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Huge heroin bust nets 104 kilos in Rassada

RASSADA (Kom Chad Luek): Police arrested a Thai man and a Taiwanese national in possession of 104 kilos of heroin at a house in the Phuket City Home residential estate on the afternoon November 9, deputy national police chief Prieuphan Damapong announced at a press conference in Bangkok the following day.

Speaking at the Royal Thai Police Drug Suppression Division headquarters on Viphawadee-Rangsit Rd, Gen Prieuphan identified the two suspects as 29-year-old Pongthat Pongthirasakul, a resident of Chalong Village 1, and his Taiwanese accomplice Kuo Tak Tsai, 42.

Armed with a search warrant, police arrested the pair without incident and seized 261 bricks of the drug on Sunday from house number 74/267 in the Phuket City Home housing estate in Tambon Rassada.

Also seized as evidence in the case were three suitcases used to carry the drugs, three mobile phones and 25 keys.

The arrest followed a tip-off early in August by the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to Thai police that members of a drug-dealing gang



Thai police and DEA agent Andre Kellum show the 261 bricks of heroin confiscated from the Southern Dragon gang at a home in Rassada on November 9. Photo by Supachai Petchtewee.

known as the "Southern Dragons", led by Taiwanese national Lan An Lung, would bring heroin from the Golden Triangle through Thailand for distribution to Taiwan, Hong Kong, China and other countries in the region.

The gang was the largest known Taiwanese heroin smuggling ring operating in the Far East, the DEA agents told their Thai counterparts.

Royal Thai Police Narcotics Suppression Bureau Police

Chief Lt Gen Wutti Liptapanlop said the three-month investigation into the gang's activities included assistance from Police Region 5, the Third Area Naval Command, the DEA, federal authorities in Taiwan, and the Phuket Provincial Police.

Representing the DEA at the press conference was one of its officers, Andre W. Kellum.

Lt Gen Wutti said arrest warrants have already been issued for five more gang mem-

bers: Thais Sarayuth Ketsariniras, Sathit Paiboon-Issarakul, Manas Chaidee, Sumit Thanapiromkul and Taiwanese national Chern Wan Ke.

A warrant for the arrest of another Taiwanese, An Lung, alleged to be the leader of the smuggling ring, has also been requested.

The two suspects had hidden the drugs in a double-lined concrete structure beneath the home's concrete kitchen floor. The high-tech hiding place included a hydraulic lift device that would mechanically lift the stash from its hiding place at the push of a button.

The gang used the home to store bricks of heroin until they could be concealed inside gas cylinders. These were then placed on small fishing boats that made their way out to sea.

These, in turn, were met by larger vessels that would transport the contraband to ports abroad.

The bust came in the second week of the government's latest "war on drugs," a 90-day crackdown that authorities say will run through the end of January 2009.

Emergency helicopter service launched

PHUKET: Bangkok Hospital Phuket has introduced a new emergency Sky ICU and Flying Limousine service, dubbed Helicopter Emergency Medical Services or HEMS.

Hospital Director Dr Kongkiat Kespecharaof stated that Bangkok Hospital Phuket's prompt and extensive helicopter service over the Andaman coast will serve to reinforce tourist confidence and

bolster the government's ongoing initiative to make Phuket a medical hub.

The single-blade Eurocopter EC145 will be kept at the Phuket Police Aviation Helibase in Phuket City, and will be on standby 24-hours a day.

The service will extend to places such as Koh Phi Phi, Koh Lanta, Khaolak and Koh Racha.

Such a service does not

come cheap. It costs 2,000 baht per minute, which works out to 120,000 baht for a one-hour flight.

The lofty price tag is partly due to the chopper itself, which cost around 240 million baht.

The new helicopter, which seats up to eight people, will also be available for charter throughout the region for 'high-end' family groups.



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Phuket Islamic Council chairman Bamroong Samphaorat (with goatee) and Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan (right) hand out gifts to Muslim children as part of the Hajj farewell activities at the airport on the morning of November 9.

Local Muslims begin sacred journey

MAI KHAO: Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan and other top officials attended a ceremony at Phuket International Airport on Sunday, November 9 to send off some 250 local Muslims leaving to attend the annual Hajj pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia, local Thai-language news sources have reported.

Also attending the farewell were Phuket Senator Thanyarat Atchariyachai, Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (OrBorJor) President Paiboon Upatising, Phuket Islamic Council chairman Bamroong Samphaorat, and other community representatives and officials.

Phuket Culture Office chief Thaweechart Intarrarit said the 250 pilgrims who left for Mecca yesterday were the first of more than 1,000 Muslims from Phuket, Phang Nga, Krabi and Ranong who will make the pilgrimage departing from Phuket Airport.

Muslims make up about 27% of Phuket's predominantly Buddhist population, according to

the Phuket Provincial Culture Office. The pilgrims will make their way on four consecutive flights, the first two by Thai Airways and the others by Iran Air.

Gov Preecha earlier stopped by Mifada Hulmumeeneen Mosque in Tambon Pa Khlock, where he met with the local imam and elected officials.

Such visits are a good way to get to know the local people and understand their problems, said Gov Preecha, adding that he was still learning his way around the island.

Gov Preecha said he intends to visit mosques, temples and churches across the island to better familiarize himself with Phuket.

The Governor started his Sunday at 6 am with a one-hour radio broadcast. Then, after the morning event at the airport, he attended the finals of the Phuket Open Volleyball in Karon.

He finished up his day in Rawai, where at 7:30 pm he presided over the official opening of Loy Kratong activities at Nai Harn Lake.

British man arrested on multiple drug charges

KATHU: The government's 90-day "war on drugs" that started on November 3 claimed its first foreign casualty in Phuket in the early morning hours of November 8, when a middle-aged British man was caught in possession of Ice (crystal methamphetamine) and other narcotics with intent to sell.

Kathu Police Superintendent Col Grissak Songmoonmark identified the suspect as UK national Peter Neville, aged 45.

Mr Neville was arrested at 2:45 am after he was caught delivering 38.8 grams of Ice and 10.6 grams of cocaine to a Thai woman in a sting operation.

The sequence of events that led to Mr Neville's arrest began at 8:10 pm the day before, when a combined Kathu and

Tung Tong Police drug suppression unit raided a room on Soi Pailin, off Nanai Rd in Patong.

Acting on a tip-off from informants, they arrested six Thai people caught smoking ya Ice in the room.

The group identified their supplier as a woman nicknamed "Saeng" and led police to her room in the Tulip Apartments, also on Nanai Rd.

In the room, police found 34-year-old Tanchanok "Saeng" Holm and 32-year-old Somjit Noophad, who was armed with a Thai-style shot gun. They also recovered two 12-gauge shell casings.

Police recovered from the room, without incident, 6.06 grams of Ice, 3 ya bah (methamphetamine) pills, and drug

paraphernalia.

After her arrest, Mrs Tanchanok identified her supplier as Mr Neville.

She placed a call to him, asking for more narcotics and police arrested Mr Neville when he came to deliver 38.8 grams of Ice and 10.6 grams of cocaine.

A subsequent search of Mr Neville's home on Chao Fah East Rd in Chalong uncovered larger stashes of Ice (200 grams) and cocaine (50.89 gram), along with an undisclosed amount of hashish.

Mr Neville faces multiple charges of illegal possession of narcotics with intent to sell.

"Peter is not a big drug trafficker. The police will continue to investigate this network and make more arrests," Col Grissak said.

Night of revelry turns to tragedy for young Brits

Tourist dies in mystery fall

PATONG: A young English tourist mysteriously fell from a building in Patong in the early hours of November 3 and died en route to hospital.

Kathu Police Superintendent Colonel Grissak Songmoonmark identified the deceased from his passport as British national Joseph John Nason, age 22.

Mr Nason and a friend, aged 19, had just arrived in Phuket on a flight from Bangkok. They were staying at the Deevana Patong Resort & Spa on Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Road, he said.

The critically-injured Mr Nason was discovered lying unconscious in front of a derelict three-story shophouse on a soi off

Rat-U-Thit 200 Pee Road at approximately 2 am.

He was rushed to Patong Hospital, but died on the way.

Mr Nason's friend was shocked when he learned of his friend's death.

He said they had gone out on the town that night and split up at about midnight.

He said he had no idea how Mr Nason ended up in the area where the tragedy occurred, which is a densely populated neighborhood not far from the landmark Montana Grand Phuket hotel.

Police say Mr Nason was seen running through the area before his fall, though there were

no reports that anybody was chasing him at the time.

He climbed into the derelict building and lost his footing on the first or second floor, falling to the ground and hitting his head on a metal support bar.

Col Grissak refused to speculate on any aspect of the case until more evidence becomes available, and he declined to put an estimate on when such evidence might emerge.

A special team has been assigned to investigate, he said.

The British Embassy was notified of the tragedy and Mr Nason's family have repatriated his remains to their home in the south of England.

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Snakehead fish breeding program to boost exports

KOH KAEW: On November 7, Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan accompanied the head of the Department of Fisheries on an inspection of a snakehead fish farm at Leam Hin.

The project received assistance from the Norwegian government, which provided the fish farm with high-density polyethyl-

ene (HDPE) pipe as part of its post-tsunami assistance program for the region.

The HDPE pipe supports three large floating baskets, each containing around 10,000 snakehead murrel, which are highly prized in Japan, Taiwan and the EU for their tasty white meat.

Snakehead fish, or *plaa chon*

in Thai, are also noted for their rapid growth. Even when farmed at high density, they can reach up to three to four kilograms in just seven months. Governor Preecha said he would like to see the fish become a major Phuket export, rivaling Scandinavian salmon. Last year, snakehead fish exports totaled 82 tonnes.

Patong Carnival delayed

Organizers put off parade for six weeks

This year's Phuket Carnival will take place from December 15 to 20 at Patong Beach, some six weeks after the traditional starting date of November 1.

Phuket Deputy Mayor Chairat Sukban said this year's events will differ slightly from carnivals in past years, which have featured top rock acts including Modern Dog and even a performance once by the full Bangkok Symphony Orchestra.

Instead, this year's entertainment will mostly feature displays of traditional Thai culture performed by university students brought in from various regions across the country.

These will take place on the main stage at Loma Park as well as on two smaller stages: one near the police box on the beach at the foot of Soi Bangla and the other on the beach near the Holiday Inn Resort.

This year's carnival will be organized into a number of zones. These will include zones for One Tambon One Product (OTOP) sales, arts and culture displays, spa and massage services, and food and beverage services.

Deputy Mayor Chairat admitted that the heavy rains throughout last year's carnival were the main reason for postponing the event until mid-December, when the chance of a rain-out is statistically remote.

Now in its 23rd year, this year's event will be funded with 7 million baht from Patong Municipality, Mr Chairat said.

"It would be a shame to waste that much taxpayers'

money on an event that could be ruined by rain," he said.

"And we are still getting a lot of rain even this far into November," he observed.

However, he added that the new municipal council executive officers had only recently taken up their new positions following local government elections on July 27.

They therefore needed more time to plan the carnival as well as many other upcoming events.

These include the three-day national mourning period for Her Royal Highness the late Princess Galyani Vadhana, that begins next Friday; the Loy Kratong Festival on November 24; and celebrations for HM The King's Birthday on December 5, he explained.

Apart from staged performances nightly from 7 am to 11 pm, other highlights this year will include:

December 15: Fireworks performance after dusk

December 16: Beach cleanup and a longtail boat competition off Loma Park, 9 am;

December 17: Adventure Competition, Loma Park, 9 am;

December 20: Fancy Parade along the beach road at 5 pm, finishing at Loma Park.

Mr Chairat said that the beach road would only be closed to traffic during the parade but would remain open during the rest of the event.

Most of the activities will take place along the beach-side promenade, he said.

PIMEX 2008 to be biggest ever

KOH KAEW: Despite current economic worries, interest in the PIMEX 2008 marine and lifestyle exhibition remains strong.

Bookings are still being accepted for the December event, which looks set to be the biggest show to date.

PIMEX 2008 will be held at the Royal Phuket Marina Exhibition and Conference center, with 2,500 square meters of air-conditioned display space adjacent to the marina, which houses about 40 yachts.

Going in to its sixth year, the show is the largest on-water boat show in the region and serves as the premier showcase for the boating and marine leisure industries.

Event organizers Informa

Yacht Group, who recently acquired the rights to the event, announced that 90 exhibiting companies and close to 50 yachts are expected in 2008.

Informa Yacht Group has also hosted other maritime exhibitions including the Monaco Yacht Show.

Luxury motor yachts afloat in 2008 will include Sunseeker, Gulf Craft, Chris Craft, Princess, Riviera, Pershing, Ferretti, Maritimo, Crownline, Cranchi, Sunnav, Horizon, and Mustang.

Three of the yachts are over 70-feet long.

For sailing enthusiasts, Jeanneau, Bavaria Yachts, and Hanse will all be represented as well as a number of catamarans.

A new development in


2008 is the emergence of new brands from mainland China, some of which are exhibiting this year.

Of course, all the electronics and engines, plus other accessories and equipment that go with the marine lifestyle, will also be on show.


Several property and residential marina projects will also be exhibiting at the show.

A full roster of confirmed exhibitors is displayed in the "exhibitors" section of the show's official website, which can be found at: www.phuketboatshow.com

There are just two remaining marina berths for exhibitor use, and limited space is still available in the air-conditioned hall.



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After a long wait, the dream of turning Phuket into a paradise for software developers from around the world will come one step closer to reality early next year, with the opening of the first phase of Software Park Phuket. Asina Pornwasin of *The Nation* and the *Gazette's* Atchaa Khamlo report.

Software Park Phuket's dual aim is to enable Phuket's tourism and hospitality industries to improve their services with the use of software and technology, as well as to attract foreign software developers to set up operations in Phuket. Software Park Phuket director Kongkiat Kespechara explains.

The park is owned and operated by Blue Lagoon (Thailand), a new subsidiary of Phuket property company Anuphas Group. Run by the family of Phuket Senator Phummasak Hongyok, the group's business interests include three Shell service stations on the island, six car and motorcycle dealerships in the region, and large tracts of largely undeveloped land known as Chao-Fah City in Tambon Wichit, where Software Park Phuket is being developed.

The park will occupy 10 rai located off the northbound lane of Chao Fa East Rd, about one kilometer north of Kajonkietsuksa School.

Mr Kongkiat is confident that Phuket has the human resource potential for the project to be a success.

"Phuket is ready for this software park and is aiming high to become a software development center hosting many global firms. Phuket has two main attributes to support the park: a high-speed telecommunications network around the island and three educational institutions producing 200 tech graduates a year," he said.

Project architect Suttipong "Puen" Rattadilok said the distinctive design behind the first building, with its gently sloping roof, is aimed both at saving energy and at giving it an attractive

appearance that will blend in nicely with the Nakkerd Hillsides in the background.

The roof, supported by metal poles, is completely separated by air from the main structure; serving more as a sort of permanent canopy than as a conventional roof.

