny is thrown first into an American prison and then onto a British prison ship. He is beaten many times, bastinadoed and nearly hung as his loyalties are very cloudy between the two sides of the American Revolution.

His one steadfast love is for Clara, a tall, green-eyed, blond-haired octoroon, who fled an abusive father in Dominica to land lice-ridden at a New York port, where

she was taken up by Gertrude to rise as the star of her brothel.

As children, Johnny and Clara slept together and Johnny would spin fairy tales that entranced Clara. But she mostly ignores him now and he pines endlessly and at boring length over her.

There's rich historical material here, from the disaster of the Battle of Long Island to the triumph at Yorktown, but the author doesn't have the literary chops to make it work. Occasionally, he'll turn out a striking image such as this one of the *Eagle*, Admiral Howe's flagship on the East River:

"And then I caught Black Dick's man-of-war through the mist. It was a seabird, by God, with its own enormous tilted beak and wings of cloth, its gun decks like row upon row of hollowed eyes hung with feathers of smoke, feathers that didn't seem to fade. I could understand now why the admiral was so vulnerable from the sea, prone to folly."

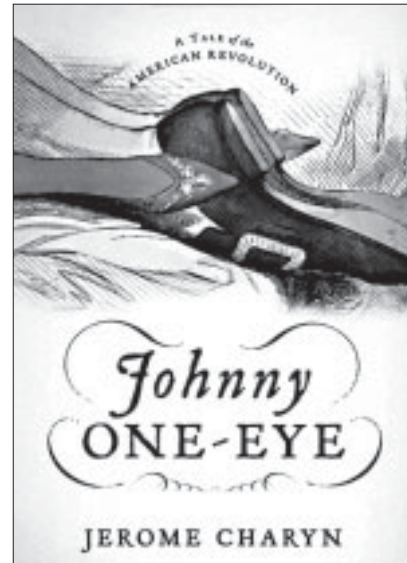
But mostly the prose is flat and even

a potentially thrilling climatic charge against a British fort in Yorktown led by Alexander Hamilton and Johnny One-Eye shows no flash or energy. The novel just plods on and on and I couldn't wait to finish the last

page and flip it away. At the end, Johnny and Clara are married and running a school for poor Negro children in New York.

Oddly, there is no list of the author's previous books in front of the book. But a Google search reveals that he is the author of 34 books of fiction and non-fiction and I realized that I had read one of them, *Metropolis*, an extravagant surrealist novel about New York, a fresh and original portrait that I thoroughly enjoyed.

Two of his novels have been named *New York Times* Book of the Year and Jerome Charyn has been 40 years in the game now, but his powers have certainly slackened. His one saving grace with *Johnny One-Eye* would be if it were a rip at an intentional B-grade spoof. If it were...



Years ago, while passing a bookstore, I noticed a small book with a title something like *Shakespeare's Famous Quotes*. It was a compilation of Shakespearean phrases that are common in today's vocabulary.

Needless to say, I forgot about it, but recently I saw *A Midsummer Night's Dream* again and was struck by the many everyday phrases that appear in Shakespeare's plays.

I have contacted numerous bookstores, high-school English departments and a Shakespearean group, but no-one I have spoken to can locate such a book.

Lydia Rodriguez de Marko  
Michigan

### Barbara replies:

I'll bet you're thinking of *Brush Up Your Shakespeare!* by Michael Macrone. Most of this book discusses famous phrases from Shakespeare, starting with "all the world's a stage" – which Macrone explains "was already a cliché when Shakespeare wrote" it, though of course its appearance in *As You Like It* is the reason we still remember the phrase – and ending with "the world's mine oyster."

In between comes a cavalcade of familiar expressions, including "the be-all and the end-all", "full circle", "to the manner born" (yes, the original is "manner," not "manor"), "one fell swoop", "the primrose path", "seen better days", "strange bedfellows" and "wild-goose chase".

Shakespeare also invented many words, and the book contains a short chapter about these. Anyone particularly curious

# Shakespeare's great gifts to everyday English language

Welcome to Word Court, where Barbara Wallraff unravels some of the mystery that shrouds the English language, debunking confusing usage and clearing away the clutter that prevents clear understanding – all by answering reader's questions.

about the bard's invented words, such as "bedazzle", "dauntless", "fashionable", "go-between", "outbreak", "pander" and "unearthly", might prefer *Coined by Shakespeare* by Jeffrey McQuain and Stanley Malless.

Anyone interested in upgrading his or her vocabulary of abuse – "O viper vile!" "Dilatory sloth!" "Unlick'd bear-whelp!" – will have fun with *Shakespeare's Insults* by Wayne F Hill and Cynthia J Ottchen.

I am wondering about the word "amongst". Is it a word? What's wrong with "among"?

Linda Marty Schmitz  
Waunakee, Wisconsin

### Barbara replies:

Nothing is wrong with it as far as I'm concerned. "Among" is the usual form of the word.

sounds old-fashioned – like "amidst" or "betwixt".

The 14<sup>th</sup>-century author Geoffrey Chaucer used "amongst"; so did the 16<sup>th</sup>-century author Christopher Marlowe. Shakespeare used it in his last will and testament.

So "amongst" has a lot of tradition behind it. I wouldn't suggest we try to get rid of it any more than I'd recommend throwing out any other decorative, centuries-old antiques.



Barbara Wallraff is a weekly syndicated columnist for *King Features* and a contributing editor and words columnist at *The Atlantic Monthly*, where she has worked since 1983.

  
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## Clear communication v1.0

In October, representatives from Phuket businesses and local government offices will be manning 69 booths at one of the biggest annual international expos in the world – the 5th China-Asean Expo (CAEXPO) in Nanning City, Guangxi, China.

While there, many of the representatives, who at the time of reporting had yet to be selected, are expected to promote the state of IT in Phuket so that tourists, business people and even potential property buyers will have more confidence in coming to Phuket.

The question is whether visitors to the expo will be told: 1) what the government promises Phuket IT will be; 2) what IT goods and services are currently being offered in Phuket; or 3) what the current situation actually is.

On the first point; earlier this year, even the national daily newspapers had trouble keeping up with the stream of government IT projects being announced. As a *Gazette* computer columnist at the time pointed out, there were so many projects being announced that they even started contradicting each other. In terms of an IT race, the government was literally tripping over its own feet.

While the government keeps announcing its grand schemes, it has yet to put its money where its mouth is. But this we understand all too well. Why should the government put its hand in its pocket when it can bask in at least some glory while private companies pony up for IT infrastructure costs.

For example, the government is not spending a satang on rolling out WiMax nationwide. Private companies bid to the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) for exclusive rights to sell WiMax services in certain provinces.

But for an example of the current state of Phuket's IT, at the time of going to press the *Gazette* was investigating queries by readers into why some phone lines in Chalong had stopped working for weeks, only to start working again, then to suddenly stop again.

One reader said he had reported the line faults to the local call center, only to be told that the heavy rains during that period "caused many problems". However, that did not explain why his line was not working the next time he called them to report it was not working – there was a clear blue sky on that day. And this trouble is just with the landlines....in 2008.

It would be a tall order to expect any representatives with a vested commercial interest to explain the reality of Phuket's IT to those they might glean a profit from. But they can tell potential punters to bring their iPhones. For a small price, they can have their iPhones "cracked" so they will work with a local SIM card on an island that does not have not a single WAP node.

– The Editor

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

**Phuket Gazette**

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

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## Letters

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

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

### 3,000 baht for a urine test

PB from Kamala is not the only one who recognizes a nice little earner in Bangkok Hospital Phuket.

I went in for a checkup some time ago and was charged an incredible amount for a urine test. It transpired that there was nothing wrong with me and yet when I went to pay there was an additional 3,000-baht "medicine bill".

Upon being asked why I should take medicine for a non-existent ailment, the rather unhappy cashier backed down. I later checked the price of the prescribed tablets at a chemist friend's shop: 100 baht.

Not only that, but I ran into a colleague there who informed me that she had a bill for 2,000 baht for being diagnosed as having a head cold. *Caveat emptor* indeed.

SW  
Rawai

### Fast as lightning

I think Woody is right. Internet speeds do seem to be getting faster. I've had the CAT CCU-650 USB modem thing for a few months and, to be honest, I've always felt a bit cheated after paying more than 10,000 baht for it. The 900-baht-a-month service is always accessible, but the speeds from my side of Phuket City have never been anything groundbreaking.

So this morning I set up a download on uTorrent and, to my surprise, my download speed peaked at just under 100Kbps. To give that some context, my broadband in Bangkok was about

30Kbps max for uTorrent – and I thought that was fast. In Phuket, I'm lucky if I can hit 30Kbps a couple of times a month. I sometimes have to wait several days for files to download at less than 5Kbps.

This new spike in my Internet speed is great, but also slightly worrying because I fear that I either dreamed the whole thing, or else the Internet speed will return to its regular crawl in a couple of days.

At the time of writing, I have super-fast Internet from CAT, for which I pay 900 baht a month. By the time you read this, my modem may well have exploded with all the excitement.

On a side note, Woody's column is by far the most informative part of the *Gazette*. That guy does a good job and he should be rewarded by having everyone buy his sandwiches.

Jason Cabbage  
Phuket City

### All hail Sir Rolf

In response to Jack Fish's letter recently inquiring as to whether Rolf Harris has bought a house in Phuket, I too have heard this rumor. In my case, I heard it from a property developer friend of mine who has it on good authority that Rolf has bought a tidy little villa somewhere in the south of the island.

I think this is great news. Rolf Harris is the sort of guy who could make a cheese-tasting session with Al Gore fun. I hope that Rolf makes it his duty to get out and about and see a bit of the island, unlike most of the celebs who come here and just hide.

I appreciate that celebs are only human, too, but in the case of Rolf Harris, I think it's fair to

say that he is actually superhuman. Who else could entertain the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury with a wobble board? In fact, who else in the history of popular music has ever used a wobble board?

The diehard Rolf fans must be rubbing their hands together with glee. Imagine if Rolf were to take to the stage at the next Phuket Blues Festival. Oh, what a sight that would be. People would go bananas. There would be riots. Welcome, Sir Rolf.

Josh Jones  
Surin Beach

### So how green is green, really?

Well intentioned though the recent "Green Initiatives" seminar held at Mövenpick Resort may have been [see First Person, *Gazette* issue of July 19-25], and sincere though the attendees were, isn't the entire green attitude just a bit, well, hypocritical?

Like other delegates, I arrived alone by fossil-fuel-burning car. A quick poll after determined that most of the other 40-odd delegates did just the same.

We all registered, but no doubt the sheet of paper was eventually binned, as presumably was the high-quality jotting paper we wrote, scribbled and doodled on. The air conditioning in the conference room was set low. Food was thrown away, as were the plastic water bottles we drank from – or did they, at least, go for recycling?

And is flying a speaker halfway around the world the best possible demonstration of "green initiatives"?

Col Robbins  
Kata

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.



# Zoning scheme has coral off Koh Racha covered

**C**oral reefs around Phuket are still in pretty good condition, but there are some areas that have been impacted by the island's many coastal developments.

Dive operators and fishermen rely on the reefs for their livelihoods, albeit for different reasons, which is why these two groups have been arguing about the state of the reefs. Both sides blame the other for the deterioration of the coral reefs and the marine life they support.

Koh Racha has been a sore point for the fishermen and dive operators for about six years. It has been difficult to reach a compromise because both sides have such opposing points of view. There have been many arguments and so we decided to step in to keep the peace and work out a solution for the two parties.

Koh Racha will hopefully become the first area in Phuket to be designated special zoning regulations to help protect the coral reefs. We chose Koh Racha because it is a popular dive site where people can see the coral reefs. About 200 to 300 divers visit Koh Racha every day in the high season.

Our proposed regulations will set up separate zones for dive operators and fishermen to use.

## FIRST PERSON

**K**oh Racha could become the first place in Phuket to receive special zoning regulations to help preserve coral reefs. After a standoff between local fishermen and dive operators, the Marina and Coastal Resource Conservation Center stepped in and a compromise is on the cards in order to protect the coral reefs before it is too late.

**Paitoon Panchaiyaphum**, chief of the Marina and Coastal Resource Conservation Center Region 4 Office in Phuket, offers his thoughts on Phuket's coral reefs.



We will also allocate certain times that diving and fishing would be permitted. There would be less problems between the two groups as a result.

The zoning scheme has not come into effect yet. There are still a number of meetings to come between the fishermen and

the dive operators before a request for approval will be made to the Department of Marine & Coastal Resources. The regulations, which must be agreed on by the fishermen and dive operators, would be enforceable by Thai law.

We ask that both groups

work together so that we can move forward on this matter. We must come up with ideas that can appease both sides so we can reach a compromise.

We act as the middleman. After that we must let the two groups sort the matter out themselves. We help to formulate a

plan that best serves everyone's interests and protects the coral reefs. We hope to use the same process on other islands where there have been similar problems.

Many of the coral reefs in Phuket are located around some of the smaller islands, such as Koh Hei and Koh Lone. The coral reefs off these islands are still in good condition.

In many areas around the coast of Phuket the coral reefs have already been damaged because of development. Runoff pollution from the many construction projects around the island, especially during the rainy season, is a major concern.

In the past, Patong, Kata and Karon have had good coral reefs, but now they have already gone because too many people have stepped on them, which is not good for the coral reefs.

We have tried to protect the coral reefs and decrease the number of tourists who visit each area by creating artificial reefs around the island in places such as Koh Racha, Koh Pu and Bang Tao Beach. At Koh Racha we sunk a boat to make the artificial reefs while at Bang Tao and Koh Pu we used concrete blocks. A solid object provides the necessary conditions for coral reefs to form.

— *Compiled by Sompratch Saowakhon*

## Can a non-immigrant O visa holder get a work permit?

I am retired in Thailand, have a non-immigrant O visa and I am married to a Thai. I have been offered a job in Thailand. Can I change my visa to one with which I can obtain a work permit?

Kjell  
Thailand

**Janya Yingyong, of the Work Permit Section at the Phuket Provincial Employment Office, replies:**

People who are in the country on a non-immigrant O retirement visa or staying on a permit-to-stay on the basis they have retired are prohibited to work and cannot be issued a work permit.

