

# Phuket Gazette

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## WHO ARE YOU?

Immigration officers from throughout Southern Thailand descend on Phuket for intensive courses in spotting fake and forged passports.

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## PAD protests to continue in Phuket

By Akbar Khan

PHUKET CITY: Despite the Constitution Court on September 9 ordering Samak Sundaravej to resign his post as prime minister, the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) in Phuket will continue its protest at Saphan Hin to add pressure for the coalition government to step down.

PAD Phuket leader Natjarong Ekpermsup told the *Gazette*, "The PAD will not leave Saphan Hin. Although Samak and his Cabinet must go, the government is a coalition with many corrupt members. We cannot accept a caretaker Prime Minister from Samak's coalition. Our country needs a neutral person to be PM, someone who can punish all those who have done wrong."

"We will be watching the five PAD leaders on ASTV at Saphan Hin every night for direction. If the rest of the Cabinet must be put under pressure [to resign], then we will help add to that pressure," he said.

"Banharn Silpa-archa would not be acceptable to us as prime minister because he does not know how to keep his word. He made a lot of promises before joining the coalition, afterwards he did not do anything," he added.

The local PAD protest had gained support from students on Phuket, with some 3,000 secondary students from Phuket Wittayalai School marching from Phuket Provincial Hall to Saphan Hin on September 9 to show their support for the anti-government PAD protest.

Nationwide, some 80 universities staged similar anti-government protests the same day.

The marchers proceeded



Thousands of students staged a peaceful anti-government demonstration through the streets of Phuket City on September 9. Many of them went home after the Constitution Court 'disqualified' Samak Sundaravej as prime minister later that day.

slowly around Surin Circle and down Phuket Rd to Saphan Hin, where the PAD protesters had returned and set up a stage after their occupation of the grounds of Phuket Provincial Hall a week earlier.

The group was led by about 200 students on motorcycles, most of whom opted not to wear crash helmets.

Unlike many of the older PAD supporters, many of the Phuket Wittayalai School students were able to express their displeasure at the current administration in English.

"We are protesting because Samak is selling our country to foreigners," one schoolgirl said.

Phuket City Police Superintendent Nos Svettalekha was among the very few uniformed police officers monitoring the procession as it rounded Surin Circle.

The students were polite, drove slowly and rejoiced cheerfully as they expressed their dislike for Samak, observers noted.

After arriving at the PAD protest area at Saphan Hin, some of the students took to the stage, marched around with megaphones or made phone calls, successfully urging some 4,000 students from Satree Phuket School to join the protest.

Students from two vocational schools in the city were also mobilized to join the protest.

However, after national media announced the Constitution Court's decision that afternoon, most of the students disbanded and headed home.

"The students at Saphan Hin were so delighted with the news that the court had made a unanimous 9-0 decision, they decided to home," Mr Natjarong said.

## Memorial service for One-Two-Go victims

MAI KHAO: To mark the one-year anniversary of the One-Two-Go flight OG 269 tragedy and to honor its victims, there will be a memorial service on Mai Khao Beach, near the end of the runway, at 3 pm on Tuesday, September 16.

Some spirit houses have already been installed at the service site, and Christy Sweet will be putting one more spirit house there on the day.

There will be a Buddhist service during the placement of the spirit house and a reading of the names of those who perished in the disaster.

Christy Sweet is organizing the activity on behalf of Bonnie Rind, sister to one of those who died in the accident and publisher of InvestigateUdom.com, a website that aims to have One-Two-Go and Orient Thai Airlines owner Udom Tatiprosongchai brought to trial over the air crash.

"One-Two-Go staff will be arranging the monks for the ceremony," Ms Sweet said.

However, One-Two-Go will not be holding a memorial service of their own this year. Somjai Kongsuksan, secretary to Mr Udom, said: "Last year, we invited the families of all the victims to a ceremony, but this year we are not arranging anything."

Phuket International Airport Director Vicha Nernlop said, "We've heard nothing about the ceremony and we had no intention of organizing one ourselves, because not everyone likes to be reminded about tragedies like that."

"Of course, if there are people who would like to organize such a ceremony, then they could contact us and we would help out to ensure that it runs smoothly."





All five were charged with possession of ya bah with intent to sell.

## 1,453 pills of seized in ya bah busts

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: Police arrested five men and seized 1,453 *ya bah* (methamphetamine) pills and two firearms in a series of arrests starting early on September 4.

Seeing two men busy repairing motorcycles in front of their home in Srisuchart Grandview Village in Rassada at 3:30 am, police searched Theerawat Toh-Mad, 26, and Surasak Anantakan, 25.

After finding them in possession of 22 *ya bah* pills and 13,800 baht in cash, they searched the house and uncovered an unregistered semi-automatic 9mm pistol with ammunition, police said.

The pair named as their supplier Saran "Bung-Od" Pu-Nguen, 43, who was arrested in a sting operation at the Phuket Garden Hotel on Bangkok

Rd in Phuket City at 1 pm the same day. A search of Saran and his car uncovered 90 more *ya bah* pills and a loaded .38 pistol, police said.

He confessed to drug and firearms charges, said police, and told officers there was a stash of drugs in Room 202 of The Royal Residence Hotel, where police a few hours later arrested Phuket native Anan "Nok" Kaewprasert, 35, and seized 52,000 baht in cash and 1,340 more *ya bah* pills.

Anan in turn identified his supplier as Jarin "Rarin" Pongmak, 36, but a search of Jarin's room at Saksomboon Apartments in Poonphol Night Plaza uncovered a single *ya bah* pill.

All five were charged with possession of *ya bah* with intent to sell, while three of the suspects were also charged with offenses related to illegal possession of firearms.

## Major blackouts announced

PHUKET: The Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority (PPEA) has announced scheduled blackouts in order to continue its work on high-voltage power lines.

The blackouts, which will occur from 9 am to 5 pm, will affect the following populated areas:

**September 17, Rawai:** east side of Wiset Rd, from opposite Muang Phuket School to Saiyuan Rd, including Soi Muang Phuket, Fisherman Way housing estate, Soi Baan Bang Kontee and Soi Ruamjai.

**September 24, Phuket City:** south side of Yaowarat Rd, from Soi Panieng to Songkhla Rd, including Tessabaan Samkong School, some parts of Phuket Villa 1 and Yaowarat Sois 2 and 3.

**September 26, Chalong:** west side of Chao Fa West Rd, from the PPEA substation to opposite Wat Chalong, including Soi Nakok, Chaofa Thani housing estate and Soi Sainamyen Chalong.

## Island flooding prompts landslide warning

By Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

PHUKET: Heavy rains all day on September 5 caused flooding at many locales around the island, causing long tailbacks along major roads and damage to shops inundated with water.

Patong suffered minor floods in the morning before the rain stopped to give the resort town a midday reprieve, but only for the skies to open yet again in the afternoon and cause more flooding.

Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd saw long tailbacks from Soi Bangla back to Baan Sai Nam Yen School. On Sirirat Rd, at the southern end of Patong, one shop staffer told the *Gazette* that it took an hour to clear out the floodwater from his shop in the morning, only to see the shop flood again after just 30 minutes of rain that afternoon.

Patong Municipality workers spent an hour clearing drains at the intersection at the bottom



Water carries run-off to a flooded Sirirat Rd in Patong. Heavy downpours across the island were enough for the Meteorological Department to issue a landslide warning for the province.

of the hill so that the floodwaters would subside.

The Thai Meteorological Department center in Phuket City recorded rainfall of 34.7 millimeters between 1 pm and 3 pm.

In Chalong, runoff from nearby hills caused flooding across Chao Fa West Rd in front of the Phuket Provincial Electricity substation.

Nearby shophouses were inundated, with staff at TTT Furnishings store saying that it was the first time that shop had been flooded. "Normally, only the road floods, but today it's not even heavy rain and the shop flooded after it had been raining for only

an hour," said one staffer.

Heavy showers continued during the following days, leading the Meteorological Department to issue a flash flood warning for seven provinces, including Phuket, on September 8.

Wiwat Intarapanich, Chief of Weather Forecasting at the Meteorological Department office near the airport, reminded the *Gazette* that September is statistically the rainiest month in Phuket, with an rainfall averaging about 400 millimeters.

He warned of landslides, especially in areas of hillside construction and illegal encroachment on forest land.

## 7-Eleven robbers make clean getaway

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: Police are still searching for leads that may result in the arrest of two men who held up the 7-Eleven store opposite Prompan shopping center on Chao Fa West Rd at gunpoint on September 7.

Phuket City Police received a call reporting the robbery around 2 am. The caller told police that two armed men in full-face helmets had stolen just over 1,000 baht from the store before fleeing on a motorcycle.

"This will be a hard case to crack. Both the girls who work in the store have no recollection of the motorbike's color, let alone the license plate number.

"We understand that the excitement and shock of the robbery has made it difficult for them to remember details," Lt Col Wijak Tarom of Phuket City Police told the *Gazette*.

"They were able to tell me that the two men spoke to each other in a southern dialect, wore full-face helmets and pointed a gun at them before getting on their bike and speeding away," he added.

Lt Col Vijak Tarom told the *Gazette*, "There were no eyewitnesses and on top of that the store does not have a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system. CCTV serves as both a deterrent and a source of evidence."



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The Royal Thai Navy wants to install helipads, like this one at Cape Panwa, in National Parks so that tourists can be medivaced quicker, but the park chiefs say, 'No.'

## Navy plans for medivac helipads

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: The Royal Thai Navy's Third Fleet wants to build a network of helicopter landing pads on outlying islands so that tourists needing emergency medical treatment can be brought back to Phuket faster.

Rear-Admiral Supot Prukpa of the Third Naval Area Command announced the initiative on September 4, following his opening address at a two-day maritime safety meeting attended by 60 naval officers at the Phuket Merlin Hotel.

All attendees at the seminar are based in the six Andaman Coast provinces that comprise the Third Area Command, centered at the naval base at Cape Panwa.

The meeting was held to update officers on progress made and integrating procedures of the Third Fleet's five-year Maritime Safety Plan, launched in 2006.

Navy efforts to increase tourist safety in the Andaman region came after the 2004 tsunami, when staff and new facilities were established in Patong, on Koh Lanta Noi in Krabi and at both the Similan and Surin archipelagos off the coasts of Phang Nga and Ranong.

Citing the example of a Russian tourist who was airlifted to Phuket after being bitten by a fish while diving off the Similans in May last year, R/Adm Supot said that setting up landing pads for

helicopters was the next logical step in the safety plan.

One landing pad has been built at Surin Islands, but additional landing pads are needed there and at other popular tourist destinations, including the Similans and Koh Lanta Noi, he said.

However, the National Parks officials responsible for these islands have been reluctant to allow more than 300 square meters of park land to be covered with asphalt to accommodate the 20-meter-diameter landing pads, he added.

"They say it will hurt the environment and destroy the scenery, but I think it is worth it in order improve our emergency response capacity," he said.

The cost of each landing pad, about 60,000 baht, would be covered by the Navy, he said.

The Navy has permission to build a helipad at Similan Island 8, but would prefer to site the helipad on Island 4, which is visited by many more tourists.

"We are in disagreement with them over that, but in the end I hope we can build it there. We would build it in an area that would not block beautiful views," he said.

If the emergency helipad project is successful, injured tourists could be airlifted to Phuket in just 20 minutes, he said.

Getting injured tourists back to Phuket from the Similans can take up to four hours when seas are heavy, he added.

# AirAsia CEO aims to set up base in Phuket

By Alastair Carthew

PHUKET CITY: AirAsia would like to establish Phuket as a regional operations base, but efforts to do so have thus far been hampered by Thai bureaucracy, the company's founder has told the *Gazette*.

In an exclusive interview, AirAsia CEO Tony Fernandes also said that one of three new 164-seat Airbus A320 aircraft the airline has on order will be earmarked for the Bangkok-Phuket route. The aircraft is expected to arrive within three months.

Mr Fernandes also confirmed that AirAsia has been scouting for up to three sites on Phuket for its new budget hotel chain, Tune.

Setting up Phuket as an AirAsia operations base would be for single-aisle aircraft, such as the Boeing 737 or Airbus A340, rather than large, wide-bodied aircraft from international routes, he said.

However, Mr Fernandes said that establishing Phuket as a base could take time as he believes the Thai authorities have a negative view toward budget carriers.

Mr Fernandes, who entered a partnership with former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra to form Thai AirAsia, said the Thai carrier had so far not experienced any serious impact from the closure of Phuket, Haad Yai and Krabi airports by the People's



One of the three new 164-seat Airbus A320 aircraft AirAsia has on order, similar to this one pictured, has been earmarked for the Bangkok-Phuket route. The aircraft is expected to arrive within three months.

Alliance For Democracy (PAD).

"I have not seen much evidence of people going home or running away," he said.

Both Thai AirAsia and THAI Airways have reaped the benefits of One-Two-Go and Nok Air's misfortunes with higher passenger and cargo loads, after One-Two-Go was grounded by the government pending safety improvements and Nok Air cut its Phuket service to two weekend flights due to a fall in demand.

In contrast, Thai AirAsia currently has 10 flights a day into Phuket, including two from Kuala Lumpur and one from Singapore. AirAsia flies 656 flights daily, on 102 routes to 57

destinations in 12 countries.

Mr Fernandes, who is famously outspoken, had harsh words for the Airports Authority Of Thailand, which runs six airports in Thailand, including Phuket International Airport.

He did not directly criticize the authorities who run PIA, but did say that Thailand is definitely falling behind other prime tourist destinations because of the AOT's reluctance to reduce current landing charges that are among the highest in Asia. He called the AOT "rudderless".

"We have delivered for them. We are the only airline to remain and not cut flights. In fact, we have added capacity into Phuket," he said.

## Brit dies in smash on slippery road to Rawai

RAWAI: An Englishman died of injuries sustained in a high-speed crash on a curve on Wiset Rd early on September 6.

Capt Tienchai Duangsuwan of Chalong Police identified the victim as Mark Anthony Crosby, age 43.

Mr Crosby had been drinking with his father in Rawai earlier that night, Capt Tienchai said, adding that the accident occurred after Mr Crosby had driven his father to his home in Phuket City.

Tread marks on the road indicated the car he was driving skidded some 30 meters before crashing near the entrance to Vighit Bungalow Resort at about 1:45 am.

"We found Mr Crosby with 3,700 baht on his person and he was wearing a diamond ring. There is a sharp curve along that section of the road that he might not have been familiar with," Capt Tienchai said, adding that the British Embassy had been informed of the accident.

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When a convoy of four disassembled Douglas C-47 Dakota Skytrain and six Sikorsky S-58T helicopters rolled across the Sarasin Bridge on 15 flatbed trucks on April 20 this year it was quite spectacle.

Finally making it onto Phuket marked the beginning of the end of a considerable amount of work for Bangkok-based international freight forwarding firm Cargo Marketing International Co Ltd (CMI), which was contracted to disassemble the aircraft from Koke Kratiem Airforce Base and transport them overland more than 1,000 kilometers to the Phuket Deep Sea Port at Cape Panwa.

From there, the aircraft would be chained to concrete blocks, placed upon barges and sent to a carefully selected site in Bang Tao Bay.

Once there, the aircraft would be carefully lowered onto the seabed in a concentric pattern to become the first dive site of its type in Thailand.

Project organizers For Sea Foundation and the Thai Dive Association hoped the site would become an important new dive tourism attraction, the first of many artificial reefs along the Andaman Coast that would take some pressure off existing, natural dive sites.

Although the organizers had obtained some 4 million baht for the project from the Cherng Talay

# Coral Reef Squadron

The rush to sink 10 Cold War-era aircraft in Bang Tao Bay on May 5 to create an artificial reef was abandoned at the last minute due to stormy conditions and heavy seas.

Some four months later, however, the project organizers were called to an August 19 meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall. The manager of the transport company that delivered the aircraft to Phuket from Lopburi was threatening to sue over non-payment for work completed four months before.

Here, *Gazette* News Editor Stephen Fein and reporter Pathomporn Kaenkrachang delve into the non-payment issue and update the future of the "Coral Reef Squadron".

Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*) and more from private donations, when CMI's 2.4-million-baht bill for its work reached the TDA, some of its board members were surprised at what they considered an inexplicably high total and demanded to see itemized details of the invoice accounting.

Four months later, TDA representatives still hadn't signed off on the payment, trying in vain to negotiate with CMI to lower it.

Getting fed up with the delay, CMI Managing Director

Chuchard Santikanant finally made a formal complaint to the Phuket Provincial Office, threatening a lawsuit if payment was not made by the end of the month.

To work out a solution, all the parties were called to a special meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall on August 19. The meeting was chaired by Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Rattasima.

V/G Worapoj said he was surprised to hear CMI had never been paid, as his understanding



After bad weather saw them miss their target date for being dropped in Bang Tao Bay, the Coral Reef Squadron now face further delays because of a dispute over the bill for transporting them from Koke Kratiem Airforce Base in Lopburi.

was that the whole transport phase of the project had been completed.

TDA President Jindapon explained to the vice-governor that consultation with two private transport companies indicated that the bill was excessive, but said that the TDA had the funds and was willing to pay the invoice as long as the vice-governor signed off on it as a new board member, since the money of tax-

payers in Cherng Talay was being used.

The payment finally authorized after V/Gov Worapoj named a new project board headed by Phuket Office of Sports and Recreation Development Director Promchote Traivate, and the new board approved payment by August 29.

The *Gazette* contacted CMI's Mr Chuchard several times to see if and when he had

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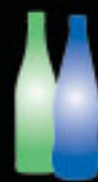
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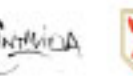
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# delayed by payment target



**DISPLACED:** A worker guides the crane driver in placing one of the Dakota aircraft on the hard stand at Bang Tao, where the fleet remains grounded.

finally received payment. At last report, CMI was to send an authorized representative with a signed power of attorney document to receive the funds on September 10, he said.

"But until the money is actually in the bank, I won't believe it," he said.

For some extra clarification on why it had taken CMI so long to get paid, the *Gazette* contacted Rainer Gottwald, who is president of the TDA's technical committee and a big proponent of artificial reef construction.

The TDA had actually played no role in the original budget calculation, which he said he thought was made though a private firm in Bangkok named Seal Stone Supply and Services Ltd Partnership, he said.

The TDA is still trying to figure out exactly what happened,

as the TDA President wants the whole matter to be 100% transparent. As a non-profit organization, the TDA tried to do everything possible to complete the project on a volunteer basis at a minimum possible cost, he said.

The payment issue took the organization by surprise and has already cost one former board member his membership in the organization, he added.

"The TDA checked the numbers with other transport companies, just to have a look if the numbers they gave to us were really clear. And there were some difficulties in understanding why the transporter was asking for so much money for each truck and for cranes..."

"According to what I understood, there were more trucks on the list than were actually needed and cranes on the invoice that

were not used over the mentioned period of time," he said.

Only four "extra heavy duty" trucks were used [to carry the Dakota fuselages], and that the rest of the work was done by smaller flatbeds whose service could and should have been contracted at a much lower rate, he said.

"The TDA wants to be involved in environmental projects and reef restoration, rebuilding coral, but not in paying of fees that we are not really 100% sure about. People might start asking us, 'hey, what happened to the money?'"

"But the TDA only presented the project, not the prices. The prices were made by other people... But the contractor refused to go down a single baht, saying he had completed the work."

The TDA had learned its lesson this time around and will put much greater scrutiny on financial affairs in future artificial reef projects.

"In future artificial reef projects, we will definitely calculate every satang of every liter of diesel that is used. We are refusing to support using private-sector parties getting benefits from projects like this, which is meant to be non-profit," he said.

Mr Promchote told the *Gazette* on August 26, "We are working on the case and will clear the file and sign approval for the money next week and we will plan for this big event to continue in November."

For Sea Foundation Secretary Vittayen Muttamara confirmed that the Coral Reef Squadron will be put in place on the seabed in November to be-

come the largest artificial reef in Thailand.

Now that the thorny transport payment issue has apparently been settled, the TDA is now looking forward to working with its partners to submerge the Coral Reef Squadron.

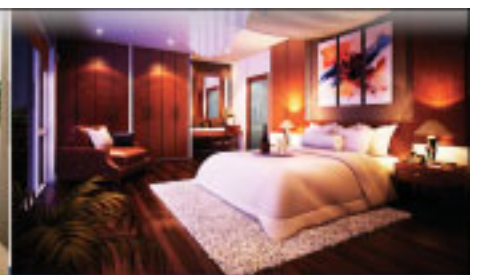
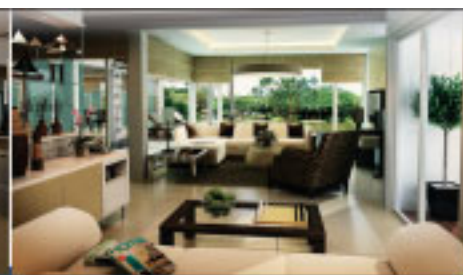
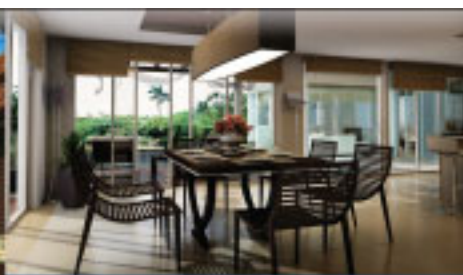
The Army has also agreed to give over more old military hardware to help the TDA realize its goals to create the country's largest artificial reef, which will now include some "ground support" in the form of four very large WW2-Era GMC army trucks, donated by the Royal Thai Army. They are now being cleaned in preparation for the drop.

On the technical aspects of the reef drop, Mr Gottwald explained that all the aircraft will be sunk from the barge onto "neutral ground", meaning an area of the seabed that has been documented as being free of existing coral and other marine life.

"We have the GPS co-ordinates. The TDA and the Royal Thai navy Seals will conduct the operations, keeping the roles of private contractors to an absolute minimum. We will have to pay for the barge and the crane but most of the work is being done on a volunteer basis," he said.

"This artificial reef was first offered to Koh Racha Yai, but no *OrBorTor* wanted it. Finally, Cherng Talay *OrBorTor* decided to take it on as a way of giving something back to nature after the dramatic toll that real-estate development along Bang Tao Beach had taken on local coral reserves there."

"They decided to fund and support the project as a way of giving something back to the environment," he added.



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## Queer News



Death and rebirth, minus all the bad karma – in just five min-

# Morning of the living dead

NAKHON RATCHASIMA: Anyone calling in to Wat Pa Satharum on August 22 could be forgiven for thinking they'd stumbled upon the aftermath of a natural disaster, seeing row after row of coffins lined up on the temple grounds.

Anyone waiting a little longer, however, would get even more of a shock when, after watching the death rites, the occupants of the 59 coffins began to rise up as if returning from the dead.

The scene was not some voodoo ritual, but a ceremony to rid the faithful of curses and bad karma from previous existences.

From 8 am to 1 pm, participants took turns climbing into the coffins with a bunch of flowers, incense and a candle. They lay down facing west, and monks covered them with shrouds.

Four monks then paraded around the coffins, murmuring incantations and sprinkling holy water from 108 famous temples on the bodies.

Finally, the coffins' occupants faced east, thus completing their rebirth. The whole process

took about five minutes.

Chamlong Kanchanawatana of the organizing committee said, "The ceremony of cleansing bad luck by lying in coffins is an ancient belief. If someone has misfortune, bad karma, obstacles or problems in their lives, then [the ceremony] will bring them good fortune, driving problems and danger out of their lives. It is like death and rebirth, except that all the bad things die along with the old person."

Wichai Nanthathanathawon, Chairman of the Bangkok-Nakhon Ratchasima Friendship Group, which organized the ceremony, said this was the ninth year the ceremony had been held. It was the biggest yet and the largest of its type in the world.

This year it would be particularly auspicious for women born in the year of the goat, dog, ox and snake. Men born in the year of the horse, rabbit, rat and cock would also benefit as, according to astrologers, the Chinese New Year that began on February 8 is not a good time for them, Mr Wichai explained.

The Friendship Group also donated more than 2,500 coffins

# DOCUMENT FORGERY DETECTION: May I see your passport, sir?

By Akbar Khan

PHUKET CITY: Immigration officers from throughout Southern Thailand converged at the Phuket Immigration Office at Saphan Hin from August 25 to September 4 to attend courses in identifying forged documents, such as passports and other forms of identification, as part of the Immigration Bureau's plan to upskill its officers.

The courses were conducted with the help of the Visa and Immigration Section of the Australian Embassy in Bangkok to show the continuing close co-operation between the Australian and Thai governments in border management.

Glyn Ruddell, First Secretary Immigration Compliance at the Australian Embassy, told the *Gazette*, "The Australian embassy has in past years organized training courses for officers in Phuket and it is a very convenient location. The training was for 75 people, but some of the officers who work at Saphan Hin that were not officially enrolled also came along to join."

Phuket Immigration chief Col Chanatpol Yongbunjerd explained, "The Immigration headquarters for the Southern Region are in Haad Yai, but Phuket was chosen as a more suitable location for the training as Phuket now has new offices at Saphan Hin and the meeting room on the third floor is appropriate for workshops and training sessions."

"Some officers came down from Ranong, and the rest of the officers from the Ranong office who could not make it down to Phuket will be sent up to [Im-



**SHEER SCRUTINY:** Immigration officers check passports as part of their training in detecting forged documents.

migration headquarters] at Suan Plu in Bangkok to receive the training," he added.

As with many criminal activities, methods of production and distribution of forged documents are becoming increasingly sophisticated – particularly with identity fraud. It is therefore critical that law-enforcement officers are trained to detect forged documents as they are often used by criminals engaged in many different types of crime, such as human trafficking, terrorism and drug smuggling.

Two Australian Forensic Document specialists – one based in the Philippines and the other from Canberra – presented the training, which focused on improving the skills of the officers in detecting forged documents, such as passports and other identity documents.

"The techniques taught officers to not only identify forged or altered passports, but also forged visas or stamps in a pass-

port. Other forms of supporting identification, such as driving licenses or ID cards, can also be checked for irregularities," said Col Chanatpol.

"The combination of trained officers, specialized equipment, access to forensic expertise and up-to-date intelligence, the effective use of automated support systems and effective internal procedures are all standards that should be considered for incorporation our new strategic immigration plan," he added.

Each officer was presented with a kit containing equipment to check the authenticity of documents. "The training kit given to the officers included an eyeglass, an ultraviolet lamp and a retro-reflective viewer," said Mr Ruddell.

"The course was effective because a hands-on approach was used. The exercise where each officer had to separate mixed-up piles of real and forged documents was a great confidence

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More than 50% of foreign visitors view the recent clashes between pro- and anti-government demonstrators as "normal" in a democratic system, an ABAC poll has found.

Although recent clashes led to Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej declaring a state of emergency in Bangkok, most foreign visitors said they were happy about their trips and would return.

Poll director Noppadon Kannika said the September 2-5 survey questioned 532 foreign tourists and businesspeople in Thailand and found most knew about the street riots and emergency declaration.

Almost 60% viewed the incidents as normal in a democratic system, while 49% said they were affected by the protests, including travel-plan disruptions due to airport closures and railway strikes.

However, they were generally satisfied with Thailand, including the culture, food, tourist attractions as well as safety of life and property. They were less satisfied about politics, economy and social justice.

About 97% said they will visit again despite the recent incidents and 99% said they would encourage others to visit Thailand, he said.

Mr Noppadon said these visitors had probably seen activists in other countries and believed the political turmoil here would end peacefully because the riots had stopped.

**Beggar brigadiers.** Agents are recruiting elderly people and children from villages in Isarn to become Bangkok beggars for incomes of up to 15,000 baht per family per month, the Mirror Foundation revealed on September 7.

Ekkalak Lumchomkae, head of the foundation's Operation Center against Human Trafficking, said a field study by his office found that some dealers were collecting transport and accommodation fees from villagers.

They rented a house in Bangkok's Bang Sue district for these people so that they could beg for money, especially from

# Foreigners unfazed by political fanaticism



With much of the capital in turmoil, the Commerce Ministry's Bangkok International Fashion Fair & Bangkok International Leather Fair, aka "BIFF & BIL 2008", went off without a hitch on the weekend of August 25-26.

shoppers at Chatuchak Weekend Market.

Recruits included not only the poor, but members of a village headman's family and relatives of tambon administrative organization members, the report revealed.

During school terms, youngsters would travel to Bangkok to beg on Friday evening and return home on Sunday, staying in Bangkok throughout school holidays, he said.

Mr Ekkalak said he was not sure if the Cabinet-approved draft legislation on beggars to replace the outdated 1941 Begging Control Act would violate people's rights.