The project will be developed in phases. When completed, it will have three main features: rental space, an "incubation center," and a research and development center.

In its initial phase, following investment of about 25 million baht, the park will have 1,250 square meters of floor space in a three-story building, structural work on which has already been completed by project contractor Muang Eak Built Up Co Ltd.

The first-phase building will have room for ten companies, with half of the units expected to be ready for business when it opens in mid-January. Currently, three software companies – Phuket Software Factory, Open Source Technology, and International Medical Software – are contracted tenants, Mr Kongkiat said.

The main building should be completely finished around the first week of December, after which tenants can begin working on fittings and interiors.

Phuket to



An artist's conception of the completed project, as viewed from above.

Phuket currently has about 30 software firms. After Software Park Phuket opens its doors and is fully contracted, that number is expected to rise by at least 10, he said.

The main features of the park's incubation center will be facilities and services to foster promising new enterprises. These will include business consultancy, marketing services and business matching.

The center will aim mainly to incubate ventures based on service-oriented architecture (SOA), with the hope of encouraging local software firms to develop "plug-in" software applications for tourism and hospitality services.

"We will try to lead software development for the tourism and hospitality industry. We will guide and incubate ventures utilizing SOA technology to develop software that can be plugged into existing applications – for example, the development of a face-recognition application, by using SOA, to help improve tourism services," Mr Kongkiat said.

In its first phase, the opera-

tions of the incubation center would be partially supported by Science Park Thailand. As well, support in setting up and operating the Phuket incubation center would come from Software Park Thailand, with the same set of services as those offered in the Bangkok park, including training curricula and lecturers.

In its research and development center, Software Park Phuket will provide a software-testing lab for local open-source developers as well as those from around the world.

"We will provide tools and facilities, such as a server and network, to attract open-source software developers from around the globe to come here. We hope to build a community of developers by leading them to set up development centers in Phuket," he said.

Software Park Phuket's R&D center will also provide facilities for software firms developing disaster-management solutions. In this service, the park will join with the Asian Institute of Technology's (AIT) Inter Lab.

The park is currently seek-

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get a software park at last

ing a joint venture partner for its second phase, in which its rental space will be expanded to more than 6,000 square meters in a seven-story structure with offices, 40 apartments and facilities including coffee shops, restaurants and a grocery store.

Work on the second phase is scheduled to begin in the first quarter of next year, for completion before an official launch in October 2009.

"We need investment of about 100 million baht for the second phase, so we need partners who have know-how and skills in management and marketing. We are happy to consider both local and foreign partners," Mr Kongkiat said.

Since Software Park Phuket is a member of the Asia Oceania Software Park Alliance, and will be one of the hosts of the International Software Park Forum 2009, the park plans to kick off its second phase at that event.

Other government agencies interested in running projects out of the park include the Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand, which is considering using the park to organize an eco-friendly "green car" technology center in the future.

If all goes according to plan, the park will also allow technology students from local universities, like Prince of Songkla University Phuket Campus and Phuket Rajabhat University, to get their on-the-job training on the island, without having to travel to Bangkok. Already six students have been chosen to begin training at the park in January, Mr Kongkiat said.

The Software Park Phuket project, and its likelihood of success, has been the topic of some discussion among the island's small community of expat IT specialists.

Freelance computer systems security analyst Ignacio Evans said most of the island's IT specialists he talked to say

they think the project "looks real" and could be a real boon to the island's nascent IT industry.

"My five-year-old son has a real aptitude for math and science. I would love for him to have as an opportunity to work in IT in Phuket when he grows up," he said.

IT writer and consultant Seth Bareiss was less optimistic.

Commenting on the original report about the project that

slowed Phuket's Internet to snail speed for 5 months. Even under ideal circumstances, Phuket's Internet speeds and reliability lag behind those of neighboring countries, and way behind those of Asian IT powerhouses like Singapore, Hong Kong, Korea, and Japan. I hear Internet speed and reliability complaints daily here, the likes of which I did not hear during the entirety of my eight years in Japan. Also, prom-

nificant" plans for the park to provide tools and facilities such as a shared server and network to attract software developers from around the world.

"A LAN server and cabling are cheap and easy to set up, and a smart business developing proprietary software would never risk a security breach by putting that data on a LAN that's not exclusively owned, made, and run by that

backup generators to smooth out the daily electrical spikes, dips, brownouts and blackouts in Phuket's power grid," he said.

Mr Bareiss said he was also concerned about a host of current economic downturns and political turmoil that might overwhelm any advantages that the software park offers to businesses considering moving to Phuket.

On a more positive note, he mentioned that the Thai government has taken two important steps forward to attract ICT businesses:

"SIPA's streamlining of government red tape such as visa and work permit processing will help.

"Also, government efforts to educate Thailand's IT and clerical staff in open-source software, and to modify open-source software so that it can handle the Thai language, is also a positive development. The potential cost savings are significant. Thailand should be loudly applauded for facilitating use of the many free, 90% compatible open-source alternatives," he said.

He also thinks Thailand has potential as a hub for computer animation businesses, and wonders why this hasn't been mentioned more prominently in discussions of Phuket's development as an ICT community.

"I have heard that Thailand's computer schools are filled with animation experts, the rare sort of people who are talented in both art and IT. This is a big resource that should be mentioned in any discussion about developing an ICT paradise in Thailand.

"Animation, even computer-based animation, is extremely labor intensive, and it needn't suffer from the same level of language problems as other ICT businesses... so this field is truly a place for Thailand's developing ICT industry to stand out, even to compete favorably with worldwide leaders in animation such as Korea and Japan," he concluded.



This striking first-phase building at Software Park Phuket is scheduled to open in mid-January 2009.

touted "a high-speed telecommunications network around the island," he said, "The reporter has spent too much time sampling Patong's beverages, and zero time reading about the crippling 'Great Internet Meltdown' that almost completely shut down e-business here during the first half of 2007," he said.

"We don't know whether it will happen again, or why it

ises of FTTx local fiber optic lines in Phuket are past due, with no signs of coming anytime soon."

"Even Cambodia and Vietnam have faster and more reliable Internet than Phuket. In some hotels and apartment buildings in Hong Kong, just two floors have more Internet bandwidth than all of Thailand," he commented.

He also described as "insig-

company. If, instead, they are referring to Internet webspace host servers, note that Thailand's broadband access to the worldwide web outside Thailand is miserably slow. Putting one's web server in Thailand would be worthwhile only if the website's visitors are also in Thailand," he said. "I would much rather hear whether the project has grounded wiring, massive UPSes, and

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Nakhon Sri crackdown on influential figures continues

Deputy president arrested on extortion and firearm charges

The Deputy President of the Nakhon Sri Thammarat Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) has been arrested on charges of extortion and firearms offenses in the latest move in the ongoing crackdown on “influential figures” in the province following the high-profile murder of a journalist in August.

On November 5, Anand Klagchan, 43, gave himself up to Cha-uat Police Deputy Superintendent Montri Jaiklaew. Mr Anand, the younger brother of former Cha-uat Police Superintendent of Pol Col Phithak Klangchan, faces charges of carrying a firearm in public and extortion. The charges were made following allegations that Mr Anand, 43, was linked to 57-year-old Jerm Seng-iat.

Also known as “Jorm Jon Kai Muk”, which translates as Bandit Chief Kai Muk, Mr Jerm is suspected of running protection rackets in the area.

In the early hours of November 4, police led by Region 8 Police Commissioner Lt Gen Santhan Chayanon and Nakhon Sri Thammarat Provincial Police Commander Maj Gen Sarawuth Phiranon raided eight houses belonging to Mr Anand and seven of his associates. Mr Anand was not in at the time so police did not enter his home. Police said they suspect he was warned of the raids in advance.

At 11am that day, police announced the results of the searches. In the house of Sompong Kimsaeng they found an M16 assault rifle with two magazines and 109 rounds of ammunition. In the houses of Sanit “Kamnan Wer” Eua-bamrunkiat, Surasak Riankham, Somkit Tutkeua and Amnat Chuwichai police seized a total of six firearms, including



A policeman shows the identity card of Kalaya Nuklai, 47, who was gunned down by insurgents on a road in Yala's Raman district on November 6.

pistols and shotguns. All the seized weapons will be kept while checks are done to determine if they have correct permits or have been used in any crimes, police said.

In the houses of two suspects, Khlong Wongjui and Somjit Noosai, police did not find any weapons.

Police took all the suspects to Cha-uat Police Station for questioning. While the suspects were being interrogated, Pleuang Noosai, a former member of the *OrBorJor* Nakhon Sri Thammarat, came to follow the proceedings. After noticing that Mr Pleuang was wearing a .45 pistol, Maj Gen Sarawuth ordered that the weapon be confiscated and checked to see if Mr Pleuang had a permit for it.

After finding that Mr Pleuang did not have a permit for the weapon, Maj Gen Sarawuth ordered him arrested and charged immediately.

Mr Anand's arrest follows an allegation from rubber plantation-owner Kachakon Saengrungs that last year Mr Anand called him for a meeting with Mr Jerm to discuss a demand for protection money of 200,000 baht. The demand was originally made in 2004 when Mr Jerm was still in prison, it is alleged. At the meeting, Mr Anand said that Mr Kachakon should now pay Mr Jerm two million baht in protection money, Mr Kachakon alleged.

Mr Kachakon said he refused to pay, but did not bring the matter to police attention until after October 12 this year. The report followed an attack on his property by unknown assailants, who shot at a house on his rubber plantation in Tambon Khao Phraong, Cha-uat District with an assault rifle and hacked down about 70 trees. Two notes demanding two million baht, allegedly from Mr Jerm, were left at the scene.

Mr Jerm, who has spent a total of 27 years in prison, already has an arrest warrant out for him from Surat Thani Provincial Court for an extortion case in

Tha Chana District of that province. He is also thought to be behind a protection racket in Trang's Rassada District. Described by the Thai media as “The Wicked Tiger of Phattalung”, he is reportedly suspected of involvement in a total of 32 murders since 1976.

The arrest of Mr Anand comes just over two weeks after the arrest of Nakhon Sri Thammarat *OrBorJor* President Withun Dechadacho on firearms charges. Police believe local politicians to be behind the killing of Matichon journalist Athiwat Chainurat, who was shot dead on August 1. However, police have not yet released the names of any suspects.

Lt Gen Santhan said that the ongoing operations against “influential people” in Nakhon Sri Thammarat was the fiercest operation of its kind in the history of the province.

In the past, police had been too cowed by the power of such figures to enforce the law, which had allowed frequent killings to go unpunished. Police have to be considered partly to blame for the province's crime problems, he admitted.

“The weapons seized in the searches, especially the M16, will have to be carefully examined. We suspect they may have been used in crimes in Songkhla's Haad Yai District as well as in neighboring provinces, including Nakhon Sri Thammarat,” Lt Gen Santhan said.

Any police officers found to be associated with these influential figures would be immediately transferred out of the province, he said.

Bloody week: Suspected insurgents, blending in with some 300 village headmen and officials, set off a car bomb near the venue of a monthly meeting in Sukhirin District, Narathiwat, on November 4. Seventy people were hurt in the attack, which police said was meant to inflict maximum damage.

At least 12 of the victims were in critical condition. A woman had been reported as dying from the explosion, but authorities said she was still fighting for her life at the local Sukhirin Hospital.

The homemade explosive was packed inside a 50-kilogram fire extinguisher placed inside a sedan that was parked alongside the private vehicles of officials attending the meeting.

Minutes later, a second bomb tied to a motorbike was detonated near a teashop.

The following day, arsonists set fire to a public school in Pattani and Narathiwat, while gunmen shot dead four local residents in separate incidents in Yala as violence flared up again in the insurgent Deep South.

Woeful wedding: A Civilian Defence Corps volunteer was shot dead at a wedding in Nakhon Sri Thammarat's Bang Khan District in the early hours of November 3.

Volunteer Sayan Wansanit, 34, was sitting drinking tea at a friend's wedding in Village 1, Tambon Bang Khan, at 12:10 in the morning when a man walked through the crowd of celebrants and shot him several times in the head and body. Mr Sayan, from Chang Klang District, died at the scene.

After the shooting, the gunman ran back through the crowd and escaped in a pickup truck, witnesses reported.

Investigating Officer Pichai Phuphrommin from Bang Khan Police said that witnesses had identified the gunman as Somphon Ratsadon, 34, a long-time enemy of the victim.

Police are now preparing evidence to request a warrant for Mr Somphon's arrest, Lt Col Pichai added.

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

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Drug busts rise, and danger too

Three provinces in the Northeast have been identified as the major entry points of illegal drugs in Thailand. According to a report by the Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), illegal drugs are being smuggled into Thailand mostly through Nong Khai, Nakhon Phanom and Mukdahan provinces.

Drug smugglers are now armed, making ONCB suppression more difficult since each arrest or raid could erupt into gunfights, said ONCB Secretary General Krissana Pholant.

The ONCB reported 1,230 arrests in June, which is 11% higher than in May. A total of 63,382 amphetamine tablets were seized during the arrests, made also in Loei and Udon Thani.

Each tablet is smuggled into Thailand at 75 baht to 250 baht. They are then sold at prices ranging from 250 baht to 500 baht in inner provinces away from the border.

Apart from routine police and anti-drug agents' work, more patrols in the Mekong River and along borders are needed to better tackle the problem. Public participation and community assistance would also be useful in the ONCB operation against drug trade and trafficking, Pol Lt Gen Krissana said.

Depressing figures: The Mental Health Department will seek a budget of at least 500 million baht to fund a 10-year battle against depression in Thai society.

About 3% of the Thai population is currently suffering from depression.

Mental Health Department Deputy Director General Dr Wachira Pengjuntr said on November 5 that depression can lead to homicides as well as suicides.

A study conducted from 2006 to this year found that more than 800,000 Thais between the ages of 15 to 59 had occasional bouts with depression.

The symptoms of depression are chronic among 300,000 other Thais.

Malaria outbreak: Over 40,000 people across the country

have sought medical treatment for malaria infection in recent months, health records reveal.

Department of Disease Control chief Dr Somchai Chakkrabhand said this year the number of Thai people infected with malaria in the first nine months was 20,506, while the number of migrant workers was 20,803. Tak province is the worst hit area with 4,471 cases; while Yala recorded 3,971 and Narathiwat 1,284 cases.

The number of migrant workers with malaria in increasing in Chantaburi, Tak and Kanchanaburi provinces, said Dr Somchai.

The overall number of malaria cases will probably be even higher next year, he added.

Poll positions: Almost half of Bangkok residents say the government is paying too little attention to forge national reconciliation, the Abac Poll Research Center of Assumption University said in its survey released on November 7.

The opinion poll was conducted on 2,487 respondents in the capital and surrounding areas. On the full mark of 10, the government receives a failing score card of 4.4 points for its efforts to reconcile with the opposition movement led by the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD).

However, popular support for PAD was also found to be waning in the capital, down to about 28% from about 45% the month before, the poll found.