However, if you apply to Immigration to have your permit-to-stay issued on the basis that are supporting a Thai wife, you are allowed to work and can apply for a work permit from the employment office based on your visa type.

Alternatively, you can apply to Immigration to have your retirement visa changed to a business visa (non-immigrant B).

You can then apply for a work permit at the employment office.

You can then contact our office to find out what other documents are needed to be issued a work permit.

Our office is on Rattanakosin 200 Pi Rd. Open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Tel: 076-219660-1.

## Issues & ANSWERS

**Want to know how to get something done? Can't understand some of the dafter things that seem to go on in Phuket? Want to pitch an idea to Phuket's authorities or institutions? Then this is the forum for you.**

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

## Bank balances for retired couples

We are hoping to retire to Thailand in August next year. My question relates to the retirement visa.

Do we both have to have 800,000 baht in two separate bank accounts to be issued the necessary visas? Or will 800,000 baht in one bank account be enough to cover Immigration requirements for both of us?

I will be 64 years old and my wife will be 58. We are both British.

Redsands  
UK

**Pol Capt Krissarat Nuesen, Phuket Provincial Immigration Office (PPIO) replies:**

You and your wife will need to have been issued non-immigrant O visas in order to be issued one-year permit-to-stays.

Although it is not necessary to have non-immigrant O-A (retirement) visas before entering Thailand, they do make the process easier when applying for one-year permit-to-stays.

Once you are in Thailand, you can apply at Immigration for

a one-year permit-to-stay based on retirement. In your application, you will need to show that you have 800,000 baht in a Thai bank account.

Then your wife can apply for a one-year permit-to-stay on the basis that she is married to you and is retired.

When applying, she will not need to show that she, too, has 800,000 baht in the bank.

However, she will need to produce your marriage certificate to prove that she is your wife.

## Kathu road is way below par

I have lived at Loch Palm for nearly two years and the condition of the stretch of Wichit Songkhram Rd that borders the golf course has been steadily deteriorating during this time.

It is now so badly affected with deep potholes that during wet conditions it becomes almost impassable.

Tony Farrow  
Kathu

**Wutti Sayaphan, Kathu Town Clerk, replies:**

We have prepared a budget of about 1 million baht to repair this road. Work will begin soon and we expect it to be finished by September.

We still need more money to fix the road permanently and we are looking into exactly how much it will cost before we request any more money from the province.



# The loser's guide to FINDING A GIRLFRIEND

**W**hen it comes to relationships with the opposite sex, the only meaningful attachment I have ever had involved my umbilical chord. The reasons for this are too numerous and humiliating for me to list without sticking my head down the toilet – again.

Suffice to say that I am pre-eminently unqualified to offer advice to anyone on the subject. So here goes. My top 10 tips for the sad and single lonely guy.

**1 They are all your type.** The phrase “she’s not my type” should only ever be employed in the immediate aftermath of a humiliating rejection and should never form part of your selection process.

This is because, as a general rule, you have no selection process. As your attempt to get to first base with any woman will almost inevitably end in an unedifying and gruesome spectacle, by widening the net to include all women on the planet, you are at least assured to get it over with, allowing you to return to wallowing in the comfort of your own self-pity.

Excluding a particular type of woman on the basis that you would prefer to be humiliated by someone else simply makes no sense and moreover demonstrates a poor grasp of time management.

**2 Project confidence.** To impress your date, it is important that you project an air of confidence. This will not be easy since you have none. I now begin to realize that this tip might not be very helpful to you, since you are now aware of the importance of the first part and also the truth of the second part.

This will probably heighten your sense of hopelessness, leading to anxiety and thus undermining your confidence. However, since you had none to begin with, I figure you are no worse off.

**3 Choose your terrain.** Chelsea have not lost a game at Stamford Bridge since my grandma lost her virginity, but then they jump on a bus and lose at Barnsley.

Similarly, when a crocodile feels peckish and in the mood for some buffalo dip, he won’t go chasing herds of buffalo all over the E-sarn plateau since he knows that this will result in embarrassing failure, making him the laughing stock of the croc community.

Three thousand years of fine dining has taught the croc to wait patiently in his little pond until a few succulent buffalo stop by for a drink and a paddle.

Only then will our ravenous reptile consider laying out the cutlery and uncorking the Cabernet Sauvignon. These poignant analogies serve to highlight the importance of home turf, so to speak.

Having selected your woman, you should then bide your time, laying in wait until she wanders into your territory. She can then be approached with a degree of confidence. Any attempt to tackle her on hostile terrain would be *hari-kiri*.

Typical examples of places you should avoid trying to initiate conversation with the woman of your dreams include the ladies’ toilet in a discotheque, her bedroom, her boyfriend’s house, the maternity ward in a hospital, cemeteries and yoga classes.

**4 Don’t be afraid to succeed.** It is not the fear of failure that haunts you. Far from it. Failure is your constant companion, your security blanket. Failure is your faithful partner, your soul mate. It is the one unerring constant in your life. Failure is your trusted friend, always there for you, day and night, by your side, day after day, year after year. Sorry, where was I? Oh yes. It is, in fact, the specter of success that stalks your every waking moment. The most effective



Wait patiently in your own territory until the buffalo of your dreams comes by...  
Photo by Nevit Dilmen

way to conquer this fear is simply to remove the cause altogether. Having excluded success from the list of possible outcomes, you will feel liberated from anxiety and better prepared to concentrate on failing.

**5 Build self-esteem.** A pretty thankless task for any bottom feeder but nonetheless one that, in the unlikely event that you succeed, promises rich rewards in the dating game.

Prior to any hot date, I always like to visit my local 7-Eleven store. This because not only does 7-Eleven employ large numbers of women in its stores, but also because these women are trained and instructed to say, “Hello, welcome” whenever a customer enters the shop.

By walking into any 7-Eleven store in Thailand, you are guaranteed to have at least a couple of girls smiling at you, saying, “Hello, welcome,” 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. It’s even better than buying a dog. When you are feeling particularly down, you can just stand by the door and hop in and out as many times as you like; they will keep saying, “Hello, welcome.” They have to.

It is fantastic and a real tonic for that wilting self-esteem. I heartily recommend that you stop off at a 7-Eleven or Family Mart on the way to your next romantic rendezvous. It will have you feeling like Cary Grant and ready for any date.

**6 Just be yourself.** While this would be eminently sensible advice for most people,

the fact that you are even considering my advice probably means that being yourself hasn’t exactly paid dividends.

Therefore, by all means feel free to adopt a more attractive persona when wooing your woman. The worst that can happen is that she will see through your masquerade and catch a shocking glimpse of the real you. She will then surely understand why you were trying to deceive her in the first place.

If you are lucky, she might even feel sorry for you, in which case you are ahead of the game. Bravo! One word of advice concerning the impersonation of someone more interesting than you: be wary of imitating anyone with a funny accent as this can become extremely tiring and the chances are that your girl won’t understand anything you are saying.

**7 Learn from your mistakes.** For example: If the last three women you tried to seduce ran away, consider meeting the next one while she is giving blood, rock climbing or in surgery.

**8 Silence is golden.** Chances are, your date will suffer a mild panic attack when she sees what you are wearing, so do not exacerbate the problem by talking. Of course, no date is perfect so at some point during the course of the evening you will probably have to say something to her, otherwise technically it’s not a date but a séance. When this moment arrives, resist your natural urge to discuss diseases and do not un-

der any circumstance offer to show her any of yours.

Safe topics of conversation include the Hoover Dam, tofu, Winnie the Pooh and Luxembourg.

**9 Have an exit strategy.** It is a sad fact of life, especially yours, that despite my counseling, you will suffer the indignity of yet another ignominious and heart-wrenching repulsion. In such an event, it is essential that you have a suitable exit strategy in place that will enable you to flee the scene.

Over the years, I have experimented with a wide variety of face-saving exit strategies, some ingeniously elaborate in their conception. However, I have found over time that the simple ones are usually the most effective if only for the fact that they are the easiest to remember in moments of dire distress. Your exit strategy should be put into motion the moment you realize that you have botched everything beyond repair.

Examples of effective and easy-to-remember exit strategies include collapsing unconscious on the floor. It is important to remain motionless for about 20 seconds before coming to, muttering the phrase “Low blood sugar” and then running away as fast as you can.

Alternatively, look at your watch, feign deep shock and shout, “Oh shit, I completely forgot to collect my grandma from the hospital. I am really sorry but I have to leave.” Then run away as fast as you can.

If that doesn’t work, just start crying. When she asks you what is wrong, you should try to look self-absorbed and wistful before saying, “I would rather not talk about it, but I think I need to be alone right now.” You then walk slowly to the exit and when you are out of sight start running as fast as you can.

**10 Keep trying.** With the seemingly endless procession of catastrophic and ill-fated attempts to find a girlfriend, you could be forgiven for throwing in the towel and taking up pottery. However, you should resist this temptation at all costs. After all, there is no guarantee that you would be any better at pottery than you are at finding a girlfriend. The same goes for archery and many other hobbies.

Take it from a man who has no idea; if you keep plugging away, you will succeed. Follow my 10-point plan and you will find the woman of your dreams, even if it’s only in your dreams – I guarantee it.



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Last week I wrote about the top Internet questions I encountered during a presentation to the Rotary Club of Patong Beach. In this column I'll tackle the second wave of questions the Rotarians asked, about Windows, antivirus, spyware and more.

## What do I really need to protect my PC?

Let me start with what you don't need. You don't need or want any of the bloated, expensive, intrusive packages on the market. Not so long ago, software companies were content to produce and peddle programs that solved specific problems – antivirus, firewalls or antispyware programs, for example. But in the past few years we've seen an explosion of "anti" programs.

Almost every old firewall program is now bundled with antivirus; the old antivirus stalwarts now include antispyware, antirootkit, firewall protection and halitosis prevention. While the manufacturers claim they're expanding their reach to help protect more people from more bad stuff, a somewhat less benign interpretation would lead some folks to believe that they're bloating their products so they can charge more.

What they want, you don't need. The Nortons, McAfees and TrendMicros of the world have created monsters. These packages' incessant demands for you to pay in order to stay up to date are more annoying than a cloying Patong hawker. Get rid of them.

A good case in point: ZoneAlarm used to make a very good firewall. Back in the early days of Windows XP, I even recommended ZoneAlarm, both in my books and in my magazine articles. But I don't any more. ZoneAlarm has turned into a behemoth that causes all sorts of problems – firewall, yes, but also antivirus and antispyware and identity theft protection (whatever that is).

I use AVG, a free antivirus program; Microsoft's free Windows Defender; and the Windows Firewall. I run a rootkit scan on my Windows XP machines from time to time. Vista users are much, much less likely to be zombified by a rootkit. Antivirus, Windows Defender, the Windows Firewall and a hardware firewall – the kind you find in any ADSL router here in Thailand – give you all the protection you need and they don't cost a satang.

My favorite antivirus program for many years has been

# Best free Windows software – ever

AVG. You can download a copy that's free for personal use at [www.free.avg.com](http://www.free.avg.com). Make sure you click through to get the free version. In my experience, there's no need to spend any money at all for decent antivirus protection.

AVG has come under a lot of fire for sticking revenue-generating junk in its free product, although they've backed off a bit in recent weeks, adding an option to the installer that lets you bypass their webpage scanner.

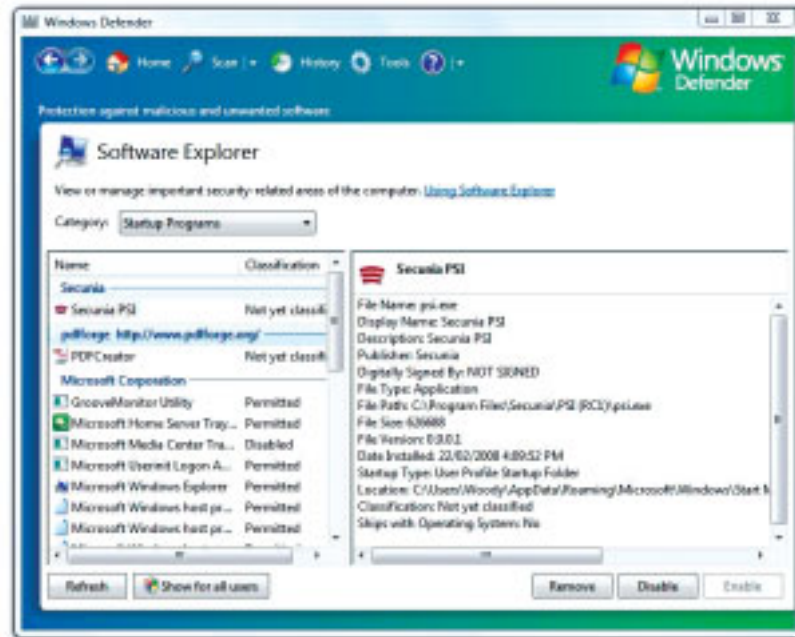
If you don't want to deal with AVG's junky ways, try NOD-32 ([www.nod32.com](http://www.nod32.com)) or AVAST ([www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)), both of which are fully capable, free alternatives.

Every Windows XP user – at least, everybody with a genuine copy of Windows – should download, install and use Microsoft's free spyware/junkware program called Windows Defender. Vista users needn't bother as Windows Defender comes installed. To download Windows Defender, go to [tinyurl.com/5q36co](http://tinyurl.com/5q36co) and follow the instructions.

Windows Defender actively blocks spyware and other kinds of junk. It also has a little-known ability to let you control which programs run whenever Windows starts. To clamp down on obnoxious auto-running programs, click Start, All Programs, Windows Defender. Then at the top click Tools, Software Explorer. In the Software Explorer window (see the screen shot on this page) you can selectively disable programs that run at startup.

For detecting and removing rootkits – a task that every Windows XP user should undertake at least once a week – you need an industrial-strength antirootkit program.

Scott Spanbauer recently reviewed free antirootkit programs for *Windows Secrets Magazine* and found that F-Secure Blacklight ([www.f-secure.com/blacklight/blacklight.html](http://www.f-secure.com/blacklight/blacklight.html)) did the best job.



Microsoft's free Windows Defender includes a little-known and hard-to-find feature that lets you control which programs run every time Windows starts.