The new measures could label some people as beggars, creating a loophole for human

traffickers to have people registered as legalized beggars with local administrative organizations.

**Malpractice misery.** Doctors and medical workers nationwide are feeling increasingly depressed and even suicidal after receiving lawsuits for medical malpractice, according to the Medical Council.

Council President Dr Somsak Lohlekha said many doctors who were being sued faced serious health problems, depression and felt dissociated from their communities and social context, while others had committed suicide.

Many doctors had changed their careers to avoid lawsuits, he added.

Others treat only outpatients and will not treat inpatients

with complicated symptoms. Some tell their children not to study to become a doctor, he said.

Citing recent Public Health Ministry records, about 75 medical malpractice cases are filed annually against doctors, while the Medical Council's records from 1991 to 2007 show that about 2,880 doctors have been the subject of complaints.

Doctors, especially in rural areas, will not provide treatment to certain patients as a safeguard against receiving a lawsuit, said the council's deputy secretary-general.

Most doctors lack knowledge about the process to handle the problem and do not have legal advisers, he added.

The Council is planning to set up medical associations across the country in a bid to re-

solve conflicts between doctors and patients.

As the recently imposed 2008 Procedural Act for Consumer Protection Cases will affect doctors, the associations will also provide doctors with legal training so that they are in a better position to resolve problems by themselves.

**Park pillage.** Scientists are calling for a review of the government policy that allows private investment in national parks.

Marine Science Association of Thailand chairman Padermsak Jarayabhand said such investment is against the principles of establishing the national parks.

The 150-member association will ask the National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department to demand that it review the controversial policy.

Natural Resources and Environment Minister Anongwan Thetsuthin has encouraged private investment in national parks, believing that it will enhance tourism and the overall economy.

"If the government wants private investors to play a role, clear-cut regulations and procedures must be laid down or else natural-resource problems will arise," he said.

Citing the case of Ao Keuk at the Similan Islands, Prince of Songkla University lecturer Sak-anan Plathong said coral reefs were particularly at risk.

The policy to invite private investors into national parks might prejudice the plan to seek World Heritage status for the Andaman Sea, he added.

*Around the Nation news roundup is sourced from the pages of The Nation, Daily Xpress and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.*



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# Songkhla suffers spate of killings

**S**uspected insurgents shot dead a teacher from the government non-formal education system on September 2 as he was riding a motorbike in Krong Pinang District, one of the most contested areas in the Deep South.

Tosatit Samithamuksik, 48, who worked at an education center in Krong Pinang, was shot several times at close range in the torso. He died on the way to hospital.

Ridding pillion with Khun Tosatit was his wife, Nithaya Wonglakorn, who escaped unharmed. The two were returning home from the education center.

The attack followed a weekend of continued violence that saw four people, including a police officer, shot dead in suspected separatist attacks.

Police said a 43-year-old border patrol policeman was shot dead late in the afternoon of August 31 in Pattani, while a 52-year-old Buddhist woman, and a 49-year-old Muslim man, were both killed in fatal drive-by shootings on the morning of September 1 in the same province.

The evening of August 31 also saw a 50-year-old Muslim village leader shot dead by an unknown gunman.

The spate of killings came as southern Thailand began observing Ramadan, the month when the faithful fast from sunrise to sunset.

**Final ride.** An employee at the Krabi branch of the Saengrungs Phuket Company Hino Truck dealership was shot dead outside his office on September 1.

The victim, 30-year-old Sommai Khuantai, was blasted in the face with a shotgun after getting out of a six-wheeled company truck that he had parked outside



## ARSON ATTACK

Firefighters extinguish a blaze at a restaurant in Songkhla on September 3. Witnesses said a man with a bag went to a toilet at the back of the restaurant and after he came out an explosion was heard and flames engulfed the restaurant.

the office in Tambon Krabi Yai.

Rescue workers rushed him to hospital, where he later died of his injuries.

Police believe K. Sommai was killed over a dispute involving his younger brother, who was shot dead a month earlier. K. Sommai had allegedly been threatening to go after his brother's killers, which is likely to have provided a motive for them

to kill him first, police said.

**Healthy village.** Kor Tang Village in Krabi's Khao Phanom district has established itself as a "Model for Tambon-level Public Health", a Krabi Public Health official has announced.

Wiraphan Nuansri of the Krabi Health Office and head of Ban Kor Tang Community Health Center in Tambon Khao

Din, chaired a ceremony to launch the initiative on September 1.

K. Wiraphan explained that the project involved encouraging all tambon-level organizations to work together in promoting healthy living.

The project would serve as a model for the creation of tambon-level health organizations, which would provide high-

quality primary care for villagers and limit the number of visits to district hospitals.

"Each month, at least 1,500 people come to use our health services, which cover nine villages with a total population of 9,012. We now have 49 village volunteers who work together with Ban Kor Tang Community Health Center to promote public health," K. Wiraphan said.

**Saved by the mobs.** The Prince of Songkla University has postponed mid-term exams to allow students, lecturers and staff to take part in "people politics" to help "resolve" the current political crisis, the university rector said.

Assoc Prof Dr Boonsom Siribamrungsuk on September 3 said the university management, the council of lecturers and council of university officials agreed that mid-term exams should be postponed and that all university personnel should contribute to the "people's sector" politics.

The university, which called on the government to lift the state of emergency in Bangkok, asked the government to resign or dissolve the House of Representatives.

More than 3,000 students joined a peaceful protest in Songkhla calling for Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej to resign or dissolve the House of Representatives.

Students from Nakhon Sri Thammarat Rajabhat University and Walailak University, both also in Songkhla, joined the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) movement to block a road in front of Nakhon Si Thammarat City Hall.

Many officials in the hall were seen cheering PAD supporters.


**Village defense.** Narathiwat Provincial Vice-Governor Pradit Suknathasawat on August 31 announced the opening of a new scheme designed to help villages in the South defend themselves from insurgents – and earn extra income at the same time.

V/Gov Pradit presided over a ceremony to mark the founding of Ban Thon Chalermprakiat in the playing field of Ban Thon School in Village 5, Tambon Khok Khian, Muang district.

The park will be used to train around 1,000 villagers to work in shifts to defend public buildings, such as the village school and health center, K. Pradit explained.

Women and youths from the village will also be given lessons in handicrafts such as bag weaving and model-ship building, to help them earn more income, he added.

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



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# GO-KARTING

## Corporate team building on the racetrack

There's nothing like zip-ping along at speeds of over 100 kilometers an hour with your backside just a few inches above the tarmac to get the adrenalin going. Your heart rate accelerates as you near the hairpin bend, gripping the wheel even tighter as it shakes, knowing that misjudging the corner could see you spin out and lose your hairbreadth's lead.

Your teammates cheer from the pits as you successfully negotiate the bend, picking up speed as you exit the curve.

But you only have a second to think about your next move because that new guy in your office has caught up with you on the corner by taking the inside and he's threatening to overtake, so you maneuver to block him. But what's this? That girl at work who you're always trying to impress drives like she was born in a go-kart and comes roaring past the pair of you to take the lead.

The rivalry is real, but it's all in good spirits at Patong Go-Kart Speedway as colleagues battle it out on the race track in an all-day corporate team-building Grand Prix.

Last week, about 100 regional employees of HotelTravel.com gathered at the track, which has been designed in line with UK National Karting Association standards.

The fleet of karts are also built and maintained to equally high standards.

Kart racers can be as young as eight years old, but they must be at least 1.25 meters tall to be allowed to race. The fleet at the speedway is made up of karts for different kinds of drivers.

For kids there are karts with 140cc engines restricted to a maximum speed of 40kmh. Then



A day at the races is a great way of building team spirit. Corportae team building events at Patong Go Kart Speedway pit employees against each other in a mini Grand Prix, climaxing in a 10-lap grand final, trophies and the traditional Champagne spray.

there's the 270cc double-seater karts so dad can drive and give son a safe taste of the thrill at a maximum speed of 60 kmh.

Next up the power chart are the standard karts. These have 200cc engines and can also reach 60kmh, but best of all are the race karts, which can reach a top speed of 110kmh with their powerful 400cc engines.

For corporate team-building events at the speedway, teams of five people or more are put through a mini Grand Prix – a series of races that pits teams against each other to compete in a final 10-lap race, which decide the winning team and the overall individual winner for the day, who is given the checkered flag to parade around the track for a victory lap.

Then the podium comes out, a wreath is hung over the winner's neck and a bottle of bubbly is cracked open for the traditional "champagne spray".

Frontman for HotelTravel.com, Canadian Blair Speers, said that corporate team building days are regular events for his staff and that the mini Grand Prix is a fun way to foster team spirit and inter-branch relations.

"Every one of the staff members racing here today is someone unique and special to the company and it's important to show how much they are appreciated."

These regular team-building events are part of the reason we enjoy zero turnover among our staff. No one has left the company since they joined," he said.

"Today's mini Grand Prix has been a great way for people who work together to get to know each other a little better."

Many of them will have met for the first time today because they work in different offices all over the region and will have been communicating with each other by phone or the Internet, but may never have spoken face to face," he added.

Englishman John Davenport, who oversees operations at the speedway and has run sev-

eral go-kart tracks in the UK, is on hand during team-building events to ensure that the karts, track and patrons are well maintained. He briefs the drivers on how to handle their karts and the track and sometimes gives running commentary by megaphone as the karters do their laps.

"I used to do a lot of corporate events back in the UK and it has really caught on here, too. We're open seven days a week and on most days, people can 'arrive and drive' as long as they meet the age and height requirements, but we close the speedway to the public when we have an exclusive corporate event booked," said John.

He added that corporate events should be booked as far in advance as possible and that unless people book an exclusive event, they may have to share the track with arrive-and-drive joiners.

Snacks and drinks are on sale and there's plenty of shade to relax and watch the races. Staff at the speedway also film the races for instant replays and the participants can take home DVDs of their day at the races.

With such powerful machines, sometimes at the hands of people who have never driven before, safety is a priority at the speedway. Race marshals are always posted strategically about the track, ready to wave yellow warning flags if a driver wipes out, and to get the kart back on the track.

All the drivers are given instructions on how to handle the karts and all have to wear crash helmets supplied by the speedway, and they are required to wear suitable footwear.

As the final races for HotelTravel.com's mini Grand Prix began, clouds came over the hills from Patong and dropped a film of water on the track – just enough to make it slippery and really put the edge on for the last races of the day.

Knowing that they now had a slippery course to negotiate, many of the drivers looked nervous, but John simply rubbed his hands with glee and proceeded to instruct the participants in how to take the corners in the wet conditions for what he knew would be an exciting and eventful final race.

The marshals frequently had their yellow flags out and clumps of earth flew through the air as overzealous drivers lost control of their karts on the turns. Bums stayed on seats though, and Blair's employees were all still in one piece at the end of the day.

The winners and runners-up received trophy cups and wall clocks fashioned from go-kart tires for their efforts, and everyone woke the next day feeling just a little sore after the speedway's punishment.

Patong Go-Kart Speedway is located on Wichit Songkhram Rd, at the bottom of Patong Hill. Open daily, 10 am to 7 pm. For more information call 076-321949 or email: gokartspeedway@yahoo.de Website: www.gokartthailand.com



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# Dining Code at Da Vinci

There is no way you are going to order French fries tonight, I said to my son. "This is an Italian restaurant." The little guy looks miffed and chooses a Prosciutto pizza (190 baht).

We're in Da Vinci, an up-market Italian eatery deep in the heart of Nai Harn, and now that the culinary lines between dad and son have been drawn we can all relax.

Perusing the Da Vinci menu, we choose lasagna, an ensalata mista (150 baht) – and doesn't that sound so much better than a "mixed salad" – along with a white snapper filet with wine sauce and vegetables (350 baht).

Da Vinci's a looker, there's no doubt about that. With laminated inside floors, a black-and-white theme, a mirror-sided bar (very handy for checking if your knees match), chandeliers and modern art on the wall, this is a far cry from the stucco walls, Chianti-bottle lamp affairs all too prevalent in Sin City.

Now open for 14 months, Da Vinci has its regulars – indeed I found out about the place through Claude Sauter, Cape Panwa's genial GM, who shall

from now on be known as "Da Vinci Claude". For clement weather there's a comfortable al-fresco section, which is where we chose to sit.

Max, the friendly musician, sashays through a few Brazilian songs and then goes into an extended FMaj7 to CMaj7 loop with synthesized harmonica over the top; very Stevie, very cool.

The night is breezy and fresh, the house wine (a Mezza Costa, 350 baht a carafe) flows freely and the food arrives. Before you can say "Dan Brown can type but he can't write," we're tucking into some splendid fare.

I'd had a late and rather large lunch but there is no stopping my lusty lasagna rush while Waan pronounces her fish

tamachart ("natural"). The little guy eats fully half of his pizza and insists on taking the other half home, which, by his standards, is the ultimate compliment.

Scrubbed-up Italian expats arrive and Max switches to Italian songs. "That man is good," comments the little guy and he's right. He's a natural, our Max, and has a great voice to boot.

What a great combination; a talented musician who has a friendly disposition and who can



Da Vinci's diners can choose whether to eat inside under classic European style chandeliers or under the stars in the alfresco section.

actually sing. How many Phuket musos can you name who have all of the above attributes? Okay – so he belts out *Hotel California* towards the end of the evening but nobody's perfect, are they?

This is a little slice of La Bella Italia with none of the

downsides. It's smart, smells nothing like Napoli, is a no-drive zone so there are no scorched black rubber tracks across the floor. The waitresses are sexy, slim and don't have moustaches, the pizza crisp on the bottom, juicy on the top instead of the other way round and there's not a single

bossy cop in sight.

Da Vinci features a decent all-Italian 20 red and white wine selection with the most expensive wines clocking in at under 2,000 baht and most hovering under the 1,000 baht mark.

We share a delectable tiramisu (all desserts 180 baht) and warble along to Max's Elton John and Christopher Cross "Saiiiiiling, takes me awaaaaay to where I'm alwaaays duty-free". You've got to hand it to this place; it's the Real McCoy when it comes to Italian food in a smart atmosphere at reasonable prices.

There's even parking space out back.

Da Vinci Ristorante Pizzeria, in the Bzenter Mall, Nai Harn. Tel: 076-289574. Email: info@bzenter.com Open daily from 5 pm, closed Tuesdays during the low season.

## On the menu WITH Sam Wilko Da Vinci

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# Deserving youngsters receive PIWC's support

By Nick Davies

**M**ore than 200 students studying at universities around the southern region received scholarships from Phuket-based charity the Phuket International Women's Club (PIWC) at the Satree Phuket School auditorium recently.

Of the deserving students, 180 were from schools and universities in Phuket and 45 students were from schools in or around Khao Lak and Phang Nga.

The PIWC has for years been tirelessly raising funds and awareness for children affected by poverty and has helped hundreds of children financially and emotionally by supporting them through school, college and university.

The annual scholarship presentation was the first to be held at Satree Phuket School, whereas scholarship presentations used to be held at each of the schools involved.

PIWC President Sue Arnulphy said that a number of students were unable to attend the presentation as they were studying at universities and nursing colleges outside Phuket.

"They are studying a range of subjects, including medicine, dentistry, law, business and nursing," said Mrs Arnulphy, adding that this year, the charity has instituted a new project: the "Road to University 2009", which has been set up to help talented youngsters by providing one-off funding to take entrance exams for university.

"All this is made possible by the tireless and voluntary efforts of the scholarship and fund-raising committees of the PIWC together with the generosity of local businesses and sponsors," she added.

Some of those sponsors met their designated students during



Some of the 180 students who received scholarships from the Phuket International Women's Club hold up the certificates.

the presentation and were given updates on their progress. One scholarship recipient who completed her studies thanks to a PIWC scholarship – and who has already embarked on her chosen career as a nurse – gave a moving speech during the presentation and expressed her sincere thanks to those who made it possible.

The PIWC generates funding for scholarships through a number of fund-raising events, including the prestigious PIWC annual ball, which attracts many of Phuket's socialites.

This year's event has the theme "Diamonds are forever" and is set to be the most dazzling yet. The ball will be held at the Hilton Arcadia Resort and Spa in Karon on November 29.

Tickets are priced at 4,000 baht each and went on sale on

September 1. Tickets include cocktails, wine, dinner, and dancing to the Lai Thai Orchestra.

"Anyone who feels they can help us with prizes, services and sponsorship in any way, should please contact one of the committee members.

"If many people each do one small thing, one small act of kindness and generosity, big things can happen. The recent scholarship presentation proves that it works," said Mrs Arnulphy.

*For more information about the upcoming ball and for buying tickets, contact Joan Watson at 087-2820422 or email: imm@loxinfo.co.th For information regarding scholarships contact Carol Fryer, email: vicepresident@phuketiwcc.com Website: www.phuket.com/piwc*

## Companies and individuals who have contributed to PIWC scholarships include:

- Anti-Bio Technology
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- Eric Smulders
- Phuket Gazette
- TGR Group Asia
- The Layan Scholarship
- British Marine Technology

# Guiding light for

**D**octor Supanee Tansiroj, co-founder of Phuket International Hospital, pediatrician and mother of four, has for some 30 years been a leading presence in the development of health care in the region.

Here, she shares her thoughts with *Gazette* reporter Natcha Yuttaworawit on the state of children's health, and the challenges faced by parents and doctors alike, on this fast-growing island.

**D**r Supanee's long career as a doctor began in 1973 after earning her medical specialization in pediatrics in the US. She first practiced in her hometown, Bangkok, then, in the late 1970s, she and her husband Dr Anuroj Tansiroj set up a clinic on Phang Nga Rd in Phuket Town.

In 1982, the couple opened the island's first private hospital, a 35-bed facility on Krabi Rd that planted the seed for the concept of world-class health care for Phuket.

At the same time that Dr Supanee and her husband were expanding the range of medical care to Phuket, their family was expanding, too. They had three daughters and one son, and their first child was born while Dr Supanee was studying in the US.

Undaunted by having a large family and a demanding career, Dr Supanee told the *Gazette* that being a pediatrician made it easier for her to raise her children, and her husband was always ready to pitch in to help. She said she was also lucky in that her children were not "stubborn".

A long-time advocate for children's health, Dr Supanee said, "Mothers have to take care of their children to be safe, happy, healthy and knowledgeable."

She said that the modern world has brought with it many unhealthy influences. "The trend of children's health is not good now because there are many convenience shops selling useless snacks and junk food, which are easy to buy for children. [Children]

do not like to exercise.

"Most importantly, parents do not have enough time to stay with their children."

Health problems including diarrhea and cholera are always a concern because children have a lower immunity from such conditions than do adults, Dr Supanee said.

Diabetes is on the rise among children, and Dr Supanee said she's seen the disease affect all ages of children from infancy up to 10 years old. The negative effects of diabetes are felt more strongly in children, too, she added.

Dengue fever has remained a threat, so Dr Supanee urged parents to take preventative measures against it. So far, no vaccine has been developed to ward off the mosquito-borne disease.

But positive trends are emerging as well, said Dr Supanee. Vaccines have virtually eliminated such diseases as diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus, and she said she has not seen a case of polio for many years.

While good medical care is important, Dr Supanee said that parents are the key factor in ensuring kids are healthy, and that their attention to health should start well before they have children.

"All husbands and wives should check their health before they get married or when they plan to have a baby," she said. After children are born, parents should ensure they provide a healthy diet and be careful about giving medicines without a doctor's prescription. She said that

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# Phuket parents



Dr Supanee Tansiroj, co-founder of Phuket International Hospital, pediatrician and mother of four. Inset: Dr Supanee at work.

breastfeeding babies for at least six months would have long-lasting effects in boosting their immunity.

Dr Supanee said children living in the countryside were more healthy than children in towns because their environment was much better. They have cleaner air, more trees and a healthier lifestyle. Children in urban areas were more likely to be exposed to potentially unhealthy public areas, such as movie theaters, placing their health at risk, she explained.

Most importantly, parents should live a healthy life as an example for their children, she said, as children tend to emulate their father and mother's behaviors.

Dr Supanee and Dr Anuroj's children certainly proved her point, since all are now health care professionals, working as doctors or management at the hospital their parents built together.

After a decade operating Siriroj Hospital on Krabi Rd, the couple built a new hospital on the

bypass road, which opened in 1993 with 105 beds. In line with the growing international presence on the island, the facility was named Phuket International Hospital, though many locals still call it Siriroj.

In 2004, they undertook a major renovation, expanding the hospital to 151 beds with more than 500 staff. Many new facilities were added, including a Women's Center and Children's Center. The upgraded facility was officially opened in December last year, and work is still underway.

After a long battle with cancer, Dr Anuroj passed away on February 28 this year, leaving Dr Supanee and their family to continue to build upon his dedication to medical care.

Though she has now reduced her work hours to part time, Dr Supanee remains a strong and steady influence at the hospital she helped to build from the ground up, a life's work that can be seen in the eyes of many healthy children in Phuket and beyond.

## Happily Ever After

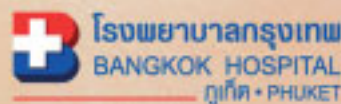
### Recent weddings in Phuket



Jennifer Le Sauvage and Clinton Halket from Australia were married at Laguna Phuket's Chapel-on-the-Lagoon on August 6, 2008



Mayura Suebsup and Gridsada Karaket, Chief Engineer of Dewa Phuket, were married at Phuket Thai Village on August 22, 2008.



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# This week



**VILLA FILLER:** Dusit International Senior Vice President Octavio Gamarra (left) is welcomed to the recently opened Dusit Thani Pool Villas by (from left) Villas Manager Orana Thongprasit, General Manager Peter Komposch and Executive Assistant Manager Prinya Onlahoong.



**EDUCATION POWER:** Fritz Gubler (3<sup>rd</sup> from left), chairman of Orion Hotel Schools, and Gavin Faull JP (4<sup>th</sup> from left), chairman and president of Swiss-Belhotel International, join fellow founders of the new international hotel school to be built in Phuket. From left: Maxwell Player, Costantino E Rossi, Peter Hatt and Lothar Schudt. Their meeting was



**GREEN TEAM:** (from left) Chanel 7 news anchor Pasit Apinyawat discusses 'Green Marketing' with Somchart Leelakraison and Pisit Akarawilai of Kasikorn Bank from Bangkok at a seminar on new trends for SMEs in the Andaman region at The Metropole hotel.




**IT'S A WRAP:** Hollywood stunt director Vic Armstrong (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), who has worked on box-office hits such as *The Mummy* and *I am Legend*, and his wife, Wendy (center), are welcomed to the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa during their recent holiday



**SIPPER CLUB:** Hubert Trimbach, owner of Trimbach Winery, hosts a wine dinner on September 2 at Into Thai restaurant at the Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa with (from left) Marc Malloy from PGTV, Central Food Retail Co Ltd Vice-President Ross Edward Marks, sommelier Monika Bielka Vescovi and the resort's GM, Frank Grassmann.



**OH, SO GOOD:** Sarah Turner and Carla Prentice from Orbit Corporate Travel in New Zealand receive their Laguna Beach Resort Amazing Race Som Tum Challenge certificates from Lawrence Oh, Director of Sales & Marketing. As part of the Amazing Race the dishy duo had to make *somt* under the watchful eyes of Chef Krissada Tahan.




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# How to become a great writer

I am often asked, mostly by myself, what it takes to become a great writer. The secret is hard to put into words, but has much to do with having an excellent memory and something else, which for the moment escapes me.

It is also important to be able to express your thoughts in a clear and articulate manner, avoiding repetition and never saying the same thing twice.

The truly great writers of our time were also gifted with a rich and eclectic vocabulary. Ernest Hemingway, for example, was fond of substituting "cucumber" for "zucchini" without a care for convention, much to the wonderment and delight of readers and horticulturists everywhere.

The ability to spell was also highly prized in the days before proofreaders and electronic spellcheckers. This explains why so few of the great historical works include the word chrysanthemum in the title.

Having a muse is also considered an essential accoutrement for any great writer. A siren of breathtaking beauty and voluptuous curves is traditionally recommended to inspire and free the writer from periodic bouts of literary constipation.

However, when the power of your prose, or indeed your pocket, cannot secure the attentions of such an Aphrodite, you may have to trade down a little, which in my case means number 37 at Hot Lips A Go-Go.

Many a crippling attack of the dreaded writer's block has been dissolutely dissipated with her enchanting if somewhat crooked smile, as her hypnotic gaze penetrates the very fabric of my wallet, and she whispers "Up to you. I can everything" tenderly into my ear.

When my muse is off with her "uncle" on a fact-finding tour of pick-up truck dealerships in Isarn, I am forced to resort to



other means of overcoming my writer's block.

I will typically begin by watching the 1933 Marx Brothers movie *Duck Soup*, which can usually be relied on to dispel all but the most debilitating case of literary "yips", as the following example demonstrates.

**Rufus T Firefly:** Not that I care, but where is your husband?

**Mrs Teasdale:** Why, he's dead.

**Rufus T Firefly:** I bet he's just using that as an excuse.

**Mrs Teasdale:** I was with him to the very end.

**Rufus T Firefly:** No wonder he passed away.

**Mrs Teasdale:** I held him in my arms and kissed him.

**Rufus T Firefly:** Oh, I see, then it was murder. Will you marry me? Did he leave you any money? Answer the second question first.

**Mrs Teasdale:** Your excellency, the ambassador's here on a friendly visit. He's had a change of heart.

**Rufus T Firefly:** A lot of good that'll do him: he's still got the same face.

**Ambassador Trentino:** I'm sorry we lost our tempers; I'm

willing to forget if you are.

**Rufus T Firefly:** Forget? You ask me to forget? A Firefly never forgets. Why, my ancestors would rise from their graves and I'd only have to bury them again. Nothing doing. I'm going back and clean the crackers out of my bed; I'm expecting company.

In the unlikely event that this fails to get the creative juices flowing, I might swim a few laps of the bath followed by a restorative rub-down with the Literary Review.

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**PROMJAI DENTAL CLINIC**



# SenSes celebrates

SenSes Health & Beauty Clinique celebrated its first anniversary last weekend at La Salsa cocktail bar Impiana Phuket Cabana in Patong with tapas and cocktails flowing to live Latin beats.

Gifts from guests were donated to the Kids of Cambodia Program, then it was time to shake it up hot moves on the dance floor led by La Salsa's resident Latino band.



## The great coconut milk cook-off



Phuket's Supercheap was the contest venue for the recent regional round of Super Chef, a TV cooking competition show. Contestants from around the region crafted coconut milk dishes for the chance to win the grand prize of 500,000 baht.

The average streetside restaurant cook would have to make nearly 200,000 green curries before reaching the half-a-million-baht mark in trade, so the chance of earning so much money from just a few dishes brought enthusiastic chefs to the Supercheap car park to wage a coconut milk war.

The Super Chef Contest prize giveaway is a promotional effort by coconut milk brand *Chao Koh* (Islander) by Ampol Food Processing (APF) in celebration of the company's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

On the menu for the competition were horse-crab curry, pork curry, and sweet corn with sticky rice and coconut milk, which were judged by cuisine professionals, including professors from the provincial folk-art center, publishers of the food magazine *Mae Barn*, food-and-beverage program instructors from Suandusit Rajabhat University and actress Fresh Arissara.

Three rounds saw the 12 regional contestants whittled down to just one finalist who will go on to compete against other regional entries at the final round in Bangkok.

Chareonrat Jarupongsa from Nakhon Sri Thammarat won in the food presentation category while Phuket native Pinpa Tathaisong put her nine years' experience as a chef to good use to cook her way to becoming the winner overall for the Southern Thailand.

Mr Chareonrat was awarded a trophy for his cuisine creativity by royal ambassador to Thai heritage conservation HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.

Mrs Pinpa will go on to compete in Bangkok against four other regional winners from eastern, northern, northeastern and central provinces on October 18 and 19.

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# Supermodel me



If you're Thai, female, aged between 15 and 20 years old, measure over 168cm tall, are drop-dead gorgeous, and you are one of the thousands of women across the country who has entered Channel 7's Thai Supermodel 2008 Award competition, your body, along with just a dash of personality could be worth up to 300,000 baht.

Those looks could also win you a Toyota Corolla Altis, life insurance from Ayuthaya Alliance worth a million baht and a year's supply of Scott, Pantene, Select Tuna and Giffarine products.

Young women from around the region lined up to see if they met the height requirements and tried out the catwalk at Jungceylon recently in the hopes of winning a place in the Thai Supermodel 2008 Award beauty contests to be held in Bangkok.

The finals will be held at the Bangkok Convention Center at Central Ladprao on October 17.

The models had to conform with strict rules set down by the organizers to be allowed to enter the pageant.