Rare victory: A policeman was jailed for five years for demanding money from a man, claiming it was cost for "processing" a case involving a bounced check.

The Criminal Court found Lt Col Sorasak Butsuwan of Lak Song District Police in Bangkok guilty of demanding money from Chalerm Tanthinthong and sentenced him to five years in jail.

Following an investigation by the National Counter Corrup-

tion Commission, public prosecutors filed charges against Lt Col Sorasak in May 2007.

He was charged with demanding money from Mr Chalerm three times for 2,000 baht each after Mr Chalerm filed a dud check complaint against another person.

Mr Chalerm, who gave him the money in 2001, later decided to lodge a complaint against Lt Col Sorasak with his superiors, leading to an NCCC investigation.

The court convicted Lt Col Sorasak for abusing his authority to demand money from another person, which violated Article 201 of the Criminal Code.

Cereal killers: A new regulation now subjects food producers to a maximum fine of 20,000 baht and/or a prison term of between six months to two years if they include toys and other inedible material in the same package as their products.

Deputy Food and Drugs Administration secretary general Narangsan Pheerakij said on November 5 that the new regulation does not apply to bags of dry ingredients or plastic eating utensils, such as those often found in instant cup noodles or measuring spoons in powdered milk, all of which are usually packaged separately.

Labor pains: The Labor Ministry is seeking a 1.53-billion-baht budget to prepare for anticipated massive layoffs next year.

Of the request, 322 million baht will be for the Labor Protection and Welfare Department, 491 million for the Skills Development Department and 67.5 million baht for the Employment Department. The rest is for the Social Security Office and the permanent secretary's office.

Amphorn Nitisiri, director general of the Labor Protection and Welfare Department, said her allocation would be spent on four major projects, including unemployment insurance for more and

more people expected to be thrown out of work.

Citing an official study, she said more than 70,000 people who were expected to lose their jobs next year would return to their home provinces to help their families with farm work.

The budget request is part of a 100-billion-baht economic stimulus package recently approved by Cabinet. Labor Minister Uraivan Thienthong has already made the request, but approval is pending.

Stress tabs: Heads of families or breadwinners in urban areas in Bangkok and 18 other provinces are suffering from stress due to political turmoil and economic woes, an Abac poll revealed earlier this month.

Of 3,293 respondents surveyed from October 10 to November 1, 59% said they were stressed out by the political instability, while 56% said they were affected more by economic hardship.

Respondents with bachelors' degrees suffer more from politics compared to those with lower education (74% to 56%).

Those with lower education suffered more from economic woes compared to those with bachelors' degrees (62% to 55%).

Asked how they would relax, 82% of them said they would travel with families while 17% said they had no plans. The provinces most chosen for their vacations were Chiang Mai (49%), Phuket (32%) and Chonburi (15%).

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



Miss Ummarapas Jullakasian, a 23-year-old beauty from Bangkok, will be representing Thailand in the Miss World 2008 beauty pageant, which will be held November 16 through December 15 in Johannesburg, South Africa. Here she shows off one of the many garments she will be wearing in the worldwide competition.

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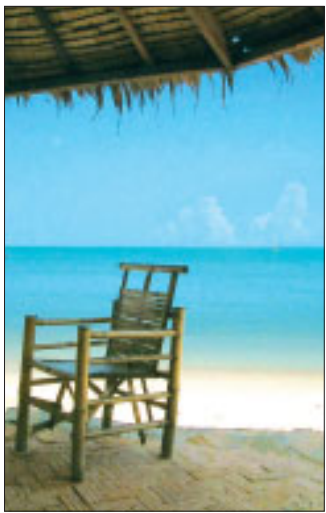
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FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND

By Max Rogers

Following reports that box jellyfish – one of the world's most dangerous creatures – have been found off Phuket and Phi Phi islands, there have also been reported sightings of the venomous floater off the waters of Koh Phangan. Those reports are now being investigated.

The box jellyfish is one of the most poisonous creatures in the sea, with a sting that can be fatal. However, the box jellyfish is not indigenous to the warm waters in the Gulf of Thailand.

Experts from Australia and Japan, where the jellyfish is more common, have been asked to come and assist with the unusual marine phenomenon. Although reports of box jellyfish in the region are certainly rare, they are not altogether new.

Divers reportedly saw the Cubozoa more than six years ago in the waters near Koh Tao and one swimmer's death was attributed to the animal in 2002.

The decision to further study the creature came after the son of an Australian journalist was stung while swimming near Koh Mak in Trat Province earlier this year.

He made the decision to alert the authorities in the Public Health and Safety sector, including the Tourism boards, and found that they were totally unaware that the creature poses such a great risk to those who come into contact with it.

However, authorities have stressed that there is no immediate threat to public safety due to the rarity of such sightings.

Box jelly fish found off Koh Phangan, experts called in



A box jellyfish – known as one of the most poisonous species in the world – seen off Koh Phangan.

Hotels and other facilities are being advised to stock vinegar as a part of their standard first aid equipment. Furthermore, any person reporting a jelly sting should seek immediate medical attention.

New international hospital for Koh Phangan

One of the most popular and trustworthy International hospitals on Koh Samui has recently opened a branch on the neighbouring island of Koh Phangan.

Bangkok Hospital has expanded its services to the island to cater directly to the needs of the islands' residents and tourists without the hassle and sometimes life-threatening, lengthy transfer times to its Koh Samui branch.

The new site is located on the Ban Tai Road and will allow patients immediate access to a full range of professional medical care. The facilities will be open 24 hours a day and will offer emergency equipment including ambulance services, home and hotel calls, X-rays and laboratory services.

Patients in need of more intensive care will be transferred to the Koh Samui branch and will further have access to air transfer to Bangkok branches of the hospital if necessary.

The hospital also works in conjunction with the Koh Tao Inter Clinic, making services and transfers to their other facilities easily available.

Fatal Attraction

One man was killed and several others injured in a dispute outside one of Koh Samui's most popular nightspots.

Police report that a group of seven men from Bangkok were caught up in the altercation that resulted in a fatality.

A group of Samui teenagers is being investigated after witnesses and closed circuit television have identified them as being involved in the shooting.

The seven young Thai men were visiting the island, and were out for an evening of dancing at one of the clubs in Soi Green Mango, a friend of one of the victims told police.

Some of the young ladies that were accompanying the men were said to have been receiving unwelcome solicitations from the teenage group.

After the men asked for the behaviour to stop, the gang of youths waited outside the club for the group to appear.

After a short exchange, witnesses report that two of the teenagers pulled out guns and began shooting.

Kitti Janthet, 25, was fatally wounded in the attack while four others were seriously injured.

The four, Uthen Phromthaitip, 27; Suwatpat, 32; Vatchara Kandee, 28; and Chakree Chairat, 32, were all rushed to hospital where they were treated for gunshot wounds to their torsos and legs.

Police are investigating rumours that the young perpetrators are members of a group known as the "Red Dragon Gang" who have been known to cause trouble around the island.

Pol Col Saharat Sangsinchai told reporters the attack was "ruthless" and pledged to capture all of those responsible.

The jellyfish pictured on the left – thought to be a box jellyfish – was seen off Koh Phangan. In Phuket, the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) has issued an official warning following the collection of almost 40 box jellyfish in a trap in shallow waters, off Ao Nambor, on Phuket's east coast.

Some 38 of the jellyfish, which favor shallow brackish water, were recovered from a fish trap in a mangrove area on July 30. Eighteen more were found in the same area over a two-day collection period starting on October 20.

The search for the deadly jellyfish followed the reported death of a Swedish tourist off Koh Lanta, where another person was reported stung on April 3 this year.

A search off Koh Lanta on August 22 recovered 13 specimens.

Direct flights to KL begin

Malaysian based airline Firefly has begun a direct flight service from Koh Samui to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Firefly is adding the route to their existing flights, which currently fly four times a week from Koh Samui to Penang.

The flights are welcomed by Koh Samui residents who complained of the monopoly that Bangkok Airways has maintained since the opening of their private airport about 20 years ago.

The airline, which is owned by Malaysia Airlines, will be flying from Subang, Kuala Lumpur to Koh Samui four times a week.

The maiden flight took place on October 26, with many of the airline's executives and officials from the Tourism Authority of Thailand on board. The touch down was marked with celebration.

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Modern-day Mods celebrate mobile memorabilia

The forecourt of Patong's Jungceylon shopping center took on the appearance of a 1960s Brighton seafront venue last Saturday when more than 100 classic-scooter enthusiasts rolled up on Vespas and Lambrettas to take part in the island's second annual Phuket Scooter Party.

The two-wheeled mean machines – synonymous with Britain's 1960s Mod culture immortalized in the hit movie *Quadrophenia* with a rock-opera soundtrack by The Who and starring a young Sting in the role of Ace Face – ranged from clapped out bangers to perfectly preserved museum pieces worth hundreds of thousands of baht.

Riders brought their metal steeds from all over Thailand, some even making it to Phuket all the way from Bangkok, and even from as far away as Chiang Mai.

The fun-filled day included scooter competitions with prizes for the farthest travelled, the best classic scooter, the most beautiful scooter and the most dilapidated scooter.

Many of the scooters had "Do Not Touch" signs hung on them, but some visitors just couldn't resist caressing the chromed curves.

There was also a Miss Scooter 2008 beauty pageant for two legged contestants.

Stalls were set up selling T-shirts and other memorabilia with some of the money raised during the event going towards helping HIV victims.

However, the organizer Kraiwichien Ekpramuensap, who is head of the Phuket Vespa Association expressed his disappointment that this year's turnout was not as high as the first Scooter Party, which last year saw more than 400 scooter enthusiasts taking part.



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Valpolicella: Valley of Many Cellars

Rare vintage
by Dale Nottingham

The sleepy serenity of lake Garda and the foothills of the Italian Alps might seem a million miles from the sun-kissed shores of Rawai. One balmy evening last week, however, these two distant worlds collided, when Alessandro Vallecchi dropped in at the Evason Phuket Resort & Six Senses Spa to share with the assembled guests, a selection of wines from the famous house of "Allegrini", a wine-making family which has been living in the area of Valpolicella, in northeast Italy, since the middle of the 15th century.

Valpolicella is one of Italy's oldest wine-making areas and is currently the second largest wine producing region in the country, after Sicily. In Valpolicella, the tradition of wine-making dates back thousands of years.

The style of wine found in Valpolicella today was greatly influenced by the Romans, who founded the city of Verona, nearby. When building the city and fortifying the neighbourhood, they discovered many farmers who were producing grapes and making wines in their own cellars. The Romans duly named this area "Valpolicella", meaning the "Valley of Many Cellars".

Although a small wine region, Valpolicella is very strategically located from the point of view of climate. Nestling in the foothills of the Alps, it is also very close to the country's largest lake, Lake Garda. The area itself was once at the bottom of the sea, making the soil rich in shells and calcium. Having arrived in the area, the Romans set about making wine for their own consumption, which at the time was particularly sweet, to complement a very spicy cuisine which was popular at the time.

Producing such sugary wines in the northern part of Italy, where the climate was less temperate than in the south, presented something of a challenge. The relatively early onset of the rainy season meant that the grapes were not able to fully ripen out in the vineyards. Therefore, to make the kind of sweet wine they were looking for, the Romans developed a special technique of drying the grapes. They would harvest the grapes just as the rainy season was about to start, and in order to prolong the process of concentration of sugar into the grapes, they would place the grapes in vast rooms with huge open windows and allow the natural air flowing through the room to continue the dehydration process.

This process allowed them to produce very bold, sugary wines. This is the heritage that remains with Allegrini to this day.

Although most of the wines produced by Allegrini today are quite different from the kind of wines first developed by the Romans, there is still one that remains similar in character to those early wines. This wine, named "Retico" by the Romans, and known today as "Recioto", is the sweetest of the wines made by Allegrini and is served as a desert wine. Recioto is widely regarded as the forefather of the wines of Valpolicella.

In the second half of the eighteenth century, another wine was to emerge out of the shadow of Recioto. This wine was Amarone and is today probably even more important than Recioto. Amarone owes its name to the fact that it was an evolution of Recioto. As people's tastes evolved, the wine-makers of the day began looking to produce a wine that was less sweet, less structured and less concentrated than Recioto. To achieve this they reduced the drying period of the grapes from five months to around three-and-a-half to four months. They also allowed the wine to complete the fermenta-



Recioto is widely regarded as the forefather of the wines of Valpolicella.

tion process. With Recioto, the fermentation was interrupted to retain more sugar in the wine. With Amarone, they would continue to ferment the wine until almost all the sugar had turned into alcohol.

When they began serving this new wine alongside the old-style Recioto, it quickly took on the name "Recioto Amare", or "Bitter Recioto". This new wine would later become known as Amarone, and has now become the most important wine of Valpolicella.

Allegrini owns about 100 hectares (22 acres) of vineyards in the Valpolicella region, making it one of the largest wine-making concerns in the area. Most of Allegrini's wines are based on two varietals, with "Corvina" being the most prominent variety; the other being "Rondinella".

The best Corvina grapes are to be found on the hillside vineyards, where the soil is shallower and fertility lower. This has the

effect of reducing the yield and advancing the concentration of the grapes. When harvesting, great attention is paid to select only the healthiest grapes, which means that the cluster should be wide open so that the air can circulate through it, keeping the grapes healthy and dry.

To improve the consistency of its wines, Allegrini introduced a system in 1988 of forced ventilation and air-conditioning to further enhance the drying and dehydration process of the grapes. This has helped to eradicate problems associated with excess humidity, such as the formation of moulds. The essential character of a wine, the colours, the flavours, its longevity and substance, comes from the skins of the grapes. Therefore, the presence of unwanted mould in the production process of a wine can have dramatic and even catastrophic consequences.

"La Poja" is undoubtedly the jewel in the Allegrini crown. Born out of Giovanni Allegrini's genius as an iconoclastic and visionary wine-maker, La Poja has garnered accolades the world over as a truly great wine.

At the Wine Spectators "Wine Experience" in New York, La Poja was selected by the American press as being one of 12 wines that have "changed the landscape of Italian wine-making". La Poja is rightly credited as being the finest wine that Allegrini produces.

This exceptional wine comes from a tiny four-acre vineyard perched on a hillside some 450 meters above sea level; the highest of all the Allegrini plots. Situated close to lake Garda, the vineyard benefits from ample sunlight, which is reflected off the water onto the vines, and which mitigates against the generally cooler temperatures that are normal at such an altitude.

Furthermore, this plot of land is also very rich in limestone, making the soil as white as a sheet, shedding still more re-

flected sunlight and warmth back onto the grapes.

Given this very peculiar micro-climate, Allegrini decided in 1979 to attempt to make a wine without employing the traditional drying process that is used to make Amarone. They found they were able to keep the grapes on the vines a lot longer, about three weeks more than they would normally do in the other vineyards. This extra ripening process allowed Allegrini to make a very powerful and concentrated wine from fresh grapes.