## As a Windows user, what other programs do I need?

At the top of the list is Firefox 3, the free web browser that runs rings around Internet Explorer. I explained the ins and outs of FF3 in my June 27 column, which is available on the *Phuket Gazette* website at [tinyurl.com/6g9hxz](http://tinyurl.com/6g9hxz)

Most people need to work with PDF files. Personally, I don't like Adobe's Acrobat Reader, the program from the people who created the PDF file format. Acrobat Reader is slow as molasses and it's suffered from several security holes recently. Far better, in my opinion, is the nimble and capable – and free – Foxit reader ([www.foxit.com](http://www.foxit.com)).

If you need to create PDF files, there's no need to shell out the baht for Adobe Acrobat. Instead, download and install PDFCreator ([sourceforge.net/projects/pdfcreator](http://sourceforge.net/projects/pdfcreator)). Whenever you want to create a PDF document, click File, Print, then choose the PDFCreator "printer" from the list. PDFCreator fakes out your computer and, instead of

sending the document to the printer, converts it into a PDF file. Very slick. I use PDFCreator for all of my PDF files now, including shots of graphs that appear in my columns.

• Most people have lots and

lots of photos on their computers. Sending a handful of shots to the kids via email can turn into an exercise in futility when each photo attached to an email message takes up 2MB or more.

In cases like this, you need to "squish" the picture down to a more manageable size. If you only want to show the folks back in England what sunshine really looks like, you can send them a file that's 5% of the size of the original – and they can look at the pic on their computer with negligible reduction in picture quality.

In years past, I've recommended the Microsoft Image Resizer PowerToy, but I think I've found something better. VSO Image Resizer ([www.vso-software.fr](http://www.vso-software.fr)) makes it easier to resize pictures and rename them in the process. It has the added advantage of working with Windows XP and Vista. It's also absolutely free.

Woody will be speaking at the International Business Association of Phuket (IBAP) meeting at the Yorkshire Inn on Soi San Sabai in Patong on August 8. He'll be talking about the current status of Internet connections in Phuket, and the technology that's coming down the pike. Then he'll field any questions you may have about computers. For details, see [www.ibap-phuket.org](http://www.ibap-phuket.org).

## 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*.

The PC group convenes at the Sandwich Shoppes in Chalong, one km north of Chalong Circle next to Wine Connection, Patong and Laguna.

The August 3 meeting will be at the Sandwich Shoppe in Patong, near Andaman Beach Suites. On August 10, the assembled masses descend on Sandwich Shoppe Laguna, located just before the main entrance to the Laguna complex.

Sessions are designed to help everybody – even (especially!) complete computer novices – and they're absolutely free. Driving instructions at [www.KhunWoody.com](http://www.KhunWoody.com).

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# Margarito cuts down Cotto

By Scott Mallon

**M**iguel Angel Cotto was undefeated and on everyone's pound-for-pound list. As one of the sports' premier talents, he has beaten several previously undefeated fighters, including Paulie Malignaggi, Ricardo Torres, Carlos Maussa and Kelson Pinto. He also holds victories over several other talented bruisers, such as Zab Judah, Shane Mosley, Lovemore N'Dou, Demarcus "Chop-Chop" Corley, Cesar Bazan and Gianluca Branco.

After ruling the light welterweight division with an iron fist, Cotto moved up to welterweight in December 2006. He beat previously undefeated Carlos Quintana, world-title-challenger Otkay Urkal, Zab Judah and Alfonso Gomez from the television show The Contender. His ledger reads like a who's-who of boxing and thus he has gained a reputation for taking on all-comers.

In Las Vegas against Antonio Margarito, however, he met his match. As soon as the two fighters signed on for the July 26 fight, the bout was hyped as a "superfight". Margarito is Mexican; Cotto Puerto Rican. Mexican and Puerto Rican fighters have a history of great rivalries, some of the most famous involving legendary Mexican fighter Julio Cesar Chavez.

Chavez defeated many Puerto Rican fighters in his career — Hector "Macho" Camacho, Edwin Rosario, Juan LaPorte and Sammy Fuentes — and so it was appropriate that Chavez accompanied Margarito to the ring to face Cotto.

At the start of the bout, Cotto looked strong and fast, more so than Margarito. Cotto pumped out his jab and time after time landed short rights to the head of Margarito. By the time Margarito reacted, it was too late; his punches tore into the air instead of landing home.

Cotto experienced success leaning against the ropes, setting traps for Margarito, luring him in and countering, moving out of range. By the middle rounds, Margarito's constant pressure

and body attacks slowly reversed the tide of the fight. Cotto was no longer capable of sliding out of danger, instead forced to stand toe-to-toe with the much taller and stronger Margarito.

Margarito ate punch after punch and yet continued to press his attack, occasionally landing power punches that shook Cotto. By the ninth round, Margarito looked to be gaining steam and taking control of the bout. Cotto, unaccustomed to a fighter taking his best punches and grinning, looked discouraged. He came back strong in the 10th, but was wobbly at the end of the round.

Both fighters started fast in the 11th. Margarito landed a big right and Cotto responded with a right-left combo.

A Margarito uppercut landed on the jaw of Cotto and sent him to one knee. He rose, but was in trouble and on shaky legs. Margarito sensed the end was near and launched a combination. Cotto went down, bloodied, and his corner threw in the towel at 2:05 into the round.

Margarito was crowned the new welterweight champion.

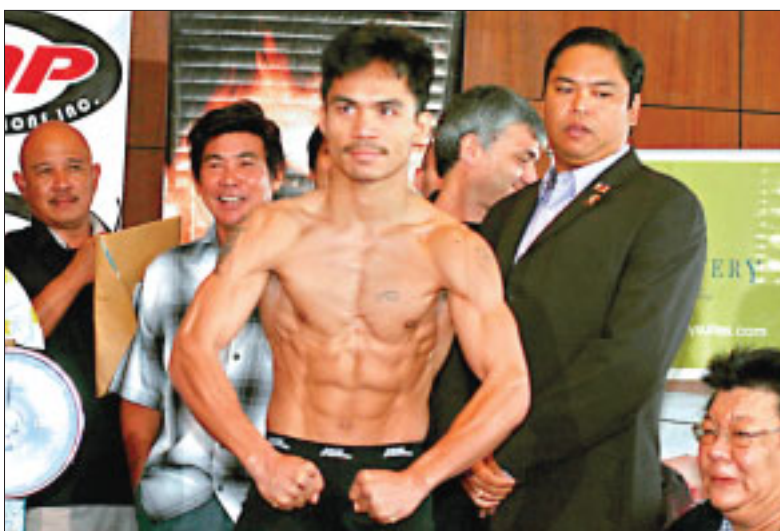
It is rare for a fight to live up to the hype, but in this case, the battle will go down as one for the ages, along the lines of Hagler-Hearns.

There are talks of Margarito facing Oscar De La Hoya, but it's doubtful the Golden Boy will take the fight. De La Hoya wants one last fight to close out his career and chances are he'll fight someone he has a good shot at beating.

## Boxing's pound-for-pound best fighters

**1. Manny "Pacman" Pacquiao:** With the supposed retirement of former number one Floyd Mayweather, the Pacman moves up a notch into the top spot. Undeniably exciting, Pacquiao is a national treasure of the Philippines and is already guaranteed a spot in Boxing's Hall of Fame.

**2. Joe Calzaghe:** At 45-0 with 32 KOs, it's hard to vote against Calzaghe. He's beaten the best in the super middleweight division



**Thailand's Terdsak Jandaeng's string of bad luck continued in the Philippines when an accidental headbutt in his match against Eric Canoy knocked victory out of his reach.**

and has a win over future hall-of-famer Bernard Hopkins at light heavyweight. A win over Roy Jones in November will cement his legacy even further.

**3. Juan Manuel Marquez:** Scored a draw with Manny Pacquiao in 2004 and then lost a controversial decision to Chris John of Indonesia. He beat Terdsak Jandaeng, Jimrex Jaca, Rocky Juarez and Marco Anto-

nio Barrera before dropping a razor-thin decision to Pacquiao in March this year. Pure class.

**4. Israel Vasquez:** The trilogy with Rafael Marquez demonstrated why he belongs at the top of the heap.

**5. Antonio Margarito:** This Mexican fighter breaks into the ratings with his recent win over Miguel Angel Cotto.

**6. Kelly Pavlik:** Handled Jermain Taylor and should handle old man Hopkins in October.

**7. Rafael Marquez:** Defeated Israel Vasquez once and lost to him twice, but any one of the fights could have gone his way.

**8. Bernard Hopkins:** On the list because of what he's accomplished, but one more loss and his days as a pound-for-pound top dog are over.

**9. Ricky Hatton:** The man from Manchester has looked far from impressive since stopping Kosta Tszyu and is hanging onto his pound-for-pound spot by a thread.

**10. Christian Mijares:** A superfight and a victory over WBO champion Fernando Montiel would vault him into the top five of the list.

*Scott Mallon is a Bangkok-based boxing writer and freelance journalist. He is a member of Ring Magazine's ratings advisory panel. He can be emailed at shm1962@gmail.com*

## Celebs help raise B750,000 for school

**THALANG:** Laguna Phuket and ESPN Star Sports football broadcasting teamed up for an action-packed weekend of sports to raise 750,000 baht for desperately needed renovation work at Baan Klongsai School in Phang Nga.

Events kicked off on July 25, when a team of about 20 young footballers from Youth Football Home in Thalang received star-studded tuition from the celebrities led by former Thailand national football team coach Peter Withe during a football clinic at the home.

Peter Withe is credited with taking the Thai national team to fourth place at the 1998 Asian Games and leading the team to qualify for the 2001 World Cup Asian Final Stage for the first time in Thai-football history.

After the two-hour football clinic, the young players tried out their newly acquired skills in a game of soccer with the ESPN stars against a team representing local news media, including, NBT, ASTV and the *Phuket Gazette*. Captain of the local media team was Phuket Reporters Club President Thongtuan Sookmuang.



**Former Thailand national football coach Peter Withe (in orange) offers his expert advice to the kids at Youth Football Home in Thalang.**

The ESPN Star Sports celebs and kids held their own with a 2-0 win against the local media.

On July 26, Laguna Phuket Golf Club hosted a charity golf tournament with 16 teams of golfers taking part and playing with the celebs. That evening, more than 160 people attended a charity dinner and auction night at Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket, hosted by ESPN presenter John Dykes.

An auction took place with memorabilia up for grabs including autographed team shirts from Manchester United and David Beckham and a Rolling Stones signed Fender guitar.

On July 27 the ESPN team visited Baan Klongsai School, where they had the opportunity to meet with the children and staff and present them with the donation of 750,000 baht to go towards renovation work.

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# Yo!2 blitzes Phuket Raceweek regatta

AO CHALONG: Perth-based sailor Peter Ahern, skippering his new boat *Yo!2*, left the rest of the fleet in his wake at this year's Six Senses Phuket Raceweek with eight wins from eight races to take the honors in the top-flight IRC 1 class on July 27.

Ahern, who is also the Commodore of the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club in Perth, finished well in front of his nearest rival, fellow Aussie Ben Copely on *Katsu*, in every race.

Another sailor from down under, New Zealander John Vause, skippered his boat *Ruby Tuesday* into third place in the hotly contested IRC 1 class.

This year's Six Senses Phuket Raceweek was blessed with strong winds on each of the four days of racing, which took place over various courses off the southeast tip of Phuket from Thursday to Sunday.

After some fine sailing early in the regatta, Stuart Crowe and his crew on *Cinders* had their hopes dashed for a podium finish after their mast broke on



**Yo!2 rounds a mark on their way to winning this year's Phuket Raceweek with eight wins from eight races.**

Friday. "She fell on the deck, but luckily no-one was injured," said Crowe.

Niels Degenkolw won the IRC 2 class on his Phuket-based *Phoenix*, with five wins from eight races.

Great Britain's Peter Dyer sailed *Madame Butterfly* into second place in the class, while Mick Kealey finished third on *Evason Phuket Minx*.

Regatta organizers Grenville Fordham and Andy Dowden from Image Asia managed to just get onto the podium with a well-deserved third place in the Club Charter class, finishing behind eventual winner Andrew de Bruin from Australia on *Awatea* and second-placed Horst Lakits on *Big A*.

Fordham and Dowden were in line for a better finish, but ran

aground on Saturday and lost a lot of time before managing to get their boat out of the mud and back in the race.

The next Andaman Sea Pilot book is expected to include "Dowden's Shoal" off one of the islands near the southern end of Phuket.

Bob Mott's *Chameleon* claimed top place in the Ocean Multihull class, with Bill Webb's *Out of the Bag* second and Bernard Chapus' *Chamaral* third.

The most closely contested class was the Firefly 850s, which are designed and built in Phuket.

After eight races, Peter Dyer's *SEA Property* narrowly defeated veteran Henry Kaye on *Mamba*, with Roger Kingdon's *Moto Inzi* third.

Very little separated the three super-fast, locally-built catamarans with the final results going right down to the wire.

In the Classic class, Gunther Nutt took the honors on *Kerida*, with Mark Myking's *Idiom* second and Neil Parry's *Burong Bahri* third.

## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

PATONG: With leaders Queen Mary having a bye week, the top spot was up for grabs. Number 2 and 3, Piccadilly and Offshore, drew 5-5 which sent Offshore up to the top spot as new leaders of the league.

The best finishes of the week were Tony of Dogs Bollocks and Stu of Shakers. Both closed the game with a three-dart finish ending up with bull.

**July 22 results:** Piccadilly 5 - Offshore\* 4; Market Bar 6 - Sick Buffalo\* 3; Hilltop 4 Dogs Bollocks\* 5; Shakers\* 7 - Simply Red 2; Beach House 4 - Celtic\* 5; Queen Mary bye (\* winner of beer leg).

**Standings:** 1. Offshore\* (53 pts.); 2.= Queen Mary\*, Piccadilly\*, Market Bar\* (51); 5. Sick Buffalo\* (41); 6. Shakers\* (40); 7. Beach House\* (39); 8. Dogs Bollocks\* (35); 9. Celtic (31); 10.= Hilltop\*, Simply Red (29) (\* have had bye week).