They could not be under contract with any modelling agencies, they had to be single and to never have appeared naked in print. They also had to be good citizens with an untarnished reputation.

Nine qualifiers will also receive cash awards of 20,000 baht and life insurance worth 100,000 baht.

The winner will enjoy offers of future modelling and television work contracts and will have a portfolio put together for her by the organizers.



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Auckland is a modern bustling city, yet it has a tremendous old-world – almost 18<sup>th</sup>-century feel to it. Down at Viaduct Quay, old meets new with a Maritime Museum alongside recent America's Cup contenders, including *Spirit of New Zealand*, the controversial 1988 entry.

Just off the east coast of Auckland is Waiheke Island, a beautiful, unspoiled rural area that is home to Kennedy Point Wines.

Kennedy Point produces an excellent Cabernet Sauvignon and a superb Syrah. The vineyard is planted on steep, north-facing slopes. As well as wine, Kennedy Point produces fine extra virgin olive oil and avocado oil – all available for tasting.

Goldwater Estate is one of the better known wineries on Waiheke, producing a Merlot as well as its flagship wine, a blend of Cabernet, Merlot and Franc.

Goldwater was established in 1978 by Kim and Jeanette Goldwater when they planted their first vinifera vineyard on Waiheke. There are more than 30 vineyards on Waiheke, but Goldwater is one of the most successful, exporting wine to 25 countries.

Stonyridge Vineyard on Waiheke produces some of the finest wines under the Stonyridge Larose label; the winery also bottles a range called Fallen Angel wines, but does not actually produce the grapes on the 25-hectare estate.

Stonyridge's flagship wines are a classic Chardonnay and a tasty Merlot Cabernet Franc. The latter is a deep-colored red wine with rich aromas of ripe Waiheke fruit, cassis and plums. The leathery flavors of Merlot combine to add further interest.

#### ON SOUTH

Head south out of Auckland on Highway 1 towards Rotorua. Not an inspiring drive, but the traffic is light.

For passionate motor racing fans – any old enough to remember the mid-'60s Tasman series – you must stop off at Pukekohe raceway, 45km south of Auckland, just off Highway 1.

# Blessed island of wine



New Zealand's unique climate and geography, along with the innovative flair of its winemakers, such as Tim Turvey (right), have helped the nation's wines earn international accolades and premium prices.



The Tasman series was eight races – four in Australia, four New Zealand – that got the drivers such as Jimmy Clark, Bruce McLaren and Jackie Stewart away from winter in Europe. Pukekohe was one of these tracks.

When the three-lane section of Highway 1 ends, you are on country roads where traffic is light. Before you reach the township of Cambridge, be sure to stop off at the Red Cherry licensed café – the best coffee in New Zealand.

Turn onto Highway 5 towards Rotorua, built on a volcanic crater, and on to Taupo, in the center of the North Island.

Lake Taupo is yet another volcanic crater, similar to Rotorua, but less of a tourist-magnet. Taupo is very pleasant for an overnight stop before heading up into the mountains towards Napier and Hawkes Bay.

#### HAWKES BAY

Some of the best red wines come from Hawkes Bay. Clearview Estate Winery in Te Awanga, close to the delightfully named Cape Kidnappers, is run by Tim Turvey, a self-taught winemaker who produces some exquisite wines from his estate.

"I have been a grower of just about everything throughout my life," he says. "I had the biggest pineapple farm in Australia. I was growing everything – peas, beans, peaches – all in Hawkes Bay."

"Someone offered me a job in the wine industry, but I said I know nothing about grapes. He said, 'You know everything about every other kind of plant!' They said they'd make it worth my while, and they did, and that's when I fell in love with grapes."

"I bought this place – then around 75 acres – 23 years ago

and established a vineyard. And when the first fruit came on I realized I'd got something a little special, so I decided to make my own wine."

New Zealand's unique geography and climate, coupled with the creativity of its innovative winemakers, has enabled New Zealand wine to attain international recognition and to command the highest average price per bottle of wine in the world.

Michael Daymond-King owns Hatton Estate, an exclusive winery that supplies some of celebrated chef Gordon Ramsey's restaurants, as well as those of Jimmy Chin in New York.

"There are two reasons why there is such unprecedented demand for New Zealand wine on a global basis. The first is that the wines are very easy to understand. They have a very good fruit definition, which is what

people like and they know they go very, very well with food. Plus, I think, New Zealand people love showing off about their place and talking about the country. And I think they do that very well."

"You only have to look at the figures in the UK. I think New Zealand is 0.4% of the world's wine production, but it is fully 6% of the on-trade market in London. Lamb does not have that penetration, but wine does."

"The advantages we have are that from the top of the North Island it is like being in Spain, while at the bottom of the South Island, it's like Scotland. When you think about that kind of scale, over a 1,500-kilometer distance, you have a huge amount of different climates," he adds.

"Here in Hawkes Bay you've got a dry climate during the summer, so we produce wines very like a Bordeaux. When you talk about the whites in the central part of New Zealand, they are much more Burgundian in style, although much more fruit defined."

Church Road Winery is located almost in the center of Napier, a strange place to discover a winery. Over the years the estate has been sold off for housing and most of the vines are a little further out nearer the coast.

Church Road owns about 2,500 acres of vines, but also has 44 contractors supplying grapes for bottling. A spokeswoman for Church Road says they keep a close eye on the quality of the grapes from their subcontractors, but adds that the quality of all its grapes is "checked by hand".

The one-acre site actually at Church Road is solely for Merlot grapes, "the top end of the market," she says.

That New Zealand wine is becoming much sought after should come as no surprise to anyone that has visited the archipelago and experienced some of the very best on offer. They are relatively expensive compared with, say, Australian or South American wines, but they really do have a character all their own.

## TALES OF A TRAVELER

By Jeff Heselwood



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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**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.

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

**Until September 26. Muhammad Rojana-Udomsat Exhibition.**

Muhammad Rojana-Udomsat is a famous Thai painter with a 28-year painting career whose works have been shown in Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, China, Taiwan and Indonesia. His exhibition at Art Rendezvous Gallery in Phuket City will be open until September 26.

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

**September 14. PC Group Therapy – Laguna.**

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.

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For directions to Sandwich Shoppe Laguna (near the entrance to Laguna), see the web site. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.

From 10 am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Laguna.

Contact Woody Leonhard for details. Tel: 089-1960940. Email: woody@KhunWoody.com



## OKTOBERFEST at Mövenpick Resort & Spa September 20-October 5

A Bavarian biergarten arrives in the tropics on September 20 when the Oktoberfest is launched at Pacifica Restaurant, Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach.

It starts with a grand German-themed barbecue including such specialties as pork knuckle, spätzle, knödel, grilled pork sausage and schwarzwälder kirschtorte – better known as black forest gâteau. Authentic beers, such as Hofbräu München's Schwarze Weisse Hefeweizen Dunkel and Münchner Hefeweizen, will be served.

990 baht for the opening barbecue.

Contact Patrick De Staercke. Tel: 076-396139-442. Email: patrick.destaercke@moevenpick.com Website: www.moevenpick-phuket.com

com Website: www.KhunWoody.com

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

The Punchline Comedy Club in association with the London Comedy Store presents a night of international stand-up comedy at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket. In true comedy tradition, the night of laughter is brought to you by an Englishman, an Irishman and a Welshman: Greg Davies ("Superb! Controls the audience with such flair! Hilarious too!" – *The Daily Telegraph*), Neil Delamare ("One of the funniest things you'll see at the Fringe this year" – *Edinburgh Festival Magazine*), and Rhod Gilbert ("Rhod Gilbert makes me laugh like a pitiless idiot" – *The Scotsman*).

Tickets are 960 baht in advance, available at Woody's Sandwich Shoppes (see www.khunwoody.com for locations), or 1,200 baht on the door. A night of fun-filled laughter guaranteed.

Contact Pete for info. Tel: 081-9565650. Email: info@phuketcomedy.com Website: www.phuketcomedy.com

**September 18-24. Photo Art by Dr Ilse Gibson at Mom Tri's Boathouse.**

Dr Ilse Maria Gibson is a full-time university lecturer on computer and business subjects, but she still finds time to indulge in her early passions: photography and writing.

Her interest in computer science and photography lead her to experiment with photos using various graphic programs, turning normal photos into pop art.

Opening cocktail reception on September 18 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

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

**September 20. Wine Tasting at Wine Connection Chalong.**

Come and taste our new wine selection and tapas buffet, and enjoy our live band. Entry: 400 baht, free for club members.

From 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

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

**September 20. Underwater Cleanup.**

Splash for trash on International Cleanup Day. Volunteer to help make clean waters a reality and join the biggest underwater cleanup of its kind. Green Fins Thailand (United Nations Environmental Program), Dive Asia, Sea Fun Divers & Scandinavian Scuba Doo are calling all divers to help clean up our oceans.

In 2007, a total of 358,617 recorded volunteers worldwide helped clean 34,560 miles of shoreline and remove seven million pounds of rubbish.

Only certified divers may join and all must be registered with the organizers. Only 100 places available.

Contact Juergen Schenker. Tel: 076-330598. Email: juergen.schenker@gmail.com Website: www.greenfins-thailand.org

**September 20-21. Scuba Cat Diving International Cleanup Weekend 2008.**

Scuba Cat Diving based at Patong Beach welcomes all divers and snorkelers to join us for a fun-packed, environmentally friendly weekend (2 days/1 night)

to help clean up the underwater world at Racha Yai Island.

3,000 baht per person, including accommodation and meals for 2 days and 1 night, diving equipment, a Scuba Cat T-shirt and a celebratory BBQ for all on board.

For bookings, contact Kath or Sarah. Tel: 076-293120. Email: info@scubacat.com Website: www.scubacat.com

**September 21. PC Group Therapy – Chalong.**

From 10 am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Chalong.

**September 26-October 1. Kitipong Ngowsiri Exhibition.**

Kitipong Ngowsiri, also known as Pui, is a 33-year-old Thai painter, born in Bangkok. A member of the Andaman Club, he paints at "The Love Arts Studio" in Rawai Art Village, Phuket.

His exhibition at the Art Rendezvous Gallery at 69 Yao-warat Rd, Phuket City, opens September 26 at 7 pm.

Exhibition open daily from midday to 9 pm.

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

**September 27. Wine Tasting at Wine Connection Bang Tao.**

Come and taste our new wine selections, Tapas buffet, and live band.

Entry: 400 baht, free for club members.

From 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm.

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

**September 28. PC Group Therapy – Chalong.**

From 10 am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Chalong.

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## ON THE MOVE

Newly appointed Director of Rooms at Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket is **Pattharporn Tunthaleela**. She has more than 15 years' experience in the hospitality industry in Thailand, including working in finance and human resources. Her experience also includes working Starwood Hotels and Resorts, at the Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit and the Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel & Towers.



**Siriporn Salika** has been appointed Sales & Marketing Manager at the Dewa Phuket resort in Nai Yang.

Miss Siriporn graduated with a degree in Education at Kasetsart University.

Her experience in the hospitality industry includes working as Sales & Marketing Manager at Aspasia Phuket and in Sales & Front Office for the Accor hotel group.



**Saichai Siricharoenwong** is the new Public Relations Manager at the Club Andaman Beach Resort and Club Andaman Beach Suites in Patong. Her experience includes working as Accounts Manager at Open Computing Technology Co Ltd (SUN Microsystems) and at Pro Advertising Co Ltd, as Assistant to the Managing Director, and as Marketing & Sales Executive at L'Aquatic Co Ltd.



By Akbar Khan

PATONG: Over the past six weeks, global franchise giants Starbucks and McDonald's opened on Soi Bangla, with both promoting their social responsibility programs as key strategies.

The Seattle-based drip-coffee giant Starbucks opened its seventh branch on Phuket with the opening of Starbucks Twilight on Soi Bangla on August 14. Store manager Kraiwut "Dom" Sae-Auy explained that the Bangla branch opens at 10 am and closes at 3 am and that the prices charged are the same for all Starbucks nationwide.

Starbucks' Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) project, which has guaranteed customers that the beans used in their brews are grown organically and harvested by farmers who are not exploited, has gone a step further in Soi Bangla where the baristas have taken to heart the corporate slogan "Make your Passion to Improve the World come to life through Starbucks" – every Wednesday they clean up litter strewn along Patong Beach.

In Thailand, Starbucks is expanding, while in other countries it is closing branches. In Australia this year, 61 of its 84 stores were closed.

According to company founder Howard Schultz's book *Pour Your Heart Into It: How Starbucks Built a Company One Cup at a Time*, the name of the company was derived from a character in *Moby-Dick*.

Starbucks' logo of a bare-breasted, twin-tailed siren – a Greek mythological character – now has hair covering her nipples and navel, although some of the paper cups feature the older logo



## Starbucks joins McDonald's in Patong's 'Twilight' zone

that reveals slightly more.

Although there are a few chairs outside for customers, there are also "No smoking" signs. Speaking to the customers, it became obvious why this branch seems to be so popular – most families and couples who stroll the streets looking for souvenirs would rather sit on a luxurious sofa in an air-conditioned environment than take their loved ones into a noisy girlie bar.

Families seem to enjoy the cafe and apart from being a place to rest their legs after shopping or somewhere to escape the rain, it is probably due to the large amount of non-coffee options available that start with Star-

bucks' own-brand products, such as Tazo teas and various frappuccino offerings.

With the 3 am closing time, it is no longer necessary to invite a girl home for coffee; you can have it right there on Soi Bangla

### McSAWASDEE

Starbucks Twilight opened right next door to Patong's third McDonald's, which opened on July 23. Like the other two McD's in Patong, it is open 24 hours a day and serves tortilla breakfasts with Canadian bacon from 5 am to 11 am at 59 baht, or including gourmet coffee for 80 baht.

McDonald's southern re-

gion consultant Sayan Sungkasem told the *Gazette* that the prices at McDonald's on Soi Bangla are higher than elsewhere, not because tourists should be charged more, but because the overheads of running a business in Patong are higher than elsewhere.

Another difference is that while most McDonald's branches now have a McCafé section, this one has a Dessert Kiosk instead in the sheltered outdoor area.

Tourists strolling down Bangla smile when they see the attention to cross-cultural detail, a large statue of Ronald McDonald greeting them with a tra-

ditional Thai *wai*. Even the *katoey* that pose for pictures with tourists have started noticing that Ronald is one of the most popular characters on the street to have a picture taken with.

Japanese tourists love taking pictures with Ronald and also appreciate the Samurai pork burger.

Catering to those with midnight munchies is a late-night special between midnight and 5 am: customers who spend 120 baht or more get a free spinach pie so that they can feel like Popeye for the rest of the night.

The new outlet also offers McDelivery service (Tel: 1711) that delivers orders for a 20-baht surcharge (30 baht for orders placed between midnight and 9 am).

The decor reflects McDonald's policy "directly improving the health and well-being of children", with colorful pictures of young children on the walls to promote the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC).

RMHC raises money for its three core programs: Ronald McDonald's Family Rooms, Care Mobile units, and Ronald McDonald Houses, each of which the charity calls "The House that Love Built". All three projects focus on providing care and support for children with special medical needs.

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For more than a year the incumbent UK government effectively tried to look on "the bright side" of the current economic situation.

The change of direction when it came was 180 degrees. The British Chancellor of the Exchequer (Minister of Finance), Alastair Darling, in an interview with the *Guardian* newspaper, revealed the true viewpoint at present.

The UK economy is facing its worst situation in 60 years and is set for an abrupt and painful slowdown. Something along the lines of "you ain't seen nothing yet".

For businesses coming back from holidays to face a grim economic slowdown, this is still credit crunch territory and the financial sector is going to want to keep itself as liquid as its balance sheets allow, at least until early 2009.

This is not unusual. Banks generally like to have good liquidity levels to assist over the Christmas-New Year season, which is a time of important annual economic activity. Credit is not going to be easily available. There are sections within the UK economy who view a mortgage as some sort of piggy bank.

In recent years, money was withdrawn from mortgages for everything from a new kitchen, to a luxury overseas holiday or various consumer durables. As a result, more UK citizens are now living with a higher debt burden than their US counterparts, when adjusted income levels are taken into account.

When people are heavily indebted and credit availability suddenly evaporates, there must be consequences. There is also a need to recognize that there are vast differences between the US and UK economies. For example, the housing market: for a home owner who is taking a long view and has no intention of selling, house price falls are almost irrelevant.

One of the differences in the UK economy compared with the US is that the former is small geographically and has a substantial population in relation to its size. Analysts, economists and real estate groups all insist that there is an undersupply of housing in the UK. In addition, the



**UNDER PRESSURE:** British Chancellor of the Exchequer (Minister of Finance) Alastair Darling is now publicly recognizing that both the UK economy and the pound are continuing their downward slides.

amount of housing being built in the good years was not keeping up with demand.

Now, we have a banking sector that has totally changed its views on lending, and is not very enthusiastic about the process. Borrowers now have to be able to display high deposits, verifiable incomes and the ability to pay off a mortgage without any major financial stress.

This is going to cut the numbers of transactions in the market and the latest statistics show that average UK house prices have fallen more than 10% in the last year. There is muttering in the market that house prices could fall 30% from peak to trough.

The government is definitely

going to stimulate the market to a degree; whether this will really contribute remains to be seen.

Alastair Darling's speech achieved something else. It removed any doubt about the direction of the currency. The markets took him at his word and enthusiastically increased the speed at which the pound sterling was falling in value.

The pound, at the time of writing, has fallen more than 15% against the US dollar this year. It has fallen though multiple resistance levels with great ease. In reality, the pound was never worth US\$2; a level of US\$1.50 is far more realistic; it seems to be heading in that direction.

"When will the Bank of

England cut interest rates?" is the question and, basically, the market is split on a move by the end of this year or at least the first quarter of 2009. David Blanchflower, a voting member of the interest-setting body, the Bank of England MPC, is already calling publicly for a cut in interest rates.

Certainly, his point of view makes a lot of sense; it takes around nine months for interest rate cuts to impact on the real economy. The Bank of England needs to start the process immediately since there is no benefit in making the economy underperform.

Recessions have been likened to forest fires, which have a place in economies as fires do in nature: they are a necessary evil but they should be made as shallow and short as possible. "A stitch in time saves nine."

The banking system in the UK may be in an even worse situation than was previously thought. A bank analyst with Swiss banking group UBS, Alastair Ryan, has stated that UK banks may have tapped the cen-

tral bank – Bank of England – for 200 billion pounds sterling or more. This is approximately US\$ 350 billion.

A mortgage report for the UK treasury is reported to have stated that there will be a shortage of mortgage finance for at least the next two and a half years.

At the time of writing, the amounts involved still await confirmation from the Bank of England but the broader picture suggests that the British banking system is more reliant at present on government support than either mainland Europe or the US.

This does not mean that any deposits with British banks are in any way at risk. It does mean, however, that the British taxpayer is somehow going to be footing the bill.

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



## MONEY TALKS

By Richard G Watson

## Siam Real Estate scoops CNBC award

SINGAPORE: Local property agent Siam Real Estate has won an award in the Best Real Estate Agency Website category at the CNBC Asia Pacific Property Awards 2008 held in at the Marina Mandarin in Singapore on July 20.

Other real estate agencies to win an award in the same category were Axiom Estates Advisory Services Pvt Ltd ([www.axiometates.com](http://www.axiometates.com)) and Chesney Real Estate Pte Ltd ([www.chesney.com.sg](http://www.chesney.com.sg)).

"We are delighted to have won this prestigious award, which demonstrates our professional standards and encourages our company to do even better for the future," said Siam Real Estate CEO Richard Lusted.

"The fact that Siam Real Estate earned one of these coveted awards is sure proof that Thailand can not only compete but also triumph within the highly-competitive Asia-Pacific property arena.

"Having been given this high recommenda-

tion by its peers, the company is now entitled to display the CNBC Asia Pacific Property Awards' logo with pride. This symbol of excellence will be recognized and appreciated by the public who are becoming increasingly well informed and discerning about the properties they seek to buy," he added.

Eric Pickles, British Shadow Secretary of State, chaired the awards.

Entries were judged by a panel of professionals in the property industry, including Helen Shield, editor-in-chief of *International Homes* magazine; Peter Bolton King, chief executive of the National Association of Estate Agents (UK); Phil Spencer, property expert and presenter of UK Channel 4's *Location and Relocation* TV shows; Christopher Hall, past president National Association of Estate Agents (UK); Wilhelm Harnish, Master Builders of Australia (MBA); Graham Norwood of the *Daily Mail*; and Paul Wyatt, head of design for Lycos UK.

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The car that put the world on wheels, the Model T Ford, celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Launched in October 1908, with a 2,896cc engine delivering a heady 20hp, the "T" was significant in that it featured a monobloc motor casting and a detachable cylinder head.

Transmission was a two-speed epicyclic system that had been used on previous Fords. Top speed was around 45 miles per hour, or 72 kmh.

Fuel consumption was in the region of 13-21 miles per (American) gallon, or around five to nine kilometers per liter, running on gasoline or ethanol, although the introduction of prohibition ultimately made the latter impractical as an alternative fuel. Fuel was gravity-fed to the carburetor and for this reason steep gradients had to be tackled in reverse if fuel levels were low.

When Henry Ford died in 1947, a Detroit newspaper published the headline "The Father of the Automobile Dies". Such was Henry's influence on modern transport and the mobility of the aspiring American public. The Model T was designed, though, by Childe Harold Wills and two Hungarian immigrants by the name of Joseph A. Galamb and Eugene Farkas.

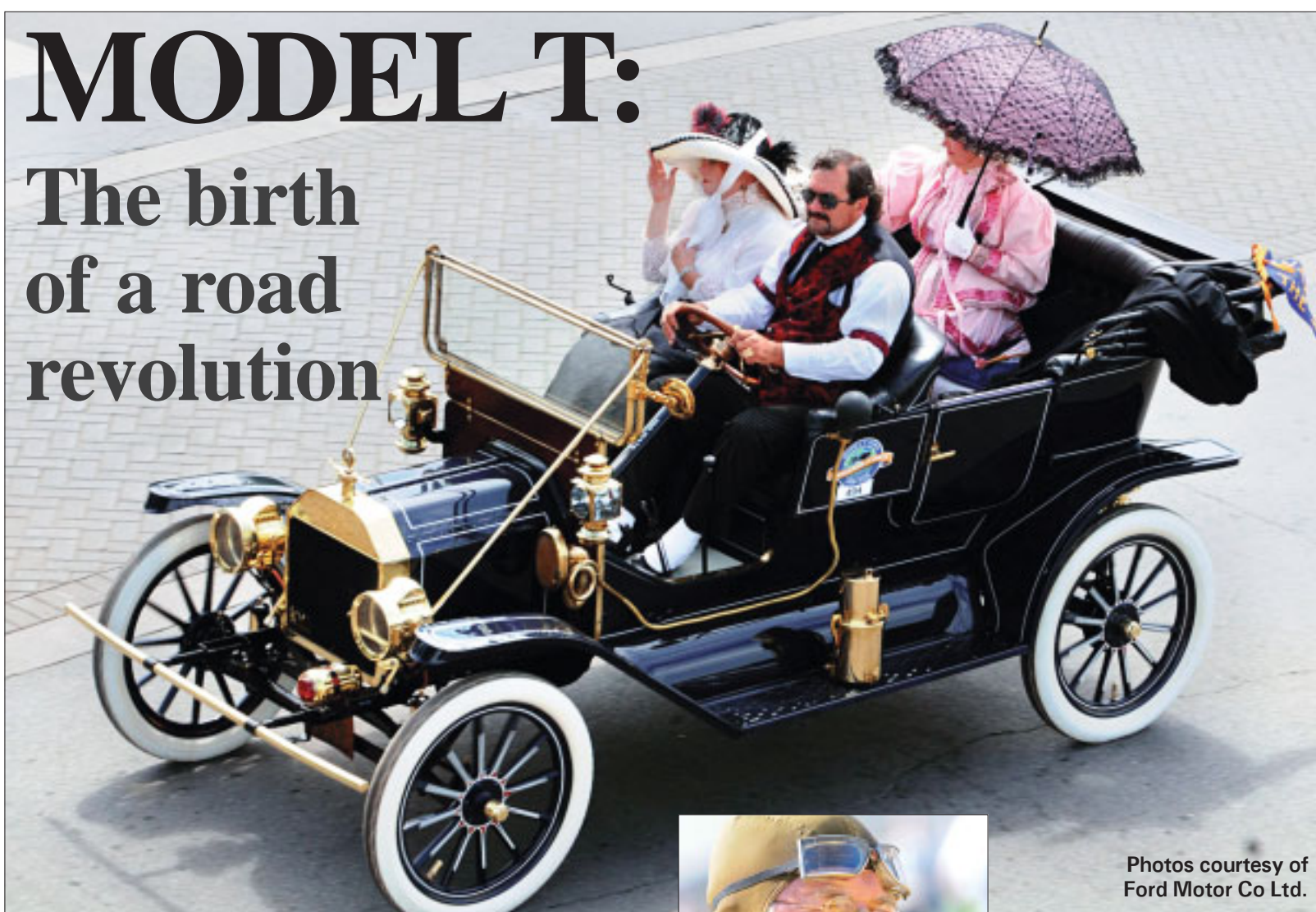
The first Model Ts were made in a factory on Piquette Avenue in Detroit, but in April 1910 Henry Ford moved production to a new facility at Highland Park. Although Ford already produced more vehicles than any of its competitors at the time, Henry instigated the moving production line in 1913, further increasing the numbers turned out.

In 1914, the first full year of production, Ford built 308,162 cars. Two years on and that figure had more than doubled. By the end of its production life in May, 1927, more than 15 million Model Ts had been sold.

In December 1999, it was named, rightly, "Car of the Century" by a panel of 133 automotive journalists and industry experts who began with a list of 700 candidates in 1996 and sequentially whittled down the nominees through seven rounds of ballot-

# MODEL T:

## The birth of a road revolution



Photos courtesy of Ford Motor Co Ltd.

ing over the ensuing three years.

In 1909, a standard four-seat open tourer cost \$850; by 1915 this had dropped to just \$440, thanks to improved production methods. Although Henry Ford is widely credited with introducing the production line to auto making, it was in fact William C. Klann who brought it to Ford after seeing Chicago's Union Stock Yards where cattle were butchered as they moved along a moving belt. When the first car was completed on the new assembly line, it was Klann who proudly drove it off the end of the line.

Although the Model T was listed as a "three-speed" vehicle, in actual fact it was just two; the other gear was reverse. The transmission was controlled by three foot pedals and the throttle by a lever on the steering wheel.

The original wheels were wooden artillery wheels, although towards the end of production steel spokes were introduced.

Pneumatic tires were fitted, with an optional size available for the more demanding roads in the south of the US.

By 1919, almost all cars sold had electric starters; before that they had to be started by a hand crank and, often, when the engine kicked back, a driver's thumb would be broken.

Although Henry is reputed to have said, "A customer can have any color he likes so long as it's black", in fact the Model T was available in a variety of colors. Indeed, the earliest cars were not even available in black. Documents in Ford archives suggest that black was widely adopted for a number of components because it was cheap and durable.

Speed of assembly was clearly essential to making the car inexpensive and by 1914 it took just 93 minutes to assemble a Model T.

That year, Ford produced



**BLACK BEAUTY:** Model T enthusiasts in Richmond, Indiana, sport vintage looks at an event celebrating the car's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

more cars than all other automakers combined.

Celebrations have been taking place in the United States, notably at a gathering of Model T owners held in Richmond, Indiana in July, where more than 1,000 cars turned up.

### Model T Fast Facts

- The idea that the Model T only came in black probably comes from the fact that almost 12 million of the 15 million produced were, in fact, black. But Henry Ford never actually said it, unless joking perhaps...
- Before the Model T, cars were built with their steering wheels on the right, the left or in the center. The Model T standardized the

left-hand steering wheel.

- The Model T was responsible for establishing a minimum wage and the eight-hour working day. The \$5 a day minimum wage brought the best workers to Ford factories.

- The Model T was the best-selling vehicle until 1972 when the VW Beetle surpassed its total.

- A Model T was used in the 1928 silent movie with Laurel and Hardy. The intrepid duo caused havoc in a traffic jam and then escaped in a Model T into a railroad tunnel.

- As late as 1961, the Model T appeared in movies, when it "flew" in Disney's *The Absent-minded Professor*.