To many of his peers, Giovanni Allegrini was considered something of a lunatic, as he was going against every piece of conventional wisdom in the area at that time. He was making a single-vineyard wine; he was not making a blend; and he was not using the drying process. However, he was in fact a visionary.

In a good year, only around 15,000 to 18,000 bottles of La Poja are made, compared with 130,000 to 140,000 bottles of Amarone, making it something of a collectors' item and restricting it to the most distinguished wine lists.

With Recioto, Amarone and La Poja respectively, Signor Vallecchi treated us to the first, the biggest and the best that Allegrini has to offer. And magnificent it was, too. Grazie mille.

Thanks too, to the Evason's resident sommelier, Monica Bielka-Vescovi, for orchestrating an excellent evening, and to *Into the Med's* Chef de Cuisine Frederik Larsson for serving up an array of dishes rich enough to buy Manchester City.

As the members of the "People's Front of Judea" were at pains to ask in Monty Python's classic film *The Life of Brian*...

"Apart from the sanitation, the medicine, education, public order, irrigation, roads, the fresh water system, aqueducts and public health...what have the Romans ever done for us?"

"How about the wine?"



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Happily Ever After

Recent weddings in Phuket



Ms Saiporn Rak-sapon and Mr Thongdee Sricharoen were married at the Royal Phuket City Hotel ballroom on October 31.

Ms Benjamart Korraanee and Mr Tanatorn Tantisahasrangsi were married at the Royal Phuket City Hotel ballroom on November 5.



Meet Jon Fitch

By James Goyder

Ultimate Fighting Championships (UFC) superstar Jon Fitch recently spent a month in Phuket. Jon, the number two ranked fighter in the 170lbs division of the UFC, the world's premier mixed martial arts (MMA) competition, came to Thailand to spend a month training at Tiger Muay Thai, following a disappointing defeat in his last UFC outing.

Jon had been on an incredible run of fifteen straight victories which saw him given a shot at the UFC welterweight title, held by arguably one of the best pound-for-pound MMA fighters on the planet, Canadian George St. Pierre.

The fight took place in August and was the headline event in a UFC show witnessed by over 20,000 people at the Target Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota and many more on pay per view throughout the world.

The two men were both standing after five rounds of intensive action but St. Pierre was awarded a judges decision to retain his title.

Despite this disappointing defeat, the first of his UFC career, Jon is a very big deal in the US and remains one of the top fighters in the world. So why did he decide to come to Phuket?

"I've always wanted to come to Thailand to study Muay Thai. I looked around and found Tiger Muay Thai and it seemed like a good camp.

"A couple of my team mates had already trained here, and Alan Belcher trained here for a UFC fight, which he won impressively," said Jon.

Mixed martial arts or MMA



Jon Fitch has a huge international following and is a "big deal" in the US and remains one of the world's top MMA fighters.

combines elements of judo, jiu jitsu and wrestling as well as Muay Thai. Jon comes from a primarily wrestling background and has been working hard to improve his striking skills following the loss to St. Pierre.

"My last fight exposed a lot of flaws in my game. I threw one low kick, which was technically very bad and he made me pay for it," he said.

By his own admission, Jon was deeply affected by the loss to St. Pierre, his first since 2002.

"Losing sucks. I was in a deep depression for a few weeks and I needed to get away and reinvent myself. I think my Muay Thai has improved a great deal since I have been here, as has my flexibility. For the first time in my life I can almost do the splits."

Sitting comfortably at the top of the MMA ladder, Jon is rumoured to have received around US\$90,000 for the St. Pierre fight. This type of money is unheard of in Thailand where

Muay Thai fighters will normally have their first fight under full Muay Thai rules at the age of five or six, and will often have fought more than 200 times by the age of 25, at which point they are generally accepted as being past their prime.

Jon has clearly been struck by the cultural differences.

"These guys fight all the time because they need the pay. There's one guy here who has fought twice in the month that I've been here and he's been cut both times.

"In the US, if you get cut you don't train for three weeks and that's why we're trying to introduce them into MMA, because they can make more money for fighting less. I only fight about three or four times a year."

Despite training twice a day with the trainers at Tiger Muay Thai Jon has still found time to explore a little of Phuket.

"We've driven around the



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Jon gets in some grappling practice at Tiger Muay Thai.



Jon came to Phuket to refine his Muay Thai skills in preparation for another shot at the UFC title for his division next year.

island, seen the beaches, seen the elephants and I even saw a gibbon climb into a taxi and start drinking someone's drink.

"I've been to Patong and had a couple of beers but I'm 30 now and can't drink the way I used to.

"I went to Karon yesterday to watch the volleyball. I have always enjoyed watching women's volleyball because volleyball girls are usually the most attractive

athletes. Plus, I haven't seen a girl over 5ft 5 who isn't a ladyboy for three weeks!"

For Will McNamara, the owner of Tiger Muay Thai, it is a great privilege to have such a renowned fighter as Jon Fitch training at his camp.

"He's one of the best MMA fighters in the world but he came here to learn Muay Thai because he appreciates the trainers and the program that we have here,"

said Will.

Jon himself is equally effusive. "The standard of training is excellent here. Because they have so many people training here, they can offer to pay the trainers more than those at other gyms, so I think they have the best trainers."

So what does the future hold for Jon?

"I will probably fight again in January. I would like another

title shot but I don't think I will get the opportunity again until late 2009 or early 2010 and I am going to have to win two, maybe three more fights to get back into contention."

It seems likely that Jon's first trip to Thailand will not be his last.

"I think I'll come back again. I'd like to and I'd like to bring my girlfriend with me and stay for two months and maybe be a bit

more relaxed. We've been training twice a day, which is hard, because your body takes time to adjust to the heat and humidity."

Jon will showcase his new found Muay Thai skills in a UFC show early next year.

For more information on Jon Fitch, see www.fitchfighter.com. For more information about Tiger Muay Thai, visit the site at www.tigermuaythai.com

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This week



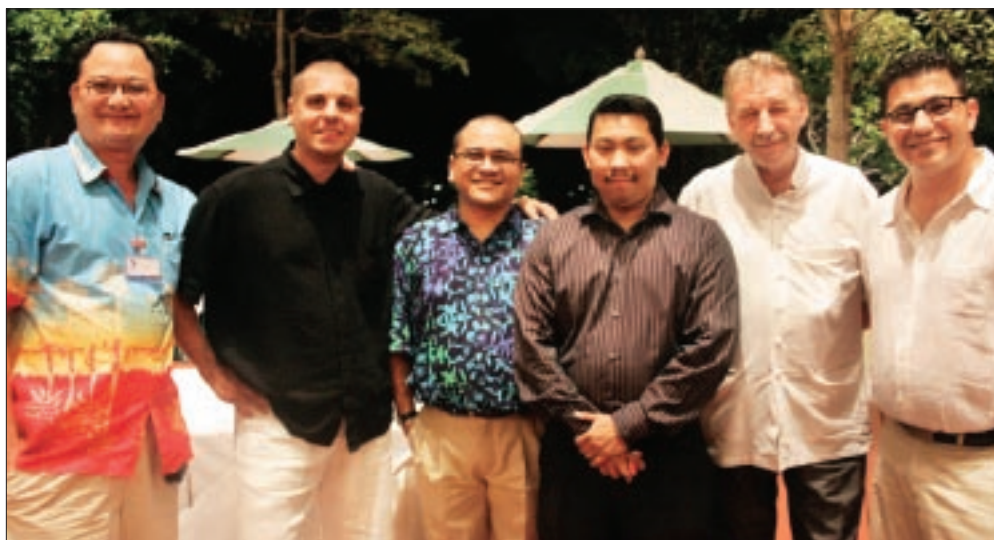
EDUCATION PRESENTATION: Secretary of the Basic Education Commission MR Kasama Warawan Na Ayuthaya (2nd left) takes part in a handover ceremony in which five new buildings were presented for the Hongyok Anusorn Education Center at Charernprakit Somdej Phra Srinakarin School. Also present were Phuket Mayor Paiboon Upatising (pink jacket) and members of the board from the construction company that built the center. The total cost of the buildings was put at 16.4 million baht.



ALL ABOARD: Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan (left) and Supreme Command Headquarters Affairs Specialist Songpol Prainupong (right) stand with Commander Brian Shipman, who hosted an inspection tour of the *USS Decatur* while it was anchored off Makham Bay last month. The US Navy warship had stopped off in Phuket waters to allow the crew a few days of R&R on the island before heading to her home port in California.



IRISH EYES ARE SMILING: (From left to right) Democrat MP for Phuket Rewat Areerob and Irish Honorary Consul for Southern Thailand Hélène Fallon-Wood and her husband property developer Peter Wood celebrated the launch of the Irish-Thai Chamber of Commerce in Phuket on October 10.



TALKING HOSPITALITY: The Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa hosted SKAL International Phuket's monthly dinner at the resort's newly-opened Italian restaurant Buon Appetito on October 16. Pictured here (from left to right) are; General Manager of Phuket Receptif Dave Chang; Blue Blanc Boat Captain Julien; Shafar Jamaludin; District Manager-Malaysia Airlines Zuraidi Saisi; Senior Vice President, Executive Search International, Norbert Hofmeister; and Executive Chef, Moevenpick Resort & Spa, Ameer Ibrahim Al-Ali.



SILK SCENE: Silk-screen artist Cindy Shaw (centre) at the opening of her exhibition "East West Exchange" at the Boathouse gallery with husband Brian (right), son Tristan (2nd right) and visitors to the exhibition Sabine Lotz with son Max (left), Maria-Teresa Schoubben (2nd left), and Hubert Schoubben (2nd right). On show until November 26 are silk-screened wall hangings, framed pieces, hand-bound books and other gift items.



KEEPING UP COMMUNICATIONS: Public Relations Agencies Worldwide representatives, led by President and Managing Director Ed Fuller, held their annual Marriott International Public Relations Meeting to enhance their public relations network at JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa, October 27-30.



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In The Stars

by Isla Star

Scorpios will have more spending power in the year ahead

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Those born under the sign of Scorpio who are keen to see their bank balance move into the black should experience relief this week. A glimpse of the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow gives you a head start on others. If your birthday is due this week, the year ahead promises to bring less drain on your finances and more opportunities to succeed in business.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Sagittarians suffering from lack of confidence are forecast to see improvement during the second half of November. A Taurean's words of praise lighten your mood this weekend and the stars offer support to employment applications. However, you should guard against making sudden job changes because of temporary dissatisfaction. Tuesday is the most auspicious day to investigate new investment possibilities. The number eight can bring good fortune this weekend.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Capricorns who can't find a way to get out of a bad habit are inspired this week. The motivation to turn over a new leaf comes when you have a

chance encounter with Aries. Romance picks up pace when your invitation is accepted – Sunday is the best day for impressing that special someone. Finances require astute handling, but your creativity should ensure that this doesn't develop into a credit crisis.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Your talents for taking the rough with the smooth come in useful during the second half of November. Unforeseen circumstances relating to romance could cause Aquarians to make a rash decision, but it would be best to tread water for a while before doing so. A Leo friend asks you to accompany them on a magical mystery tour this weekend. If you're thirsty for adventure, there's no need to think twice before accepting.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): The shortest route is not always the fastest. Pisceans who are tempted to cut corners could end up losing out to more cunning opposition. In the world of romance, you appear to be blinded by love and this is guaranteed to result in disappointment. A meeting with Taurus before this year ends is forecast to lead to a meaningful relationship for those

who are single. The number three can bring some good luck next Monday.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): Libra's words need to be taken with a grain of salt this weekend. Many Arians will be in a vulnerable state until the end of November and could be blown away by promises of quick gains. Jumping to the wrong conclusion over a romantic issue is also highlighted this week. Don't assume that you know what is really going on without listening to your partner. Wear the color copper to encourage deeper wisdom.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Many Taureans could be suffering from boredom this week. After the busy month of October, you have probably had enough time to recover during the first half of November. However, the stars suggest that your search for new activities could cause a wrong move to be made during the coming days. An idea from Aquarius has the value of peanuts, but Scorpio's inspired suggestion is worth its weight in gold.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): From now until the end of November, Geminis will be faced with many choices. Most of these

relate to personal matters, but one decision concerning work needs urgent attention this week. Wednesday is the best day for coming up with a plan of action. Close relationships can be kept on an even keel by not raking up the past. The future with Capricorn looks sunny, but clouds continue to affect a liaison with Aries.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): Another water sign should make your week one to remember. The astral atmosphere for Cancerians continues to improve and there should be cause for celebration before the end of this month. If you are finding it difficult to understand a partner's mood swings, stop trying to join them on the roundabout. Personal space should be your focus during this unsettled period. The number seven can bring some good fortune on Monday.

LEO (July 24-August 22): Employment remains a source of discontent for many Leos, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. Pisces has an intriguing proposition mid-week which could be a good focus for your creative talents. Where cash is concerned, beware of being taken for a ride this weekend, when an apparent

bargain is not all that it seems. Communication with relations overseas is well-starred and an ongoing disagreement is forecast to be resolved.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Your week ahead brings more satisfaction than the previous one. Those born under the sign of Virgo, who have recently embarked on a voyage of romance, are forecast to learn more that pleases them. If you're already in a committed relationship, expect your partner to surprise you this weekend. An ongoing financial dispute becomes less stressful when an agreement is reached early next week. Wear the color hibiscus red to encourage a warmer attitude.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): In the world of work, there are sudden changes forecast. These will affect those Librans born towards the end of September most and should be regarded in a positive light. Another air sign holds the key to a personal problem, but this person needs to be approached tactfully. Thursday is the best day for instigating a heart to heart discussion. The number five can bring some good fortune this weekend.



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Phuket faces at the Oasis



Mom Tri's Boathouse Chef Tummanoon Punchun, Mom Luang Thepin Devakul, Khun Suchada Sudhisanronakorn, and Khun Phimphan Tantipiriyakij.



Mom Tri's Boathouse PR Manager Lisa Sol, Caroline Laleta Ballini and her daughter, and Sylvie Yaffe, PR manager for Mom Tri's Oasis and Villa Royale.

Mom Luang Tri Devakul (above) and guests celebrated the opening of Mom Tri's Oasis – the latest addition to the range of Mom Tri's fine dining establishments – last weekend, with a cocktail party and dinner at the new beach-front dining establishment in Kata.

Guest of honor at the opening event was Mr William Warren, a close friend of Mom Luang Tri Devakul and a prolific writer of books about Thailand, including the book *Jim Thompson*.

Mom Tri, once a Phuket senator, is hailed as being one of the island's first developers and a key leader in making Phuket a popular tourist destination. In February, Mom Tri's Boathouse will celebrate 20 years of luxury hospitality since its opening in 1989.

- All photos courtesy of Dan Miles

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Fashion designer Paul Ropp and Melinda.



Yael Weber and granddaughter Annabel.



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Mr & Mrs Gulu Lalvani, Mom Tri's Boathouse General Manager Louis Bronner, and Mom Tri.



Mom Tri's Oasis Chef Darren Wiper, wine sommelier Georges Ciret, Mom Tri Devakul, William Warren, Hataitip Devakul and Maitre Cuisinier de France Jean Noel Lumineau.