**August 5 match-ups:** Queen Mary vs Piccadilly; Offshore vs Market Bar; Sick Buffalo vs Dogs Bollocks; Shakers vs Beach House; Hilltop vs Simply Red; Celtic bye (home team first).

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## Construction Update

by Janyaporn Morel

# A little slice of Eden in Patong

PATONG: Construction of the first building of the Eden Village Residence project in Patong is about 40% complete.

The first eight units will be ready to move into by the end of 2008. Work began at the end of last year and the whole development is expected to be finished by the end of 2009.

Sararat Saephoo, executive director assistant of developer South Asia Thai Group, told the *Gazette* that the finished project, located on Phisit Karani Rd about 500 meters from Wat Suwankeeree (Wat Patong), will complement the surrounding vegetation while remaining close to the tourist center.

Built on five rai, the project will comprise three five-story residential buildings with similar facilities to a hotel, such as a reception lobby, management of-



**Eden Village Residence, with three five-story blocks of apartments catering to the high-end market. Prices start at 8.3 million baht for a one- or two -bedroom apartment and rise to 19.5 million baht for a two- or three-bedroom penthouse.**

fice, massage and spa center, restaurant and bar, fitness center and a communal pool with a whirlpool bath, said Khun Sararat.

Each building will house eight apartments offering one-, two- and three-bedroom units from 117 to 330 sqm with large

balconies, one or two bathrooms, open kitchens, large covered terraces, elevators and wide staircases. Eden Village offers semi-

custom designs. Floor plans can occupy a whole floor on one level.

"The buildings will each comprise three one-bedroom apartments, three two-bedroom apartments, one two-bedroom penthouse and one three-bedroom penthouse. The furnishings and design can be customized depending on customers' needs," she said.

Two units have been sold off plan and three have been reserved since sales opened two months ago. The properties are on the market leasehold with in-house rental management for buyers who want to rent out their properties.

"We also plan to provide a shuttle service to Patong Beach for our guests from 9 am until 8 pm," said K. Sararat.

"We provide a large living space with a modern Thai-Balinese interior. Our target groups include Australians, English and Swiss," she added.

The South Asia Thai Group is in charge of all aspects of the design and construction work.

## Cherng Talay road resurfacing complete by year-end

CHERNG TALAY: Work on expansion and resurfacing of a section of Tah Reua-Haad Surin Rd (Route 4025) in Cherng Talay is about 10% complete, with the remainder of the work expected to be finished by December.

Termphan Noksaeng, deputy director of Phuket Provincial Highways Office, told the *Gazette* that the project is being carried out to support traffic to and from Surin and Bang Tao beaches.

The Highways Department has funded the 13-million-baht budget for the project, which includes installing roadside drains.

The road will be expanded from two to four lanes with an asphalt surface covering the 900-by-14-meter stretch that begins four kilometers from the Heroines' Monument. The contractor is Chaikyorn Co Ltd.

Khun Termphan explained that the road will not be closed the expansion is being car-



**A 700-meter stretch of Tah Reua-Haad Surin Rd is being widened to another two lanes.**

ried out, and that traffic will be able to pass along the route unhindered.

Along the section where roadworks are

taking place, red-and-white signs have been posted to warn motorists where the edge of the road is .

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## Decor

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

While ceramics may be nothing new for Phuket, decent products are sometimes difficult to find. Smart Design is one shop at the forefront of ceramics on the island, using the wares as striking decorative features.

Pacharawat Wasikarn, managing director of Smart Design, is a fan of breaking the mold when it comes to ceramics. His shop's style of design produces distinct results.

"We have been in Phuket for about two months. I have been involved in this business for a long time, so I know what customers want," he said.

"Our factory usually makes products for export, but when we looked at the domestic market, there were many customers who still wanted ceramics and whose demands could be met by our designs," he added.

Smart Design features such products as dishes, spoons and lamps, all of which are fully customizable. The products are based on Lanna designs and would suit most homes.

"Our standout products are the northern patterns, such as the raindrop pattern, which is not easy to create. We can do the design work or customers can do it themselves," said K. Pacharawat.

# Smart ceramics to deck out your digs with

Dishes and spoons would jazz up a kitchen while a tea set would suit a coffee table in a living room.

A lamp from Smart Design adds a certain flair to any room and customized lanterns add an unusual twist to living spaces.

Other products that will grab the attention of visitors include vases in all shapes and sizes and ceramic oil burners that serve to freshen up a room while adding to its overall attractiveness.

An oil burner and a lamp could accentuate the romantic, dreamy element of a bedroom without imposing on the occupants.

Every product made by Smart Design, whether in the factory in Lamphun or from the hands of K. Pacharawat in



This raindrop-pattern tea set is one of the signature products at Smart Design.

Phuket, is unique.

Prices for items at Smart Design start at 50 baht up to about

1,000 baht or more, depending on production costs and size.

Smart Design has clients on

its books from spas, hotels, resorts and villa businesses. "We also have a catalog for customers who do not want custom designs. We can design and make whatever a customer wants," he said.

The factory Smart Design uses has 50 staff. With more than 20 years' experience in ceramics, the factory was the ideal choice for Smart Design to partner up with.

"The factory was already making OTOP [One Tambon One Product] items, but they were unable to market their goods, so we decided to work together.

"They make ceramics for us and we represent them in Southern Thailand to help find them clients," he said.

"We ship our products with Thai Airways, so customers don't need to worry about having to wait for us to deliver," he said. Smart Design can produce ceramics that will make your neighbors green with envy, added K. Pacharawat.

Smart Design is in Phun Pol Night Plaza (next to AIA, opposite the Twin Inn Hotel) and is open Monday to Saturday, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm. Tel: 076-246318.

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## Home Of The Week

## Kata Noi



**UNIQUE, REALLY:** The creative concepts of this property's owner were instrumental in the inspirational design of this pool villa, making it genuinely unique.

This week's Home of the Week is rather special. Not just because of the nearly 5-million-dollar price tag, but because the current owners have put so much of their own creativity and imagination into every square meter of the home that it is a unique addition to the Kata Noi hillside it sits on.

There are too many well-thought-out features to mention in such a short space, but the three-story, 880-square-meter home on a 1,771sqm plot has nine bathrooms and six bedrooms, five of which have balconies.

With so many bedrooms and even more bathrooms, the residence is a terrific place to give visitors and guests the ultimate Phuket experience.

The home is designed to make the most of Phuket's outdoor lifestyle and even brings the outdoors in with open walkways and waterfalls.

The main building wraps

# INSPIRATIONAL

around an infinity-edge swimming pool, which has a view of the sea. There is also a sauna and an extended sala that opens onto another broad balcony with a barbecue area large enough for an extended family steakout.

For cooking inside, there is a Western-style kitchen complete with seating.

The owner, an interior designer, was involved in every stage of the home's planning and construction, ensuring the end result was a magnificent abode, full of nooks and crannies in an open-plan layout that is both inspired and inspiring.

The attention to detail in every aspect of the home's design has created a uniquely stylish abode that feels like a private

resort just waiting to greet oohing and ahing guests.

Although the home is relatively new and of a modern design, which includes a private lift, the south-facing villa is very much open to the elements with a back-to-nature feel, which captures the essence of tropical living, and it has been built to make the most of the sea air and scenery.

One of the living areas is furnished with dark wicker on a floor of large, sandy tiles. The room is more like a sheltered balcony with a high ceiling inlaid with vertical wooden beams forming an apex.

The entire front-facing side is left open to the elements, with an extended overhang providing adequate shade from the sun and

shelter from rain. This combination of features makes you feel as if you are sitting in an open-sided tepee.

The stark black-and-white kitchen is ultra-modern – and vast. As with the rest of the villa, everything used is of the highest quality, from the floor to the halogen spotlights embedded in the high ceiling.

There are two separate black marble-topped stations that would allow a team of chefs to work comfortably and would make a great setting for the making of a kitchen reality show.

The kitchen is fully equipped with white built-in cupboards lining the walls, from which strategically placed ambient lighting

ensures the dark surfaces are well lit for food preparation.

Other rooms in the house that add to the resort feel are a sauna, a therapy room and even a chilled wine cellar as an almost secretive addition.

There is central air conditioning in most of the rooms with fans for the open-air areas.

The villa is in a small gated community with security and facilities such as a fitness center and tennis courts. It's available leasehold and on the market for US\$4.7 million (about 158 million baht). All the furniture and fittings come with the purchase.

For more information or to view this property, contact Onusa Oiewpanich at Engel Voelkers, quoting reference number: 1160014 (w-00358g). Email: [Onusa.Oiewpanich@engelvoelkers.com](mailto:Onusa.Oiewpanich@engelvoelkers.com) Tel: 076-279280-1. Fax: 076-279282. Website: [www.engelvoelkers.com/th](http://www.engelvoelkers.com/th)

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## Gardening

by Bloomin' Bert

## KEEPING THINGS SIMPLE

**W**hy does everything have to be so complicated? Even jobs aren't what they used to be. Well, the jobs are exactly the same, but the titles certainly aren't. The word "housewife" is probably banned now, replaced by "domestic technician and family consultant".

I recently read about someone who started in the hotel business as a food and beverage executive. Does that mean his first hotel job was as a cook or waiter?

The people who work at Subway, the trans-Atlantic sandwich chain, are referred to internally as sandwich artists. Ambulance drivers are now referred to as emergency medical technicians. I can only assume that an American ambulance driver would be known as an emergency medical technician transportation operative.

The Americans know how to go overboard in terms of complicated titles. Is there anyone working for any organization in the US who isn't also a director

of something? The bloke who collects the flyers from the printer becomes the marketing director; the sports teacher with the squarest jaw becomes the sports director.

Even the ludicrous "sport" of cheerleading isn't immune. A cheerleading coach is known as a spirit director.

What about all these company directors? As an example, what does a director of operations actually do? There are more possibilities, of course; I have a few suggestions to add.

How about the director of head nodding and restating intelligent points that others make during meetings? The delivery driver could be the director of mission-critical portal deployments. I'm fairly certain that in America the tea lady has become the heated (but not to the point of becoming dangerous) beverage director.

This next one is genuine, I swear. It refers to a gentleman who makes a living from making manure. He shovels it and mixes



**Cacti can be grown from seed – but who would want to go to all that trouble when grown ones are so cheap to buy?**

the stuff. His official job title is an environmental relocation specialist, dealing with animal-friendly products. You really couldn't make this stuff up.

I can probably understand why the rubber-gloved person responsible for cleaning the toilets would prefer to be referred to as a sanitation engineer, but who could possibly object to or be confused by the word "secretary"?

Gardeners are guilty of complicating things in exactly the same way. These "real" gardeners make all sorts of noises using rather naff-sounding phrases such as "alluvial loam", "nutritionally sound animal by-products" and "pH balanced nutrients". They much prefer to try and impress by using complicated phraseology and steadfastly refuse to refer to plants by the names the rest of the civilized world uses.

These are people who will call an orchid a member of the orchidaceae family, rather than an orchid. Really, is anyone impressed by that? They'll call a coconut palm a *cocos nucifera*. Please. It's a coconut.

One of their favorite words

is "propagation". To you and me they're talking about making new plants. Perhaps this is actually one of the few occasions when I lean in favor of a proper gardening word. They'll be calling me a real gardener next – maybe.

Propagation is one of those scientific names for reproduction in any form of living thing. We all know how the birds and the bees do it, but plant nookie is a bit different; not quite as sweaty and nowhere near as much fun.

With plants, it means making new plants either from seeds or from parts of existing plants.

In topical climates, it's ridiculously easy to make new plants. They're almost begging to reproduce and are willing to make life as easy as they can for you to help them on their way.

If we're going to talk about propagation, we should probably have a quick look at the most obvious one: sowing seeds. There are a huge range of plants that can be increased from sowing their seeds. Flowers, foliage and berry plants generally work in this way.

There are others that include palms, ferns and insectivo-

rous plants, cactuses (all right then, cacti), and other succulents.

They all work the same way. Whatever the type of plant, seeds need three basic conditions to encourage germination: moisture, warmth and air. We don't need to worry too much about any of those requirements in Phuket.

Just put your seeds on a bed of seed compost or damp cotton wool and then plonk them on a windowsill or in a quiet corner of the garden.

I'll let you into a secret that most proper gardeners would cringe at the thought of. Seeds are too much like hard work. I'm bone idle when it comes to this kind of thing. The only time I make the effort is if I've been eating rambutans or some kind of big-seed fruit plant. They're just begging to grow and that's usually because I throw them in the nearest plant pot rather than walk all the way to the bin.

Occasionally I'll have a burst of energy and lay them carefully on a pad of wet cotton wool and wait a few days for them to do their thing. The casually discarded ones in the pots outdoors usually fare better.

Far more often I'm content to leave all the work of this sowing and germination procedure to the little man at the garden center. He's much better at it than I am. I'm quite happy to let him do all the preliminary stuff for me and I just march in and pay him 30 baht for something he's sweated over for a year. That's Phuket gardening.

I've just spent the last few paragraphs telling you how to grow plants from seed, but then advising you not to bother. In fact, come to think of it, I shouldn't have bothered, really.

Perhaps I should have droned on about something as inane as daft job titles. Hang on, I did that too. Perhaps it's time for a beer.

**Need garden advice?**

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### KATA BEACH

2 mins to beautiful beach. Price reduced from 3.2 to 2.9 million baht, moving sale, Chanote. Tel: 084-8405834.

### TROPICAL POOL VILLA

in Chalong. Brand-new, spacious, 2-bedroom villa with deluxe kitchen and large living area. Priced to sell. Tel: 089-6521473.

### SAIYUAN HOUSE FOR SALE



2-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 Nai Harn Beach. 10 million baht. Contact for details. Tel: 084-8475700, 087-8987642. Email: morn\_48@yahoo.com

### LAND AT PA KHLOK



49 rai, nice flat land, Chanote, 2.5km from Heroines' Monument. Price: 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-1802143.

### TRADITIONAL THAI HOUSE

Big garden, very quiet area. Tel: 083-1036578. Website: www.oriental-realestate.com

### TOP SEA-VIEW LOT

2 rai, Yamu hills. Chanote, gated, good road, 11.5 million baht. Tel: 080-5358767, (US) Tel: 0011-760-7808584. Email: phuketone@gmail.com

### 82 RAI WATERFRONT

Beautiful land next to the sea on Racha Yai island. 10 million baht per rai. No brokers. Tel: 081-9786700.