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

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PUZZLES

### Spot the Difference

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

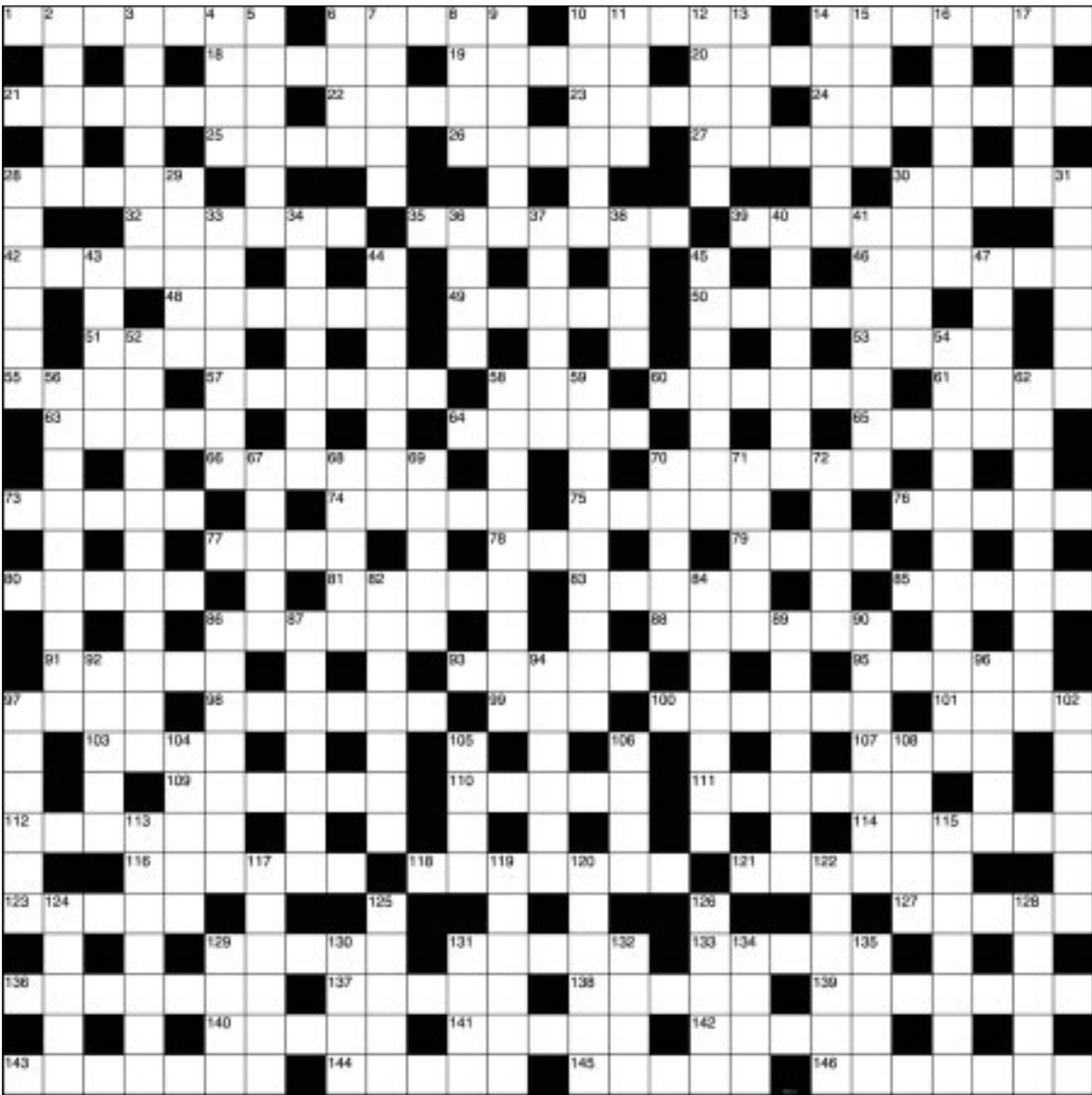
### su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

Sudoku is very simple: each row, each column and each “box” of nine squares within the puzzle must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 with, naturally, no repetitions. Beware: there is only one solution to this puzzle, which is on the next page.



The BIG Crossword

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#### Across

1. Undergoes change  
6. Giddy  
10. Lucky numbers game  
14. Substitute (5-2)  
18. Manufacturer  
19. Desert water hole  
20. Carnivore, meat...  
21. Prolong (4,3)  
22. Connect to the Internet (3,2)  
23. Glitter  
24. Walker  
25. Obstructive protest (3-2)  
26. Ice boot  
27. Thud  
28. City, ...Carlo  
30. Fabric  
32. Open wounds  
35. Excludes  
39. Neglect  
42. Capsicum, red...  
46. Lady's title  
48. Huge star cluster  
49. Ethiopia's Addis...  
50. Enter (4,2)  
51. Sunbeams  
53. Requirement  
55. Recompensed  
57. Dog-like predators  
58. Chapel bench  
60. Italian ice cream  
61. Sonar sound  
63. Iron fist in a velvet...  
64. Of hearing  
65. Join together  
66. Dictator  
70. Fatalities  
73. Command  
74. Court attendant  
75. Elephant groups

#### Down

2. Zodiac sign  
3. Illuminate (5,2)  
4. Flightless Australian birds  
5. Parody  
6. Smallgoods shop  
7. Presses (clothes)  
8. Menageries  
9. US Civil War soldier  
10. Circus tent (3,3)  
11. Tiny island  
12. Men  
13. Curse  
14. Church address  
15. Concealed pit  
16. Incapacitated (racehorse)  
17. Unskilful  
28. Uses sponge (4,2)  
29. Sad poem  
30. Hoisting machine  
31. Cultivating (ground)  
33. Collided  
34. Book users  
36. Christmas  
37. More spiteful  
38. Rend  
40. Tumbling athlete  
41. Foreboding  
43. Danger  
44. Live wires  
45. Plotted  
47. Examine (accounts)  
52. Youths  
54. Capturing spirit of  
56. Irritate

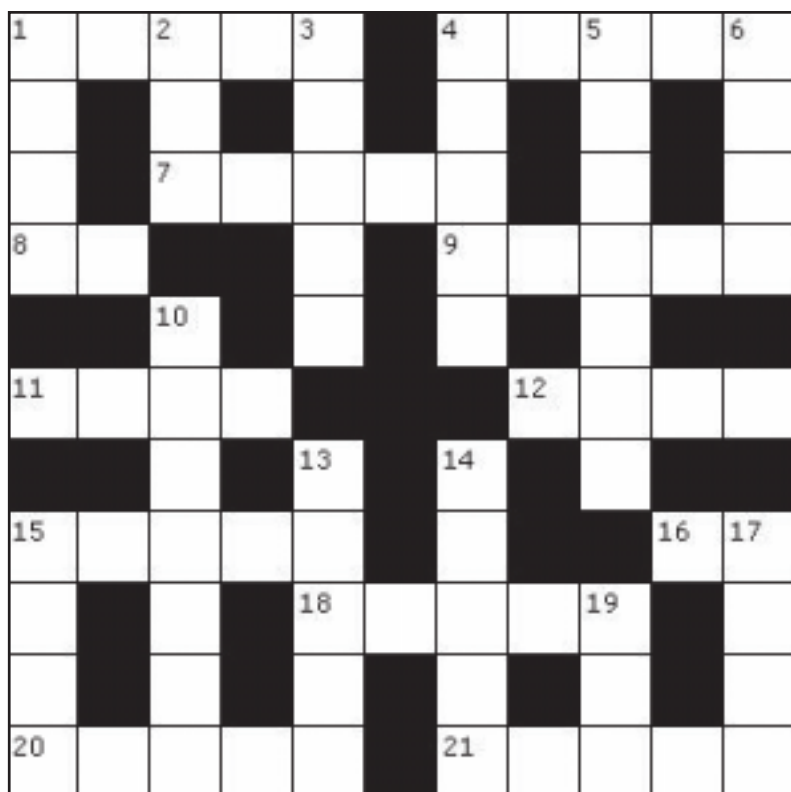
76. Settees  
77. Matures  
78. Blunder  
79. Defrost  
80. Oust from property  
81. Take a whiff  
83. Too fat  
85. Become entrenched (3,2)  
86. Fervent wish  
88. Most uncommon  
91. It takes two to...  
93. Disease agents  
95. Hymn, ...With Me  
97. Bawled  
98. Tropical parrots  
99. Mayday (1,1,1)  
100. Pungent clove  
101. Monster loch  
103. Urgently (1,1,1,1)  
107. Labels  
109. Angora wool  
110. In vain, to no...  
111. Do harm to  
112. National song  
114. Ridges  
116. Fly or ant  
118. Human rights group, ...International  
121. South African hero, ...Mandela  
123. Received news  
127. Fairies' rods  
129. Possibly  
131. Cornets  
133. Wharves  
136. Stunned  
137. Goes up  
138. Mew  
139. London Cockney area (4,3)  
140. Played again  
141. Allude  
142. Wooden board

143. Spurned  
144. Nipples  
145. Damages (bodywork)  
146. Shabbier

58. Rots  
59. Toilet facilities  
62. Exposed film  
67. Avid  
68. Cat  
69. Belonging to them  
70. Less wet  
71. Michaelmas daisy  
72. Piles  
82. Related TV stations  
84. Hunting trips  
86. Cheerleaders' accessories  
87. Antiquated  
89. Outshine  
90. Strategies  
92. Aside  
94. Spin  
96. Work tables  
97. Funeral garland  
102. Marinates  
104. Reform  
105. Tranquil  
106. Louvre section  
108. Direction marker  
113. Rented limousine (4,3)  
115. Passed (legislation)  
117. Sidestepped  
119. Rope loops  
120. Appeared to be  
122. Points out similarity  
124. Principle  
125. French river  
126. Take on  
128. Jig or waltz  
129. Nothing more than  
130. Unruly child  
131. Sure-fire thing  
132. Father  
134. Hooting birds  
135. Benefit

Answers on next page





## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Horse race
4. Russian spirit
7. Grab
8. Alien
9. Santa's helpers
11. Water sport
12. Winter weather
15. Subsequently
16. Extra large
18. Furious
20. Loft
21. Middle Eastern country

### Down

1. Roll the...
2. Tattered cloth
3. Annual cycles
4. Snake
5. Motoring
6. Mountains
10. Far
13. Old French money
14. Small vehicle
15. Continent
17. Cut
19. Vegetable

Solution below

## Get your brain in gear with the MONSTER QUIZ

1. Which Beatles song mentions a barber's shop?
2. What make of car is named after the Latin word meaning "I Hear"?
3. What does the word eponymous mean?
4. What is the northernmost US State capital?
5. Who played Jimmy Bond on film?
6. Camp X-Ray is on which island?
7. Which countries have Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts?
8. What is the name of the owner of the nuclear power plant in The Simpsons?
9. Which country is credited with making the first edible Easter bunnies?
10. Why do some football teams in the English football league have triangular corner flags instead of square?
11. Which square is in front of the Palace of Westminster, London?
12. In the 1970s, who became the first convict executed in the US for a decade?
13. Who was first person to win the golf US Masters five times?
14. Which actor played the only Dirty Dozen member to survive?
15. Who played Buck Barrow in *Bonnie & Clyde*?
16. In music, what is a note if it is neither sharp nor flat?
17. Who allegedly hanged himself in Spandau prison on August 17, 1987?
18. Who was born as Ehrich Weiss and became a famous entertainer?
19. Who, in 1964, wrote *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*?
20. What in Irish legend was an old woman whose shrieks and wailing

Answers below



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# Puzzle Solutions

### Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



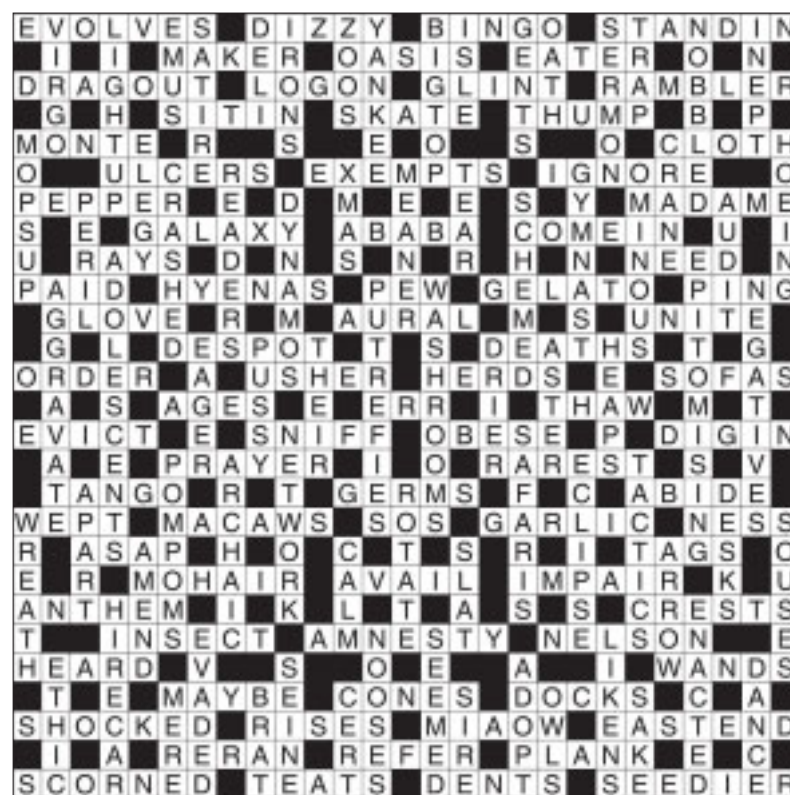
## Monster Quiz Answers

1. Penny Lane; 2. Audi;
3. Having the same name as;
4. Juneau (Alaska); 5. Woody Allen (*Casino Royale*); 6. Cuba;
7. France, Spain, Morocco;
8. Montgomery Burns;
9. Germany;
10. They have won the FA Cup;
11. Parliament Square;
12. Gary Gilmore;
13. Jack Nicklaus;
14. Charles Brosnan;
15. Gene Hackman;
16. Natural;
17. Rudolph Hess;
18. Harry Houdini;
19. Roald Dahl;
20. Banshee.

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword



### Solution to this week's Cartoon Puzzle





# The Last Newspaperman

Jimmy Breslin is a living legend, the last of his kind: the hard-drinking, foot-slogging, champion-of-the-people newspaper columnist. The papers he's worked for form a drumbeat of a vanished heyday of big city journalism: the *Long Island Press*, the *Journal American*, the *New York Herald Tribune*.

Breslin started out as a sportswriter but got his big break when eccentric press tycoon Jock Whitney gave him a five-day-a-week, 950-word column in the *Herald Tribune*. This was in 1962.

He quickly became a New York star along the likes of Damon Runyan and Ring Lardner. His barroom friends like the bookie Fat Thomas and the arsonist Marvin the Torch became the talk of the town.

He went on the cover the civil rights marches in the South and the war in Vietnam. This was just the opening act for a celebrated career of novels and non-fiction reportage. Through it all, his distinctive style has remained the same: blunt, funny, mordantly ironic.

*I Want to Thank My Brain for Re-*

*membering Me* (Little, Brown & Co, New York, 1996, 374pp) is the story of how he survived an brain operation for a potentially lethal aneurysm. His book ranges from his initial diagnosis in New York to his final operation in Arizona at the hand of the greatest surgeon in his field.

Along the way, he strings along a long series of anecdotes about his career as a newspaperman spanning nearly a half-century. This is, in fact, the memoir of his life, surprising for a columnist who was generally meticulous about keeping himself out of the story.

Breslin grew up in a fatherless home in Queens and went to Catholic school just long enough to become a copy boy on the *Long Island Press* in 1950. These were the glory days of New York journalism, a time of colorful characters and glo-

rious bars.

Breslin laments the passing of the era, replaced now by journalism majors who work out before work and go home immediately afterward, with their noses in computers and their feet far from the gritty streets of the city.

Faced now with his own imminent

mortality, Breslin confronts the ultimate questions: human consciousness, the nature of the soul and the existence of God. Leaving his doctor's lab after the initial diagnosis, he contemplates his predicament: brain surgery could destroy his personality.

"You leave his laboratory and are left with writings that became nebulous and piled words that have no meaning when they come to this spirit. Where does a personality come from? What is a personality anyway? What is a sense of humor? Where do these powers live in the brain? Nobody knows. You are not alive without them and nobody knows the first thing about them."

Two pages later, he reflects on his religion and that there is no such thing as an ex-Catholic.

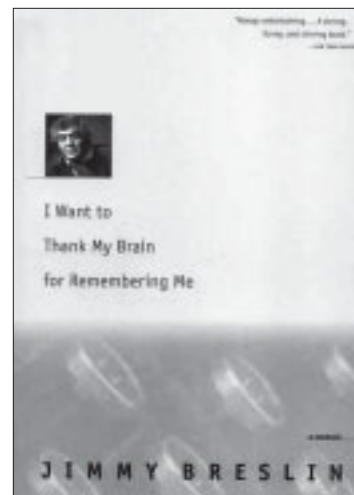
"You are baptized, raised, die and get buried as a Catholic. This unseen rule, power, force, immutable belief cannot be found with electricity. They will search for years, through the hundreds and hundreds of millions of wires that make up the brain.

They will find nothing. Unless they want to look for a higher power and that higher power has the exclusive opportunity to create and run the world and to give those in it the gift of consciousness."

Along the way to his brain surgery, he can be screamingly funny. He has also been close at hand to the dominant personalities of his time: Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Robert Kennedy, Jack Ruby, the Beatles, Lenny Bruce, Barry Goldwater, Claire Booth Luce, Mario Cuomo, Casey Stengel, Tip O'Neill, Hugh Carey, Norman Mailer, Pat Moynihan, Robert Maxwell, Joe McCarthy and

the Son of Sam. Breslin has got stories about them all.

The book also serves as a confessional in which Breslin acknowledges his faults and manfully owns up to a few good deeds. The final 60 pages are devoted to his surgery in Arizona. When he emerges unscathed, writing a column about his ordeal, you feel just as grateful as the author. This is a book from the heart and you rejoice to know Jimmy Breslin.



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt



Why must English be so hard to learn? I often wonder why all the brilliant minds in the English-teaching world don't get together and simplify the language. English is only a tool to help us communicate. As an engineer, I don't see why it has to be such an unwieldy tool.

I work with many foreign engineers, and my heart goes out to them when I think how much they have to memorize to use our language. There are so many inconsistencies and no reason to much of it. The English-language profession has let us down, badly.

If my company was comparable, it would have gone out of business long ago.

Mike Matouka  
Michigan

### Barbara replies:

You're right that English is a lot harder to learn than it might be. If hand-lettered signs and the listings on eBay are evidence, even many native speakers have given up trying to spell and punctuate correctly.

Michael Henry Heim, a prize-winning translator who is fluent in seven languages and able to read six more, once told me that English is the easiest language in the world to learn to speak badly.

Its large, disorderly vocabulary and loony spellings stymie many people's efforts to speak and write it well.

This is where English teachers come in. Unfortunately, they don't have the kind of power you attribute to them. No English-speaker does.

This is strange, because

# Sounding off on spelling

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.

dozens of languages, from Asturian to Turkish, have official regulatory groups. Typically, these groups set standards for their language and approve new words before they're added to a national dictionary, which government agencies and others sometimes are bound by law to follow.

You might imagine that the sticking point for English is that there are so many varieties of it – American, Canadian, Australian, South African, British and so on. But Spanish-speaking countries including Argentina, Mexico and Spain have solved the equivalent problem, with each setting its own standards.

Quebec sets French-language standards independent of France.

English spelling reform has had many champions throughout the centuries, including Benjamin Franklin, Theodore Roosevelt and Prince Philip.

Today, the closest thing to a plausible organized effort in North America comes from the American Literacy Council, which is promoting a version of English that looks like this: "Hav u ever considerd th meny benefits ov a simplified fonetic speling that soundz just like it's riten?"

Come to think of it, that looks an awful lot like text-message English, as in: "RU redy 4 ths?" instead of "Are you ready for this?" and so forth. Mike, are you sure you're in favor of simplified spelling? The text-message set may inflict it on us, regardless.

I suspect that you, along with many brilliant minds in the English-teaching world, would hate it.

You'd expect someone whose business card reads "Communications Faculty, Jones Graduate School of Management,

Rice University" to know the answer to my question.

But I cannot find a principle that clarifies when the word "communication", either as noun or as adjective, properly takes an "s".

David Tobin  
Houston

### Barbara replies:

When it's a field, profession, system or technology, it's "communications".

When it's an activity, it's "communication".



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.

If you can't decide which of those you're talking about, go with "communications", which is the more common word by a wide margin.



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## Leave those hills alone

The *Gazette* offers its belated congratulations to Pian Keesin on his recent re-election as Mayor of Patong, but disagrees strongly with several items in the seven-point platform he promised to pursue following his victory.

Foremost among them is his pledge to continue efforts to push for a change in the ban on the construction of permanent structures above 80 meters.

Sensibly established in 1994 to stop erosion, landslides and flooding – while maintaining what is left of the island's hillside scenery – the statute is probably the best environmental protection measure put in place specifically for Phuket, even if enforcement of it has been very poor.

Many of the worst violations have been in Patong, where in October last year a landslide that undermined the foundations of a holiday home and apartment block off Nanai Rd caused an emergency evacuation. Last April, an illegal logging camp was raided high in the hills near Tri Trang Beach.

In November 2005, a landslide crashed through the wall of a dwelling on Nanai Rd, killing a Thai woman and her child.

In July this year, three Burmese laborers were crushed to death by a landslide at the site of a new apartment block being built on 50 Pi Rd following heavy rains.

While many of these tragedies happened at projects under the 80-meter limit, the forces of gravity and other laws of physics do not discriminate as to whether dangerous construction work is taking place above or below that altitude.

In the end, all that extending the limit will achieve would be to expand the area over which such calamities can take place, worsen already severe flooding conditions [see News pages] and add to the number of residences adding sewage to the municipality's abysmally inadequate water-treatment capabilities.

Rather than working to push to extend the 80-meter limit higher, Patong Municipality should be placing its efforts on stricter enforcement of the existing statute, doing a better job of reviewing construction permit applications, and keeping a closer watch over projects to ensure all the required drainage and erosion-control equipment and procedures are in place and working properly – especially at the onset of the rainy season.

Another easy-to-implement solution that could be introduced in Patong and other areas would be to send out survey teams to clearly delineate where the 80-meter boundary lies. Such work could be conducted at minimal cost by engineering students from local universities as part of their training.

– The Editor

Do you have an opinion you want to share?  
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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.

### Miserable start to honeymoon season

I own a travel agency in Phuket that caters to Korean tourists. After the airport was closed, I had four honeymoon couples who could not go home to Korea, and this week four couples have already canceled coming to Phuket – and this is only with my business.

In total, more than 1,000 Korean tourists canceled coming to Phuket in a single week.

The “honeymoon season” in Korea starts about September 27, but now, about 20% of my honeymoon bookings have already canceled.

During this season, roughly more than 6,000 Koreans arrive in Phuket each week.

If the airport is closed again, it will seriously damage our tourism industry.

Now Korean Air and Asiana Airlines, as well as travel agencies in Korea, such as Hana Tour, Mode tour, Lotte and others, are discussing whether or not to stop sending tourists here.

Phuket's economy depends on tourists. No tourists means no money – it is plain common sense.

JS Holiday  
Phuket

### Show us the money!

Front page headlines are shouting revenue losses of B250m a day, with total losses estimated at 50 to 60 billion baht, or up to 10% of the 700 billion baht targeted tourism revenue for the year.

With these kind of figures being bandied about, it really makes you wonder why Phuket has been starved of such funds to maintain its infrastructure and incinerators. Could this be an ex-

planation as to why there was such a political reaction locally?

For a land that suppresses a million *mai pen rai*s daily, storing them up in a huge pressure cooker of frustrations, what we're talking about is “small change” in comparison with what happens in the West.

The amount of inconvenience caused was negligible when you compare it with what travelers have had to endure at London's Heathrow Airport during the past few years, and that's while it's been operating normally.

Capt Quirk  
Phuket

### Lifeguard's duty is to guard your life

Letter-writer John McGrath of Tokyo expressed great disdain for the Karon Beach lifeguards' apparent “dislike and contempt for tourists” for telling people to get out of the water [*Gazette* Letters, August 30 issue].

Sorry, Mr McGrath, but having lived here for nine years and seen probably about a dozen lifeless bodies being hauled out of the sea in Karon and elsewhere, and knowing people who were very strong swimmers who have succumbed to the waves, I don't believe their forceful behavior was out of hand.

A lifeguard's job is to protect people, not to smile and watch as they splash around while ignoring the red flags warning them of the perilous conditions of the sea.

In Queensland, Australia, lifeguards have the right to eject you from the beach if you defy their orders to leave the water. And as far as I know, the image of Australia as a friendly place

has not been tarnished as a result.

I suppose Mr McGrath is correct when he says that some tourists may be disgruntled about being “denied the privilege of going back into the water”. But at least they won't be heading home in a coffin.

TJ  
Chalong

### Stemming the rising tide

Near where I live behind Wat Chalong is a stream that always overflows. Not helping with this problem is that a builder has restricted the flow of the stream by building an earth bridge over it held up by round cement pipes. These pipes restrict the flow of water when there are torrential downpours like today [see ‘Island flooding prompts landslide warning’, page 2].

However, after making a phone call, workers from Chalong Municipality did arrive and removed the pipes to allow the stream to flow quicker.

But why was the builder allowed to put the pipes there in the first place? He should be made to make a proper access onto his land that does not affect the flow of the stream.

Had these pipes not been in place at the start then I am sure the flooding would have been less severe.

A Chalong resident

### Circular logic

Removing the traffic circle is going to ease traffic jams? I don't think so. The whole purpose of a traffic circle (roundabout) is to allow traffic to flow freely.

John Write  
Phuket City

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



Friends of mine often ask me what I do with my spare time now that I am retired. As a matter of fact, I don't have much spare time. Rather than just spend time with my family and friends, I am preoccupied with my consulting business and the two daily 40-kilometer drives taking my daughter to school in Phuket City and back.

Let me tell you something about myself first: I am a retired Swiss hotelier and have been living in Nai Harn with my family for almost 15 years now.

I managed a real estate office from an international law office in Patong for many years and learned a lot about the Phuket economy, the difficulties with land title deeds in Phuket, the ups and downs in tourism and, last but not least, the permanent shortage of qualified hotel staff, not only in Phuket, but all over Thailand.

The idea for the hotel school was born only a short time ago. In July, I visited my business partner in Sydney, Costantino E. Rossi from Elti Consulting in Switzerland, and we had lunch together with Fritz Gubler, the chairman of Orion Hotel Schools. I asked Mr Gubler if he was interested in establishing a hotel school in Phuket.

The idea had landed on fruitful ground and upon my return to Phuket, I started working on it. When I introduced the idea of an international hotel school in

# 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY HOSPITALITY: The mint on the pillow is not enough

Phuket to Governor Niran Kalayanamit, he was very enthusiastic about it and promised to help as much as he possibly could. [see *Gazette* August 30 issue].

After the meeting with Gov Niran, the board of directors of the Blue Mountain Hotel School in Australia came to Phuket to discuss at length the possibility of such an enterprise. Possible partners were visited and a green light was given for further negotiations.

We all know that it will be a long process to achieve such an ambitious goal and many bureaucratic hurdles have to be overcome. Our team here in Phuket is strong and we believe in what we are doing. Our team consists of highly profiled professionals – Mr Rossi, Peter Hatt and myself – so everybody is on the same wavelength.

Let me explain my idea behind it all. I have a solid background in the hospitality industry. My parents and ancestors were in this business, believe it or not, dating back to 1848 in Europe.

I started as an apprentice chef and made it all the way up to becoming a hotel manager and, finally, running my own hotel in Switzerland for some 13 years.

## FIRST PERSON

Swiss national and hotelier **Lothar Schudt** has begun to set his plans in motion to establish an international hotel school in Phuket. Representing Orion Hotel Schools, a consortium of six hotel schools around the globe, Mr Schudt explains why he thinks Phuket is ready to become a center for quality hospitality training.



Now I feel that the time has come to give something back to the upcoming generation: our children. Nowadays, it is not so easy to give something that is genuinely good to our kids, but we can give them a good education that allows them to become someone who society can look up to and admire.

If a student graduates from

university, are we able to guarantee that he or she will find a decent, well-paid job? It might not always be the case. But if a student graduates from an international hotel school after three years with a globally-recognized diploma, I am sure that he or she will have a position offered a long time before they even graduate.

This is the reality. Why do

we send our children for education in hotel schools in the US, Switzerland, Australia or anywhere else when we can have it here in Thailand? Sure, the curriculum is not a simple one, and only the best will prevail. But I am also sure that this school will provide well-trained hospitality staff for not only the future of Thailand but for other countries in the region, too.