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BEHIND THE WHEEL

By Jeff Heselwood

New breed of Bentley becomes best seller in Asia

quently become the most successful 12-cylinder luxury saloon in the world and is the best-selling Bentley in Asia.

The new Flying Spur can now be specified with a sophisticated follow-to-stop, radar-based adaptive cruise control system, which monitors traffic ahead and manages the throttle and brakes to maintain a pre-set time gap, up to a pre-set speed.

A further option is the new Naim for the Bentley's audio system, which provides the world's best in-car entertainment. Designed exclusively for Bentley by Naim, the renowned British hi-fi manufacturer, the system features a 1,100 Watt amplifier – yes, 1,100 Watts – the most powerful unit offered in a production car, and 15 custom-built Naim speakers, including dual sub-woofers.

Inspired by Bentley's legendary Speed models that first appeared in 1923, the Flying Spur Speed offers performance figures in the range of a 0-100 km/h sprint time of 4.8 seconds and a top speed of 320 km/h.

The twin turbo W12 Speed engine develops 15 percent more torque and nine percent more

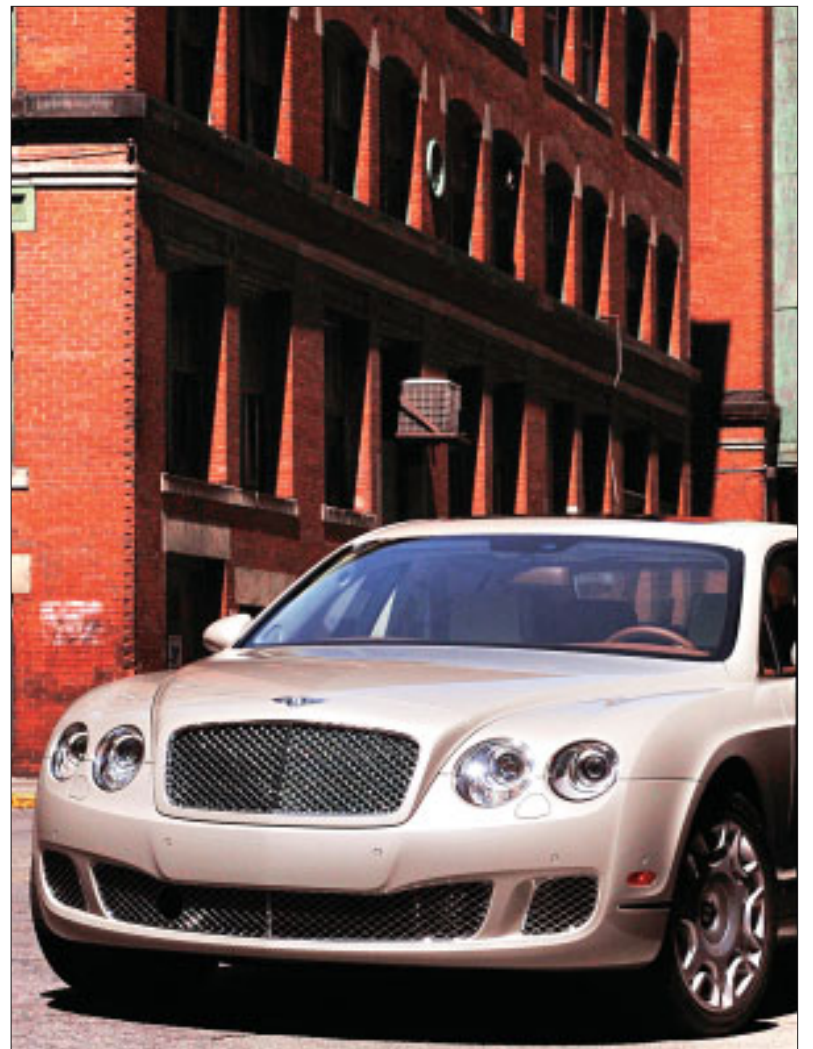
power than the standard Flying Spur, while engine efficiency is optimized by the use of lower friction, lightweight components and a new engine management system. Torque output is constant from the low engine speed of 1,750 rpm.

The four-door Bentley Flying Spur Speed blends understated design cues to distinguish it from the Flying Spur.

Its front grille and lower air intakes are dark-tinted chrome, while at the rear, wider rifled sports exhaust tailpipes demonstrate the potential of the Speed model.

New 20-inch multi-spoke wheels, available in both bright silver or darkened tungsten, carry specially produced Pirelli PZero performance tires introduced on the Continental GT Speed model, which provide the car with superb grip and more than adequate feedback.

The Speed's sporting performance is complemented by a highly capable chassis. Tauter handling and greater steering response with sharper turn-in and improved driver feedback is achieved through a retuned



On the Prowl: The new Flying Spur can virtually drive itself with a sophisticated radar-enhanced cruise control system.

Servotronic steering system, direct-mounted front subframe and stiffer bushings.

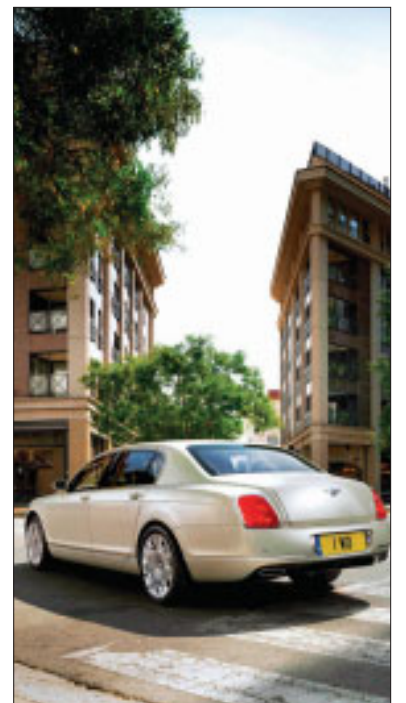
The interior of both cars is of course faultless, incorporating the latest acoustic suppression technology. The complex double-glazed windows, a standard feature since launch, now feature a sophisticated acoustic laminate inner layer for all side and rear windows.

In addition, new tri-laminate acoustic under-body trays and wheel arch liners absorb road noise.

There are two new interior hide colors: Linen and Imperial Blue, while additions to the exterior range of colors are Havana, White Sand and Onyx. Duo-tone color schemes are also offered. Seat piping is now available in 16 colors to allow customers to match secondary hide or single-tone interiors.

Bentley Chairman and Chief Executive Dr Franz-Josef Paefgen explains the rationale behind the new range of cars, colors and technical advances: "The global success of the Continental Flying Spur has created

a new generation of Bentley owners. Responding to their feedback, we have refined an already remarkable car, and with the debut of the Flying Spur Speed we are extending its appeal."



Jeff Heselwood can be contacted at jhc@netvigat.com



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10th Anniversary

ChildWatch Charity

Golf Competition

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Saturday,

22nd November 2008

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4 Ball Scramble Format
(Handicap: 10% of Combined Team Handicap)

Registration 11.00 am
Shot-gun 12 noon
Chipping Competition 6.00 pm
Dinner 7.00 pm

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

November 16. PC Group Therapy.

From 10 am - 12 pm at Sandwich Shoppe 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 PC Group Therapy sessions. They're absolutely FREE. Novices most welcome - no experience necessary.

Bring your questions, bring your computer, bring your mother-in-law and your worry beads, and let's see if we can sort things out.

For directions to the Sandwich Shoppe Chalong (1km north of Chalong Circle), see the web site. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes. Tel: 089-119 0940. Email: woody@KhunWoody.com Website: www.KhunWoody.com

November 19-21. Asia Pacific Property Exhibition.

Organized by MIPIMASIA, Inside Siam Property will present investors, property retailers and visitors in Wanchai, Hongkong, from 9 am - 6:30 pm each day.

For more information contact Anna. Tel: 076-280801. Email: anna@inside-property.com Website: www.inside-property.com

November 19-22 Phuket International Sportfishing Tournament.

Registration at Captain Hook on 19 November 2008 from 6pm to 12 pm. Fishing days are 20, 21 and 22 November, starting at 8 am. Free food and beer for all anglers. For more information, please contact Uwe at Tel: 081-719 5766 or visit www.phuket-international-sportfishing-tournament.com

November 21. Experience a Taste of Luxury at Puccini Restaurant.

From 7 pm-12 am Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket and



3rd Andaman International Soccer 7s November 22-23

From 8:30 am-5:30 pm at FIFA Phuket Tsunami Football Center. Combining sport and leisure for anyone from any country through a friendly seven-a-side tournament.

This invitation tournament provides a socially competitive environment for players who approach the game with the right attitude and in the right spirit. With no prize money at stake, teams take part for one reason only: their love of soccer. This year, 20 teams will compete in the Open Category and 12 teams in the Masters Category. 7-a-side grass pitch (70mx45m), 7 minute halves, full size goal, no offside, rolling substitution. For more info contact Alain & Tim. Tel: 02-990 6881. Email: info@Thai7s.com Website: www.Thai7s.com

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November 21. "The Night" Shake Your Booty.

A live disco at All Seasons Naiharn Phuket featuring DJ

"Miss Caro" from Paris mixing Deep and Sexy House music, with "Oye" on percussion. The party starts at 8 pm and goes till late. Free Buffet. No entrance fee. Standard drinks at only 90 baht nett (including taxes & service).

For more info contact Chart or Pim. Tel: 076-289327. Email: hrm@allseasons-naiharn-phuket.com Website: www.allseasons-naiharn-phuket.com

November 22. Childwatch Charity Golf Tournament.

From 11 am-10 pm a 4-Ball Team Scramble at Blue Canyon Country Club and presented by The

British Business Association of Phuket. Shot Gun Start at 12 noon. Dinner and Prize Presentations at 7 pm. BCCC Members: 2,900 baht + Caddy Fee. Non-Members: 4,700 baht + Caddy Fee.

For registration forms and to enter contact Martin Carpenter. Tel: 076-318188. Email: martin@phuketconcierge.com

November 22. Super BBQ Buffet Dinner including Cheese & Cold Cuts.

From 6:30 pm-11 pm at Wine Connection Bangtao. Live band. 650+ baht.

For more info contact Pascal. Tel: 087-8896074. Email: fb.phuket@wineconnection.co.th

November 22-23. 1st SKAL Christmas Charity Dinner.

From 7 pm-2:30 am at Moevenpick Resort & Spa Karon Phuket.

SKAL Phuket is organizing its first annual Charity Gala Dinner. All profits will be donated to the SKAL Phuket Children's Fund, which supports the educational costs for Tsunami-affected and underprivileged children in Phuket and Phang Nga.

Schedule includes poolside aperitif, dinner in the Grand Ballroom, Magic show, Santa Claus visit, charity raffle and dancing.

For more info contact Jorge De La Torre. Phone: 089-725 6994. Or Email: jdelatorre@helmsBriscoe.com Website: www.skalphuket.org/upcoming-events.htm

November 23. PC Group Therapy.

From 10:00 am-12:00 pm at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. Contact Woody Leonhard. Tel: 089-119 0940. Email: woody@KhunWoody.com

November 27. Silk, The Art of Life" Opening Cocktail reception.

From 7:00 pm-8:30 pm at Mom Tri's Boathouse. Artist Lea Laarakker-Dingjan is internationally renowned for her freehand designs on silk and original solar-dyeing techniques.

She will show abstract and figurative silk paintings, wall hangings, banners and unique woven silk items - perfect Christmas gifts for friends and family.

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

November 29. QSI International School - 7th Annual Fun Run.

From 12 am-7 pm at Bang Wad Dam, Kathu. This year's event includes 1km and 6.5km races. All ages are welcome to compete. There will be an awards ceremony, raffle drawings, and a silent auction.

Registration is between 2 pm and 3.15 pm. 1 km race starts at 3:30 pm and the 6.5km race starts at 4 pm. For more info contact Brad Kenny. Tel: 081-6334279. Or email: espkt@ksc.th.com. See also the Web: www.qsi.org/pkt_home/pkt_home.htm

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ON THE MOVE AT THE PHUKET GAZETTE

Nick Davies has been promoted to Managing Editor of the *Phuket Gazette*. A British national with a background in PR and media, including print and television, he has worked in Thailand for more than fifteen years.



Atchaa 'Joy' Khamlo, who comes from the North of Thailand and completed her training in Bangkok, has joined the *Phuket Gazette* as a Reporter. She is now focused primarily on 'hard news'.



Dale Nottingham has joined the editorial team at the *Gazette* as a Desk Editor. A British national, he has an extensive background in journalism, including years at the *Daily Mail* and Capitol Radio.



Tipwarintron 'Riz' Tanaakararachod is another recent addition to the *Gazette* news team, having joined the company as a roving Reporter for both its newspaper and PGTV, the daily English-language television channel.



The global financial crisis, as it is now commonly known, started life as a US and UK mortgage problem. When it grew into a credit crisis, many hoped it would be limited to just a handful of countries and that the problem would soon be contained.

There was hope that emerging giants Brazil, Russia, India and China (the BRIC countries) would continue to grow at near break-neck speed and that this, together with other emerging markets, could act as a counterweight to the difficulties being experienced elsewhere. Maybe the world would somehow "get lucky" and find that the euro currency bloc would hold its own amidst the ongoing turmoil.

Predictions have since had to be revised. In early November, the European Union announced that its projected growth target for 2009 had been negatively adjusted in GDP (Gross Domestic Product) terms for the Euro Currency Zone, from 1.3% to 0.1%. They are now projecting a recession.

In the hour of need, Euro Zone governments acted both promptly and decisively in respect of perceived and real threats to the banking and financial sectors.

One of the current problems being faced is that although huge amounts of government funds and private capital have rescued and recapitalized the banks, the

ever-darkening mood has seen confidence levels continue to plummet. People continue to buy cars because they need a means of transport, but does anybody really need a luxury model?

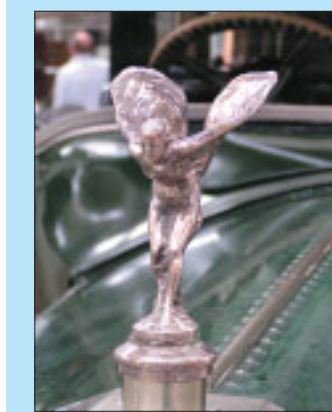
Nowadays, people are reluctant to splash out on expensive items and are showing a tendency to postpone non-essential purchases. This translates into falling sales and leads to what is termed "demand destruction".

However, all is not doom and gloom. The Libor (London Interbank Offer Rate) spreads have continued to fall.

By early November, these rates were below where they had been prior to the Lehman Brothers collapse. It is paramount that this seemingly unimportant Libor number continues to fall. Lower Libor rates indicate that banks are starting to lend to each other once more.

The "patient" is recovering, but there are no miracle cures.

The current consensus is that most western economies will enter recession, while a number of countries outside the region are going to require outside financial assistance to ward off serious problems.