### WOODLAND HOUSE

Largest lot: 1,320 sqm. Private corner villa, 5 bedrooms, 2 stories with open loft. 52 million baht. Infinity salt-water pool, large sala, guest house, 10 min walk to BIS. 28.5 million baht ono. Tel: 089-6527818. Email: kevindad@netvigator.com

### PATONG SEA VIEW



Luxury apartments with best view over Patong. Tel: 083-1736521. Website: www.patong-view-talay.com

### PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



35/20 Soi 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 aircons, some furniture, 50sq wah, garden. For sale at 4 million baht or for long-term rent. Must see. Contact Nina. Tel: 087-6899679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com. No agents.

### KOH SAMUI LAND FOR SALE

2 rai with one house, six bungalows and 10 row houses. Ideal for rentals. Near beach. Chanote title. Asking price: 30 million baht. No agents. Tel: 087-2709093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

### RAWAI, 2-STORY HOUSE

160sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 40m from beach. Price: 1.7 million. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

### PERFECT LAND

Nearly 2 rai at Bang Tao. Very good location for business. Price: 18 million baht. No agents. Tel: 086-9442065, 087-6899679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

### LAND AT NATAI

Khao Pilai Beach. 20 rai with Chanote title, only 1.7 million baht per rai. 300m from the beach, road, electricity access. Urgent sale. No agents. Tel: 081-5399269.

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### BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



9.5 rai, beachfront. 5 minutes to Phuket Airport. Asking price: 120 million baht. Chanote. Must see. No agents. Contact by email: allservices29@gmail.com

### SURIN BEACH LAND FOR SALE

996sqm: 8 million baht. 5-minute walk to Surin Beach. Tel: 081-8687676.

### HOUSE WITH LARGE GARDEN

3-bedroom, 2-bathroom, house on small development with 24hr security and swimming pool. Only 5 mins from Heroines' Monument. Fully furnished with solid teak furniture throughout and with all appliances, curtains and blinds. Full security and fly screens, 3 aircon, 5 ceiling fans. True TV/Cable TV, phone, ADSL. Walk-in condition with great potential for extension and/or private pool. Now 3.8 million baht. Tel: 085-7823273.

### NICE PLOT

near Layan Hills Estate, and pool villas project. Chanote title and road access on 4 sides of the plot. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-5399269.

### GARDEN VILLA AT BAAN SAKOO



on 1 rai with 3 big bungalows and 1 big house. 7 bedrooms & bathrooms in total, swimming pool, fully furnished, 2km to Nai Yang Beach and 5 minutes to Phuket International Airport. Only 9 million baht. Tel: 087-2709093, 087-6899679. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

### BRAND-NEW CONDO

Great location near Tesco and Big C. Pool, gym, fully furnished with washer, dryer, fridge, aircon and TV. 45sqm corner unit with 2 balconies. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 087-277-0978. Email: koyangle99@hotmail.com

### NEW TOWNHOUSE

in Than Thong 7 estate. 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. 19 sq wah. Central location on Chao Fa East Rd, opposite Villa California. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 087-2770978.

### 4-BEDROOM PALACE RAWAI

Majestic quality, big pool, quiet & secure. Come and convince yourself. Be different. No disappointment. 5% commission for agents. Call for info. Tel: 085-7831890.

### KHAO KHAD, AO MAKHAM



Chanote. 16 rai with panoramic view near Ao Makham, towards Cape Panwa. Wide road access direct to the site. 6 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-539-9269. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

### HOUSE IN KATHU

2 stories, 3 bedrooms, car park, pond, 330sqm, ADSL, partly furnished, good location. 3mins to Central. Price: 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-8954112.

### 1.5 RAI IN PASAK

Laguna area at 6.5 million baht. Chanote title, square-shaped plot, good location, road and utilities access. No agents please. Tel: 081-5399269.

### PATONG SHOPHOUSE

In booming area: Aroonsom Plaza, on 200 Pi Rat-U-Thit Rd. 5-story corner unit. Ground floor retail + roof-top apartment + 6 rooms on middle levels. Just refurbished. 10.5 million baht. Tel: 080-5203351 (Thai) or 081-7373958 (Eng). Email: wok@optionwok.com

### 2-STORY HOUSE

5.5 million baht. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 72sq wah with some furniture at Villa Samkong. Contact K. Nan. Tel: 081-6779837. Email: knahnies@hotmail.com or okika\_j@hotmail.com

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### MODERN BUILDING IN NAIYANG

Amazing property is 4 rai, 44 rooms, 8 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, Jacuzzi, air-conditioned, fully furnished, 7 minutes (4.5 km) from Phuket International Airport.  
Price: 30 million baht.



For full details contact Tel: 087-6899679.  
Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

### Chalong House Lake View

New detached house on 370sqm of land with Chanote title. 1-story, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Jacuzzi and Western kitchen. Telephone line, internet ADSL, Cable TV.

**Price: 6.5 million baht**

Tel: 087-2709093 Email: png.phuket@gmail.com



# Property Gazette

## PATONG SEA VIEW



Tall house in a residential neighborhood: Baan Suan Kamnan. Hillside at the south end of Patong Bay. Next to the Bluepoint viewpoint and on the way to Tri Trang and Paradise beaches. Chanote title and foreign freehold house with pool. 4 bedrooms. Stunning views. 30 million baht. A super location and value for your money. House just renovated. Call Edwin. Tel: 086-7866350. Email: buurmanb@hotmail.com

## NEW HOUSE

in Srisuchart Grand Villa 3. 47.5sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, some furnishings. Located in Phuket City, near Tesco-Lotus. 2.8 million baht (negotiable). Contact to view. Tel: 087-2770978.

## HOUSE NEAR LAGUNA

4 bedrooms, swimming pool, European standard. Price: 18.5 million baht. Tel: 087-8173019. Website: www.oriental-realestate.com

## HOUSE NEAR BIS

2-story house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms with ample parking space and nice landscape. Total area: 336sqm. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 089-7247073. Email: jutima021@hotmail.com

## LOOKING FOR JOINT VENTURE OR SALE



Resort in Chiang Rai situated in a beautiful place in natural surroundings including lychee trees and 2,500 Arabica coffee trees. Convenient location in the middle of Chiang Rai, just a 25-minute drive from airport, 35 minutes from town, and 20 minutes to tourist attractions. Comprises 23 guestrooms and 1 conference room. 50 rai at 39 million baht (negotiable). Contact owner's representative. Email talayjan@yahoo.com for more details.

## GOLF COURSE VILLA

3 bedrooms at Kathu country club. 280sqm, pool. 12.5 million baht. Tel: 087-7839062.

## LAND IN NAI HARN

1/3rai: 2.9 million baht. 1rai: 3.74 million baht. Also house for rent/sale. 25,000 baht per month. Sale: 5.6 million baht. Tel: 081-3709661.

## PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Cherng Talay and Surin. 43 rai, 1 ngan, 85sq wah. For sale by owner. 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-9562406. Email: phatsarar@gmail.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

## TOWNHOUSE

in Than Thong 3 estate. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom. 19sq wah on Phattana Thongtin Rd, near Khao Khad viewpoint. Fully furnished. Price: 1.2 million baht. Tel: 087-2770978.

## HOUSES, KARON

Karon Beach: 2 houses, both have 2 bedrooms and each on 107sq wah plot with garden. Tel: 084-5292037.

## KAMALA CONDO

1-bedroom, serviced flat, 65sqm, common pool. Only 2.3 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062.

## HOUSE, NAI YANG

for sale, airport area, 800m to beach, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, new, 300sqm. Tel: 080-5358767, (US) Tel: 0011-7808584. Email: phuketone@gmail.com

## THE WHITE HOUSE VILLA



for sale (27.5 million baht) or for rent. The White House Villa is one of the finest tropical pool villas in Patong. Best location for nightlife and touring Phuket. Located high on the hill above the Amari Coral Beach Resort at the south end of Patong. No agents! Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

## SEA VIEW IN KAMALA



Small plots from 1 rai up to 100 rai with very good sea view. A few minutes from city center and beaches. Chanote, road, electricity & water supply. Priced from 6.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308 or Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

## CHALONG TOWNHOUSE

3.5 million baht, 1 minute to Chalong Pier, 34sq wah, 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, unfurnished, 3 telephone numbers. Nice, quiet & safe area. Contact Kay. Negotiable. Tel: 076-236590, 081-8955628. Fax: 076-236590. Email: kay.boon@hotmail.com

## SALE/RENT, KAMALA

Single house near beach, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen. 4.2 million baht. Tel: 086-2773381.

## PATONG LAND

5 rai in heart of Patong, close to Simon Cabaret, on main road with 45m of road frontage. Contact Alex. Tel: 081-4095175. Email: patongland@gmail.com Website: www.patongland.coolpage.biz

## FAMILY HOME, KATHU

In managed estate, 3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Only 7.5 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062.

## PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB



Duplex renovation project directly on 15<sup>th</sup> fairway for sale. Reduced price. See www.fairway15.com for full details. Tel: 081-8941994.

## HOUSE, AO NANG



3 mins to sea, quiet area, 1 year old. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, carport. 7.5 million baht. Tel: 084-8502499.

## 1RAI, RAWAI, CHANOTE

53,000 euros. Info by phone or email. Tel: 089-9728544. Email: av58phuket@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketstay.info

## BRAND-NEW SHOPHOUSE

Cherng Talay, on main road to Heroines' Monument. Only 5.5 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062.

## 2 BEACHFRONT HOUSES

Kamala, on the beach. 14 and 25 million baht. Tel: 085-7839062.

## CHIANG MAI LUXURY HOME

Exquisite 4-bedroom home in landscaped estate, 10 minutes from town. Fully furnished and adorned with antique art pieces. 17.5 million baht. A unique investment opportunity. Tel: 053-862450, 081-4726494. Email: chris@chiangmailifestyle.com Website: www.chiangmailifestyle.com

## KRABI LAND

10 rai, 20 minutes from Ao Nang, Krabi. Chanote title. 600,000 baht per rai. Tel: 084-8502499.

## LAND IN KAMALA



Flat land from 1 rai up to 50 rai. Good road & electricity supply. Only 2 minutes from beach and center. Prices from 9.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

## PANORAMIC SEA VIEW



Karon land for sale. 15 rai, Chanote title. Hillside, panoramic sea view, quiet area. Very good location for business. 15 million baht per rai. No agents. Please contact by email at allservices29@gmail.com

**FOREIGN FREEHOLD**  
condominium in Rawai, 250m from the pier. 580,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

## PATONG STUDIO

Modern, furnished, freehold. 1.6 million baht. Tel: 084-8473304. Website: www.selectphuket.com

## TRADITIONAL THAI HOUSE

Big garden, very quiet area. Tel: 083-1036578. Website: www.oriental-realestate.com

## KHAO LAK HOUSE/VILLA

1 rai of Khao Lak land (Chanote) with house/villa for sale. Top residential area close to Bang Niang Beach. For details call 081-7874043 (Eng) or 081-8825069 (Thai). Email: wolly.woerner@subaqua-khaolak.com

## FURNISHED TOWNHOUSE

at Phuket Villa California. 2 bedrooms. Price: 1.3 million baht. Contact K. Tum. Tel: 081-5693768.

## 100 RAI SEAVIEW LAND

in Kamala. Perfect for resort. 7.5 million baht per rai, has Chanote. Tel: 085-7839062.

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# Property Gazette

## PATONG GUESTHOUSE



5 rooms with bathrooms for sale. Can use for a business or restaurant, Nanai Rd. Tel: 081-6767709.

## AO POR LAND FOR SALE



150 rai, Nor Sor 3 Gor, sea view. From 2.5 million baht per rai. No agents. Please contact by email: [allservices29@gmail.com](mailto:allservices29@gmail.com)

## SEA VIEW IN KAMALA

Small plots, 1 rai. Very good sea view. Road, water & electricity supply with Chanote. Priced from 7.5 million per rai. Tel: 087-6050365. Email: [tim@kamalaparadise.com](mailto:tim@kamalaparadise.com)

## PATONG CONDO

Condo for sale. Refurbished, gardens, large pool. 3.3 million baht. Tel: 087-2650118. Email: [ant\\_p\\_clark@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ant_p_clark@yahoo.co.uk)

## VILLA & LAND

Villa near Heroines' Monument, built 2007, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, pool, fully furnished. Living space: 450sqm, land: 1,400sqm. 12.9 million baht. Also, Land: 1,100sqm, 2.5 million baht. Tel: 084-6907057.

## 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.

## KAMALA TOWNHOUSE



near Phuket FantaSea, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, carpark. 3.2 million baht, negotiable. Email: [png.phuket@gmail.com](mailto:png.phuket@gmail.com)

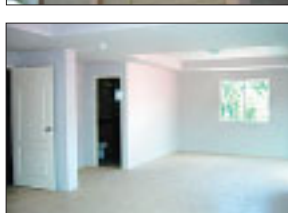
## HIGH-END POOL VILLA

220,000 euros. Tel: 076-381351, 081-8920750. Fax: 076-280094. Email: [gunther@nirvana-phuket.com](mailto:gunther@nirvana-phuket.com) For further details, please see our website at <http://picasaweb.google.com/gunther2551/KlausHaus>

## LAND IN AO NANG

4 rai in Ao Nang, Krabi. Chanote. 3.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 084-8502499.

## NEW BUILDING FOR SALE



in busy area, Soi Sai Nam Yen, Patong Beach.

- \* 4 stories
  - \* 8 apartments on floors 2, 3 and 4
  - \* Chanote title
  - \* Electricity, water
  - \* 2 minutes to the beach
- Asking price: 52 million baht.  
Tel: 087-2709093, 081-8687676.

## EUROPEAN VILLA: B6.9 MILLION

Kathu, near Loch Palm Golf Course & British International School. Fully furnished. 3 bedrooms, Wi-Fi, Jacuzzi, garden. Tel: 089-8961265. Email: [seeayaagain@gmail.com](mailto:seeayaagain@gmail.com)

## RAWAI VILLA WITH POOL

Brand-new, 3 bedrooms, salt-water pool, steam sauna. 650sqm land, 220sqm villa, Chanote, outstanding, double walls, tropical garden. Must see, great price. Finance or trade in is possible. 5% commission for agents. Tel: 085-7831890.