The school will provide more than just an education. It will provide real job opportunities supporting both local people and their employers in existing hotels.

It is still too early at this stage to outline the entire concept of the planned Phuket hotel school, but be assured: this is not only a school for the wealthy. We will also supply scholarships for underprivileged students.

Phuket now has the chance to become the center for the education of future leaders of the global hospitality industry.

Please support this idea and let our children start their careers here in Phuket with a window for worldwide success. Finally, let's do something better than what we did yesterday.

– *Compiled by Akbar Khan*

## Dirty water disposal

Where in Phuket can a ship owner properly dispose of oily bilge water? Example: I have a client that called me and wanted to know where he could dispose of about 700 liters of water that was mistakenly put into his diesel fuel tank when the fuel tank contained only a few liters of diesel fuel.

We are concerned that if a contractor is hired to pump it out, they will go to an isolated location and just dump it.

So is there any place someone can properly dispose of oily or fuel-contaminated water on Phuket? Or are there any companies that have an oil/water separator that can accept this for a fee?

Bradley Kenny  
Phuket

**Prachum Suriya, Head of Environmental section of Phuket Municipality Office, replies:**

We have a bio-diesel oil disposal machine at our incinerator area that can be used for this purpose. We heat used diesel oil or fuel-contaminated water to 60 degrees Celsius to make the water evaporate, leaving the oil, which can be used as fuel for the incinerator.

For further details, please contact me at 081-5356972. There is no charge for this service.

## 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.**

**Submit your queries or suggestions to us and we'll ask the appropriate people to respond to them.**

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## Can I split my B800,000 deposit fund requirement?

I have received contradicting replies about the requirements for showing funds when applying for a permit-to-stay based on retirement. I understand that the present requirement is to have 800,000 baht in a Thai bank account.

Some Thai banks have announced much better interest rates on fixed-term deposits for terms from three to 36 months.

If I deposit 200,000 baht in my regular savings account for day-to-day needs and another 600,000 baht in a fixed-term account, can I present proof to Immigration of having more than 800,000 baht comprising the total funds in the two accounts?

Don Aleman  
Phuket

**Pol Capt Napat Noosen of the Phuket Provincial Immigration Office replies:**

The rules are as flexible and friendly as possible. You can produce any number of different bankbooks to show that you have funds totaling 800,000 baht or more.

The accounts can be either regular deposit or fixed-term deposit accounts. Current accounts and bonds of any description, however, cannot be used for the application.

The only other restrictions is that the money must have already been deposited in a bank for at least 90 days before the date of applying for the permit-to-stay.

## Shipping in a dog from overseas

I am shipping my dog to Phuket from the US. I know I need to notify the health department a certain amount of time before she arrives.

Where do I go? I have already taken care of transport and health inspection papers in the States.

I just need to know what, where, when and how I need to do what is needed in Phuket.

Sheila McCown  
Phuket

**John Dalley of the Soi Dog Foundation replies:**

Regardless of whether you are bringing your dog with you from the States or whether you are already here and importing it, in either case, you need to comply with the following:

1. Your dog must have a current rabies vaccination and certificate. Vaccination must be done at least 15 days before export but no more than 12 months before export.

2. Your dog must be vaccinated against leptospirosis at least 21 days before export.

3. For Phuket, your dog must be micro-chipped. The microchip number should be included on the veterinary certificate and vaccination book.

4. Hold a valid certificate

signed by an authorized veterinarian that refers to the microchip number and vaccination book.

5. Dogs should be at least four months old before having a rabies vaccination.

If your dog is traveling with you, you can apply for an import permit on arrival, but convenience depends on the time you arrive.

If you arrive at night, you will have to wait until the veterinarian is on duty the next day.

It will, of course, be smoother to prepare this document beforehand.

The veterinary office is situated upstairs at the airport cargo terminal of Phuket International Airport.

Please note that fighting dogs such as American Pit bulls and American Staffordshires will not be allowed into Thailand.

I advise that you inform your airline in advance that you will be taking your dog so it can be put in the air-conditioned section of the cargo hold.

This is much cheaper than taking your dog as accompanied baggage, though some people prefer to pay extra to do this as the dog is checked in with you and arrives on the carousel.

If the dog travels as cargo, you have to collect it from the cargo terminal when it arrives.



It was the strangest phone call I've ever received. "Hi, Tsow," said Fardley Nerdwell. "What are you doing in Nigeria?"

"Huh?" I replied. Fardley chuckled. "I just got an email from stsow@yahoo.com. The subject heading reads, 'EMERGENCY!!! I need your hepple please.'"

I was puzzled. "Hepple? What's that?"

"That's spelled 'hepl'," Fardley replied. "I assume it's pronounced 'hepple'."

"That must mean 'help'," I frowned. "The message is supposed to be from me? I would never misspell 'help'."

"It gets better," Fardley assured me. "I quote choice portions: 'I am deeply in sorrow hurrying writing you this message...I have a big problem now as an EMERGENCY just occurred, I had to travel to Nigeria for an Urgent Trip, unfortunately I was robbed, all my luggage got stolen at the hotel, which have kept me restless, as I have been left alone without nothing.' Then it begs me to wire \$3,000 to the Western Union manager in Lagos immediately."

"Uh-oh," I said. Like most people, I've received many emails, usually from people with exotic names like Mr Moussa Alhamza or Dr Jeroboam Mwekalele. Invariably, they claim to be bank managers or finance ministers from Nigeria who have come into possession of vast sums of money that need to be moved out of Nigeria through a foreign contact.

Knowing me personally to be a man

# Don't send me money!

of unimpeachable character and steadfast integrity, they offer me a huge chunk of the boodle if I will just forward my bank details.

Like you, I've always recognized such messages as scams, dismissed them with a hearty laugh, and deleted them.

But, unlike you, I am subject to periodic fits of stupidity. Recently I received an email from [access.datacenter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:access.datacenter@yahoo.co.uk), announcing that they were updating all Yahoo accounts and would deactivate mine if I didn't give them my user name, birth date and password.

The misspelling of "access" alone should have warned me. But in a moment of carelessness, I sent them the information.

I was vacationing in Pattaya, and those evil scamsters were sending emails not only to Fardley, but presumably to everybody in my Inbox and Sent Mail box, begging for \$3,000 immediately.

I ran to an Internet shop to do some damage control. To my horror, the villains had changed my password and locked me out of my own account.

First I panicked. Then I did the sensible thing. It's what everybody with a problem does in Pattaya. I went out and got drunk. Soon I was feeling no pain. If everybody did this, there would never be any problems, anywhere, anytime.

I call this the Tsow Program for Stress Relief, and it works every time. Dr Phil and Deepak Chopra, take note!

The next day I opened a new account and tried to cancel my old one. But Yahoo has an insanely convoluted system that frustrated my most heroic efforts. You never get to communicate with an actual human being at Yahoo. All

you do is fill out forms on automated responses, which generate more automated responses, which don't solve your problem. After two weeks of struggle, I gave up.

One factor comforted me. All the people in my Inbox and Sent Mail box are smarter than I am. They would never fall for such an obvious scam.

Also, most of them don't have \$3,000 to throw around. Those that do are tight-

wads. If I were in truly desperate straits, they might send me 30 baht – maybe even 300 – but never \$3,000. They know they'd never get it back.

But one thing annoyed me: the broken English the miscreants used. I'm an English teacher. I would never misspell "help" or use a double negative like "without nothing".

These scoundrels were not only cyber-raping me, they were sully my reputation for immaculate prose.

So if you ever get an email from [access.datacenter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:access.datacenter@yahoo.co.uk), scold them for misspelling "access," and berate them for their wickedness.

If you received the same message Fardley got, I hope you didn't send the money, because I'm not going to pay you back. But delete [stsow@yahoo.com](mailto:stsow@yahoo.com) forever from your list of contacts; consign it to the outer darkness, where there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth; and note my new e-dress, below.

And any time you catch yourself thinking you're stupid, think about me, and feel better.

*S. Tsow can now be flamed at [s.tsow@ymail.com](mailto:s.tsow@ymail.com), and don't bother asking him for his new password, which is "stupeedo".*



## In The Stars

by Isla Star

# Blue the ticket to deep thoughts, Virgo

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Your outlook becomes more positive in late September. Those who celebrate a birthday this week can look forward to a year with less pressure than the one passed. Romantic attraction is forecast this weekend when a lonely Libran makes contact. Those already in a relationship will be touched by a gesture made by their partner. Wear sapphire blue to encourage insight.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Those born under the sign of Libra who have been hoping for more excitement in their lives will appreciate the stimulating week ahead. After a shaky start to September, life takes a twist for the better and your desire for fulfillment should be satisfied. One

work-related challenge will involve travel, which could lead to a romantic interlude with Aquarius. The number 8 can bring some good fortune on Sunday.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): If you've been feeling down, you will be cheered up by hearing from a long-lost friend this week. Money matters will improve and shopping for new clothes is recommended. Add to

this a visit to a spa and you will feel like a new person. Cancer notices you on Sunday and could be brave enough to ask for a date.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Don't be surprised to learn you have chalked up a success at work. Your efforts have been noticed by an influential person, but this could lead to jealousy from a lazy colleague. Romance bubbles under the surface, but Aries is determined to sweep you off your feet. Wednesday is best for investigating a financial discrepancy, but do not accept the first offer.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): A job that you were mildly interested in earlier this year becomes available again. If you weren't eager enough before, spend some time this weekend preparing for a second attempt. Tuesday is best to schedule an interview as the stars will encourage the right impression to be made. Regarding love, Taurus's apparent lack of interest could disappoint. The number 5 can be lucky on Monday.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Keep your skates on this week. Just when you thought that life was beginning to slow down, extra responsibilities arise. The

departure of a colleague at work could mean more work. Monday is best for a serious talk regarding a pay rise. Finances are well-starved until the end of this month and you could be considering a change of residence.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Tranquil waters await you this week. From now until the end of the month, you should be able to achieve some quality progress. The only ripples may occur mid-week when a Sagittarian friend decides that you are the only person who can help with a problem. Be very clear about how much assistance is on offer. Your love life becomes livelier with the reappearance of an old flame.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Take a roundabout approach to business this week. Your usual blunt method is certain to fail, particularly when dealing with air signs. However, where romance is concerned, this is an auspicious time to make your feelings clear. New commitments are highlighted until the end of the month. The number 7 can bring some good fortune on Monday.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): The stars are ready to support some risk-taking this week. If you are tired of waiting for others to make

the first move, you will find the confidence to stand out from the crowd. Where romance is concerned, Sunday should be a sparkling day when Libra singles you out. Investments are best delayed until next month, but you will start to see what is promising.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Geminis are raring to go this week after a sluggish start to the month. With renewed energy on tap, this is the ideal time for home improvements. Clear out unnecessary clutter for a healthier balance and Virgo has some decorating tips. Incorporate the apple-blossom white to encourage a calmer approach. The number 3 can bring good luck on Sunday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Disagreements with bureaucracy could be irritating early next week, but your crabby mood will dissolve when a business agreement is finalized. Thursday is best for arranging important meetings. Love becomes exciting this weekend when you are attracted to Scorpio, but this person could prove hard to please. Wear sage green for self-confidence.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Harmony at home could be disrupted by misunderstandings this weekend, so be prepared to meet a family member halfway. A colleague who has been making mountains out of molehills is about to be put in their place. This should ease the atmosphere at work. If you are considering a change of employment, delay making inquiries until later this month. The number 9 can bring good fortune on Monday.

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A friend of mine brought me her computer the other day and showed me a giant warning like the one pictured on this page. She knew that she needed Antivirus XP 2008, but she didn't know how to install it. Thank heaven.

Another friend brought me a computer that always booted to a Blue Screen of Death that said Error 0x00000050 PAGE\_FAULT\_IN\_NON\_PAGED\_AREA. It took a whole day to unwind all of the junkware on that computer, but when I got down to the bottom dreck, I found Antivirus XP 2008.

I've received messages from at least six people in Phuket who want to know about this fabulous new program, Antivirus XP 2008 (or XP Antivirus 2009 or similar).

Here's what you need to know: it's malware, plain and simple, and if you install it you're handing your computer over to some very sophisticated folks who will install key loggers (to watch over your shoulder as you type in your bank account information), bot software (to turn your computer into a zombie, spewing out zillions of spam messages), various kinds of spyware, Distributed Denial of Service software (you, too, could be part of the Russian cyberterrorism effort against Georgia), and the scummiest, dirtiest stuff you've ever seen on any PC.

Here's the crazy part. Most people install Antivirus XP 2008 voluntarily.

Usually, intended victims receive a spam message that invites their prey to install this wonderful new program. You figure, hey, it couldn't be any worse than the big-name antivirus program you have now – the one that's no doubt bugging you every two days to cough up your credit card number to stay up to date – and figure it's worth a try.

Wrong.

Some people pick up Antivirus XP 2008 by clicking on a link on a decent, well-known website. They just don't realize that people who run big websites frequently farm out their advertising, and sometimes the ads (which are delivered independently of the page itself) harbor threatening stuff.

A year ago, web job-placement site Monster.com started showing one ad that was used to harvest financial data from at least 46,000 people (tinyurl.com/67q54h).

The SpywareRemove web-

# When Antivirus ain't 'anti'

site reports (tinyurl.com/55pnjk) that, not long ago, Google was showing "sponsored" paid links that pointed directly to the Antivirus XP 2008 site. If you use Google to search for "CNN Top 10 Antivirus", one of the display ads came up with "Free Antivirus XP 2008 / Free, safe, accurate online scan. Free online check. 2008antivirusxp.com." Predictably, the link took you directly to one of many Antivirus XP 2008 download sites. At least for a little while: when I checked the link two days later, it had been suspended by the Russian hosting site.

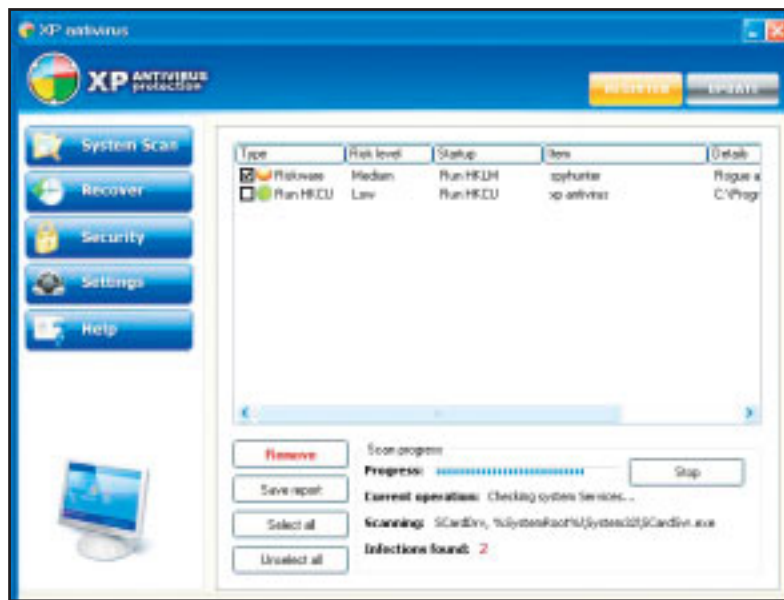
The exact method of infection can vary, as will the payloads. Antivirus XP 2008 has been modified slightly to become Windows Antivirus 2008, Vista Antivirus 2008, XP AntiVirus and

many others. It's even been grafted onto a downloadable video codec (decoder). They all

warn you with breathless prose about the nasty denizens of your computer, and urge you to install Antivirus XP 2008 to protect and defend.

Computer Associates calls the entire Antivirus XP 2008 family "one part trojan, one part downloader, and one part rogue security product". But it isn't a virus. It doesn't replicate itself. Instead, it uses very good marketing – called "social engineering" in some circles – to convince you to install it.

If you want to watch a system get infected with XP Anti-



In spite of its name, XP Antivirus 2008 (and Antivirus XP 2009) isn't 'anti' at all: it's a clever piece of malware. If you've got it, you've been duped, and you'll have a very hard time getting rid of it.

virus 2008 and see all the fallout from the scumware, there's a fascinating and scary video on Youtube at tinyurl.com/68jwu2.

If you've got it, how do you remove it? For starters, don't even bother with Windows Add or Remove Programs. Any company clever enough to call a piece of scum "XP Antivirus" isn't going to make it easy for you to get rid of it.

I've had the most luck scouring XP Antivirus 2008 from systems by running an AVG Free full-system scan and, for good measure, following that with a complete run of Windows Defender. Here's the shorthand version of how to do both:

Go to tinyurl.com/6j4wx4. That takes you to the AVG Free version 8 site on Download.com.

About halfway down the page, on the right, click the green button that says Download Now. After you've downloaded the file, run it. Go through the installation wizard, and choose custom installation. That way you can choose to install the whole program, or only keep the core parts. When you're asked if you want to install the AVG Security Toolbar, uncheck the box and click Next. Take the rest of the defaults.

AVG Free comes up and asks you to pick a time of day for running automatic scans – I generally run them early in the morning, but I don't turn off my computer. Uncheck the box that invites you to allow AVG to collect information about your usage.

When you're asked about checking for updates, be sure you

do – might as well start with the most recent virus file definitions available. On the next screen, there's no reason to register. Click Next, then Finish, and you're ready to run your first scan.

Double-click the AVG icon in the system tray, next to the clock in the bottom-right corner of the screen. AVG's main menu appears. Click the Tools option, then choose Advanced Settings. On the left, click LinkScanner. Uncheck the box that says "Enable AVG Search-Shield" then click OK. That snubs another privacy-robbing feature of AVG Free 8.

Microsoft's Windows Defender is absolutely free, but you have to be able to pass the "Windows Genuine Advantage" test. If you have a legitimate copy of Windows XP, go to tinyurl.com/5q36co and follow the instructions to download, install and run Windows Defender.

If your copy of Windows is of, uh, uncertain pedigree, a good free alternative is Spybot S&D, tinyurl.com/2c4c69. Either of the programs should provide a fair amount of protection against XP Antivirus 2008 and its ilk.

If the one-two punch of AVG Free and Windows Defender (or Spybot S&D) don't rid you of the XP Antivirus curse, try following the step-by-step instructions at Bleeping Computer, tinyurl.com/6xxhyz, or at 2-spyware, tinyurl.com/5rrpuk

How do you keep from being bitten in the future? Forgive me if you've heard this one before, but use Firefox!

If you had Firefox 3 working for you (getfirefox.com), any site that hosts XP Antivirus 2008 or one of its variants will trigger a message saying, "Reported Attack Site!" and you won't be able to get in.

It also helps to make sure your antivirus program is up-to-date, and that you have at least one good antispysware program working, too.

## KHUN WOODY'S COMPUTER

### PC GROUP THERAPY

PC Group Therapy Join Woody and other Windows victims at his Sunday morning PC Group Therapy sessions, co-sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. On September 14, the group will convene at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna, 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. Come early to make sure you get a seat: several recent events have been standing room only. Driving instructions at [www.woody.info](http://www.woody.info)

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11:30 am.	Swim and snorkel at the popular Koh Khai Nui (small island).
12:00 am.	Arrive at Khai Nai Island, enjoy swimming and sun bathing.
13:30 pm.	Set lunch will be arranged at Yao Yai Island. Swim and relax on the beach.
15:30 pm.	Leave from Koh Yao Yai to Rassada pier.
16:00 pm.	Transfer to hotel.

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By Scott Mallon

# Prizefighting problems continue to plague boxing

Boxing is in bad shape and in desperate need of repair. Boxing fans are occasionally presented with fights truly worth watching, but more often than not promoters and matchmakers trick the public into thinking they are getting more for their money than they really are.

The gig is up, though. Fans in the US are no longer as apt to shell out \$50 for a pay-per-view card; they have done so too many times before – all for the privilege of watching cards that in the past would not even have made it to free TV.

Slowly but surely, the sport is sliding into obscurity, bled dry of everything it has to offer. Gone are the days when every man, woman and child knew the name of boxing champions. The average boxing fan has lost touch and it will take another Sugar Ray Leonard or a young Mike Tyson to steer the sport back in the right direction.

Fifty years ago, there were boxing gyms in almost every neighborhood. Boxing was a staple on television; local shows took place every week and fans knew who fighters were. They knew their names, their faces and they learned about their lives.

These pugilists were the predecessors to today's reality TV stars – they were the real deal and it was all on TV for fans to see. There was Rocky Graziano, the juvenile delinquent



**SEEN BETTER DAYS:** Chatchai Sasakul (left), shown here after winning a points decision against Masanori Murata on May 25 last year, was knocked out in three rounds by one of boxing's true champions, Mexican Christian Mijares, on August 30.

boxing fan has lost touch with the sport's champions, much in the same way that the music world has lost its "greatest hits" role in popular culture with such a vast selection of ways to get music – rather than just radio.

In the past, there were eight traditional divisions; flyweight (112 lbs), bantamweight (118 lbs), featherweight (126 lbs), lightweight (135 lbs), welterweight (147 lbs), middleweight (160 lbs), light heavyweight (175 lbs), and heavyweight (unlimited). There were eight champions, not 80.

As the sanctioning bodies became more influential, the number of weight divisions increased. This was ostensibly for safety reasons, but boxing is also big business and millions of dollars are at stake. Each time a title fight takes place, the alphabet-soup organizations charge a sanctioning fee, normally between 1% and 3%.

It makes good business sense, at least in the short run, to increase the number of championship fights worldwide. The more championships, the greater the revenue for the sanctioning bodies.

In Thailand, boxing has reached an all-time, immeasurable low. Currently, the country is home to two world champions, WBC minimumweight titleholder Oleydong Sithsamerchai and

who turned his life around through boxing and fought three life-or-death battles with the Man of Steel, Tony Zale; there was Sugar Ray Robinson and his pink Cadillac, and of course, Rocky "The Brockton Blockbuster" Marciano, the only heavyweight champion ever to retire undefeated. All these great fighters were household names.

This all changed with the

advent of HBO and satellite TV in 1975, when, for a fee of course, millions around the world were able to see the third bout between Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier, commonly referred to as "The Thrilla in Manila". Boxing has never been the same.

HBO Sports President Ross Greenburg called the expansion of pay-per-view "the biggest economic issue in boxing".

"I can't tell you that pay-per-view helps the sport because it doesn't. It hurts the sport because it narrows the audience, but it's a fact of life," he said.

The WBA, WBC, IBF and WBO are currently the four major sanctioning bodies of boxing. The proliferation of these organizations and their sub-affiliates has watered down the sport, making it difficult for the casual fan to keep up with who's who.

Each sanctioning body has 17 weight divisions, ranging from strawweight (105 lbs) to heavyweight, accounting for a bare minimum of 68 champions.

Include "interim champions", "champions in recess" and the WBA's "super champions", and you get somewhere in the neighborhood of 80 champions. The average sports writer now needs a cheat sheet to help him remember them all. The average

WBC women's flyweight champion Samson Sor Siriporn.

Sithsamerchai is a legitimate champion, having defeated one of the divisions' best, Eagle Kyowa, to win the world title. Sor Siriporn won her world title while serving time in the Women's Correctional Institute for Drug Offenders and her bout against Japanese fighter Ayaka Miyano for the vacant title is widely regarded as a publicity stunt outside of Thailand. In the near future, she'll be forced to face her mandatory challenger. Chances are her title reign will end once she does.

In yet another example of the mismatches that are bleeding the sport dry, former WBC flyweight champion Chatchai Sasakul of Thailand recently challenged for the WBC super flyweight title held by one of boxing's pound-for-pound best fighters, Christian Mijares of Mexico.

A few years ago, Sasakul had requested a bout with world champion Masamori Tokuyama. "I'll fight anyone, winning or losing isn't so important," said Sasakul. "I want one more big payday," he continued. "It's getting harder and harder for me to keep up with these young guys and my time is running out."

Tokuyama retired while still in his prime, before a bout with Sasakul could be made.

In the past 10 years, Sasakul has fought nothing but unranked, unknown fighters. Somehow, he won a regional title, then climbed to number four in the WBC world ratings. Last year, after knocking out Lito Sisinorio in four rounds, the Filipino fighter died from injuries sustained during the bout, and Sasakul has looked like an unwilling participant in his subsequent bouts.

His fragile state in the ring, along with his advanced age and lack of decent opposition, made him easy prey for Mijares. At one time, Sasakul was an excellent champion but at 38 years of age, Sasakul is now well past his prime and the bout with Mijares was a foregone conclusion. The champion toyed with Sasakul for two rounds before dispatching of him in the third round.

Mismatches, ridiculous ratings, over-priced pay-per-view events and far too many unworthy fighters crowned as champions have seriously damaged the sport of boxing. This is boxing as goes the saying – it's a sport well known for its carnival ways and wide range of characters. Maybe that's what keeps us coming back.

Scott Mallon is a Bangkok-based boxing writer and photographer.

## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

PATONG: Things remain tight at the top of the table, with the big news of the week being that Dogs Bollocks, who had been playing out of the Mutts Nutts Bar, will now move even deeper down the depths of Soi Seadragon and play out of Amigos.

Word is that Denzil grew tired of darts, but the team wants to play on. Send match reports to: darts@phuketgazette.net – or don't bother complaining about it if the same teams seem to get mentioned every week!

**September 2 results:** Queen Mary\* 5 Shakers 4; Piccadilly\* 8 Hilltop 1; Offshore\* 8 Celtic 1; Simply Red 0 Market Bar\* 9; Sick Buffalo\* 3 Beach House 6; Dogs Bollocks = bye (\* = winner of beer leg).

**Standings:** 1. Piccadilly (95 points); 2. Queen Mary (92); 3. Offshore\* (90); 4. Market Bar\* (84); 5. Sick Buffalo\* (71); 6. Shakers (69); 7. Beach House (63); 8. Dogs Bollocks\* (52); 9. Celtic (50); 10. Hilltop (43); 11. Simply Red (41) (\* = one match in hand).

**September 16 match-ups:** Queen Mary v Dogs Bollocks; Beach House v Piccadilly; Offshore v Simply Red; Hilltop v Market Bar; Celtic v Sick Buffalo; Shakers = bye (home team first).

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## Child-Watch to hold annual fun run

PHUKET: Child-Watch Phuket, together with the Phuket campus of the Prince of Songkla University (PSU), the Jui Tui Shrine and the Suan Luang Runners Club, will hold its fifth Child-Watch charity mini-marathon on November 16.

The annual event is held to promote the protection of children's rights and to support sporting activities among the public.

There will be two courses: 3.5km and 11.9km.

In the 3.5km race, runners can compete in the following categories: boys (not older than 12); men's open; girls (not older than 12); and women's open.

In the 11.9km race, the categories are: boys (not older than 15); men's open; men 30-39 years; men 40-49 years; men 50 years or older; girls (not older than 15); women's open; women 30-39 years; women 40 years and older.

The 11.9km race will start at 6 am and the 3.5km race will start at 6:05 am. Both races will start and finish at the PSU Phuket campus. Runners will leave PSU, continue onto Wichit Songkram Rd and to Bangwad Dam and then return to the finish line at PSU.

The event will be presided over by Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit, who will hand trophies to the winners.

To join the event, register at the Phuket Child-Watch Association office at the Rubber Technology Faculty building at PSU (Tel: 076-276396, 081-7195690) or at Wittaya Sathit School on Komaraphat Rd in Phuket City.

Athletes can also enter by registering at the event between 5 am and 5:30 am on race day.

Entry costs 200 baht per person in the 3.5km race and 300 baht per person in the 11.9km race.

Each of the first five runners to finish in each category will receive a trophy and a commemorative medal.

The first 200 runners to complete the 11.9km course will each receive a T-shirt and a participation medal. The first 100 runners to finish the 3.5km race will each receive a commemorative medal.

For more information, call 076-276396 or 081-7195690.

# Kata crew dominate Phuket Surf Contest

By Semacote Suganya

KARON: Despite the southwesterly monsoon winds bringing the usual heavy rains this time of year, they failed to provide the usual good surf for the annual Phuket Surf Contest held at Kata Beach from September 5 to 7.

However, that didn't stop Noppasit "Ko" Boochuai from Kata making the most of the junior surf. He was awarded Best Wave of the competition and won the long board division.

Indeed, local Kata surfers dominated the event, winning three of the four divisions and many more ranking high in the final standings.

Aek, also from Kata, finished second in the long board division, followed by Chalee (Kata), Chalong (Patong) and Dam (Patong). In true local fashion, only first names or nicknames of entrants were recorded by organizers.

Ko also surfed well in the short board division, finishing in second place, an accolade in itself as the shorter boards are faster than their longer counterparts, making it more difficult for surfers to keep pace with the slower, smaller waves and score points.