One of the current problems being faced is that although huge amounts of government funds and private capital have rescued and recapitalized the banks, the ever-darkening mood has seen confidence levels continue to plummet.

People continue to buy cars because they need a means of transport, but does anybody really need a luxury model?

The US has issued credit swaps of US\$30 billion apiece with a number of countries, including South Korea. This, in combination with government initiatives, has markedly improved that country's economic outlook.

Most analysts are expecting a relatively deep and sustained recession. However, when questioned, the vast majority are predicting only three or perhaps four quarters of negative economic growth.

A recession is generally characterized by two consecutive quarters of negative economic growth.

Should that consensus prove to be correct, the best time for stock market investors to buy may be in early 2009. This is because the stock market is a discounting mechanism, typically signaling what is going to happen some six to nine months in the future.

An exception to this was the recession in 2001, which lasted for the first three quarters of that year. Most stock markets, however, did not bottom out until March 2003.

So where can investors hide and make a profit in 2008? The list is not long, but does include funds that have been brought to the attention of readers of this column through the years.

The first three funds are from London-based AMT Futures. All three endured a horrible start to 2008, but by the end of October had moved strongly into profit.

October 2008 was one of the worst months in decades for equities and other asset classes. This was not true for the AMT Funds, however.

The multi-manager CFL Fund, which is made up of seven different funds, rose 10.53% in October alone.

The AMT Futures IQS Performance Fund rose 31.19% in October. This fund now consists of two funds referred to by AMT as "IQS" and "IQ-A".

There were concerns that IQS was simply becoming too big a fund to retain agility in the markets that it covers.

The new fund was introduced, after a long trial period, to broaden the investment scope. Categories introduced include bonds, currencies, energy, grain, lumber, livestock, metals, short currencies (3-month Euro/Yen), softs (coffee, sugar, cotton) and stock indices (Nikkei 225, S&P 500).

All these areas can be invested in on either a long or short basis.

Since its inception in 1996, the IQS Fund has returned around 3,000% to investors. There is very little in the investment world that can claim even a tenth of these returns.

The third fund from AMT, the SAV Fund, which contains both IQS and CFL Funds, ended October up 16.28% on the month.

The other funds which have been regularly featured in this column, the Brandeaux Ground Rent Income Fund and the Brandeaux Student Accommodation Fund, have continued to perform strongly, offering stable growth with zero volatility.

Returns vary from 9% to 10%+ year-on-year.

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: 081-081 4611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th Website: www.global-portfolios.com

MONEY TALKS

By Richard G Watson



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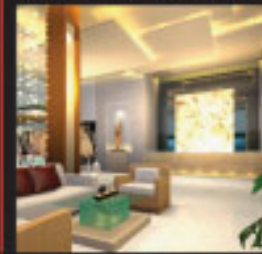
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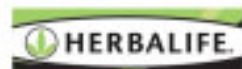
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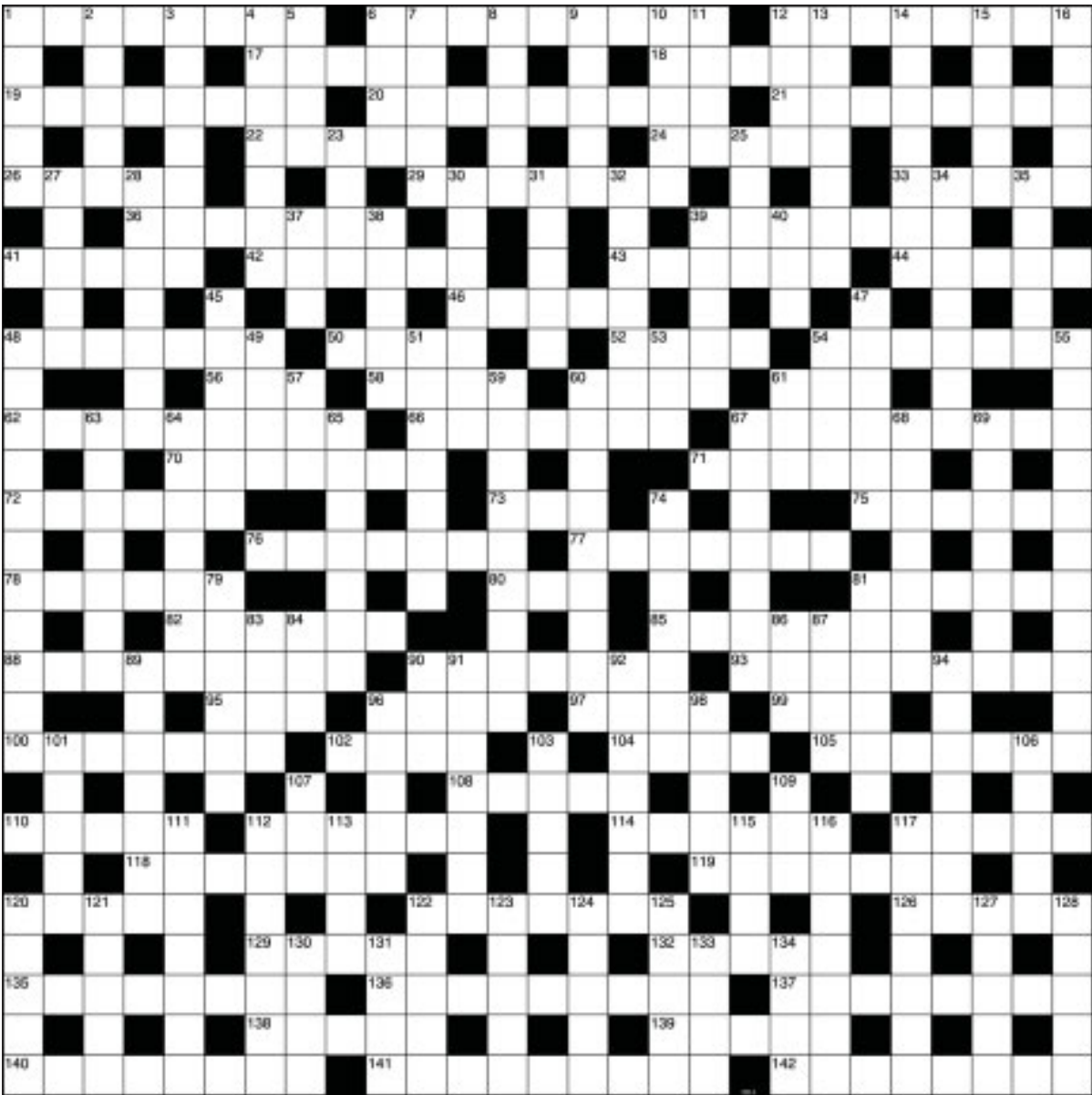
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Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid are words related to things you might find in your kitchen. The words may read vertically, horizontally or diagonally. They may also read right-to-left or down-to-up. Score: 15 or more, good; 20 or more, very good; 25 or more, excellent. Solution on the next page.

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



The BIG Crossword

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- Across
1. Marriage failures

6. Chubbiness

12. Electing

17. Eye color

18. Craze

19. Detroit state

20. Tobacco abstainer

21. Always in fashion

22. Of topical interest

24. Defamation

26. Chasm

29. Gloomiest

33. Child's toilet

36. Privately taught

39. Of the skull

41. Unfasten (skirt)

42. Lady's title

43. Be included in

44. Give up

46. Catwalk beauty

48. Cafes

50. Reverse effects of

52. Wild goat

54. Stands down

56. Elderly

58. Beach material

60. Oxlike antelopes

61. Olympic Games

62. Pear-shaped guitars

66. Sailor's balance (3,4)

67. Stone terraces

70. Replay

71. Crave

72. Moved at easy pace

73. Golfing average

75. Injure

76. Process data

77. Hated

78. US currency unit

80. Born as

81. Students

82. Made home in tree

85. Seaman

88. Settled comfortably

90. Social graces

93. Without hearing

95. Korean karate, ...kwon do

96. Strong taste

97. Convincing defeat

99. Mildly sweet (champagne)

100. Less punctual

102. Cram (for exam)

104. Unfold, ...out

105. Exact (meaning)

108. Pawns

110. Auction hammer

112. Laze about

114. Rough trails

117. Coffin stands

118. Steel-belted tires

119. Ease

120. Disheveled

122. Straddling

126. Nimble

129. Approaches

132. Underground molten rock

135. Reflected

136. Oddball

137. Modern (2-2-4)

138. Broadside

139. Recycle

140. Living being

141. Last-minute news

142. Cuts into three

5. Mentally sound

6. Sheep enclosures

7. Actor, ...Bridges

8. Penny-pincher

9. Not anybody (2-3)

10. Extract (metal)

11. Indian garment

12. Commend (for bravery)

13. Summoning (taxi)

14. Excessively reward

15. Immobile

16. Too sentimental

23. Noxious plant

25. Ballpoint

27. Forehead mark

28. Stiffly formal

30. Animal, sea...

31. Sorts

32. Brother or sister

34. Film star, Laurence...

35. Hawk's claw

37. Beam of light

38. Mends with wool

39. Pointers

40. As well as

45. Chilled

47. Nipped with beak

48. Bombing attack

49. Lean (pickings)

51. Leave house hurriedly (4,3)

53. Commuter vehicle

54. Move (cradle)

55. Thrilling

57. Forensic ID check, ...test (1,1,1)

59. Moistening

60. Transmission selector (4,5)

61. Charged particle

63. Bites

64. Type of marjoram

65. Staunched

67. Bacon strips

68. Deletion

69. Envision

74. Prepares for race

79. Hired

81. Drawing instrument

83. Disfigure

84. Arrange, ...up

86. It is (2'1)

87. Christmas carol, The First ...

89. Scroungers

90. Former Chinese leader, ...Zedong

91. Patriotic songs

92. Perched

94. Judging

96. Identical babies

98. US oil state

101. Conscious

103. Polish hard

106. Fourth month

107. Constrictor snake

109. Alias (1,1,1)

111. Surrender (3,4)

112. Female lion

113. Arm bone

115. Wooden shoe

116. Paint-removing tool

117. Signal fires

120. Nonsense, ...jumbo

121. Neck end of mutton

122. English racecourse

123. Bind (3,2)

124. Bury

125. Muslim rulers

127. Sir ...Newton

128. Smoothes

130. Dutch cheese

131. Engine turns

133. One-spot cards

134. Is obliged to
- Down
1. South American dance

2. Fortunate

3. Stumbles (5,2)

4. ...of the Opera

59. Moistening

60. Transmission selector (4,5)

61. Charged particle

63. Bites

64. Type of marjoram

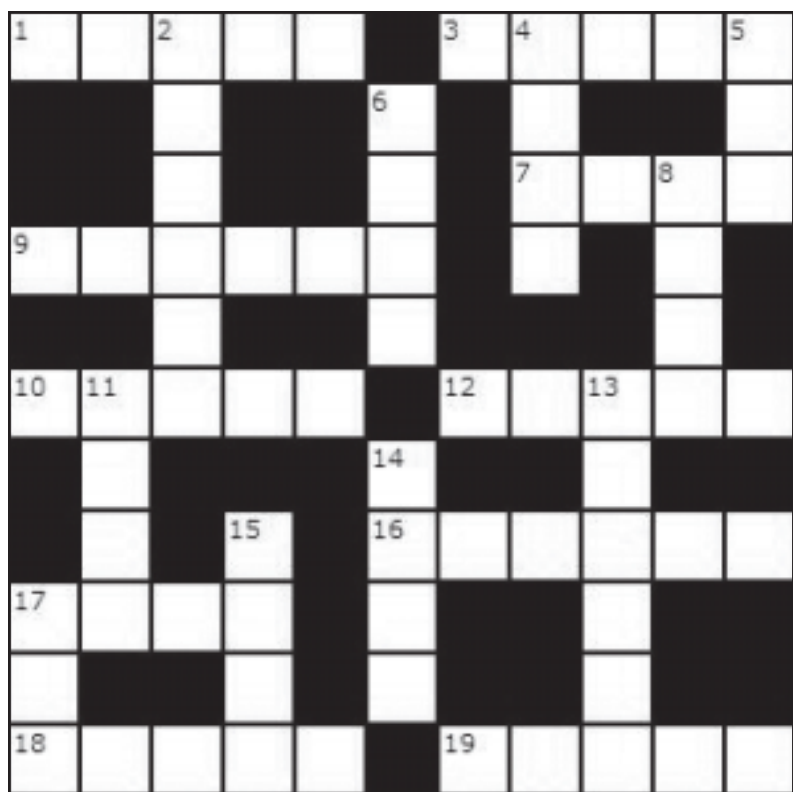
Solution on next page

su|do|ku
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Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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



Quick Crossword

Across

1. Place to live
3. Eskimo home
7. Father's sister
9. Unit of time
10. Not light
12. Deadly
16. Power
17. Deep cut
18. Young person
19. From Holland

Down

2. Country
4. Happy
5. Not in
6. Leg joint
8. Space organization
11. Volcano
13. Aim for this
14. Direction
15. Talk
17. Man

Solution below

Get your brain in gear with the MONSTER QUIZ

1. At what age does a filly become a mare?
2. In which film does Bruce Willis play the ageing oilman Harry Stamper?
3. Which sauce is the used as the base for Tartar Sauce?
4. Which stone was the key to understanding Egyptian hieroglyphics?
5. Which Italian City is built around the base of Mount Vesuvius?
6. What US State is home to Mount Rushmore?
7. Which classic novel begins in the 'Admiral Benbow' Inn?
8. Which blood cells carry antibodies?
9. Which popular television series was set in Cooper's Crossing?
10. What was the name of the dog that starred with Tom Hanks in a Sacramento cop movie?
11. Which city became the capital of America in 1788?
12. Which author has also written several books using the pseudonym Richard Bachman?
13. Whose debut album was called 'Left Of The Middle'?
14. Which football team has its ground closest to the river Mersey?
15. What is the most Northern national capital in Europe?
16. If you were suffering from hepatitis which part of the body would be affected most?
17. How is a polygraph better known?
18. Dustin Hoffman's first major role was in what 1967 film?
19. What name was given to the Chinese peasant uprising of 1900?
20. What is the name of the Manager played by Ricky Jervais in the comedy series 'The Office'?

Answers below



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Puzzle Solutions

Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



The Hands-on Commander in Chief



Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

The criminal ineptitude of President George W. Bush, who left the war in Iraq in charge of a small clique of blinkered neo-cons – Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz and Cheney – prompted me to buy a new book about Abraham Lincoln: *Tried by War* (The Penguin Press, New York, 2008, 329pp).

This is the 13th book about the Civil War by Princeton historian James M. McPherson who won the Pulitzer Prize for his epochal *Battle Cry for Freedom*.

So much has been written about the American Civil War that even McPherson admits that no one can read all of it.

But by narrowing his focus on “Abraham Lincoln as Com-

mander in Chief”, as the subtitle reads, one realizes the huge obstacles, both internal and external, that Lincoln faced and how, in time, he overcame them.