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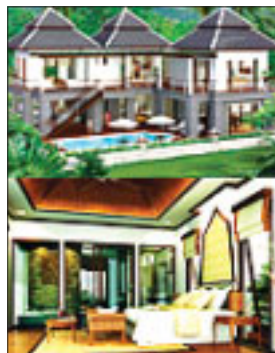
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## 11 BIG NEW LUXURY VILLAS



in Kamala with private pool. Modern Thai-Balinese style. 24-hour security in a gated community. Exclusive location a few minutes from beach and town center. Built in natural surroundings on flat land with a very good hill view. Chanote. 4 bedrooms. Large, fully fitted modern kitchen. All bedrooms with separate bathrooms and built-in cupboards. Jacuzzi. All rooms have aircon. Freehold or leasehold. 2 show homes fully furnished. Ready now. Prices from 21 million baht. Tel: 076-279-289, 086-2742308. Email: [kamalaparadise@yahoo.com](mailto:kamalaparadise@yahoo.com) Website: [www.kamalaparadise.com](http://www.kamalaparadise.com)



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

## KARON SEAVIEW



Located between Centara Karon Resort and Seacret Cliff Resort. 10.5 rai with Chanote. Very good location for business (hotel & resort). Asking price 250 million baht. No agents! Please contact Tel: 087-2709093. Email: [a.pueng@gmail.com](mailto:a.pueng@gmail.com)

## ON THE BEACH

2-bedroom apartment in north Patong. Foreign freehold, top floor, swimming pools. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-2765117. Email for photos: [jihshand@gmail.com](mailto:jihshand@gmail.com)

## KHAO LAK INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

Land beside Kempinski hotel, Khao Lak. 5.5 rai. Chanote. 50 million baht total (negotiable). Contact Gak. Tel: 081-840-2448.

## BEACH FRONT 5.9 MILLION BAHT

Beautiful piece of land opposite Yacht Haven Marina. Ready to build, road access, water, electricity. 7 rai with over 180m of beach frontage. For quick sale. Only 5.9 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-3430777.

## LAND PLOT 2.3 MILLION BAHT

900sqm. Land plot with underground electricity and water supply in quiet, secure community next to Mission Hills golf course. For sale at only 2.3 million baht. No agents please. Tel: 081-2712825.

## RAWAI VILLA WITH POOL

Brand new, 3 bedrooms, salt-water pool, steam sauna. 650sqm land, 220sqm villa, Chanote, outstanding, double walls, tropical garden. Must see, great price. Finance or trade-in is possible. 5% commission for agents. Tel: 085-7831890.

## KALIM SEAVIEW, FREEHOLD



The Residence Kalim Bay, a tropical paradise. Apt 321. 2 bedrooms, 110sqm, balcony. 2nd floor, fully furnished (including two big flat screen TVs - 42 inch and 36 inch). 9.85 million baht. Tel: 076-344350, 087-264-6354. Email: [gerardvanhal@gmail.com](mailto:gerardvanhal@gmail.com) For further details, see our website: [www.residencephuket.com](http://www.residencephuket.com)

## KAMALA SEAVIEW LAND

6 rai with Chanote. Can be divided. All with good sea view. Road, water & electricity supply. Priced from 6 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: [kim@kamalafalls.com](mailto:kim@kamalafalls.com)

## KOH SAMUI SEA-VIEW LAND

Hillside sea view on Koh Samui. Size: 3,200sqm (2 rai). Chanote. Tel: 02-2771992, 083-6113020. Fax: 02-9610072. Email: [pharawee@yahoo.com](mailto:pharawee@yahoo.com) For details, visit [www.lovesamui.com](http://www.lovesamui.com)

## KHAO LAK RIVERFRONT LAND

2 rai about 5km from central Khao Lak. 1.3 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2811945. Email: [mike@ethailand.com](mailto:mike@ethailand.com)

## 1 RAI OF LAND

only 5.7 million baht, 200 meters off main road, good location in Chalong. Tel: 089-6513479.

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### RAWAI POOL RESIDENCE



1, 2 or 3 bedrooms. 9,000 baht per month. 100m from Wat Rawai. Tel: 086-940-8914. Email: p.pimada@gmail.com

### HOUSE FOR RENT OR SALE



Phanason Kathu, furnished. Single house, 2 bedrooms. Ready to move in to. Tel: 089-6628733.

### KAMALA BEACHFRONT VILLAS

Fully furnished to high standard. Western kitchen. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge and dining areas. Large balcony overlooking pool and landscaped garden. Stunning sea views, only meters from the beach. Privately gated, parking and storage. True TV and ADSL. Includes daily cleaning and washing, pool and gardening service. Rent: 75,000 baht/month. Contact K. Suchada. Tel: 084-8436837. Email: suchada\_villas@hotmail.com Website: www.phuket-island-homes.com

### HOUSE IN CHALONG

2 bedrooms, partly furnished, aircon. Tel: 087-2832285, 086-5958512. Email: surfsess2004@yahoo.com

### PATONG TOWNHOUSE

for rent. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms in great location with aircon. 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-512117. Email: denelson@yahoo.com

### PATONG



For more information email a.pueng@gmail.com

### AMAZING SEA VIEW



Big colonial villa set in rolling countryside with fabulous sea views, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, private gardens and pool, exclusive Cape Yamu development. 10mins to BIS. No dogs. 80,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-2796283.

### RENT A HOUSE IN PHUKET

Contact Wellta, born and raised in Phuket, she has many houses for rent. Tel: 081-9680309. Email: info@houseinphuket.com www.houseinphuket.com

### LUXURY VILLA, RAWAI

5 bedrooms, large pool and garden, fully equipped. Tel: 086-2790837.

### VILLA FOR RENT, ONLY 28,000

Close to Laguna and Surin Beach, this new one-bedroom villa is up for long- or short-term rental. Comes with full True TV, telephone, ADSL Internet, maid service and gardener. Fully fitted modern kitchen, aircon and teak furniture in all rooms. Tel: 076-239112, 081-5976911. Fax: 076-238943. Email: damian@electrical-marine.com

### NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins from Rawai & Nai Harn beaches. 162sqm. 2 bedrooms with private bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. 3 aircons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage-collection service. Please contact K. Nui. Tel: 087-3830936.

### COMFORTABLE 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

located in Phuket Villa 5. Fully furnished + hot water, aircon, European kitchen. 1-year contract. 16,500 baht per month + 3 months' rent guarantee. Tel: 076-249093, 080-528-0399. Email: ebizgrader@aim.com

### LAND & POND

Good view near the sea at Ao Sapam, Phuket. 8 acres (20.2 rai), long-term lease. Tel: 086-6893289, 083-0526696.

### HOUSE AT CHALONG

for rent near Palai Beach. 2 or 3 bedrooms, aircon, fully furnished, phone line. Tel: 089-7288311.

### VILLA, RAWAI

5 bedrooms, large pool and garden, long- or short-term rental. Tel: 086-2790837. Email: bricothermaland2@hotmail.com

### RENTALS FROM 15,000

Long term. 2.7 million baht. Professional service. Call Khun Bua at Tel: 085-7955383, K. Sue at Tel: 087-8974421. Chalong, Rawai, Nai Harn, Land & Houses Park.

### HOUSE, CHALONG

2-story home; 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, hot water, aircon, car park, furnished, True TV, telephone. Long term: 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-7417260. Email: rattapia453@hotmail.com

### NEW HOUSE (BAAN DON)



For sale or rent, near Laguna, 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, just bring your bag. 23,000 baht/month, 1-year contract. Tel: 089-8742960. Email: pwarunee@hotmail.com

### HOUSE RENTAL

Waterside 2-story house at Land & Houses Park. Furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hot water, 4 aircons. Long-term rental from August: 40,000 baht/month (negotiable). Includes ADSL. Contact Khun Nee for details. Tel: 076-367077.

### APARTMENT AT KATA BEACH

Cable TV, furnished, Internet. Tel: 086-5958512, 081-9704638. Email: nalumana2000@yahoo.com

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

Brand new, fully furnished, fully air-conditioned with the communal swimming pool, near to Boat Lagoon and British International School. Call 086-9405187 (Eng) or 086-9522070 (Thai).

### LUXURY TOWNHOUSE

for rent at Kata Beach. Panoramic sea view, 3- and 1-bedroom apartments, fully furnished, swimming pool, available for short-and long-term rental. Call 081-4157774 (Eng) 086-9522070 (Thai).

### SINGLE HOUSE, THALANG

60sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, 1km from Heroines' Monument, Thalang. 18, 000 baht. Tel: 087-2839181.

### NICE HOUSE



800m from Heroines' Monument, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, nice garden at corner. Fully fitted kitchen, 2 TVs with cable TV, 3 aircons, telephone line with ADSL. 21,000 baht/month for 2-year contract or 23,000 baht/month for 1-year contract. Tel: 081-851-2280. Email: dennis.mo@hotmail.com

### NEW CHALONG HOME

2-bedroom, furnished home for rent. Phone line, True TV, aircon. Tel: 089-6521473.

### 2-BEDROOM VILLA NEAR BIS

Close to amenities, reasonable price. Tel: 089-4441124. Email: nacky2u@hotmail.com

### LARGE SEAVIEW HOUSE

only 10 mins from British International School, amazing sea views, 3 bedrooms/4 bathrooms, maid's room, big garden, swimming pool, security, quiet location. 80,000 baht/month. Tel: 086-2796283.

### RAWAI POOL VILLA

Brand new, 10m pool, security, big garden, 3 bedrooms. Low-season offer: 45,000 baht/month. Fully furnished. You see, you take! Tel: 085-7831890.

### SHOP FOR RENT

Prime Patong location, 20m from the beach. Suitable for cafe, snack bar, ice cream shop or other use. Tel: 083-6469906. Email: tsabest@gmail.com

### THE GREENHOUSE BUNGALOWS

Chalong, new 2-bedroom bungalows. Fully furnished, cool, quiet, close to all facilities. 12,000 baht per month. Contact K. John. Tel: 081-9791976.

### THE WHITE HOUSE VILLA



for rent or sale (27.5 million baht). The White House Villa is one of the finest tropical pool villas in Patong. Best location for nightlife and touring Phuket. Located high on the hill above the Amari Coral Beach Resort at the south end of Patong. No agents! Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

### KATA EXOTIC SEAFRONT

1-bedroom luxury apt. Pools, gym, quiet area. 30,000 baht per month. Email: asiasail@yahoo.com For further details, please visit www.koumbele.com/k1/

### PATONG APARTMENTS

Sea view, beach road. 12,000 to 30,000 baht. Tel: 084-8473304. Website: www.selectphuket.com

### LUXURY PRIVATE VILLA

for rent in Patong, panoramic sea view, 3 bedrooms, fully furnished with private swimming pool, price negotiable. Call 086-9405187 (Eng) or 086-9522070 (Thai).

### HOUSE FOR RENT - THALANG

3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house for rent immediately at Pa Khlok, Thalang, 800m from Heroines' Monument (located at Baan Suan Neramit 5 Moo 8). Fully furnished, kitchen fitted with Fagor oven, ADSL, laundry, garden. 23,000 baht/month or 21,000 baht/month for 1-year contract. Call 081-851-2280 (English/Thai). Email: dennis.mo@hotmail.com

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# Boats & Marine

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Sportfisher, perfect for diving, cruising, fishing or charter, 2x Mercury 225 HP, cabin and head, trailer 1.8 million baht. Tel: 089-8126515.

## SAILBOAT WANTED

Racer/cruiser, 35 to 40ft to charter for King's Cup. US\$3,000 or nearest offer. Negotiable. Contact Neil. Email: air2cure@yahoo.com

## LIVEABOARD DIVE BOAT SALE



24m long, 380hp, 20 guests in 10 aircon cabins. 2 generators, 2 compressors, complete kitchenware & bedding. TV, DVD, stereo and more. Tel: 076-330598. Email: juergens@diveasia.com

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## CHOLAMARK HYPERLON RIB

3.5 meters. New tubes 1 year ago, condition as new. Save 45,000 baht. Cost new: 130,000 baht. Price: 85,000 baht. Contact more details. Tel: 081-5399560. Email: oystcove@loxinfo.co.th

## FIBERGLASS BOAT FOR SALE

Brand-new, 36ft flybridge fiberglass boat. Ideal for scuba diving, sightseeing tours, hotel transfers. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

## SEA DOO JET BOAT

1997, 4.7 meters, model speedster, twin 2 cyl. Rotax 85 hp, newly rebuilt, never used engines. Seats 5, fast, clean, ready for action, mooring cover, canopy, galvanized trailer. Tel: 086-2786112.

## 33-FOOT WOODEN HULL

in perfect condition, 10 years old, 2 engines, Yamaha V6, 200hp, 250 hours, 900,000 baht. Contact Jano. Tel: 083-5905464.

**BUSINESS FOR SALE**  
52-foot charter yacht, successfully run by couple in Phuket for 10 years. Price: US\$95,000. Tel: 081-677-1641.

## FAMILY SAILING DINGHY

4.52m/15ft. Easy sail for husband-wife, parent-child combos. Outstanding stability and fiberglass hull. Designed to be sailed by a man and a woman. Can deliver exciting performance without using spinnaker or trapeze. Small class on island, so can race. Four hours free tuition with sale. 125,000 baht. Wind comes free. Tel: 081-539-9560. Email: oystcove@loxinfo.co.th

## CENTER CONSOLE, 6-METER IMPORT

Our best bargain. Quick sale for cash. Contact Andrew. Tel: 081-8941530, 083-3927150. Email: wvunchart-thannawat@hotmail.com

## SPEEDBOAT BUSINESS

Thai-registered, 12.9-meter speedboat in excellent condition. Takes 22 pax + 3 crew. Twin Yamaha 200hp V6 engines and 7 different inflatables to make it all fun for your customers. Comes with life jackets and snorkeling equipment, a registered company, a Thai captain and one boat boy. Price: 1 million baht. Tel: 081-8914381. Email: patongshakers@hotmail.com

## FIBERGLASS SPEEDBOAT

for sale. Thai registered, 11-meter fiberglass hull, perfect condition, 3 years old, 2 engines: Yamaha V6 200HP. 990,000 baht. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-8955628. Email: kay.boon@hotmail.com

## 2 SPEEDBOATS FOR SALE



\*38-foot, fiberglass body (1 year old). Location: Royal Phuket Marina. Engines: 2 x 250 Yamaha 4 stroke. Fuel tank: 600 liters. Onboard toilet, fresh water tank. Carrying capacity: 2 crew + 24 pax.