Fellow Kata surfer Jimmy won the short board division, with Lim from Kamala in third place, followed by Chalong (Patong) and Lukmud (Kata).

Oliver from Kamala won the grommet (young surfer) division, followed by Panu from Kata, John (Kata), Palangkeab (Karon) and Beach (Kata).

Kata girls Jum, Bee, Jenny and Ying proved they could hold their own in the surf, finishing in the top four places, respectively, in the women's division. Tan from Kamala finished fifth.

The only international to win a division was Namiko from Japan, taking top honors in the body board division; Kwang from Kata finished in second place, followed by Aek from Kata in third place.

Another Aek, this one recorded only as "Aek (in front of temple)", finished fourth, while Dam (Patong) finished fifth in the division.

For their efforts, the top four



A surfer struggles to make the most of the small waves that plagued the Phuket Surf Contest at Kata Beach.

in the short board and long board divisions each received a trophy and 8,000, 6,000, 4,000 and 2,000 baht, respectively. Fifth place received a trophy only.

The top four to finish in the grommet, women's and body board divisions each received a trophy and prize money of 4,000, 3,000, 2,000 and 1,000 baht, re-

spectively. Again, fifth place received a trophy only.

Despite the poor surf conditions, more than 120 surfers from more than 10 countries took part in the event, which was held near the Kata Beach Resort.

Most of the international contingent were leisure tourists and included Japanese, English, French, American, South African, Scandinavian, Australian, Filipino, Indonesian, Malaysian and Singaporean surfers.

However, event organizer Wallop Nadon said, "There were fewer foreigners than expected. Last year, we had 16 surfers from Malaysia alone, but this year only one Malaysian surfer joined us. Similarly, last year we had 10 Japanese in the body board division – this year there was only one."

"This year, the weather was not so good. Waves were only about one meter high and there were strong winds and it rained," he added.

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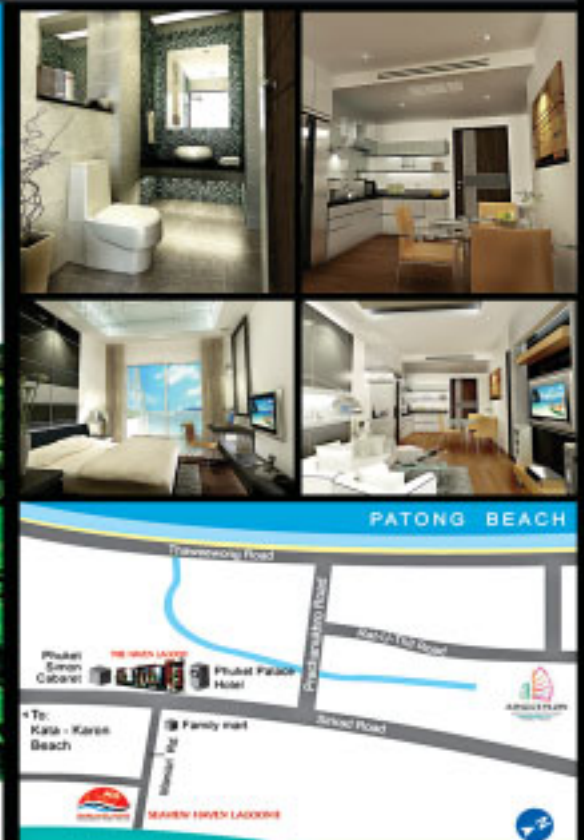
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## Construction

by Janyaporn Morel

# Rawai gets a 'touch of platinum'

RAWAI: Construction on seven of the luxury pool villas in the 21-unit Platinum Residence Park project are now complete, with the remaining homes expected to be ready by the end of next year.

The project, on 11 rai on Wiset Rd, about 500 meters from Wat Sawang-arom, is being developed by Platinum Residence Co Ltd.

Tim Sozanski, Platinum Residence Park Director of Sales, told the *Gazette* that the construction of the project started at the beginning of last year. About 40% of villas, which are custom-built to buyers' orders, have been sold. Some owners have already moved into their villas.

Both Europeans and Thais have shown interest in the project, Mr Sozanski said.

Platinum Residence Park project features high-end villas designed in a combination of Western and Balinese style.

There are three different types of one and two-story villas, set on land plots averaging about 700 square meters in area.

The project features wide roads, spacious walkways, a "green zone" and underground

electric cables, the developers say.

The "A" type two-story, three-bedroom pool villa, called "Koh I Noor", is designed with a living space of 482 square meters.

The "B" type two-story villa, called "Orlob", has a 327sqm living area. This type is also a three-bedroom unit, with servant quarters in a style similar to those of type A.

The "C" type one-story pool villa, with two or three bedrooms, has a total living space of 220 sqm.

House prices range from 9.5 million to 21 million baht.

For furnishing, buyers can choose between either standard packages or complete customization options, with on-site interior design services also available, said Mr Sozanski.

All villas feature eco-friendly, energy-saving features including solar water heating and high-quality ceramic tiles to reflect heat, Mr Sozanski explained.

Services include security guard protection and a rental management system for buyers wishing to earn income on their property while they are away.



One-third of the Platinum Residence Park villa project is now complete, and buyers have begun moving in. Pictured (above) is a 'Type A' villa and (below) a one-story 'Orlob' Type C villa.



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## Home of the Week

## Rawai

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Entry is via a remote controlled gate, which opens onto a spacious forecourt with a covered parking for up to three vehicles.

The ground floor of the villa is a capacious open-plan design with wood and stonework prominent throughout.

A remote-controlled modern lighting system allows you to set the ambience to reflect your mood.

To the right of the entrance, the Italian themed kitchen is equipped with all the latest appliances and includes a dining area with seating for up to 10 people.

A private en-suite maid's quarters, which could also serve as an additional guest bedroom, is situated directly to the left of the main entrance.

The main living area and separate TV room boasting a 52-



inch flat-screen monitor occupy the left side of the ground floor. Every room in the villa includes a 42-inch flat screen monitor. The downstairs living area also features a six-speaker surround sound stereo system.

Sliding doors from the living room open onto the outdoor garden and entertainment area – home to the villas stand-out attractions.

The garden's centerpiece is an impressive 20-meter pool. You can relax in the Jacuzzi as water cascades down the stonework

façade, enjoy a glass of wine at the four-seater sunken pool bar, or lay back in comfort on the shallow waterbed.

Fluorescent fiber-optic cables located under the water light the pool in an array of colors, which makes a moonlight swim a truly memorable experience. Ambient lighting is also set into the stonework surrounding the pool.

To the left of the pool, a covered bar area offers the perfect spot to pause for a midday cocktail.



The mansion includes a 20-meter pool (left) and Italian-inspired design throughout the interior (left and below).

Barbecue facilities are also included. To the right of the pool, Italian inspiration is once again to the fore, with soft stand-alone lighting encircling the outdoor dining area.

The upstairs area is dominated by the spacious 80sqm bedroom, which leads onto a private outdoor roof terrace.

Double sliding doors give way to an impressive en-suite bathroom, replete with twin sinks, rain shower and spa tub with a cascading water feature. Two additional guest bedrooms also occupy the upper level.

The villa offers environmentally friendly solar panel heating and, as one would expect, concealed air conditioning is fitted throughout.



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<p>5 Laguna Residence I THB 39 M</p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-storey detached house</li> <li>• 4 beds 3 baths</li> <li>• 48 sqm pool • on golf course</li> <li>• guaranteed rental return</li> </ul>	<p>For more information on these and other properties, please call: <b>+66 (0) 76 362 333</b> or email: <a href="mailto:resale@lagunaresale.com">resale@lagunaresale.com</a> <a href="http://www.lagunaresale.com">www.lagunaresale.com</a></p>



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## Design

by Semacote Suganya

The lobby of any resort is always the centerpiece of an hotel – a walk-through art exhibit that introduces people to the hotel's theme. It should be spacious, relaxing and inspiring at the same time, giving guests something to talk and wonder about while they wait for their room key.

At Mai Khao, the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa's lobby was recently renovated by Bensley Design Studio to encapsulate the resort's special brand of Thai hospitality under spectacular architecture that reflects Phuket's colonial past.

Of course, anything created by the Bensley studio is guaranteed to be eye catching for its boldness and thought provoking for its profound connotations. The theme of the Marriott lobby's revamp was brought to life by architect Jirachai Rengthongthey, who has done an excellent job of maintaining the Bensley Studio's reputation for designing contemporary creations that will one day become classic designs and be used in textbooks to teach aspiring architecture and design students.

In keeping with Phuket's colonial-like past, the Marriott's lobby is a contemporary reflection of the Sino-Portuguese style of the historical town. The result is a high-ceilinged airy lobby that is an elegant blend of clean, solid lines subtly disrupted with brickwork that is brushed with a calming turquoise tinge and resembling the walls of ancient temple ruins.

Set along the wall behind the reception desk is a relief of sculptured copper tinged with green that runs the length of the wall behind the reception desk.

"The renovation focused mostly on changing the reception counter in the lobby, which used to have a classic French look referred to by designers as 'luxury Louis style'. The furniture was

# Beach life revisited



The lobby of the JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa in Mai Khao is now much brighter and lighter than before. The recent revamp of the lobby by Bensley Design Studio celebrates the laid-back lifestyle of the resort's beach side location.

changed from the classic French look to more rustic-looking items that give a more laid back feel. The relief behind the reception counter is meant to look old and resemble a shipwreck to fit in with the beach life environment of the resort," said Mr Jirachai.

Adding to the lobby's tran-

quility is a U-shaped pond that guests can sit around. "When guests sit in the lobby they face a large reflection pond. This was added to induce calmness and as a refreshing visual attraction to help relieve the stress of their journey on the way to the resort," he added.

Mr Jirachai explained how the lobby's new design attempts to be more vivid than the darker decor used before, which reflected elements from Southern Thailand's traditional shadow puppet displays *nang dalung*.

"The previous design used a lot of dark brown. It was just

too dark, so we changed it to be much brighter and to be composed of various small antique pieces instead.

The new wall relief was made from a mold containing boat construction tools and materials arranged together with small pieces of wood and copper bought from antique shops," he said.

"The surface of the reception counter continues with the 'shipwreck' theme. All the furnishing are made of copper and have been given a lusty green tinge to enhance the feeling of a beach-side resort, which is a definite contrast to the luxury Louis style," Mr Jirachai added.

The reflection pond is one of the most distinctive additions to the lobby's decor, explained Mr Jirachai.

"The pond matches the sea view. When hotel guests walk through the lobby they will feel as if they are already at the sea and it turns into a beautiful reflection of the evening sunsets. We scattered furniture around the pool, some of the items are old pieces of furniture that have been restored and we've added some modern pieces, as well."

"To reflect the contemporary Sino-Portuguese theme in the structure, redwood was used for the beams and the lobby is designed to let the sea breeze flow through, keeping the place cool and allowing guests to feel comfortable and relaxed," said Mr Jirachai.

"White has been used a lot in the lobby revamp, this was especially important to lighten up the lobby where the ceiling becomes low near the reception counter," he added.

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# Koh Samui in full bloom

Over the years, Koh Samui has made a stunning market shift from backpackers' paradise in the 1970s and '80s to its present push as one of the region's premier island destinations.

From the onset of significant tourism, most development was focused on the eastern area at Chaweng Beach, with access limited to ferry service from the mainland.

Most visitors either flew to Surat Thani or came by bus or train before crossing by sea. Mass tourism entered the picture with the privately developed and operated airport opened by Bangkok Airways in 1989.

During the past decade, development by both Thai and international investors has accelerated, which has seen a laid-back island fishing village metamorphose into a mid-market tourism destination, and it is now shifting gears and entering the branded world of high-end luxury.

Direct international air links to Hong Kong and Singapore supported the building boom and



Similar to Phuket with its close proximity to tropical Phang Nga Bay, the 'Greater Koh Samui' development rush is now being pushed out into outlying islands such as Koh Pha-ngan and Koh Tao.

a key growth component has been the opening of the airport to Thai Airways and a handful of overseas carriers.

Historically, the number of tourist arrivals on Samui has not been as dazzling as that of Phuket due to Bangkok Airways'

monopoly over air services to the island. Over 10 years, starting from 1998, guest arrivals at tourism establishments grew at an average of only 1.5% per annum; capping off at 854,475 in 2007.

However, the total visitor arrivals at Samui Airport from 1995 to 2007 grew at an average compounded rate of 9% – and from 2003 to 2007 grew at 16.8%.

A comparison of the number of visitor arrivals and the number of those using tourism establishments clearly shows growth in the number of tourists staying in alternative accommodations, that is, in villas and condos versus hotels. This is consistent with many markets such as Bali.

With tourist arrivals via the airport numbering 683,200 in 2007, much work remains to be done in terms of infrastructure in order to accommodate the growing number of tourists.

Bangkok Airways has been addressing airlift by upgrading its fleet, retiring many smaller turboprop planes and replacing them with larger Airbus A319 aircraft.

Also now with overseas flights available, capacity is expected to rise by 62%.

Further, the Samui Airport terminal expansion of both the domestic and international areas was fully completed this year.

As with Phuket, there is

much debate about the need for a larger airport and landing strip on Samui.

The current runway is 4,700 feet long, but larger aircraft from long-haul destinations require at least 6,000 feet to land.

The airport in Surat Thani has a 9,000-foot runway, though terminal facilities remain limited and regional passengers are increasingly looking for door-to-door access on holiday trips.

There have been talks about relocating Samui Airport to the southern part of the island, but this is a long-term planning option at the moment.

With its bustling development, traffic currently relies on a primary ring road, which stretches around the island, though there are new roads to areas such as Taling Ngam, Phang Ka Bay and Thong Krut.

The opening of both Tesco and Big C has brought greater diversification from the highly centralized Chaweng Area than in the past.

The opening of the island's first golf course a few years ago

marked the arrival of limited new demand-generated facility growth in areas such as international schools, hospitals and tourism attractions. As critical mass is achieved with residential sales, this is expected to accelerate in the medium term.

While Phuket and Samui share many similarities, the latter is certainly at a stage much earlier in the cycle of development.

Phuket has Sarasin Bridge connecting it with the mainland and – barring any significant disruptions to air services – it enjoys many advantages over Samui in terms of relative ease in movement of tourists, commodities and an existing service economy to support and spur further growth.

Yet both Phuket and Samui have seen new development being pushed to outlying islands and areas as new tourism destinations.

For what is now being called "Greater Phuket", it has been Krabi, Phang Nga Bay and Khao Lak. For Koh Samui, it has been Koh Pha-ngan and Koh Tao.

Roads on both islands were not designed to carry existing loads or planned to cater to the sheer number of developments that they do – and other infrastructure is also being stretched to its limits.

In the long term, it will be interesting to see how each island copes and manages this balancing act.

In my next column, I'll look at Samui's residential markets of the past, present and future, so stay tuned.

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



## PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

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### 2-STORY HOUSE

5.5 million baht. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 72 sq wah with some furniture at Villa Samkong. Contact K. Nan. Tel: 081-6779837. Email: knahniet@hotmail.com or okika\_j@hotmail.com

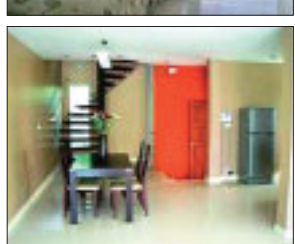
### NEW HOUSE

in Srisuchart Grand Ville 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.

### VILLA & LAND

Villa near Heroines' Monument, built 2007, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, pool, furnished. Living space: 450sqm. Land: 1,400sqm. 12.9 million baht. Also: Land: 1,100sqm, 2.5 million baht. Tel: 084-6907057.

### HOUSE WITH AMAZING SEA VIEW



in Rawai. Super-modern, furnished, 3-story house, 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. All rooms are air-conditioned. Alarm system, water-filter system, large private pool and safe car-parking space. 320sqm block of land with Chanote title. The price is only 11.5 million baht. Email: png.phuket@gmail.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

### 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

### LAND AT NATAI

near 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. Contact by phone. Tel: 081-5399269.

### NAI HARN LAND

700sqm. Residential area, road, electricity, water, fully fenced, ready to build on. Chanote. 4 million baht. Tel: 087-8821959.

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

in housing estate near Heroines' Monument. 2.3 million baht. Tel: 089-9732917. Email: brunuiviv@hotmail.com

### FOR URGENT SALE

126 sq wah in Bang Tao area, very close to Amanpuri Hotel and Surin Beach. Price is 22 million baht. Contact Khun Nantana. Tel: 084-2611161.

### PEACEFUL 3-BED VILLA

Great location close to both Nai Harn & Rawai beaches, private estate, 24 hour security, large common pool. Contact for viewing or photos. Sale or rental welcome. Tel: 080-7183554. Email: micsta75@hotmail.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: allservices29@gmail.com

### KARON SEA VIEW



Located between Centara Karon Resort and Secret Cliff Resort. 10.5 rai with Chanote. Very good location for business (hotel & resort). Asking price: 250 million baht. No agents. Please call: 087-2709093 or email a.pueng@gmail.com

### KATA TOWNHOUSE

Urgent sale. 84sqm house. For sale by owner. Call or mail for details. Tel: 081-4985915. Email: rajay001@hotmail.com

### URGENT SALE: CONDO

Opposite Tesco-Lotus, 1 studio, 35sqm, fully furnished. Tel: 081-9793369.

### INEXPENSIVE LAND

0.5 to 1-rai lots near Mission Hills. 10 mins to airport. 1.25 to 2.05 million baht. Tel: 086-9421930.

### RAWAIYA SUITES CONDOMINIUMS

Rawai Beach, 27 units, fully furnished, 65sqm, one-bedroom condos with en-suite bathrooms. Construction complete November 2008. Available freehold. Price: 2.7-3.9 million baht, full facilities. Tel: 076-245964, 085-7842004. Fax: 076-245962. Email: hakan@tharadonestate.com For further details, see our website: www.tharadonestate.com

### HOUSE NEAR LAGUNA

4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, maid's room, European standard, swimming pool, Jacuzzi. Big house near the beach. Price: 18.5 million baht. Tel: 083-1036578. Website: www.oriental-realestate.com

### LAND IN 3 LOCATIONS

We have land in Ao Por, Laguna and Chalong. Very good locations. Tel: 083-1036578. Website: www.oriental-realestate.com

### 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.

### 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.

### FOR URGENT SALE

44 sq wah. Chanote, for sale in Pen Villa Soi, opposite The Plaza, Moo 3, Surin Beach. 1.5 million baht. Contact Khun Nantana. Tel: 084-2611161.

### URGENT SALE NEW TOWNHOUSE

2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, opposite Boat Lagoon, close to British International School. Tel: 081-9793369.

### CORNER SHOPHOUSE

Cherng Talay, brand-new, 3 stories, near main road. Only 5 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

### HOUSE, NAI YANG

for sale, airport area, 800m to beach, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, new, 300sqm. Tel: 080-5358767, (US) 0011-7808584.

### NEW HOUSE, NAI HARN-RAWAI



3-story house villa, sea view, hill view, garden, pool, 4 bedrooms, 2 en-suites, 6 bathrooms, ADSL. Jacuzzi, big living room, kitchen/dining, laundry room. 5 aircons. Private pool 8x3.5m, 2 parking spaces. Chanote. 18 million baht. Tel: 081-6779837, 089-6464786. Email: sync\_koji@hotmail.com

### BANGKOK/ PRACHUAP PROPERTY

High-end condos, beach houses and commercial properties for sale. Tel: 081-9944492. Email: julian@phuketsail.com Details at www.phuketsail.com/property

### BRAND-NEW POOL VILLA

Near Kata. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 kitchens. Fully furnished in quiet, nice location. 6.8 million baht. Tel: 086-2809416. Website: www.landandhouseforsale.phuket.net

### PATONG CONDO RENT/SALE

Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Swimming pool, near beach and Jungceylon. Aircon, TV, DVD. Sunny 32sqm. For sale at 1.8 million baht. Foreign-owned freehold. Tel: 087-1731773, 089-4746670. Email: seantheplot@hotmail.com

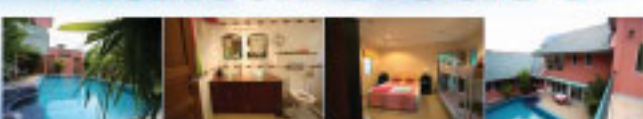
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## Rawai house



3-4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms at Rawai Beach high-end building materials and furniture. Asking price: 220,000 Euro. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com



# Property Gazette

## HOUSE IN LAND & HOUSES PARK



6.7 million baht, 119 sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, aircons, nice location in Land & Houses Park Phuket. Tel: 081-8921715.

## KAMALA TOWNHOUSE



near Phuket FantaSea, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, car park. 3.2 million baht, negotiable. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

## KOH YAO YAI

2 rai, water, electricity. Chanote. Price: 500,000 baht per rai. Also, 3.2 rai, sea view, 2 million baht. Tel: 081-892-8208.

## 100 RAI OF SEAVIEW LAND

in Kamala. Perfect for resort. 7.5 million baht per rai, has Chanote. Tel: 085-7839062.

## BEACH SHOPHOUSE

Kamala 5-bedroom perfect guesthouse. Great investment. 25 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## CHALONG TOWNHOUSE

3.5 million baht, 1 minute to Chalong Pier, 34 sq wah, 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, unfurnished, 3 telephone numbers. Nice, quiet & safe area. Contact Kay. Price negotiable. Tel: 076-236590, 081-8955628. Fax: 076-236590. Email: kay.boon@hotmail.com

## RANONG LAND

Beautiful land for sale around Ranong and Koh Phayam. Tel: 077-862468. Email: phuketjon@csloxinfo.com For further details see www.mistymountainsresort.com/ranongreal-estate.html

## PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Cherng Talay and Surin. 43 rai, 1 ngan, 85 sq wah. For sale by owner. 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-9562406. Email: phatsarar@gmail.com

## NEW KAMALA HOUSE RENT/SALE



New Kamala house: large, fully-furnished living room and kitchen, aircon, cable TV, ADSL. Very large garden, private parking and security wall. 5 mins to the beach. Behind Phuket FantaSea, best location in Kamala. Nice and quiet, perfect for couples or families. Non-smokers only. Short-term rent at 30,000 baht/month. Long-term rent at 25,000 baht/month. Or for sale at 6.9 million baht ono. Tel: 087-8836625, 089-8675122. Email: sales@eldsat.com

## LAND AT RAWAI

Very good location, 1 rai, B4.3m. Also have one house for sale in Rawai, 100 sq wah, B3.3m. Tel: 084-6268105.

## BIG HOUSE, RANONG

4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 6 aircons, decorated with high-quality wood. Nice house. Tel: 083-1036578.

## HOUSE NEAR BIS

2-story house with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, ample parking space and nice landscaping. Total area: 336sqm. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 089-7247073. Email: jutima021@hotmail.com

## PATONG HOME

Sea view, near beach, spa garden, furnished. Financing options. Tel: 089-5908233.

## 2-STORY HOUSE, RAWAI

160sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 40m from beach. Price: 1.7 million. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

## NICE 5-BEDROOM HOUSE

Perfect house for a family, ready to move in. Five bedrooms and bathrooms, close to Central Festival and Rawai Beach. Tel: 081-8915296. Email: hkthomesale18@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website. www.jikkycar.com

## BAAN RIM TARN

Resale of pool villa in Cherng Talay resort saves you 2 million baht. Only 1.95 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## 50 RAI WITH CHANOTE TITLE

Phang Nga, 8km from city center, 30 rai of powered, licensed factory for meat + fish, walk-in fridge and freezer. 8,000 hardwood trees planted on 20 rai. Genuine sale. Tel: 087-2694083.

## LARGE POOL VILLAS



near Boat Lagoon Marina. Tel: 089-8731019. More details and pictures at: www.phuketexclusiveholiday.com

## LAND AT PA KHLOK



49 rai, nice flat land, Chanote, 2.5km from Heroines' Monument. 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-1802143.

## TOWNHOUSE IN THE PROJECT 'THE INDY'

At the entrance to BIS. Townhouse is at the corner and adjacent to the project's public garden. 2 floors, 6.5 meters wide, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Land: 32 sq wah. Tel: 089-4729118.

## RAWAI VILLA WITH POOL

Brand-new, 3 bedrooms, salt-water pool, steam sauna. 650sqm land, 220sqm villa, Chanote, double walls, tropical garden. Must see and a great price. Finance or trade-in is possible. 5% commission for agents. Tel: 085-7831890.

## KOH SAMUI SEAVIEW LAND

Hillside with sea view on Koh Samui. Size: 3,200sqm (2 rai). Chanote. Tel: 02-2771992, 083-6113020. Fax: 02-961-0072. Email: pharawee@yahoo.com For details visit www.lovesamui.com

## 3 BEDROOMS NEAR BIS SCHOOL

3-bedroom waterfront townhouse for sale. Tel: 076-273466. Fax: 076-238948. Email: info@phuketpropertytrip.com For further details, see our website at: www.phuketpropertytrip.com

## LAND IN KATHU

Fabulous elevated block opposite national park in Kathu. 1,360sqm. Nor Sor 3 Gor. Comes with architect's plans for house and building permit. 6.4 million baht. Tel: 089-6498703.

## BRAND-NEW VILLA

Near Chalong Circle. 2 stories, swimming pool, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 3 aircons, quiet and nice place. Tel: 080-5322136 (Thai), 087-8907561 (Eng). Website: www.katahouseforsale.com

## AO POR LAND FOR SALE



150 rai. Nor Sor 3 Gor, sea view. Priced from 2.5 million baht per rai. No agents. Please contact by email: allservices29@gmail.com

## URGENT SALE KARON VILLA

Must sell my villa due to financial circumstances. Villas on same estate, similar standard. Selling for 13+ million baht. Offers over 11 million considered. Tel: 084-327-9642. Email: greggordon2006@yahoo.com.au

## HACIENDA POOL

house. Cherng Talay, garden, 4 bedrooms, furnished, ready to move in. Only 9.5 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## THALANG, PA KHLOK - CHEAP

Single house, 190sqm, with big fruit tree garden, 2 bedrooms with aircon, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, 1 room without aircon, store-room, car port, 30-year-old fruit trees, more than 1 rai, Chanote title, surrounded by wall. 5 million baht ono. Call Kamonwan at 084-4454574.

## MUST SELL FAST

155-sqm, 3-bedroom house on 1.54 rai of land. Worth 4 million baht but will take 2.5 million or best offer over 2 million for quick sale. Tel: 084-8524257. Email: bobcoppage@yahoo.com

## TRANG LAND



for sale. 3 rai in Baan Po, Muang, Trang. Very good location for business, suitable for house projects. Electricity access, road. Sale by owner. With Chanote. Price: 7 million baht ono. No agents please. Tel: 075-210646, 087-2709093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

## 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

Cherng Talay in gated community, brand-new, only 3.5 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## 2 HILLTOP VILLAS

+ apartment. Private residence, Loch Palm Golf. 65 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## PATONG TOWER CONDO

1 bedroom, furnished, on 6<sup>th</sup> floor. Hill view. Only 5 million baht. Call for details. Tel: 085-7839062.

## BEACHFRONT LAND

Beautiful breathtaking view on Koh Lanta, 20 minutes away from Trang and 45 minutes from Krabi Airport, road access, electricity, water, Chanote. 4.5 rai. Only 1 million baht/rai. Quick sale. Tel: 084-8419794, 087-8821959.

## SPECIAL PROMOTION SALE



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. Fully fitted modern kitchen. All bedrooms with separate bathrooms and built-in cupboards. Jacuzzi. Rooms have aircon. Freehold or leasehold. 2 showhomes fully furnished. Ready now. From 17.5 million baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 076-279289, 086-2742308. Email: kamalaparadise@yahoo.com Website: www.kamalaparadise.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

## LAND IN PATTAYA

52 sq wah land in a nice village. Company and Chanote. Price: 1 million baht. Tel: 085-159-0597.

## CHERNG TALAY VILLA

4 bedrooms, ensuite, 8x3m pool, 500sqm, garden. Only 23 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

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# Property Gazette

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## PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



35/20 Soi 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 aircons, some furniture, 50 sq wah, garden. For sale at 4 million baht or for long-term rent. Must see. Contact Nina. Tel: 087-6899679. Email: [tasuwan@hotmail.com](mailto:tasuwan@hotmail.com). No agents.