From the first, the new president immersed himself in books on military strategy, and while, in the initial days of the war, he deferred to the military judgment of professionals, he eventually cleared out the deadwood of timid generals like George G. McClellan to promote the hard-charging leaders – Grant, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan – who took the fight to the enemy and won.

After his first cram course on military strategy, President Lincoln evolved the insights that would ultimately carry the Union to victory.

“The president recognized that by the geography of the case, Union forces had to operate from exterior lines around the perimeter of the Confederacy.

Lincoln grasped sooner than many of his generals the strategic concept of ‘concentration in time’”, McPherson writes.

“Because the Confederacy’s basic military strategy was

to defend the territory that lay behind its frontiers, Southern armies had the advantage of interior lines. That advantage enabled them to shift reinforcements from inactive to active fronts, as they had done in Manassas in July 1861.

“This concentration in space could be overcome only if the Union employed its greater numbers to attack on two or more fronts at once – concentration in time.”

Lincoln’s second major concept was that the war would not be won by the conquest of the Confederate capital of Richmond – as advocated by his early generals – but by the destruction of Robert E. Lee’s Army of Virginia.

Thus, Lincoln was bitterly disappointed by the “victories” of McClellan at Antietam and Meade at Gettysburg. Both allowed Lee’s army to slip back

to Virginia rather than finish the Confederacy on the spot.

In Ulysses S. Grant he found his man. Applying the dogged tactics that had stood him so well at Shiloh and Vicksburg, Grant invaded Virginia with the intention to stay.

Despite bitter setbacks, he announced that “I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer.

Lincoln’s response to his aides was: “The great thing about Grant . . . is his perfect coolness and persistency of purpose . . . He has the grit of a bull-dog! Once you let him get his

‘teeth’ in, nothing can shake him off. . . It is the dogged pertinacity of Grant that wins.”

The same might be said of General George Washington who, though he lost more battles than he won, was unswerving in his tenacity to final victory.

If Washington’s goal was

to found the Republic, Lincoln’s was to preserve it. Behind his back were all manner of political dissidents, and his debilitating struggle against these myriad enemies may account for his premature aging as much as the pressures on the battlefield.

In the end, his strategy of concentration in time – with Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley, Thomas in the mid-South, Sherman in Georgia and South Carolina, and Grant at the gates of Richmond – sent the war into a galloping close just as his enemies were closing in for the political kill. But his great success, McPherson notes, deprived him of a long life.

Lincoln did take draconian measures to maintain his authority, including suspension of *habeas corpus*, but McPherson concludes: “Yet compared with the internment of more than one hundred thousand Japanese Americans in the 1940s, McCarthyism in the 1950s, or the National Security State of our own time, the infringement of civil liberties from 1861 to 1865 seems mild indeed.”



Vocabulary acquisition: take the long way home



One skill that will always come in handy when learning a second language is being able to say what you want without knowing how to say it.

Yes, you read correctly. It’s the fine art of circumlocution: literally, talking a circle around what you mean. And it’s something you’ll find you need to do in virtually every conversation. The value of circumlocution is twofold:

First, it gets your point across.

Second, and probably more importantly, the person you’re talking with is bound to tell you the correct word after he figures out what on earth you have been trying to say.

Venturing forth to talk about things you haven’t learned yet is a great way to expand your vocabulary, so be fearless.

First off, consider the word *thii* (thii). It’s an extremely versatile word, and you may recall from an earlier column that it’s the second most commonly used word in Thai, after *kan* (kan). It turns out that *thii* (thii) is really useful when you find yourself

searching for the right word.

One meaning of *thii* (thii) is, roughly, “a thing used to...”, in such expressions as *thii nang* (thii nang) “seat” (literally, thing for sitting) and *thii nawn* (thii nawn) “mattress, bed” (literally, thing used for sleeping), *thii pat nam fon* (thii pat nam fon) “windshield wiper” (literally, rainwater wiper), *thii yep kradaat* (thii yep kradaat), “stapler” (literally “a thing to sew paper”).

In many other expressions, *thii* (thii) is sometimes used in place of a more specific word. *mai ti yung* (mai ti yung) refers to those ever-popular racquet-shaped electric mosquito zappers, but you’ll also hear *thii ti yung* (thii ti yung) “mosquito swatter”.

To make a long story short, *thii* (thii) is a handy word to use at times when you want to refer to something, but you don’t know what it’s called.

Sometimes you may even stumble upon the correct name. If you ask for “a thing that opens bottles”, *thii bert khuat* (thii bert khuat), then you’ve hit on the exact phrase Thais use for “bottle opener”. Lucky eh? Even if you don’t get it exactly right, this short word goes a long way in helping find what you need.

Say you were at the store and you needed to buy a rubber eraser, but you didn’t know what it was called. So you try asking for *thii lop dinsaw* (thii lop dinsaw), literally “a thing for erasing pencils”.

You aren’t going to win any elocution prizes, but the shopkeeper would probably give

a big *o* (aw) (which is Thai for “now I know what you’re talking about, you nutty farang”) before fetching you a *yaang lop* (yaang lop), a rubber eraser. Mission accomplished.

Practise using basic words like these in order to get your meaning across; there are plenty more where *thii* (thii) came from.

khrueng (khrueng) is a common word for machines and gadgets: *khrueng bin* (khrueng bin) “airplane”, *khrueng sak phaa* (khrueng sak phaa) “washing machine”, *khrueng kit laek* (khrueng kit laek) “calculator” and so forth.

For example, you might use *khrueng* (khrueng) if you forgot what a refrigerator is called.

khrueng thii tham hai aahaan yen (khrueng thii tham hai aahaan yen) “machine that makes food cold” will sound funny to the Thai ear, but they’ll probably be able to figure out what you mean. Then they will tell you it’s called a *tuu yen* (tuu yen) “fridge”.

rot (rot) is used with all things wheeled: *rot yon* (rot yon) “automobile”, *rot may* (rot may) “bus”, *rot fai* (rot fai) “train”.

You could ask the word for “bicycle” by describing it as *rot thii chai thaao thii* (rot thii chai thaao thii) “vehicle that you use your feet to propel”. This will lead you to the proper word, *rot jakrayaan* (rot jakrayaan), or just *jakrayaan* (jakrayaan). Incidentally, *rot thii* (rot thii) is the old Isarn word for bicycle.

And one final useful word: *khlaai* (khlaai) or *khlaai* (khlaai) “similar to”. You could describe a pen as *khlaai khlaai linsaw* (khlaai khlaai linsaw) “similar to a pencil”.

You might also mimic the action of writing, or better yet, just pull out a pen and ask them

the word. You get the idea. Or, if you were trying to tell a Thai friend what a Nissan Tiida looks like, try saying it’s *khlaai khlaai* (khlaai khlaai) Honda Jazz.

If you don’t find yourself in need of a little circumlocution every day, then you’re probably not learning much.

Now go and strike up a conversation with someone about, I dunno, a hydroelectric power plant or the gearing mechanism on your old Suzuki Caribbean. I

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

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Phuket Software Park Silicon Valley or Panthip Plaza?

After years of talk about developing Phuket into a world-class information technology (IT) and software development hub, a private-sector scheme to develop Phuket Software Park on 10 rai of land off Chao Fa West Rd in Tambon Wicht comes as a positive and tangible development [see Inside Story, pages 4-5].

With structural work on the first building of the multi-phase project now complete, it is intriguing to speculate what the Software Park might look like and what role it might play in Phuket's economy in five or 10 years' time.

Will it develop, as hoped, into a cluster of Thailand's brightest and most innovative IT companies – a growth pole that will spur further investment and establish Phuket as a miniature Southeast Asian version of Silicon Valley?

At the other end of the spectrum is the ugly possibility that free-market forces and lack of planning will once again prevail, steering the development, like so many other uninspired real estate projects on the island, into a concrete labyrinth of video gaming rooms, day spas, beauty parlors, pet grooming salons, tour agencies and the like.

The *Gazette* hopes the reality will be a real software park worthy of the name, with a real emphasis on IT research and software development – and not a Phuket version of Bangkok's Pantip Plaza, famed for the sale of counterfeit software and DVDs.

Fortunately, the Anupas Group of Companies that is developing the project under its subsidiary firm Blue Lagoon (Thailand) has a strong track record of maintaining quality businesses in Phuket and the region.

While Phuket is a natural place to develop software specifically for use by the hospitality industry, the *Gazette* notes that some of the initially-stated goals of the project seem a bit far-fetched – especially that of developing face recognition software for the tourism industry.

Such technology has proven benefits for applications like airport security, but we can foresee little practical value for it in a beach resort setting.

But aside from that, the *Gazette* believes that by working together with government agencies to provide all the necessary infrastructure – including faster and more reliable Internet connection speeds – Phuket Software Park could attract a wide variety of IT start up companies, both from around Thailand and across the globe.

After all, for all of Phuket's problems it still seems as if everyone wants to live here – computer geeks included..

– The Editor

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

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Letters

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

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

A tip for Heather

Heather Shortridge [Letters, *Gazette* of October 1-7, *Tips for Tourists*], referring to herself as an "Aussie in Patong", is on another planet. How anybody like Ms Shortridge can manage to make enough money and find the right airplane to get as far as Thailand from Australia is beyond my comprehension, limited though that may be.

"As far as I can tell," she says, "the majority of visitors to Phuket are Australians...." But as far as I can recall from a survey by the Hotel Association last year, Australians account for less than 5% of the visitors to Phuket. So it may be a good idea, madam, for you to venture outside the confines of the Aussie Bar and your guesthouse and sally forth to, say Diver's bar at Surin Beach. There, among lots of other Aussies, you could learn about the real world.

Your assumptions that a) "we [Australians] don't tip in Australia either", and b) that that practice, if true, would apply anywhere else in world where Australians hang out, are, to say the least, irrational.

However, you are right about your reference book, the *Lonely Planet* guide. I checked and it does say that, "Tipping is not generally expected in Thailand." Perhaps the writer never left his guesthouse in Thailand. I have lived here for 20 years and, like most countries in the world, it is completely normal to leave a tip for good service. Even in England, Australia and China, where tipping may not be "the norm", it is often practiced and is clearly "good manners" after good service in a restaurant.

Then again, my fellow Australian, your last paragraph sums it up perfectly when you write: "Rest assured that we are not being more stingy to Thais than we are to Australians. We're just behaving the same way we do at home." I guess that says it all.

Graham Doven
Phuket resident

One world for all

It's taken a long time, but finally the US is showing the world that no matter what color your skin might be, you can gain acceptability and even widespread global support. This is a good opportunity for Thailand to show its tolerance toward others and let people of any color find acceptance here, particularly teachers of foreign languages in schools.

Radio, TV and the so-called "fashion" magazines here might also consider the idea. After all, there's no finer example of a super-model than Naomi Campbell.

So how about clearing out those supermarket shelves that are so full of skin whitening products (there's even whitening deodorant!)? It would be a great start toward joining the here-and-now one world for all.

Dave Arroyo
Manila and Phuket

Drug war a holiday?

Is it really smart of the police to announce that the "drug war" will end on January 30? Is this so the dealers can go on vacation and safely re-open for business on February 1?

Don Aleman
Pattaya

Poison predators back in Kamala

I know you get many complaints about it, but I cannot help myself. Year by year, with the coming of the high season, the "dog poisoning game" starts to take the stage and play out with full success.

They [unspecified] are killing all the dogs around the beach in Kamala to make it "safe" and clean, but as an animal lover and a human being I am seeing the poor dogs fighting to survive and suffering pain that I would never wish on any living thing. They call this the "Land of Smiles", but I am only crying because I know I cannot change people. So I ask you, the *Phuket Gazette*, to help me let everyone know what is going on here.

Please do not use my real name as I have two dogs in my garden and I know the poisoners would really love to kill them.

Marcella
Kamala

And at Nai Harn?

If it had not been for the letter from Ron Action in the *Phuket Gazette* of October 25-31, we would never have known that there was a "dog ban" in effect at Nai Harn Beach.

A few years ago, people around here always had to walk their dogs on leads because someone was putting poisoned meat on the beach. But that was far better than the current outright ban.

What about fines for illegal topless bathing at that beach? Might make more sense.

Dog lover
Nai Harn

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

Fighting the floods

With the torrential rain we have had over the last couple of weeks, practically everywhere in Phuket is suffering from flooding at the moment. These floods have caused so much damage to people's possessions, including their furniture and cars.

In November 2004, the flooding was a lot more serious because of all the construction going on at the time and the lack of adequate drainage.

In my village in Soi Prayoon 3, more than sixty families are affected by flooding every year and it is getting worse every time. Sometimes, the water-level can rise a foot after just two hours of rain.

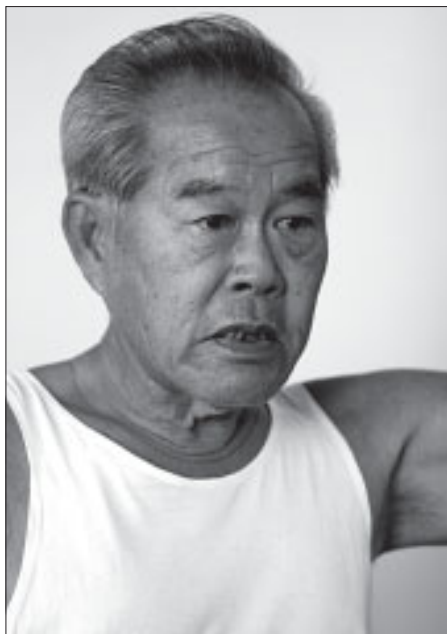
In the old days, there never used to be flooding in the village. That all changed when the municipality built a drainage channel the wrong way around the village.

We have had flooding ever since then. I told Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwannasuppana that what we need to do is make the channel much wider and change the direction of the water that runs off the hill, which would cost about four million baht to do.

At the moment, whenever it rains, the water channels overflow and the excess water flows straight into the houses.

The problem has also been made worse by a big condominium project being built up on the hill. This has meant that the flood water carries lots of mud with it.

I asked the municipality for 300,000 baht in funding from three of the local villages to build a new drainage channel, but they



Born 68 years ago in Surat Thani, Chanin "Ko Aun" Nutissayanuwat moved to Phuket with his wife and two children 48 years ago.

FIRST PERSON

For the past 29 years, he has been living on Yaowarat Road in Phuket City. Over the years, Ko Aun has seen many a rainy season come and go and has borne witness to the ever-increasing destruction caused by the floods that have accompanied them. Here, Ko Aun sits down with the *Gazette's* Atchaa Khamlo and recounts some of the battles he has fought on behalf of the people in his neighborhood to arrest the havoc wrought each year by the annual flooding.



Construction on the hill above the village has exacerbated the problem, adding mud to the flood water.

denied my request and went ahead and built another channel which made everything worse than before.

I may only have a fourth-grade education, but I know how to fix this problem in a profes-

sional way. But instead of listening to me, people high up in the government went ahead and spent 550,000 baht on the wrong channel, which doesn't work at all.