\*35 foot. Location: Workshop in Phuket City, waiting to kit out and fit engine (included in Price). Engines: 2x200 Yamaha 4 stroke (New). Fuel tank: 600 liters. Onboard toilet, fresh water tank. Carrying capacity: 2 crew + 20 pax. Offers around 5 million baht. Tel: 081-0868041.

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Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 01 968 1437  
tel/fax: 076 238 729  
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Yacht Haven Marina Office  
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket  
Contact: Jim Poulsen  
Mobile: 081 891 3237  
tel/fax: 076 205 200  
email: yacht@leemarine.com

Pattaya Office  
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach  
Contact: Mark Heath  
Mobile: 0817879408  
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Email: mark@leemarine.com



Find more classified ads

# "Boats & Marine"

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# Island Job Mart

## Staff Required

- 1 x Hostess
- 1 x Deckhand

A luxury motor yacht charter company is looking for 2 English-speaking Thai national staff to fill the above positions.

A background in five-star service is essential as is a fun personality.

Please contact [prue@tawancruises.com](mailto:prue@tawancruises.com) or phone 081 894 3234 for further information.



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Our company is a leading supplier in real estate and construction materials. Due to our expansion, we are looking for a

### Sales Executive (based in Phuket)

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1. Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering
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Please send resume to [namphueng@avcphuket.com](mailto:namphueng@avcphuket.com)

### Audio Visual Creations Co. Ltd.

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## ONLINE JOB APPLICATION

HOTEL - ACCTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B

[www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm](http://www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm)

Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort, a member of Starwood Hotels and Resorts, would like to invite Thai Nationals to apply for the following positions:

### Director of Human Resources Assistant Training Manager

We offer an exciting career for ambitious professionals along with a competitive benefit package.

Please submit your resume with recent photo by email to: [narumon.chanaritharaj@lemeridien.com](mailto:narumon.chanaritharaj@lemeridien.com)

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29 Soi Karon Noi,  
Karon, Muang Phuket 83100  
T: 076-370100 F: 076-340479  
[lemeridien.com](http://lemeridien.com)



## Staff Wanted Urgently Thais that speak English well

- To work in the marketing department and provide information on real estate to tourists.
- No experience necessary.
- All educational backgrounds welcome.

Send resume to: [Eleanor@nsre-thailand.com](mailto:Eleanor@nsre-thailand.com)

Tel: 076-346282.

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Applications from candidates with the following qualifications are now being taken for our Phuket Call and Reservation Centre.

### Content Manager

The Content Manager (CM) as head of the dept must provide a consistent corporate 'voice' as directed by the CIO for all Marketing Communications outlets: email templates, newsletters, articles, media releases, hotel information, travel planner, advertising (online and traditional), corporate web pages such as About Us and Cancellation policy, etc. The CM must also manage the other staff members and independent contractors (translators, graphic designers, content providers, etc) and provide leadership and direction. The CM must act as a liaison between Content Dept and other depts such as Web Development, Graphics, etc.

### Necessary skill set:

- ▶ Native English speaker
- ▶ Excellent copywriting skills
- ▶ Excellent editing skills
- ▶ Highly detail-oriented
- ▶ Sales/Marketing experience
- ▶ Management experience
- ▶ Online Marketing, Publishing and/or Travel Industry experience would be an advantage

Generous compensation and benefit package available for the right candidates.

Interested applicants please submit your application including resume / CV or employment certificates to [jobs@hoteltravel.com](mailto:jobs@hoteltravel.com) call 076-282808 Khun Amupab Satakom, Human Resources Manager for further information.

## WANTED

### Hotel Manager

Savisalo Properties Co Ltd is opening a new high-class bungalow-resort in Khanom, Nakhon Sri Thammarat. Building will start on September 2008 and the resort will be open for customers in August 2009.

Employment will start in September-October 2008.

### Hotel Manager responsibilities:

- Staff supervision
- Staff training
- Supply and Service Provider relationships
- Customer Service
- General Management tasks
- Continuous Business Development of the resort

### Requirements:

- Fluent in written and spoken English and Thai (other languages ++)
- University/higher education degree in Hotel and Tourism field)
- Former experience in Hotel Management
- Good understanding of Western and Thai culture
- Good people skills
- Creativity and Initiative

Please post your application and resume (CV) via email to: [atte.savisalo@savcor.com](mailto:atte.savisalo@savcor.com) and [atte3000@hotmail.com](mailto:atte3000@hotmail.com)

### CLEANING LADY WANTED

Not older than 35 years old. Must speak some English and like cleaning. Please contact for further details Tel: 085-7831890.

### HOUSEKEEPER WANTED

Live-in, English-speaking Thai native wanted for private villa at Surin Hill. Cleaning, some cooking. Dog lover. References. Tel: 081-8451492. Email: [shrdbrkk@ksc15.th.com](mailto:shrdbrkk@ksc15.th.com)

### NURSERY/ PRESCHOOL

Nursery/preschool in Chalong is looking for a native English teacher full or part time as well as a Thai teaching assistant who must speak some English. A love of children and outgoing nature are required. Tel: 087-2785511.

### GRAPHIC DESIGNERS WANTED

Thai nationals. Experience in PS and AI essential. Dream-weaver an advantage. Must speak, read and write excellent English. Email CV, portfolio and expected salary. Email: [jobs@lfr-asia.com](mailto:jobs@lfr-asia.com)

### ATTRACTIVE ASSISTANT

needed for property management. Must have good English. Tel: 085-7831890. Email: [phuketprojectsale@yahoo.com](mailto:phuketprojectsale@yahoo.com)

### FRONT OFFICER AT SKY HOTEL

Good English and can use Microsoft Office well. No experience needed. Tel: 081-2963413. Fax: 081-2963413. Email: [prakaisriroj@hotmail.com](mailto:prakaisriroj@hotmail.com)

### DAY & NIGHT GUARD WANTED

No drinking, no sleeping. Between 20-40 years. Good salary. English recommended. Tel: 081-5376866.

### ITALIAN CHEF

needed for Italian specialty pasta. Dinner only. Tel: 087-8860448.

### THAI ENGLISH TEACHER

Thai national, fluent in English, to teach conversation to other Thai nationals working in the tourist industry. 10 hours/week, 11,000 baht/month. Tel: 080-6247060.

### SWEDISH & THAI TEACHER

I want a Swedish & Thai teacher for private lessons. Please contact for more info. Tel: 087-8907561.

### TRAINER FOR GUARD FORCE

New security company in Phuket is looking for a Thai male, age not over 40, with strong English communication skills. Security background required. Tel: 076-316244. Email: [pornthip@sgsphuket.com](mailto:pornthip@sgsphuket.com) For more information, see our website: [www.siamguardianservices.com](http://www.siamguardianservices.com)

### SECRETARY TO GM

Need female native English speaker to serve as secretary to GM of Pornthip Sea Store. Send application via email: [donnong@gmail.com](mailto:donnong@gmail.com)

### SELL ADVERTISING

Siam Real Estate requires a Thai to sell web banner advertising space in Phuket. Must have outgoing personality and speak good English. Good commissions. Tel: 076-288908. Email: [patrick@siamrealestate.com](mailto:patrick@siamrealestate.com)

### RECEPTIONIST

for beautiful small guesthouse in Karon. Please contact for more info. Tel: 086-2718254. Email: [ninapartments@hotmail.com](mailto:ninapartments@hotmail.com)

### AJAX PHP PROGRAMMERS

Freelancers welcome for large Internet project. Tel: 084-6644050. Email: [aadams007@yahoo.com](mailto:aadams007@yahoo.com)



# Island Job Mart

## STAFF WANTED

A hotel in Surin is hiring the following personnel: 1 cook, 2 cook's helpers, waitress, room maid, night watchman. Contact Anto. Tel: 089-7284005.

## WEB DESIGNER WANTED

Experienced web designer/webmaster required in Patong. Contact for info. Tel: 076-293061. Email: david@freedomleisuregroup.com

## EXPERIENCED SALES EXEC 75K+

UK company now recruiting expat sales staff for Phuket office. Great salary/commission. Email or call if interested. Tel: 089-5118012. Email: simon.munroe@smart-traffic.co.uk

## RECEPTIONIST WANTED



Requirements:

- Diploma or bachelor's degree in any related field
- Minimum of 1-year experience. We also welcome new graduates.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office, Excel and email correspondence.
- Good written and spoken English communication skills.
- Pleasant personality, service minded with excellent interpersonal skills.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their applications together with a resumé of career to date, present salary, expected salary, references and a recent photo to the address shown below.

### PK International Law Office Co Ltd

18/9, 17 Moo 8, Chao Fa East Rd, Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130. Tel: 076-384014, 076-381055. Fax: 076-381252. Email: rung@pk-phuket-law.com

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- Good command of both spoken and written English
- Computer literate
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Presentable, outgoing personality, goal-oriented
- Self-motivated
- Driving license and own car preferable

Interested candidates are invited to submit a detailed resume with photo and salary expectation to [jsinhuwong@exotiqrealestate.com](mailto:jsinhuwong@exotiqrealestate.com). Only short-listed candidates will be notified.

### Dee Jai Jung Co., Ltd

19/43-45 Moo 7, Srisoonthorn Rd., T.Srisoonthorn, A.Talang, Phuket 83110  
Tel: 076-620015

## Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

### ARTIST

- Thai national
- Graphic-design skills and knowledge of Adobe Illustrator, PageMaker and Photoshop
- Freehand drawing and web-design skills a plus
- Responsible, hard working, attentive to detail
- Able to work in a fast-paced environment and meet deadlines
- Good communication skills, team player
- English speaker

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV to Wipa Putkeaw, Human Resources, by email, fax or post to:

### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai, A. Muang, Phuket 83000  
Fax: 076-213971 Email: fon@phuketgazette.net

## SALES EXECUTIVE WANTED

- Basic salary and commission
- Interpersonal skills
- Computer/Internet skills
- Good command of English
- Proven sales record, including telesales
- Own car with driver's license
- Good benefits: mobile and petrol. We work only 5 days a week.

Tel: 076-367040, 089-1951394. Fax: 076-367040. Please email CV with recent photo to [info@mojomarket.com](mailto:info@mojomarket.com). For more details please visit [www.mojomarket.com](http://www.mojomarket.com)

## 50,000 BAHT/MONTH

We need English speakers (Thai + foreigners). Contact Marc. Tel: 086-6833526. Email: marcjonker\_69@hotmail.com

## EXPERIENCED COOK

needed for international bistro in Kata. Good English essential. Accommodation may be available. Contact David. Tel: 084-0639223. Email: david.r6pd@gmail.com

## TOUR GUIDE WANTED

Tour guide wanted for speed-boat company. He/she must have tour guide/TAT license. Tel: 076-289044, 087-2818990. Fax: 076-289044. Email: gsmith100@gmail.com

## RAIMON LAND



## Position: Customer Relations Management Officer - Phuket

### Responsibilities:

- Build and maintain communications with customers from the after sales period through to pre and post transfer of completed condo unit.
- Involvement with day-to-day project management, & assisting with customer/client requests.
- Assist clients with all aspects of transferring condo unit.
- Co-ordinate with Transfer Department and Accounting Department.
- Co-ordinate with property management team.
- Contact Suppliers
- Look after the project and keep the project highly maintained.

### Qualifications:

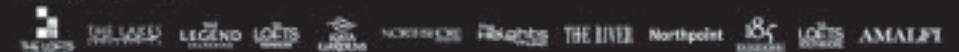
- Male/Female
- Bachelor's degree in any related fields.
- Minimum 2-3 years experience customer service or CRM, preferably some property management background.
- Experience in CRM or secretarial tasks, comprising of basic computer knowledge, email etc.
- Eye for detail, good admin & filing skills, multi-tasking and able to meet targets.
- Smart and dynamic, have a pleasant and optimistic attitude and be able to handle responsibility in a balanced and professional manner.
- Strong service mind and very organized
- Proficient in both written and spoken English and Thai. Able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing to all levels of employees, customers, vendors.
- Independent and proactive (important), have a hands-on mentality and be a team player, possess a positive attitude and willingness to learn
- Own transport

For an interview to be arranged interested applicants should apply by sending a full resume with a recent photo, indicating qualifications, experience and expected salary. Application should be sent by post, email or fax to:

### SmartCityPeople (Thailand) Recruitment Co., Ltd.

Unit 32/56-57B Level 19 Sathorn Thani II, North Sathorn Road, Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500 Thailand  
Fax: +66 2 636 7030  
[service@smartcitypeople.com](mailto:service@smartcitypeople.com)

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## Gallery Manager

- Female
- Bachelor's degree
- Strong English-language skills essential
- Strong computer skills (MS Word, Excel, Outlook)
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Must be prepared to work six days a week
- Experience in Sales or PR would be an advantage

Please send CV with recent photo and expected salary to [info@dgallery.co.th](mailto:info@dgallery.co.th)

### D GALLERY CO., LTD.

63/501, Moo 2, Thepkasatri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200  
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Email: [info@dgallery.co.th](mailto:info@dgallery.co.th)  
[www.dgallery.co.th](http://www.dgallery.co.th)

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Reliable, trustworthy and has work permit. Please contact for more details.

Tel: 083-5907871.

Email:

[imp\\_2u2007@yahoo.com](mailto:imp_2u2007@yahoo.com)

### ENGLISH TEACHER

Filipina lady with TEFL certificate and excellent command of spoken and written English seeks position of English Teacher.

Please call or email. Tel:

076-283147, 080-

6950003. Email:

[Reena\\_calderon@yahoo.com](mailto:Reena_calderon@yahoo.com)

### SALES TECHNICIAN

Foreign male, 20-35 year old, must have sales & technical knowledge.