## HOUSE NEAR AIRPORT

House for long-term rent or sale. Connects to main road, 7 minutes from airport and Nai Yang Beach. 73 sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, surrounded by garden. ADSL, UBC, Cable TV and 3 aircons. 24-hour security. Tel: 076-621021, 081-8205266. Fax: 076-206220. Email: [umava-dee@cscoms.com](mailto:umava-dee@cscoms.com)

## LAND IN RAWAI, NAI HARN

960 sqm on public road, Chanote title, located between Rawai and Nai Harn. 4 million baht. Tel: 089-7284005. Email: [rooms.kanchana@yahoo.com](mailto:rooms.kanchana@yahoo.com)

## FREEHOLD PATONG 28 SQM

studio, fully renovated and furnished, brand-new. 1.95 million baht. Tel: 089-9715664.

## FREEHOLD NEW STUDIO

with pool in Patong, 45 sqm, 3.2 million baht. Tel: 089-7284005. Email: [rooms.kanchana@yahoo.com](mailto:rooms.kanchana@yahoo.com)

## KRABI LAND

10 rai, 20 minutes from Ao Nang, Krabi. Chanote title. 600,000 baht per rai. Tel: 084-8502499.

## BEACH FRONT, 5.9 MILLION BAHT



Beautiful piece of land opposite Yacht Haven Marina. Ready to build on, road access, water, electricity. 7 rai with more than 180m of beach frontage. For quick sale. Only 5.9 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-3430777.

## 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](mailto:kim@kamalafalls.com)

## KARON LUXURY OCEANFRONT

18<sup>th</sup> floor condo in guarded 5-star high rise, just steps to beach and pool. Spacious (110 sqm), fitness, spa, tennis. 8.5 million baht. Also for long-term lease with furniture @ 45,000 baht per month. Tel: +1-480-2345608. Email: [topviewhome@yahoo.com](mailto:topviewhome@yahoo.com) For further details, please see our website at: <http://phuketfurnishedapartments.com>

## 2 HOMES, 2 BLOCKS

Chalong tropical views. 3, 4 bedrooms, pools. 5.5, 8.5 million baht. Tel: 086-2817605. For further details, please see our website at [www.phuket-house-land.com](http://www.phuket-house-land.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](mailto:layan@loxinfo.co.th)

## BRAND-NEW ESTATE HOMES

in Chermg Talay, serviced pool villas, 2 bedrooms at 6 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## OCEANFRONT VILLA

Chalong direct beachfront, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, pool, furnished. 35 million baht obo. Tel: 087-2095174.

## CLUB LERSUANG CONDOS

for resale. Prices: 6.2, 7.5, 5.59, 5.5 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## KATA BEACH VILLA

New, 6 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, pool. 20 million baht or rent. Tel: 081-0918908. Email: [stein\\_dokset@hotmail.com](mailto:stein_dokset@hotmail.com)

## LAND PLOTS FOR SALE, LAYAN

2 land plots close to Layan Beach, ready to build on. 900 sqm & 856sqm. 5,000 baht per sqm. Great location in private estate. Tel: 081-8911826, 081-8912926. Fax: 076-238940. Email: [kevinq@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:kevinq@loxinfo.co.th)

## 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.

## 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)

## MY WIFE GAMBLER

So now you get it cheap. Land and/or house for sale. Tel: 086-6831964.

## KATA BEACH HOUSE

Reduced to 2.1 million baht. Only 1 minute to the beach. Owner moving. Chanote. Tel: 084-8405834.

## EXECUTIVE POOL VILLA

Koh Kaew, 5 bedrooms, 5x14m pool, apartment, extras. 28 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## HOUSE IN RAWAI



Soi Mangosteen. 216sqm. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 081-4775637.

## 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](mailto:png.phuket@gmail.com)

**PATONG  
SERVICED FLAT**  
in resort, 20m from beach, 2 bedrooms, rental return. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## PATONG CONDO RENT/SALE

Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Swimming pool, near beach and Jungceylon. Aircon, TV, DVD. Sunny 32sqm. For sale at 1.8 million baht. Foreign-owned freehold. Tel: 087-1731773, 089-4746670. Email: [seanthe pilot@hotmail.com](mailto:seanthe pilot@hotmail.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. Email: [kim@kamalafalls.com](mailto:kim@kamalafalls.com)

## 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](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)

## SAKU: 1 RAI, 4 HOUSES 9 MILLION BAHT

Saku Garden Villa, Chanote title, 1 rai + 4 houses, 2 km to airport and beach, fully furnished, 2 swimming pools. Price: 9 million baht. Call Sumon at Tel: 081-6919346. Email: [sumon@ridethailand.com](mailto:sumon@ridethailand.com)

## MISSION HILLS LAND

2,732 sqm. 2.25 million baht/rai (800sqm). 1.25 million baht. Close to golf course. Tel: 083-6473509, 087-2945737.

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### 35,000 BAHT PER MONTH



Rawai pool villa. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, ADSL, near the beach. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins from Rawai and 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.

### HOUSES FROM WELLTA

Rent or buy a house on my island? Maybe I can help you. My name is Wellta. Tel: 081-9680309. Email: info@houseinphuket.com www.houseinphuket.com/

### 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

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

Beautiful furnished 3-bedroom house with secured garden, large pool, tel, True TV, Internet. Close to Boat Lagoon/Monument. 29,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-260400, 084-6903446.

### SURIN APARTMENTS

2 condos: 1 bedroom and 3 bedroom. 200m from Surin Beach. Email: jgstryker@gmail.com for pics.

### LAND AND POND

Good view, near the sea at Ao Sapam, Phuket. 8 acres, long-term lease. Tel: 086-6893289, 083-0526696.

### NEW HOUSE (BANDON)



For sale/rent near Laguna, 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, just bring your bag. Price negotiable, 1-year contract. Tel: 089-8742960. Email: pwarunee@hotmail.com For further details, please see http://phuket-on-tour.blogspot.com

### PLAYBOY SUPER PAD

69 high-heel steps to Bangla, very private Patong pad. 2 bedrooms, 2 floors, cocktail bar, pool table. Yeah baby, yeah! Tel: 081-0787743. Website: www.shophousephuket.com

### URGENT SALE KARON VILLA

Must sell my villa due to financial circumstances. Villas on same estate, similar standard. Selling for 13+ million baht. Offers over 11 million considered. Tel: 084-3279642. Email: greg.gordon2006@yahoo.com.au

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

Furnished, ADSL, cable TV, aircon. Near Heroines' monument. 18,000 baht/month. Tel: 086-2778461. Email: brunuiviv@hotmail.com

### NEW KAMALA HOUSE RENT/SALE



New Kamala House: large fully furnished living room and kitchen aircon, cable TV, ADSL, UBC. Very large garden, private parking, and security wall around the house. 5 mins from beach. Behind Phuket Fantasea, best location in Kamala - nice and quiet, perfect for couples and family. For short-term rent to non-smokers at 30,000 baht per month. For long-term rent to non-smokers at 25,000 per month. Or for sale at 6.9 million baht ono. Tel: 087-8836625, 089-8675122. Email: sales@eldsat.com

### HOUSE RENT OR SALE



Phanason Kathu, furnished. Single house, 2 bedrooms. Ready to move in to. Tel: 089-6628733.

### NEW HOUSE IN KATHU

New 2-bedroom house in secure area in Kathu. Partly furnished. Prefer long-term rent. 5 minutes to Lotus and 10 minutes to Patong. 18,000 baht/month. Tel: 086-5975474, 087-2803616.

### SINGLE HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 60 sq wah. Fully furnished, located in front of Meaju Garden Place project. Aircon in big bedroom. Rent: 20,000 baht/month. Tel: 081-6912526.

### HOUSE IN CHALONG

for rent near Palai Beach. 2 and 3 bedrooms, aircon, fully furnished, ADSL, car park. Tel: 089-7288311.

### STUDIO APARTMENT KAMALA

Aircon, True TV, near beach, pool, kitchen, private car park. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8500568.

### LARGE 2-BED CONDO, PATONG VIEW

Our condo is currently available for the Xmas/New Year period and we are offering an early-bird special discount of 5% on any bookings made before Sept 30. We are located at the northern end of Patong, but are only a 5-minute walk to the beach, shops, restaurants and nightlife. Tel: +85-2-28136093, +85-2-61004034. Email: casajope@yahoo.com

### NEW RAWAI POOL DUPLEX



1, 2 or 3 bedrooms. 12,000 baht per month. 300m to the beach. ADSL. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### THAI-STYLE HOUSE



for rent. Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, True TV, aircon, hot water, kitchen, private terrace with sea view, on the hill opposite Safari Pub. Tropical garden. 40,000 baht/month. 1-year contract. Tel: 089-8742960. Email: pwarunee@hotmail.com

### PATONG APARTMENT

2 bedrooms, furnished, air conditioning, short- and long-term. Tel: 081-0877743. Visit www.shophousephuket.com

### PATONG TOWER FULL SEAVIEW

Luxurious and beautiful apartment, affordable rates, maximum of 4 persons. Tel: 089-6515186. Email: ptvacations@gmail.com Please visit our website at www.patong-tower.net

### TOWNHOUSE, SOI TAINA, KATA

for rent. 2 units, long-term rent for five years up. Contact Khun Charoon. Tel: 086-5538692.

### KAMALA BEACHFRONT VILLAS

Fully furnished to high standard. Western kitchen. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge and dining areas. Large balcony overlooking pool and landscaped gardens. 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

### RAWAI VILLA

3 bedrooms with pool. 30,000 baht per month, min 6 months. Tel: 087-8884895.

### LAGUNA RENTALS

from 20,000 baht per month. Ready to move in. Tel: 089-1956822.

### NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



for rent. 3-story villa, sea view, mountain view, garden, pool, 4 bedrooms with 2 en-suites, 6 bathrooms, ADSL, Jacuzzi. Big living room, kitchen/dining, laundry room. 5 aircons. Private 8m x 3.5m pool. 2 car park spaces. Tel: 081-6779837, 089-646-4786. Email: sync\_koji@hotmail.com

### RAWAI FLAT

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, swimming pool, balcony, cable, ADSL. Tel: 081-6067410.

### 4-BEDROOM KAMALA

5-minute walk to beach, shops. Long-term only, 35,000 baht per month. With pool. Tel: 081-893-4911.

### NEW CHALONG HOME

2-bedroom furnished home for rent. Phone line, True TV, aircon. Tel: 089-6521473.

### PATONG STUDIO 28 SQM

Aircon, hot water, kitchen, fridge, TV, DVD. 15,000 baht a month. Tel: 089-9715664.

### HOUSE WITH POOL

Chalong Sunpalm Village, cozy, quiet, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully-equipped kitchen, partly furnished. 28,000 baht per month. No agents. Tel: 081-7280140. Email: jahellner@yahoo.com

### SUPER RENTAL OFFER

Discovery Garden, 2 bedrooms, houses with common pool, from 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-1956822.

### PHUKET BEACH HOUSE

Wood bungalow on the beach for long or short-term rent. Email: david1@free-rentals.com Website: www.phuket-rentals.com/referral?id=1

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

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# Boats & Marine

## THAI SPEEDBOAT

1.4 meters long, takes 25 people, twin Yamaha 200hp V6 engines, in good condition. Price: 650,000 baht. Tel: 085-7820586.

## COROL 25 SPORTSBOAT

Corol 25 - Alan Warnick-designed sportboat built in 2007. She is 25ft with 175hp Suzuki engine and has twin-berth cabin and toilet. Only US\$25,000. For more details please contact Jurg Hofer. Tel: 076-273476.081-9786086. Fax: 076-273476. Email: jurg@phuket-yachts.com

## FIBERGLASS BOAT FOR SALE

New 36-foot flybridge. Ready to go, just needs engines. Great for diving and sightseeing. Contact for more information. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

## LIVE ABOARD

20mx6m, 7 cabins, 330hp Hino, 20kw generator. Make an offer! Tel: 081-7874690.

## CARVER 500 COCKPIT

Carver USA is well known for its solid design and comfort. This example is most probably the best one around and it is here in Phuket. Nothing has been spared on equipment or maintenance. She was extensively refitted in 2007 and is to a very high standard. With only 950 main engine hours, a 57,000 BTU aircon, 25.5KVA Genset and a water maker onboard, she is very well suited for the conditions here in Phuket, and she is awaiting your inspection. Contact Simpson Marine. Tel: 076-239768.

## BUSINESS FOR SALE

52-foot charter yacht, successfully run by couple in Phuket for 10 years. Price: US\$95,000. Tel: 081-6771641.

## 17.5-METER DIVING BOAT



For sale or charter. Width 4.5m. Diesel engine, 320hp generator at 20kw. Capacity: 30 people. Great buy. Price: 490,000 baht. Tel: 081-9680571.

## DINGHY FOR SALE

3.1m, 15hp Yamaha. Tel: 081-7874690.

## DIVE/SNORKEL/ FISHING

boat for sale. 20m/6m, 7 cabins. Tel: 081-7874690.

## NEW 10-METER CATAMARAN

Wood-epoxy composite, 4 double cabins, 32sqm sail area. 9hp Honda. 490,000 baht. Tel: 087-4618089.

## KAWASAKI JET SKI



750 ex-trick ski, full engine upgrade by team Kawasaki. Very fast. 80,000 baht. Tel: 087-2658002.

## CATAMARANS

10-meter sailing catamaran, no interior, ready to sail, 580,000 baht. 20-meter power catamaran, not finished, 1.4 million baht. Tel: 087-4618089.

## BRAND-NEW BOAT

Brand-new flybridge boat. Fiberglass. Offers. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

## ESTABLISHED BIG GAME



fishing. company in Phuket for sale.

- Tour license

- Similan licence + Website

For pictures Email:

pavveenaya@hotmail.com

or ivararne@hotmail.com

Tel: 086-9462494, 087-

2765323. Fax: 076-282-

092. www.mahimahi.as

## SKI & WAKEBOARD BOAT

19ft, fiberglass, 300hp Mercruiser, tower tow, trailer + many extras, must sell quickly. 240,000 baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-2697138. Email: tye\_cotter@yahoo.com.au



## PRE-OWNED BOAT SELECTION



### Motor Yacht

Recently renovated to good standard by the present owner. The boat is a good family cruiser or live-aboard at a very sensible price.

Asking Price at 160,000,- USD



### Oceanis 523

This boat has been commissioned in April 2008 in Australia for its EU owner. It includes full options - owner wants to purchase a bigger sailing vessel. Boat is on its way to Phuket early September 2008 to be sold.

Asking Price 395,000,- EURO ex VAT



### Pontoon Boat 10m

This pontoon may be used for "party" or private use boat. In good condition - rarely used.

Asking Price at 1.3 M THB



### Uniflite 36

Very well maintained power boat. Ideal for game fishing or family cruise in good condition.

Attractive Price at 3.1 M THB

## Boat Lagoon & Yacht Haven Office

Tel: 076-239111

Email: broker@asia-marine.net

www.asia-marine.net

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# "Boats & Marine"

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# Island Job Mart



Skippers Restaurant is looking for competent individuals (Thai nationals), to be part of our team in the positions listed below. It is important that you are service-minded, have a positive outlook, and that able to speak English reasonably well.

- Restaurant Manager
- Wait/Bar Staff
- Cook (Thai and European Food)
- Kitchen Stewart

The only requirement is friendliness and a willingness to perform well.

**Please contact**  
English: Crystal 086-282 0567  
Thai: Khun Rung 076-360 893

## LEE MARINE

International Marine Brokerage

Thailand's Leading Marine Brokerage and New Yacht Dealership has a vacancy in its Boat Lagoon office. Be a part of our dedicated team.  
Position available immediately:

### Accountant (2 positions)

#### Qualifications:

- ▷ Thai national, male or female
- ▷ Bachelor's degree in Accounting (preferred)
- ▷ Proficient in QuickBooks programme
- ▷ Good communication skills and command of spoken & written English

We offer attractive salary and fringe benefits. Please submit a resume stating educational background, work experience, expected salary, contact telephone number and a recent photograph to [cah@leemarine.net](mailto:cah@leemarine.net). For more information, please call 076-238 803



## West Haven Group Property Sales & Development Company

### Requires an OFFICE MANAGER/COORDINATOR

#### Qualifications:

- Thai national, diploma or higher education
- High standard of written & spoken English
- Computer literate, Microsoft Office, Excel & Word
- Strong organizational and administration skills
- Confident and motivated personality

Please send CV and references to Khun Da  
[info@west-haven-group.com](mailto:info@west-haven-group.com) / [www.west-haven-group.com](http://www.west-haven-group.com)  
Tel. 076 270 768 Fax. 076 271 733

**ONLINE JOB APPLICATION**  
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**Stoney Monday**  
STONEY MONDAY GROUP OF COMPANIES REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL FOR THEIR OPENING OF DESTINATION PARADISE

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- CONTRACT OFFICER
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- SALES REPRESENTATIVE/LINERS
- MARKETERS/OPCS
- TELEMARKETERS

Interested persons can apply at a walk-in interview Monday to Friday from 9.00-15.00  
Being held on the 6th Floor @ Phuket Golf and Country Club  
131/99 Phuket Golf Resort Condominium Building  
6th Floor, Kathu, Phuket 83120  
Tel: 076-319-585-7  
E-mail: [oh@stoneymonday.com](mailto:oh@stoneymonday.com)

## ellezza Bio Latex Co Ltd

(Phuket branch)

We are currently seeking

### Salesperson

- Russian nationality
- Minimum 3 persons to Maximum 6 persons
- Work Permit
- Accommodation
- Salary commensurate with experience (first 3 months 70% + accommodation) (after 3 months 100% + accommodation + commission)
- Working time - 9:30am to 5pm

## Phuket Spa

We are currently seeking

### Administration Manager 1 position

- Female, Thai nationality
- Salary commensurate with experience
- Good English language skills
- Experience in hotel and property would be an advantage

Please send CV, recent photo and references to:  
Email: [ellezza-phuket@hotmail.com](mailto:ellezza-phuket@hotmail.com)  
[kennyasumoto@gmail.com](mailto:kennyasumoto@gmail.com)  
Tel: 076-352013, 081-8937162 Fax: 076-352133

## Marketing Coordinator (Urgently Required)

### Qualifications:

- Age 25+ years old (female preferred)
- Bachelor's degree in marketing or related field
- Excellent English communication (written and spoken)

Please submit an application letter, CV and recent photo to

Email: [vanichgypsum@yahoo.com](mailto:vanichgypsum@yahoo.com)  
**Contact person: Ms.Nattaya.**  
Tel: 076-221209, 076-211536, 081-3972390.  
Cheanvanich Co., Ltd., 68/2 Pathipat Rd, Phuket 83000

### ASSISTANT MANAGER

Real estate co. urgently requires Assistant Manager aged 30-35. Fluent written and spoken English, computer skills and results-oriented. Duties will be general project assistance, teamwork co-ordination. Attractive salary. Tel: 086-0043008. Email: [g.marchi12@gmail.com](mailto:g.marchi12@gmail.com)

### SALESPERSON

Real Estate, Phuket branch requires dynamic salespersons aged 30-40. Thai national, fluent English, computer skills and results-oriented. Duties will be property scouting, telemarketing. Candidates will go through a 3-month probation training period in Phuket. Average salary: 30-60,000 baht. Tel: 086-0043008. Forward CV via mail. Email: [g.marchi12@gmail.com](mailto:g.marchi12@gmail.com)

### PRESCHOOL TEACHER REQUIRED

Female caucasian, native English speaker, full or part time. Tel: 080-6247060.

### TEACHER WANTED IN PHUKET

Satree Phuket School is seeking 4 full-time native-English-speaking teachers to begin in October 2008 to teach English, Arts and Health to 11-18 year old students. Salary begins at 30,000 baht.

Four weeks paid holiday, government health plan. Minimum requirements: bachelor's degree or above, plus TEFL or CELTA certificate or equivalent. We can only reply to applicants who meet the minimum requirements. Please email your CV with covering letter to [Ajarn Charoon](mailto:Ajarn Charoon). Email: [ep@satreephuket.ac.th](mailto:ep@satreephuket.ac.th) Be prepared to present all original certificates at interview.

We also need one librarian (Thai) with bachelor's degree to run our EP library.

### SALES EXECUTIVE REAL ESTATE

Female, Thai national, very good in written and spoken English, experience in sales, admin skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, etc). Tel: 076-245964. Email expected salary and CV with photo to: [hakan@tharadonestate.com](mailto:hakan@tharadonestate.com)

### ADMIN AND ACCOUNTING

Female, Thai national, genuine experience, written and spoken English, good in Microsoft applications, vacant position. Tel: 076-245964. Email expected salary and CV to [hakan@tharadonestate.com](mailto:hakan@tharadonestate.com)

### GARDENER MAINTENANCE

for private house in Rawai. Experience required in gardening. Look after ponds, painting and general house maintenance. Need Thai with basic English. Car driving ability useful. Call Gretta. Tel: 085-7833494. Email: [grettareturns@gmail.com](mailto:grettareturns@gmail.com)

### EXPERIENCED WRITER

to assist me part-time, writing articles for publication. I live in Chalong. Email: [ltmesneg@aol.com](mailto:ltmesneg@aol.com)

### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

If you are self-motivated, ambitious, fluent in English and Thai, and enjoy working in the marine/leisure industry as part of a large organisation, please send your CV with recent photo. Experience with yachts, luxury products and high net worth clientele, as well as basic accounting, admin, sales and marketing would be an advantage. Tel: 076-239739, 081-9799911. Fax: 076-239056. Email: [moo\\_yongs@hotmail.com](mailto:moo_yongs@hotmail.com)

### STAFF FOR NEW RESTAURANT

At our new Italian restaurant in Kathu we offer the following positions: 2 waiters/waitresses; 2 cook's assistants; 1 housekeeper. Please contact Chef Orasa. Tel: 087-5188837. Email: [peterwiniker@hotmail.com](mailto:peterwiniker@hotmail.com)

### DELI SUPERMARKET

and restaurant looking for chef, waiter, waitress, storekeeper, baker and accountant. Please contact for more information at Tel: 076-342275, 089-8741875. Fax: 076-340992.

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# Island Job Mart

## campbell kane

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd, the developer of The Cape, The Bay, and The Yamu Hotel and Villas, is seeking an experienced M&E Engineer and Senior Chief Accountant for all three of its properties in Phuket. These are luxury oceanfront homes selling for between one and eight million US\$ each.

We are looking for competent, enthusiastic, honest and highly qualified individuals to join our growing business:

### M&E Engineer 1 Position

#### Qualifications

- Male, age not over 30 years
- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering with 3-5 years of relevant experience
- Mechanical or Electrical engineering certificate license
- Fair English communication would be advantage
- Able to plan, design and supervise mechanical and electrical systems, instrumentation and controls (I&C) for building and infrastructure facilities, including preparation of detailed design and technical specifications for tenders
- Site supervision of the installation and commissioning of the electrical and control systems, including experience in the development of water/wastewater treatment infrastructure preferred

### Chief Accountant 1 Position

#### Qualifications

- Male or female, age 30 years up
- Thai nationality
- Bachelor's degree in Accounting and Qualified Accountant
- Minimum 3 years of experience in the construction and property development sector
- Fluent in both written and spoken English
- Knowledge of local legal, tax and accounting practices
- Workable knowledge in needed tools including Microsoft Windows-Excel, Quick Books, Data Base and Outlook
- Motivated individual with strong energy and interpersonal skills are needed

Please send resumé with covering letter stating salary expectations to

[annie@campbellkane.com](mailto:annie@campbellkane.com)

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd., 28/7 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Rd., Koh Kaew, Phuket 83000 Thailand  
Tel: +66 (0)76-204008-9 Fax: +66 (0)76-239836

## EXOTISSIMO TRAVEL

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### ARE YOU READY FOR TRAVEL?

Exotissimo Travel is one of Asia's leading Destination Management Companies.

We require staff for our operations department in Phuket. Your job is to handle the daily operations for inbound tours into Phuket. You will be responsible for checking all files created by reservations staff, booking guides and transportation and ensuring that all aspects of every tour are handled correctly.

It is essential you have a pleasant, outgoing manner.

You must be an excellent problem solver and be good at dealing with people.

Ideally, you should have a minimum two years of experience with a local tour operator or in a similar position or at least have an understanding of the complexities of this important job. You will be a key person in our team and the right applicant can expect an attractive salary with excellent benefits.

#### Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree
- Thai national – male or female
- Min. 2 years of experience in a travel company
- Good written and spoken English (French speaking is an advantage)
- Good computer skills (Word, Excel, Outlook)
- Good attitude, hard working, with the ability to work as part of a team

Only those with a genuine interest in joining a professional travel company for long-term commitment need apply.

Interested parties are invited to send their CVs with a covering letter in English and a current photo to [christophe@exotissimo.com](mailto:christophe@exotissimo.com)

Applications will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Exotissimo Travel Co., Ltd.

Tel: 089-2016426 Fax: 076-282780 Email: [christophe@exotissimo.com](mailto:christophe@exotissimo.com)



**BUHLMANN**  
TUBE SOLUTIONS

The BUHLMANN GROUP is a globally active company. The Group's business activities range from the trade in steel tubes and pipes and steel tube fittings to entire pipeline systems. Our range includes an array of materials, from plain carbon steels to high – alloy stainless steels.

The BUHLMANN GROUP supplies and advises plant contractors and companies in various sectors, such as the energy, chemical, petrochemical, shipping and mechanical engineering industries all over the world. The BUHLMANN GROUP supplies integrated and complete solutions for the construction of plants, power plants and pipelines. As a global trading company and service provider, the BUHLMANN GROUP stands for competence, quality, a broad product range and also speed, efficiency and punctuality.

Currently we are rapidly expanding into the Asian markets. In Singapore, we have a new branch and we will open a warehouse in August. With regards to the strategic development of our global organization we are also currently expanding our business in Thailand and are looking to fill the role of

### Executive Secretary

#### Qualifications:

- Female
- Thai nationality
- Fluent in both written and spoken English
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Experience in Secretary to Management would be an advantage

Interested candidates are invited to send us an application letter with CV and all other relevant information, recent photo, last drawn salary and expected salary via email to K. Anucha [anucha.meng@gmail.com](mailto:anucha.meng@gmail.com)

[www.buhlmann.de](http://www.buhlmann.de) Bremen | Hilden | Duisburg | Mannheim | Burghausen | Chemnitz  
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Richmond Group is one of Phuket's leading property-development and resort management companies through its sister company Phuket Resort-Management. We are a young, energetic company looking for fashionable service-orientated staff to join our continued expansion. We currently have the following positions:

- ⇒ **PROJECT MANAGER**
- ⇒ **SALES & MARKETING MANAGER**
- ⇒ **HUMAN RESOURCES SUPERVISOR**
- ⇒ **SECRETARY TO CONSTRUCTION MANAGER**
- ⇒ **SAFETY OFFICER**



Applicants are invited to apply in person at the Richmond Group or send your resumé with expected salary package and recent photo to:

**Human Resources Department**

100/30-35 Moo 5 Bangtao Beach, Srisoonthon Road, Chermg Talay, Thalang, Phuket 83110  
Tel: 076-326130-4, Email: [hr@richmondth.com](mailto:hr@richmondth.com)



**Black Forest**  
Distribution Co., Ltd. is looking for:

**Driver with  
Licence 2 (Truck)**

Salary starts at  
**10,000 THB +  
Food Cost**

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Salary starts at  
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**Black Forest Distribution Co., Ltd.**

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204/42 Rat-u-thit Road, Patong Beach, Phuket 83140  
**076 – 344 705**

## Employment Wanted

### MARTIAL ARTS TEACHER

Martial arts teacher seeks long- or short-term employment on Phuket from May 2009. Belt ranks and connections in Japan. Long teaching experience, all ages. Instruction in English, German or Japanese. Classical style SD or athletic training. Tel: +81-90-41018184. Email: [yamamoto@shushukan.com](mailto:yamamoto@shushukan.com)

### ITALIAN CHEF JOB

to help cook all types of cuisine specialties. Tel: 083-639-4509. Email: [thailand2008@live.it](mailto:thailand2008@live.it)

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# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### BIG DOG HOUSE

Size 2mx1.5m. 12,000 baht. Small dog house for sale 1mx1m. 2,000 baht. Tel: 080-5334044.

### FENDER GUITAR AMP

Delux 900. 3 switching channels. 16 EFX. 7 Amp EQ. Tuner. 17,000 baht. Tel: 081-5379196.

### MOVING SALE

Aircon office 24,000 BTU/30,000 BTU. Price: 6,000 baht. Table, computer and all office accessories. Urgent sale. Tel: 089-7291391.

### BAKERY EQUIPMENT

-2 superposed gas ovens. Stainless steel. King brand. 35,000 baht.

- Dough mixer, 10 liters, King brand. 10,000 baht.

Secondhand but in perfect condition. On Koh Lanta. Tel: 075-684525, 081-0669459. Email: sergeyves@hotmail.com

### 40-INCH PLASMA TV

6 months old. 22,000 baht. (60,000 baht new). Tel: 085-0300612.