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## NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKERS

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### SEWING MACHINE & OVERLOCK

-Bernina 1000 Designer sewing machine, Swiss made, 10 years old, excellent condition, 6,000 baht.

-Bernette Overlock 134DL, Swiss made, 8 years old, excellent condition, 5,000 baht. Tel: 076-285307, 087-265-8801. Email: ruckzuck98@hotmail.com

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Complete restaurant with professional kitchen equipment for sale. Secondhand but only 3 months old! Almost new. Good price... first come, first served! Freezers, refrigerators, dishwasher, Boncafe espresso machine, microwave, grill, racks, tables, chairs, complete bar equipment, bar counter with lighting, restaurant dishes, plates, glasses, cutlery, lamps, speakers, desks, office chairs, electronics: Mini Mac with Samsung screen, stereos, CD-DVD players, amplifier, etc. Also staff-house equipment, beds, mattresses, closets, Philips TV, 1 complete bedroom with large bed with frame, also motorbike - all in good condition. Please call 089-7256994 (Eng), 086-7453359 (Thai).

### KINGSIZE MATTRESS AND ANTI-MITE

Kingsize Carnation mattress with Anti-Mite. Size: 6'6"x5'6" (1.83m x 1.98m x 15cm). Used only with cover and only for 3 months. For sale because it's too hard for me. Pick up in Rawai. Only 1,000 baht. Tel: 083-3902970. Email: bastelman1@hotmail.com

### SELLING ALL CONTENTS

of a nightclub/disco and furniture for 4 bedrooms. Sofas, tables, coolers, aircons, water pumps, sound and lighting equipment, visual effects systems from the best factory. Everything is new. Used only 6 months. Contact Paul. Tel: 084-6455971. Email: paul.phuket@gmail.com

### PANASONIC LCD

projector. Watch DVDs/football on 100-inch white wall with 2m screen. 35,000 baht. Call Ian. Tel: 086-2680042.

### SIERRA WIRELESS AIRCARD

4,000 baht, call after 2 pm. Comes with CD software. Not for Vista; XP is OK. Tel: 076-296351, 081-0862772. Email: thewizardofrockandroll@gmail.com

### MAHLE, ELGAR

Bach, Brahms? 300-400 used classical CDs for sale, many spares, good condition. Contact Ian. Tel: 086-2680042.

### AIRCONS

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## Articles Wanted

### SURFBOARDS WANTED

Anything considered, 6'8" +, any condition, must be cheap. Tel: 085-7829020. Email: marcus@puriti.org

## Bulletins

### WENDY AND TALITHA

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### TO ALL FILIPINAS

Need help? Call Sister Mary. Tel: 084-3050963.

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### BOOKS FOR SALE

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### RESTAURANT FOR SALE

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### 8-BEDROOM GUESTHOUSE

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### SHOP FOR RENT

Best location, Phuket City, 80sqm + upstairs available. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-6186894.

### GUESTHOUSE AND LAND

9-year lease, 26 rooms, restaurant. 6.8 million baht. Tel: 081-9251730. Email: pla213@hotmail.com

### BAR FOR SALE

Near Bangla Rd. Fully equipped. Member of the Patong Pool League. Price: 450,000 baht. Rent: 10,000 baht/month. 2 years 6 months left on lease. Tel: 087-1133043. Email: mie@westsite.dk

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### RESTAURANT & GUESTHOUSE

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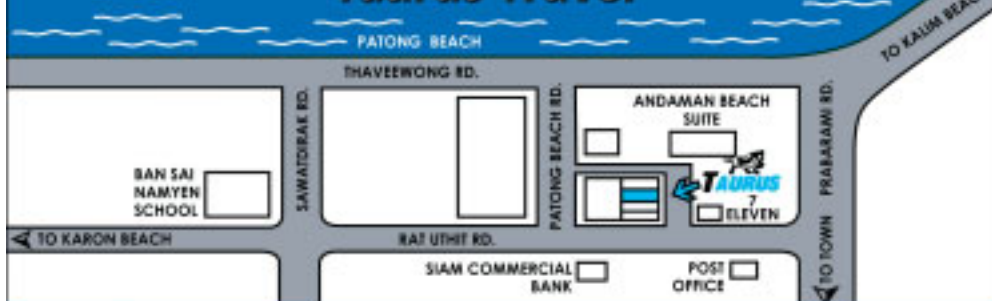
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Takamine G Series acoustic Guitar with extra strings. As new, never used. Paid 11,000 baht; asking 8,000. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-288309, 084-844 5868. Email: come\_in2enjoy@hotmail.com

### AFRICAN DRUM

African djembe. Brand new, super sound, deep tribal carved jackfruit wood. 65cm x 35cm. Goat skin. Comes with professional, padded travel bag. Please contact by email: nicosmic@hotmail.com

## Personal Services

### SPA & NAIL CARE

Private and clean. We are the best in Phuket. Tel: 083-1036578. Website: www.siriwansa.com

## MASSAGE AT YOUR PLACE

Relax and enjoy Thai, oil, deep tissue. 10am to 9pm. Please contact Ms Da. Tel: 089-0503945.

## YOGA AT HOME!

Passionate, certified yoga teacher available daily in the comfort of your residence. Private classes, 1-3 persons. First lesson free. Email Ann at yogaphuket@usa.net

## Personals

### FRIENDS OR MORE

If you are an honest, qualified and sexy lady who likes the same type of man, why not get to know each other? Email: patrik269@yahoo.com

### SWEET ELISABETH

Yes, this advertisement is specially for you! Crazy? No. If possible, I could have written a whole page about you and even more. Although you are 12,474 miles away from me, I feel your deep warmth every day as if you are still close to me. I mean it when I say you are a dream to me I already expressed. My admiration for you in so many ways and this Phuket confession in blue is just one. Be prepared for other surprises. In The meantime, keep on enjoying Thailand and... be happy! I noticed staying in this country has given you lots of new energy and that's what you needed after a year with a lot of pain and stress. Although you love Thailand, don't stay there! Sweetest kisses from the other side of the world. Herman.

### SEEKING LOVE

A single fit attractive English teacher (own car & house), age 59. I want a kind honest & educated caucasian age 60+. Email: pattyudon@yahoo.com

## Pets

### FREE TO GOOD HOME

Small female cat, neutered, black/white/brown in color. Approx. 18 months old. Owner left country, needs a loving and caring home. Please contact for more information. Tel: 083-1759042.

### GOLDEN RETRIEVER

puppies for sale. De-wormed, vaccinated. Tel: 087-0543034.

## Surfboards

### NEW SURFBOARD

7ft, never used, shaped in Hawaii. Can meet for viewing. Tel: 089-0906969. Email: tropicalbreeze\_1@hotmail.com

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# Wheels & Motors

## 4 x 4s

### MAZDA TRIBUTE

Only 3 years old, 45,000km, fully serviced, gold, 700,000 baht. Tel: 086-2772691.

### MITSUBISHI TRITON

2006, 3.2L 4WD, manual, black. Only 5,400km. 22-inch wheels. A bargain at 550,000 baht. Tel: 089-0004400.

### ISUZU D-MAX 4 WD



2003, blue, 4 doors, 3L diesel. Price: 520,000 baht. Tel: 086-2812899.

### GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED

Year 2000 Jeep, black, loaded with all the goodies, including leather seats. Excellent condition, and well maintained. Tel: 081-5362069. Email: pj\_cctexas@hotmail.com

**TOYOTA TIGER 4 WD**  
December 98, owner's manual, silver, 73,000km. Very good condition. 280,000 baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 081-0855765. Email: beat19@loxinfo.co.th

### 4WD MAZDA FIGHTER



147,000km, turbo diesel. Carryboy locking cover, off-road package, fully loaded. Tel: 084-4828957.

### HONDA CRV

August 2003, in metallic gold, extra checks, with book. 69,000km. 650,000 baht. Tel: 086-2831674.

**TOYOTA HILUX 4WD**  
22 months, 30,000km, Toyota maintained. 690,000 baht. Tel: 081-7197015, 089-4708926.

### FORD RANGER TURBO 4X4

2004 model, 4 doors, very good condition, 57,000km, family car. 420,000 baht. Contact Russ. Tel: 087-3810430.

**2002 4WD MITSUBISHI 4-DOOR**  
2.8 turbo diesel. 114,000km. 340,000 baht. 1st-class insurance. Tel: 087-9261381. Email: pakadog@gmail.com

### TOYOTA AVANZA

Black, 26,000km. Warranty until May 2009. 420,000 baht, or 150,000 down and take over payments. Tel: 086-1511600. Email: khunmallee@hotmail.com

**TOYOTA HILUX 2001**  
87,000km, manual, 2.5L diesel, D4D, full options, DVD player. 370,000 baht. Tel: 076-344725, 089-2121254.

### FORD 4X4

Top of the line. Full options plus extras. Year: 2001. Less than 130,000km. Leaving Thailand. 330,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-6930766. Email: daniel boychuk@gmail.com

### ISUZU DMAX 2004, MUST SEE!

Nice, dark blue, 4-door, 4x4, 3.0L turbo. 535,000 baht. Tel: 086-9421969. Email: laciisque@gmail.com

### HONDA CRV

2002 model, excellent condition, many extras. Bargain at 550,000 baht. Tel: 081-9586512. Email: mnsWilson@gmail.com

## Motorbikes

### HONDA MAGNA

in excellent condition. Custom pipers and bars. Must see. 65,000 baht. Tel: 081-1877637.

### SALE BANDIT400



In very good condition 25,000km. 90,000 baht. Tel: 086-2673217.

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON V-ROD

1,200cc, Thailand's most beautiful anniversary model with original chrome parts all over. 17,000km. 2 years on the road. 1.2 million baht. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

### BMWGS650 FOR SALE

Red, 4,000km, 16 months old, farang owner, green book, bargain price: 420,000 baht. Tel: 084-8520862.

### SUZUKI STEP 125

2 years old. 14,500km. Green book. Good condition. Price: 18,000 baht. Tel: 084-4401399. Email: titch1@gmail.com

### OFFROADS FOR SALE

Honda CRF 450X. New, green book expected soon. 355,000 baht. Honda 400XR with green book, 5,000km, in very good condition. 225,000 baht. Tel: 086-4706051. Email: netme@hotmail.com

### YAMAHA VIRAGO

Virago 400cc. 37,000km. Good condition. 11 years old. 50,000 baht. Tel: 087-2827357. Email: jimdroz@hotmail.com

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON

1,450cc, excellent condition, used only 8 months. 30,470km. price: 450,000 baht. Tel: 083-1731690, 083-6903179.

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON FOR SALE

2003 DYNA low rider, mint condition. 625,000 baht. Tel: 089-9711847.

### YAMAHA MIO AUTO, 17,500 BAHT

2 years old, black, disc brakes, 20,000km, green book. Tel: 086-6837162. Email: somthawin\_pvw@hotmail.com

### CHEAP MOTORBIKES

Honda Magna, Charly, JRD, Suzuki 250, Cagiva, JRD, all with green book. Tel: 086-9488139.

### BMW MOTORBIKE FOR SALE

650cc, good condition, 190,000 baht. Tel: 085-7845712.

### YAMAHA NOUVO MX

April 2006, blue. Black mag wheels, 19,000km, excellent condition, green book. 28,000 baht. Tel: 087-2700183. Email: choual@gmail.com

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON

Road King 2003, in mint condition. 860,000 baht. Tel: 085-7831890.

### SUZUKI STEP 125

2006, automatic, 125cc. Green, 7,300km, taxed & insured until June 2009. Green book. 27,000 baht. Tel: 084-8463887. Fax: 076-245736. Email: stefuena@hotmail.com

### SUZUKI GSX-R 2005

600cc, GPR exhaust, 3,700km, in super condition. 360,000 baht. Tel: 089-9715664.

### YAMAHA TENERE 750

1995, with green book, 22,000km, good condition, 150,000 baht. New tires. Tel: 089-9715664.

## Rentals

### CAR FOR RENT

For long or short term, free pick up, first-class insurance, 24-hour roadside service. Tel: 081-9583046. Email: morncarrent@hotmail.com

### P.M.P. CAR RENTALS

New cars for rent:

Toyota Vios, Yaris, Fortuner, Wish and Honda Jazz. Tel: 083-1743880, 087-2646808.

### CHEAP CAR FOR RENT

Honda City, automatic, long term only. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-7432011. Email: woon\_bank@hotmail.com

### NEW VIOS FOR RENT



Many types of car for long-term rent, from 10,000 - 18,000 baht/month. Tel: 081-6078567. Email: islandtour29@gmail.com

### NISSAN NV FOR RENT

Extra cab + cover wagon, 10,000 baht per month, includes full insurance. Tel: 081-5693768.

### QUALITY CAR FOR RENT

Honda, Toyota + insurance: 700 baht per day, or 15,000 per month. Tel: 081-5377137. Email: khunapp@hotmail.com

### CAR RENTAL

10,000 to 20,000 baht per month, full insurance. Call 089-4727304 for details.

## A1 CAR RENTALS



Fully insured. 12,000 to 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-8314703. Email: a1carrent@myway.com

### RENT A NISSAN WINGROAD

Auto, gold, first-class condition. Long-term rental only. 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-3927150. Email: wunchart-thannawat@hotmail.com

### CAR FOR RENT

New Corolla, 20,000 baht. New Vios: 17,000 baht. Chevrolet Optra: 18,000 baht. 1st-class insurance, minimum rental: 1 month. Tel: 084-3046723.

### NEW BIKE FOR RENT

Suzuki step 125cc, 3,000 baht per month. Suzuki Hayate, 125cc, 3,500 baht per month. Tel: 084-3061220.

### MOTORBIKE RENTAL

Airblades for 3,000 baht, Waves for 2,500 baht per month. For more info call 089-4701107.

### RENT MY 4X4 TOYOTA

Tiger for 6 months, 60,000 baht, 1st-class insurance. Tel: 086-0760141.

## Bicycles

### BIANCHI C2C ROAD BIKE

2008 Bianchi C2C carbon-fiber road bike with 55cm medium frame and Cateye micro wireless computer. Tel: 085-6197492. Email: imarrable@hotmail.com

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