### GYM EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Call Gerry. Tel: 086-120-3660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

### WIRELESS AIRCARD

Sierra Wireless Aircard 580. 2,500 baht. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-8941994. Email: tom.fekete@gmail.com

### SERVICE COUNTER

Service counter for sale: 2.5m long, 1.2m high. Good, solid counter, ideal for shop or bar. 8,000 baht. Tel: 076-200-774, 081-0868041. Email: terry@belairpanwa.com

### 6-SEATER DINING SUITE

6-seater dining suite for sale. 25,000 baht. Moving house. Tel: 076-200774, 081-086-8041. Email: terry@belairpanwa.com

### AIRCONS

15,000 BTU, 8 months old, 7,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 085-0300612.

### SEWING MACHINE & OVERLOCK

- Bernina 1000 designer sewing machine, Swiss made, 30 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

### SUBWOOFER FOR SALE

High-end subwoofer for sale, good for home cinema or stereo. Built-in 150-Watt amplifier. Driver 10", fully adjustable. Size 50 x 50 x 50cm. Black. Price: 7,000 baht. Call Robert at 089-8719152. Email: orita-ozone@usa.net

### PANASONIC LCD

projector. Watch DVDs/football on 100-inch white wall with 2m screen. 35,000 baht. Call Ian for details. Tel: 086-2680042.

### GYM FOR SALE G9S



Quality home gym. Cost 120,000, asking 75,000 baht. Tel: 081-0797025.

### SIERRA WIRELESS AIRCARD

4,000 baht, call after 2 pm. Comes with CD software. Not for Vista; XP is OK. Tel: 076-296351, 081-086-2772. Email: thewizardofrockandroll@gmail.com

### 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

### LEATHER VALEO BELT

New real leather Valeo belt for sale. Good for weight lifting. I have S and L size. Made in Pakistan. Tel: 080-698-5021. Email: phuketdolphin@hotmail.com

### AIR CONDITIONER

We have a 13,000 BTU Sapphire air conditioner for sale. About 3-4 years old, serviced annually. 10,000 baht. Tel: 076-330967, 081-892-0474. Fax: 076-330990. Email: john@siamdivers.com

### WOOD CARVING



For sale: teakwood carving representing the Himavanta jungle. Size 120x220cm. Tel: 081-5699483.

### 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

## Articles Wanted

### WANTED

Coffee machine, cake display fridge approx 75cm wide, electric oven, chest freezer approx 1m deep. Tel: 089-1037000.

### USED SNOOKER TABLE

Must be delivered and installed in Kata area. Email your offer. Thanks. Tel: 081-2705374. Email: orcella@phuket.ksc.co.th

## Bulletins

### BARRY BLENKENSOP

I have a letter from the UK for you. Your friend did not provide a full address so it ended up at my house. Contact me and I will get the letter to you. Tel: 076-330967, 081-8920474. Fax: 076-330990. Email: john@siamdivers.com

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Patong Hospital Patong  
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### LIVE STAND-UP COMEDY

Punchline Comedy Club presents live international stand-up comedy at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket on Tue Sept 16, 2008.

Three top comedians booked by the London Comedy Store. Please contact via email: info@phuketcomedy.com Website: www.phuketcomedy.com

### WENDY AND TALITHA

We are back from South Africa and would like to get in contact with our friends in Phuket. I lost all email addresses, so please email us at wendyatalitha@yahoo.com

### TO ALL FILIPINOS

I am here to help you. Please call K.Emelda. Tel: 084-3050963.

### MONEY TO GIVE AWAY

up to 1 million baht for you if you sell my house. Tel: 081-8916412. Email: flamingo klaus@aol.de

### SPONSOR

a needy child. The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of donors and sponsors – small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor. Contact Carol (Tel: 087-4178860 Email: carol.fryer@piwc.info) or K. Sue (Tel: 087-2776948. Email: sue.amulphy@piwc.info).

## Business Opportunities

### PIZZERIA NEAR BANGLA

Restaurant located near Bangla, Patong. Ready to start. 2.5 million baht. Rent 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-7284005. Email: rooms.kanchana@yahoo.com

### COMMERCIAL ICE CREAM

Commercial ice-cream making equipment for sale. Hardly used, in very good condition. Tel: 085-6197492. Email: lmarrable@hotmail.com

### NICE SHOP, KATA CENTRE

5mx15m shop for rent near bar zone. Change hands: 350,000 baht/6,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-3826479.

### FOR SALE NEXT TO LAGUNA

Guesthouse-restaurant-bar-pool. Emergency sale: 3.5 million baht. Call Mrs Lea. Tel: 083-1823751.

### GUESTHOUSE GEM

Bar, restaurant and thriving tour desk, Thai limited company, 2 work permits. 3.5 million baht. Contact Kevin. Tel: 084-7300190.

## Agents for Classified Advertising

### PHUKET

#### Julapan Stationery

Chao Fa East Rd (next to Siam Commercial Bank)

Tel: 076-282254

#### Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe

Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chao Fa East Rd

Tel: 076-282403

#### K.L. Mart

Patak Rd, Chalong

Tel: 076-280400/3

Fax: 076-280403

#### Earth Language School

Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-232398/9

Fax: 076-232398

#### Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

Fax: 076-211230

#### Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

Fax: 076-344523

#### 41 Minimart

Srisoonthorn Rd, Cherng Talay

Tel/Fax: 076-324312

#### Deli Supermarket

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Fax: 076-344314

#### Property Information Center [PIC]

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## INTERNET/COFFEE/GAMES

Internet, coffee, computer games, bicycle rental. Sale includes registered Thai Ltd Co. Good location, steady income. Tel: 076-333280, 086-277-1046. Fax: 076-333280. Email: jvfcoltd@aol.com

## LOOKING FOR AN INVESTMENT

in Phuket & Phang Nga. Seaview land/house. Tel: 081-5399269. Website: www.jan-property.com

## RESTAURANT

Well-established restaurant and bar. Live entertainment venue in premium Patong location. For sale at 14 million baht. Genuine buyers only. Tel: 083-1736521, 084-0782753.

## PIZZERIA NEAR BANGLA

Restaurant located near Bangla, Patong. Ready to start. 2.5 million baht. Rent 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-7284005. Email: rooms.kanchana@yahoo.com

## BOOKS FOR SALE

Many language books and about 5,000 used books with bookshelves. Quick sale: 350,000 baht. Please contact Khun Pui. Tel: 084-1705552.

## BUSY BAR FOR SALE

Bangla Rd area. Please contact Kevin. Tel: 084-730-0190.

## INVESTORS 40% P.A.



The latest information shows high returns at very low risk for investors. 1 million baht minimum for this excellent commercial property development project in Bangkok. Email me for project details and the latest update with pictures, etc. Tel: 081-8957727. Email: info@axiominvestments.com

## KARAOKE NEAR SAFARI

120,000 baht, 1-year lease, includes 3 months' rent, 10,000 baht/month. Furniture, bar inventory. Tel: 089-4746670, 084-6877884. Email: sean.thepilot@hotmail.com www.seabluephuket.com/karaoke

## PHUKET REAL ESTATE

Seeking sales team to run my office, who will cover operating costs and reap the profits. It is a well-renowned real-estate company with ranking on Google, large listing. Alternatively, join as a partner or buy my business outright. Tel: 076-245966, 085-7842004. Website: www.phuketandamanrealestate.com

## FOR SALE

Bar-restaurant on Patong hill. Tel: 089-6546001, 087-3835790.

## INTERNET & TRAVEL AGENCY

Internet & travel agency for sale on Nanai Rd, Patong. Low rent! Tel: 081-5377137. Email: khunapp@hotmail.com

## SHOP, SAINAMYEN RD

Large, clean shop with room and shower. Fully furnished, pool table. 600,000 baht. Please contact Dean. Tel: 082-2780338.

## HOT SALE NICE RESTAURANT

Only 40 meters from beach. Also good location for optical shop, real estate office, bar, massage, tailor shop, etc. Tel: 081-8916797, 084-6509076.

## RESTAURANT WANTED

Restaurant for rent, good location 100-300sqm, or empty building good for restaurant. Tel: 089-5946456.

## TRAVEL AGENCY

I am looking for a serious Thai partner, not a nominee, for starting up an agency working with Russian tourists. Tel: 083-6400108.

## PATONG NICE GUESTHOUSE

26 rooms restaurant and bar, long lease, 9 years. 6.4 million baht. K.Pa Tel: 081-9251730.

## RESORT, AO NANG. B4.8M

5.1 rai, Ao Nang bungalow project, yet to be completed (10 rooms). Land lease: 15 years & with optional 5-year rent. Price includes: company (Co Ltd), land (Chanote deed, licenses, approved), pre-payment for 10 years' rent. Private well water, tarred road, electricity. Price negotiable. Tel: 089-7865650. Email: gibbon@hotmail.de

## BAR AVAILABLE FOR LEASE

Excellent location. Nanai Rd. First 18 months' rent already paid. 1.8 million baht will secure this business. Contact Simon. Tel: 084-3047700.

## SWIMWEAR BOUTIQUE

Highly profitable bikini & clothing store, open two years. Great location in Kata. For sale as fully operational. All stock and fittings, supplier details. Brand name, good reputation. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 089-020-0128. Email: boutiquephuket@yahoo.com

**5 PREMIUM HOTELS** for sale freehold. Outstanding locations in Patong. Prices starting from 150 million baht. Contact Simon. Tel: 084-3047700.

## SKY STEAKHOUSE.NET

Well-established steakhouse including accommodation and all equipment, 3-year lease, for rent. Price: 2.8 million baht. Tel: 087-2656089.

## COFFEE LOUNGE

2-story shophouse set up as coffee lounge and ice cream parlor with Internet services. Rent only 13,000 per month, including business premises & accommodation. All recently renovated. All furniture & business inventory included in the price of 1.4 million baht - all you need is your suitcase. Currently has a 3-year renewable lease, no key money. Tel: 076-342338, 084-6976840. Email: terry.ballphuket@gmail.com

## DOUBLE BAR

for sale. 3-year renewable lease, air conditioned, music system. Tel: 080-7179353 (Eng), 085-7917579 (Thai).

## CONSTRUCTION CO LTD FOR SALE

Due to ill health in the family, we must return to my home country and sell our construction company in Phuket. The company is fully set up (good inventory) and running with future projects to be completed. Previous price was 6.85 million baht. Email: info@jntech.biz

## PATONG SHOPHOUSE

Cheap cheap cheap cheap. Bangla area. 4 floors, 6x4 meters. No agents. Tel: 081-0787743.

## 26-ROOM GUESTHOUSE

for lease near Jungceylon. Includes company and long lease. Immaculate decor. Just 3.7 million baht. Contact Simon. Tel: 084-3047700.

## PUBLICATION FOR SALE

Unique quality, fun to run. Start now to take high season profits. Company holds one foreign work permit. Price: 2.1 million baht. Tel: 085-5744414. Email: nim@c-publishing.com

## CACTUS BAR

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Corporate membership at Blue Canyon Country Club for 2 players. Tel: 081-8929207. Email: bee@dmg-thailand.com

## LAGUNA GOLF CLUB

Banyan Tree membership for sale. Valid until 2027. 500,000 baht. Email: speiserch@bluewin.ch

## THAILAND ELITE CARD FOR SALE

1 million baht with full conditions. Tel: 081-4448970. Email: sikarin@hotmail.com

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Heavy-duty professional machine. No longer needed, 8 months warranty left. 7,000 baht. Tel: 081-891-3051. Email: jeroen.deknatel@yahoo.com

## 7 HP COMPAQ

Slim-line computers with 17" Samsung LCD screens. Internet café closing forces sale. Tel: 089-1037000.

## Miscellaneous Wanted

## GONDOLA SHELIVING WANTED

I am looking for some gondola shelving or something very similar. Can you help? Please call or email if you know of something available. Tel: 085-6197492. Email: lmarrable@hotmail.com

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Private English lessons with native English teacher TEFL certified. Please contact Khun Vi. Tel: 085-7867684.

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We come to your house. Thai 2 hrs, 300 baht; oil 2 hrs, 400 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 081-6760871.

## Personals

## SPECIAL LADY

Nice-looking guy, smart and stable, seeks a pretty lady to share quality time or life with. Email: merlin\_upm@yahoo.com

## THAI PENFRIENDS WANTED

Middle aged American man seeks friendly correspondence with Thai males for friendship, and would also like to exchange stamps and/or post cards with those interested. I am an international-minded man of the world, who has always worked in foreign trade. Robert R Miller, PO Box 220, New York, NY 10785 USA.

## BACKGAMMON

Retired businessman looking for backgammon players in Phuket. Tel: 081-5778443.

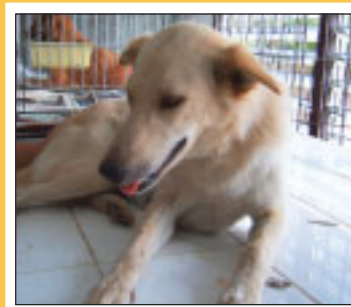
## Pets

## ENGLISH CAT



Black and white, 5 years old, cost 80,000 baht to bring to Phuket. Needs good home. Owner relocating. Serious offers only. Tel: 087-2658002.

Take me home with you!



Soi Dog Foundation Tel: 081-7884222

## Hello everyone,

I am a 3-year-old female doggie and I am looking for a loving home and family.

I was rescued from the side of the road by Miss Sandra from Phuket with my 5 newborn puppies. We were all hungry and weak and I was completely starved with a broken hip, no fur and I was in so much pain. I had no milk for my baby puppies and I was too weak to fight to live anymore. Sandra took us all in and gave us a temporary home with her with lots of food, vitamins and healthcare at Thalang vet clinic.

Thanks to the Gazette readers all 5 of my babies have found homes with loving families. Thank you for giving my little ones a home.

I have lived with Sandra for 3 months and I have now grown a full body of silky black fur, my eyes are sparkly and I can run on all four legs and I even bounce around in excitement when playing with toys and splashing in water. I am happy, affectionate and very neat and tidy. I pick up all the toys and put them in the basket. Sandra says I am her little helper.

I desperately want a family and a home of my own.

I am very gentle, domesticated, healthy and full of new life. I am obedient and I have no bad habits. I am a very well mannered little lady.

Please, please call to ask more about me. I would love you to come to see me on my best behavior in my temporary home. Or I am happy to come along to visit with you.

Love and paw hugs,  
**Little Lady xxx**

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# Wheels & Motors

## Saloon Cars

### 1993 PORSCHE 928GTS

Described by the test driver at the Porsche dealer as the best 928 in Thailand. 2.4 million baht. Serious inquiries only. Tel: 089-4724904. Email: dennis@hbdesign.biz

### FORD FOCUS FOR SALE

2006, 4 doors, blue, auto, 1.8L, just 10,000km, full service. 750,000 baht. Tel: 083-1036578.

### MAZDA 3 FOR SALE

Black, 1.6 auto, 4 doors, 2006, full service, full insurance. 750,000 baht. Tel: 083-1036578.

### SLK MERCEDES 200

1997, green. Perfect condition. 98,000km, full insurance. Asking 1.5 million baht. Tel: 087-2849690. Email: fullmoonbeach@hotmail.com

### CAR FOR SALE

1994, manual, good condition. Asking price: 85,000 baht. Call Joey. Tel: 081-0809170.

### '98 TOYOTA SOLUNA

Excellent condition, 1.5 liter, 5 speed, power windows and locks. 255,000 baht. Tel: 081-0036902. Email: contact@purist.biz

### FOR SALE: NISSAN SUNNY 1800

VIP Neo, leather, gold, 40,000km, 1-year full insurance, 4 years old. 495,000 baht. Tel: 089-8540277. Email: djaxv@loxinfo.co.th

### TOYOTA COROLLA

Aircon, CD player, electric windows, central locking, new brakes. 85,000 baht. Tel: 084-3046723.

### SUBARU 1800 GLF-5

Metallic blue, very good condition, recently spent 50,000 baht to recondition engine, battery, petrol pump, alternator. Service receipts available. Price: 80,000 baht. Tel: 080-7179353. Email: wblueboy@aol.co.uk

### VW PASSAT 1996

New Toyota 2-liter engine. Just two months old, automatic, runs on LPG and gasoline, new aircon. Price: 250,000 baht ono. Contact Noo (Thai and English). Tel: 081-5378508.

### VOLVO 740GL: 120,000 BAHT

4-door saloon in really good condition. Toyota 1JZ engine with automatic gearbox. Tel: 084-6764261. Email: bigmeister2000@hotmail.com

### URGENT SALE, MIRA

Year: 1994. Price: 74,000 baht. Beautiful and in excellent condition, light gray, economical, new tires, CD player, aircon. Tel: 084-1841856.

### TOYOTA ALTIS 1.8

Silver, 2004, one owner, 72,000km. New 1st class insurance. 640,000 baht. Tel: 087-0789707.

### HONDA CIVIC 2007

As new, only 6 months old. Low cost. New: 893,000 baht. Bargain at 800,000 baht. Has 2 years on warranty. Tel: 087-1612928.

### 1956 CHEVROLET

2-door, V8, auto, power steering, power brakes, fully restored and modernized. 600,000 baht. Tel: 086-2778461.

### VOLVO FOR SALE

Volvo S80 Sedan. 2.9L gasoline engine, automatic transmission. Year: 2002. Mileage: 161,000km. Color: dark green, metallic. The car was imported by the Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok and has recently been used by the Consulate General of Sweden in Phuket. The vehicle is in good condition and the engine was fully serviced in 2007. 700,000 baht or nearest offer. Tel: 076-380000. Email: h.hamrin@gkphuket.in.th

### DAIHATSU APPLAUSE

1994, 16-valve, blue book, very good condition. 75,000 baht. Tel: 089-5902539.

### 2003 CHEVY ZAFIRA 2.2

Eight seats, leather, black, new tires, TV and stereo, good condition. 520,000 baht. Tel: 081-5402561. Email: kokonatee@hotmail.com

### TOYOTA CAMRY 2003

Black, 94,000km, 2.4-liter engine, 800,000 baht. Tel: 089-8733952. Email: bigmanfox@pacific.net.sg

### NISSAN FOR SALE

Station wagon, 1999, green, new wheels. Insured until August. Tel: 081-7281887.

### NISSAN LANCER

Champ 3, 1992, top model, digital odometer, no rust, new tires, disc brakes, silver. Urgent sale at 79,000 baht. Tel: 083-2525509.

### OPEL CORSA FOR SALE

Beautiful, in excellent condition. Blue, fully insured. 180,000 baht or nearest offer. Contact for more details. Tel: 087-2781583.

### CLASSIC BMW 2002

1974 black. All original. Driven daily. New tires. CD player. Taxed. 150,000 baht. Tel: 086-9488139.

### MAZDA 323

5-door, cheap, 49,000 baht. Good condition, aircon, stereo and lots of new parts. Contact Sunny. Tel: 083-2525509, 084-1841856.

### FORD LASER TIERRA SV

Great condition, service history. Black. 4-years old. Call for details. Tel: 089-2167220.

### CHEVROLET COLORADO

Automatic, 2006 top model. First-class condition. 375,000 baht. Tel: 084-4413633.

### CHEVROLET OPTRA LT SS

2006 model. Metallic black, 32,000km, one-year warranty. Just serviced, excellent condition. 450,000 baht. Tel: 076-528016, 089-2262612. Email: jim@jimmarsh.net

### NISSAN SENTRA FOR SALE

1995 model, 1,600cc, good condition. 120,000 baht. Tel: 081-5775719. Email: perigor2000@yahoo.com

## Pickups

### CHEVROLET COLORADO

Automatic, 2006 top model. First-class condition. 375,000 baht. Tel: 084-4413633.

### ISUZU D-MAX 4-DOOR 2004

2.5 manual, 100,000km, CD/DVD player, radio, TV. 399,000 baht ono. Good deal. Tel: 081-3873809.

### NISSAN FRONTIER

3.0DI, 2004, 110,000km, many extras. 290,000 baht. Tel: 084-8448504.

### AMAZING MAZDA PICKUP

25D Fighter, superior cab seats 5, low mileage, low running cost, in great condition. Tel: 085-6927961. Email: office67@gmail.com

### 2000/01 NISSAN NV WINGROAD

2 owners, like new, 47,500km, service history, alloys. MP3, new tires, battery, brake pads. 240,000 baht. Tel: 076-239432, 086-2708727. Email: crob58@gmail.com

### 2008 ISUZU D-MAX

Like new, 18,000km. 2-door, silver. 180,000 baht and take over payments. Tel: 087-2095174.

### 2007 CHEVROLET COLORADO

4-door, common rail, 3,000cc, tax, insured. 395,000 baht. Tel: 084-4413633.

### TOYOTA PICKUP FOR SALE

Black, 4 doors, in perfect condition, 13,000km. August 2007. 690,000 baht. Tel: 087-8860448.

### 2005

**NISSAN STRADA**  
4 doors, aircon. 30,000km. Manual, insured, service book. 285,000 baht ono. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-272-7636. Email: rewopnadia@hotmail.com

### 2003 TOYOTA TIGER



54,000km, manual, 6" suspension lift, aluminum wheels, 7-speaker stereo, well maintained. Asking 415,000 baht. Tel: 081-8941994. Email: tomkat@phuket.ksc.co.th

### PICKUP FOR SALE

Ford Ranger 2.5 turbo, four-door with gull door at rear. Tax and insurance. Only 50,000km. Lightly used. 360,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-5399560.

### 2000 RANGER XL PICKUP

Well maintained, CD player, aircon, runs and looks great. 219,000 baht. For more info call 086-2699145.

**1994 CAR FOR SALE**  
Mitsubishi 4-door. Aircon, CD stereo. Nice car. Asking price: 100,000 baht. Please call for further details. Tel: 081-3709661.

**CHEVROLET PICKUP**  
2007. New model, 13,000km. Looks and drives as new. 399,000 baht. Call for details. Tel: 084-4413633.

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# Wheels & Motors

## 4 x 4s

### MAZDA TRIBUTE



Gold, 55,000km, good condition, 4 years old, automatic, 6 CD changer. 600,000 baht ono. Tel: 086-2772691.

### VIGO 4X4 4-DOOR

Auto, gas powered, quiet, silver. 62,000km. 590,000 baht obo. Tel: 087-2095174.

### ISUZU CAB 4X4

Large tires, 2004, 11,000km. Dark blue. Price: 400,000 baht. Tel: 089-5944017.

### ISUZU DMAX LS

Perfect condition. 4D, 4WD, navy blue, many extras. Only 460,000 baht. Call/email for more info. Tel: 086-9421969. Email: laclisque@gmail.com

### TOYOTA FORTUNER

Gray, July 2006, 40,000km, automatic, Xenon lights, leather, excellent condition. Full service, 1 year remaining on warranty. 790,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-6913285. Email: yuwandabier@yahoo.com

### LAND ROVER SWB STATION WAGON

Ready to "RAID". 2.5 diesel turbo. 250,000 baht. Tel: 086-6826882. Email: amnuay\_r@yahoo.com

### 2006 MAZDA BT-50 4X4 TDI

in excellent condition. Only 18,000km. 5-speed, all options. 525,000 baht or trade for 4-door automatic car of similar value. Tel: 081-5350202. aadams007@yahoo.com

### 2005 VIGO 4 DR 4X4

Like new, 61,000km. Silver, auto, quiet. Gas 2.7 liter. 625,000 baht. Tel: 087-2095174.

### TOYOTA HILUX VIGO



Lady owner, 4 door, 2.5L, full service history, 2007, 36,000km, CD, MP3. Price: 520,000 baht. **Contact Por. Tel: 087-8164352.**

### 2002 4WD MITSUBISHI 4-DOOR

2.8 turbo diesel. 114,000km. 340,000 baht. 1st class insurance. Tel: 087-9261381. Email: pakadog@gmail.com

### MITSUBISHI TRITON

2006, 3.2L 4WD, manual, black. Only 5,400km. 22-inch wheels. A bargain at 550,000 baht. Please call for more details. Tel: 089-0004400.

### TOYOTA TIGER 4WD

December 98, owner's manual, silver, 73,000km. Very good condition. 280,000 baht. Tel: 081-0855765. Email: beat19@loxinfo.co.th

### MITSUBISHI 4X4 TRITON



3.2 top model. March 27, 2007. 69,125km. 785,000 baht. 1st-class AIG insurance. More than 250,000 baht of extras. Must see. Tel: 081-6078000.

### 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: danielboychuk@gmail.com

## Motorbikes

### YAMAHA FZ400, 2001

400cc, sport bike, 29,000km, excellent condition. Price: 145,000 baht. Call Michael. Tel: 084-7448824.

### SUZUKI GSX-R 600

Year 2005, GPR exhaust, 4,800km. Top condition. 360,000 baht with book. Tel: 089-9715664.

### YAMAHA FAZER 1000

Year 2003, GPR exhaust, 24,000km. Good condition. 320,000 baht with book. Tel: 089-9715664.

### HARLEY-DAVIDSONS FOR SALE

1. HD Fatboy, 96b, 2008, black color + book. Price: 1 million baht.  
2. HD VROD, 2008, black + book. Price: 980,000 baht.  
3. HD DYNA SUPERGLIDE Sport + book. Price: 490,000 baht. Call Sumon at Tel: 081-6919346. Email: sumon@ridethailand.com

### 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. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON

2003 DYNA low rider, mint condition. 625,000 baht. Tel: 089-9711847.

### BMW GS650 FOR SALE

Red, 4,000km, 16 months old, farang owner, green book, bargain price: 420,000 baht. Tel: 084-8520862.

### HONDA PHANTOM 200

Customized chopper style. Excellent condition, white-wall tires. Will take best offer. Tel: 081-0877743.

### SUZUKI BANDIT 400

1994, green book. Fully rebuilt, costing 38,000 baht. Fast & sexy. Tel: 085-2145056. Email: iibc.web@gmail.com

### HONDA WAVE 125 TYPE R

Perfect condition, 21,000 km. Well maintained, one owner. 24,000 baht obo. Tel: 084-6529085.

### 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

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON

1,450cc, excellent condition, used only 8 months. 30,470 km. 450,000 baht. Tel: 083-1731690, 083-6903179.

### HONDA 400 CHOPPER

Very good cond, runs well, sounds great, lots of fun to ride. Tel: 084-9032739. Email: lawrence.lab@gmail.com

### YAMAHA MOTORBIKE 20,000 BAHT

1 year, 12,000km, green book. Insurance to 2009. Tel: 085-5726339. Email: kelvin korea81@hotmail.com

### HONDA CLICK 125

600km, 8 weeks old, red, perfect condition. Paid 49,500 baht. Will accept 35,000 baht. Tel: 086-2780054.

### BMW K 1200R

2006, only 2,000km, green book, new tax, insurance, mint condition. 760,000 baht obo. Contact for more details. Tel: 084-8507170.

## Rentals

### CHEAP CAR FOR RENT

Toyota Vios, automatic, for short- or long-term rent. Tel: 081-5557421, 086-7467075.

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Many types of car for long-term rent, from 10,000 - 18,000 baht/month. Tel: 081-6078567. Email: island tour29@gmail.com

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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: a1current@myway.com

### P.M.P. CAR RENTALS

New cars for rent: Toyota Vios, Yaris, Fortuner, Wish and Honda Jazz. Tel: 083-1743880, 087-2646808.

### CHEVROLET CAPTIVA

for rent. 2.4L, 2008, red, long-term lease: 28,000 baht/month. For more details, email: domecellar phuket@hotmail.com

### D-MAX FOR RENT, 17,000 BAHT

Dark blue, 4WD, 4 doors. D-Max LS 2004. Full insurance. Tel: 086-9421969. Email: laclisque@gmail.com

### NEW 2008 CARS FOR RENT

Vios: 20,000 baht/month. Fortuner: 40,000 baht/month. Tel: 080-6973174. Website: www.phuketrentcars.com

### NISSAN NV FOR RENT

Extra cab + cover wagon, 10,000 baht per month, includes full insurance. Tel: 081-5693768.

### RENT A NISSAN WINGROAD

Auto, gold, first-class condition. Long-term rental only. 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-3927150. Email: wunch art-thannawat@hotmail.com

## 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: imarable@hotmail.com

## Wanted

### HONDA WAVE WANTED

125cc. Electric start. Disc brake. Maximum 2 years old. Tel: 081-3670991.

### TOYOTA FORTUNER WANTED

I want to buy a Toyota Fortuner, up to 2 years old. I am based in Phuket. Please email me with details and pictures if possible, with price. Email: paulmccarthy007@yahoo.co.uk

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