The main problem is that the



Every rainy season municipality workers are called on to pump water from flooded homes.

Phuket City Municipality wasted 10 million baht building a pump station near the Samkong bridge that can't solve the area's flooding problems.

The building of the pump station was just an election stunt

by Mayor Somjai when she was running for a second term. She just wanted to be seen to be doing something for the city, but pumping the water out is not the solution because it doesn't address the cause of the problem.

Beach sanitation going too far?

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?

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

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

We are almost as dismayed as Thais must be at the attempt by the Dewa condominium project, through the offices of the National Park, to "sanitize" the beach area by removing the restaurants in front of their expensive new development.

Beach restaurants have been there for over twenty years and as such, are a well-established part of the local beach culture and atmosphere, unlike the Dewa developers who obviously knew of their existence and, presumably, planned their removal from the outset.

It is not the well-heeled

"farang" clients who would be affected, but local Thai people and their families, together with the occasional "farang", who know that they can enjoy some of the best food available in Phuket at Thai prices and in an informal picnic-style setting.

If this were to go ahead, Thai people would be denied yet another beach area.

Sure, some of the restaurants could relocate to the small area designated for them on the inland side of the road – inside the National Park, where cars are charged for access and parking – but that is not an acceptable substitute to either the restaurant operators we have spoken to or to their customers.

As far as being an "eyesore" is concerned, this is still Thailand. The restaurants have a typically rustic charm which fit their surroundings, unlike the

abandoned and decaying Crown Naiyang Hotel nearby, which certainly is an eyesore.

Given the present global economic woes and with Phuket rapidly pricing itself out of the exotic holiday market, it's not inconceivable that the latest development will end up the same way.

Come on picnic lovers: let's protest against this latest assault on the Thai way of life!

Two angry "locals"
Thalang

Khemika Sorn-Ngay, Director of Dewa Phuket landowning company R&B Partners Ltd, replies:

It may sometimes be difficult to understand local conditions, especially for "local farangs".

The Sirinath National Park, located in front of Dewa Phuket,

does not fall, in any way whatsoever, under our jurisdiction.

This matter is the responsibility of the local tambon administration organization and The National Park itself.

It would be very interesting to learn more on why these local farangs are so agitated about the environment here in Nai Yang, as I do not understand their approach and where they got their information from.

We, Dewa Phuket, have not been involved with any negotiations with regards to local restaurants.

However, having lived in Phuket for over 15 years, we have seen some cleanups carried out on Surin Beach and now lately also on Kamala beach, which has improved the environment there considerably.

A clean Phuket is of benefit to us all.

If these local farangs would like to contact me directly, I would happy to see and talk to them.

Charters to Phuket keep on coming

Phuket International Airport is a magnet for charter operators from around the world, and this high season is proving to be no exception, albeit with some trepidation about the impact of the world's financial crisis.

General Manager Wing Commander Wicha Nurnlop confirmed that 14 charter operators are scheduled to touch down this season, overall only one less than last year.

While the airport has lost seven charters, Wing Commander Wicha presumes that because of the world financial situation, another six new operators have joined. They are from Italy, Denmark, Switzerland, France and Belgium.

But Wing Commander Wicha admits to "keeping my fingers crossed that the passenger figures are the same as last year. I don't think they will be down too far, but if the world situation does not get any better it will slow down the tourists. I have my fingers crossed about this also."

He said the total number of airlines, charter and scheduled, this year is 36, and the airport is handling a total of 116 flights [aircraft movements] a day.

Charter business is very important to Phuket hoteliers as well as the airport. Clearly Phuket is increasingly attracting charter business, if the statistics of the last couple of years are any indication [2008 not yet available].

For example, between 2006 and 2007 there was an 84 percent increase in charter passengers, from 270,000 to 500,551. The number of commercial aircraft movements was up 70.86 percent over the same period. Overall, in 2007 Phuket International Airport handled more than 50 international non-scheduled airline operations, including chartered flights from Mytravel, Finnair, Transaero Airlines, Nova Airlines, Pulkovo Airlines and China Southern Airlines.

Charter airlines are often called "air taxis" because they operate outside of normal airline schedules and are for hire with a particular customer, just like a taxi. In specific terms, charters are seen as flights whose sole function is to transport holidaymakers



TUIfly Nordic, formerly known as Britannia Nordic, is a charter airline based in Sweden. It operates holiday charter flights from airports in Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland for tour operators Fritidsresor, Finnmatkat and Star Tour. They have destinations in the Canary Islands, Egypt, the Mediterranean and Thailand.

to tourist destinations like Phuket.

Put simply, with charter flights you fly where you want, when you want, in the plane you want and with extra amenities you choose yourself. Of course charters do not only fly tourists to places like Phuket. They can also be used for hospital flights; to get a large specific group, such as a film crew, from A to B; or even to fly whole families, if they can afford it.

Another advantage is that charters fly directly to their destination – not through airport hubs, with all the hassles that such facilities can offer passengers.

This contrasts with scheduled flights which operate regular, published schedules. This is the way most tourists travel but, with the aviation world being rocked by high fuel prices and the credit crunch, scheduled airlines have been badly hit and have been forced to cut back on flights to many destinations, which, again, means places like Phuket.

In this context, the Thai domestic low cost carriers, One-Two-Go and Nok Air, both operating regular point to point schedules from Bangkok to Phuket, have been grounded, the first by authorities and the second because of costs, thus robbing Phuket of valuable scheduled services for several months.

In Phuket, most hotels have relationships with tour operators in the target markets. In this case,

many of the charters come from the Scandinavian countries of Sweden, Norway and Denmark, but also, increasingly, from places like Russia.

The Italians are also very strong on charter flights. Hoteliers generally like charters because they guarantee a set number of customers for a set amount of time, compared to what are called FIT [free independent travelers] who usually arrive by scheduled aircraft because they prefer a more flexible itinerary.

To illustrate how charters can be an advantage, consider that in Europe there are over 2000 airports, but only around 10 percent are reached by scheduled airlines. Private charter companies can reach all of them. The types of aircraft used can vary from a Beechjet 400A or a Gulfstream G111 executive jet, through to an ATR-42 or Embraer 120 Brasilia propjet to a Boeing 747-400 Jumbo jet and even helicopters, twin-piston and cargo planes.

Most of the planes that service Phuket tend to be mid-to-large jets, such as Boeing 767s and Airbus A330s. It really depends on the bookings the tour operators receive.

In addition, charters are generally sold on a weekly rotation and for one or two week durations. The downside, and this is where some people have been caught to their cost, is that the seats sold cannot be changed, amended or canceled without a charge or cancellation fee of up to 100 percent. Also, prices can soar at certain times of the year when many people want to travel, e.g., school holidays, bank holidays and Christmas. This is when prices can go up.

Ironically, on scheduled airlines what are called frequent flyer "blackouts" occur when air-

lines refuse to give passengers holding frequent flyer miles/points permission to use their benefits, instead charging passengers fares at times of peak activity.

Charter fares tend to vary depending on supply and demand. To keep costs to a minimum, tour operators will try to fill their flights 100 percent. Fares on charter flights are worked out depending on the cost to the operator of a scheduled ticket over the course of a year. They take into account factors such as time of year and estimated demand.

Scheduled airlines do not discount at the last minute and fares tend to be more restricted. They also supply a proportion of their seats to "consolidators" who take on the administration from the airlines and impose heavy restrictions in exchange for fares below those the airlines publish.

Unfortunately, charter airlines have also acquired a reputation for financial instability. In Europe, in particular, several have gone bust leaving thousands of holidaymakers stranded.

One reason for this is that the economics of charter flights demand that they operate at near 100 percent capacity, whereas scheduled flights, with their greater flexibility, often only need to make around 80 percent of capacity or less, depending on the route and the fare structure, to make a profit.

In Europe, a number of compulsory insurance and bond arrangements have been installed to try to minimize the financial risk to the public from charter operators failing to fly and leaving passengers both stranded and out of pocket.

Phuket is a popular destination for Scandinavian charter operators such as TUIfly Nordic, one of the world's largest tourism operators. A subsidiary of

German travel giant TUI AG, TUIfly Nordic was due to return to the island this month. The TUIfly Nordic travel agency Fritidsresor, Sweden's largest tour operator, scheduled the first flight, from Gothenburg, Sweden flying a Boeing 747-400 Jumbo aircraft with 582 seats.

There are some other things to look out for when considering a charter flight. For example, some airlines do not include the cost of any luggage put into the hold [non-carry-on items], but this should be displayed at the time of booking. It is still worth checking, though. Infants are not entitled to a luggage allowance, and adults and children are given the same allowance.

When booking and paying, it would appear that the best way is through a credit card because if the company should go belly up it is easier to get your money back than with cash or a debit card, which will take a lot longer. Also, you cannot buy a round-trip ticket and use it only one way.

If the outbound flight, for example, is not used, the return portion of the ticket is automatically canceled.

Footnote: Phuket International Airport is to hold a large ceremony at the airport on 26 December, 2008 to mark its six millionth visitor for the year. One lucky passenger will receive a yet-to-be-announced prize in the presence of several local dignitaries.

General Manager Wing Commander Wicha Nurnlop said the airport is working to improve its image and that many local businesses have generously supported it. Since October, the airport has been running lucky draws for arriving passengers over a four-day period each month. This will run until the end of the year.

Talking Planes
by
Alastair Carthew

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King Chulalongkorn Visits Phuket

Phuket Island, bountiful in its natural resources, has always throughout history been an important source of revenue for the Kingdom of Siam. During the Ayutthaya period and the Bangkok period that followed, the importance of Thalang Island to the kingdom became evident in several historical letters and documents.

But throughout its time as a Siamese dominion, no sovereign of Siam had ever visited this resource-rich island on the western coast before, until late in the 19th Century. This was for good reason. The capital of Siam, whether it was Ayutthaya or Bangkok from which the kings reigned, was far off from this island in the south. These days, a journey from Bangkok to Phuket might take only an hour on jet propelled wings, but a few centuries ago, the trip could have taken weeks.

Distance was not the only concern for royal visitors; traveling south into the Malay Peninsula, during much of its history, meant passing through dangerous territories. The land routes would have been plagued by opportunistic thieves, whereas pirates and Saliteers infested the sea. According to accounts written by merchants and sailors, the journey to Phuket was to be taken with great risk; hence it is not surprising that no monarch of Siam would ever visit this island until relatively recently.

The first Siamese king who visited Phuket was also one of the greatest to have ever reigned over the Kingdom. HM King Chulalongkorn (Rama V) stopped by and visited Phuket for the first time in the year 1871. The king stopped to visit the island whilst on a tour of southern Siam, British Malaya, Dutch Indonesia and India. During this time, King Chulalongkorn was still quite young and his regent named Chao-Phraya Sri-suriya-wongse saw fit to send the young king on a tour of the European colonies so that he could learn about western methods of governance and administration.

King Chulalongkorn was a diplomat and a well-read man who had a passion for traveling and learning. During his lifetime, he traveled to and toured Europe on more than one occasion, a journey that took up to nine months by steamship, something



Royal Steamer Maha-Chakri (white ship, double funnel) on which King Chulalongkorn journeyed for nine months to Europe. Here it is seen at port in Stockholm in 1897 during the king's first tour of Europe.

virtually unheard of for an Asian monarch to do. In fact, his predecessors never traveled beyond Siam or its tributary states during their lifetimes, as traveling usually incurred much hardship.

However by traveling to Europe, the knowledge that King Chulalongkorn gained of western culture and administration, coupled with his diplomatic achievements abroad, would help to secure Siam's autonomy through dan-

gerous times, at the height of western colonialism in the region.

King Chulalongkorn visited Phuket twice during his lifetime. His second visit in the year 1890 has been well documented in the king's very own words.

During his later journeys, King Chulalongkorn wrote diaries describing his travels and experiences in foreign lands. During this trip to Phuket, he wrote several pages about the island in his travel diary. It gives us vivid descriptions and valuable insight into the lives

of the people of Phuket during the late 19th Century.

According to his personal memoirs, the king arrived in Phuket on April 30th, 1890 on

typical conditions in the Andaman Sea during this time of the year. The king jokingly mentions many seasick victims on board.

However when the yacht turned its bearing and came into Phuket Bay, the sea inside the bay was noticeably much calmer. The king also mentions a lighthouse perched on Tapao-Noi Island, which would have been noticeable from the yacht as it sailed into the bay. According to King Chulalongkorn, it was built by Luang Anurak, a high-ranking government official of Phuket. Although it did beautify the scenery, the king doubts its practicality. The royal yacht dropped anchor in Phuket Bay at around noon.

From what we read in his travel diaries, King Chulalongkorn greatly acclaims the island's natural harbors, stating that amongst all the cities on the western coast, Phuket provided the best natural harbors for ships, characterized by the many sheltered bays that can be found along the island's eastern coast.

The first Siamese king who visited Phuket was also one of the greatest to have ever reigned over the kingdom.

HM

King Chulalongkorn (Rama V)

stopped by and visited Phuket for the first time in the year 1871.

board his royal yacht which sailed from Takua-Pa, their previous destination. The party encountered light rain and high winds which made the sea rather rough,

The king writes of two 'mail boats' he saw anchored in Phuket Bay when the royal yacht arrived. He uses the word 'rua-mail' to describe these mail boats that he says frequently voyaged between Phuket and Penang.

A very interesting feature that is common and almost unique to King Chulalongkorn's writings starts to appear in his accounts at this stage. Although the accounts were written in Thai, they often contained English words, typically nouns, which are phonetically spelled in Thai. The hybrid word 'rua-mail' (rua is the Thai word for boat) is a classic example. This tells us a lot about King Chulalongkorn, who by this time in his life was one of the most educated men in Siam and was also one of the few in the Kingdom who spoke English.

This is apparent from his writings. These 'rua-mail', according to the king, would visit Phuket once every 5 days. Operated by Chinese merchants, they loaded themselves with tin on their way out of Phuket and returned with a cargo of rice and other goods from Penang.

If there was no cargo to take back, they would just carry the mail, hence the name used to describe them.

Although the royal yacht arrived in Phuket by noon of April 30th, none of its passengers disembarked immediately.

According to the memoirs, it rained for the whole day till nightfall. The two lighthouses he mentioned earlier had been lit in the distance and were clearly visible amidst the darkness. Being that it was late in the evening already, the king spent the night on the yacht and disembarked for the island the next morning instead.

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

LOOKING BACK

By Anand Singh

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Phuket Football Club fields players from 15 nations



By James Goyder

PHUKET: The average team sheet of the newly-named Phuket Football Club contains more nationalities than an Olympic Opening Ceremony. With players hailing from all over the world, the Phuket Football Club can truly lay claim to represent the "World Game".

"We are an international crowd", said the club's founder Billy Chima. "We have players from Sweden, France, Germany, Italy, Hong Kong, Ireland, the UK, the US, Canada, Turkey, Italy Norway, Australia and Israel, as well as Thailand," he added.

The team was originally called Khana O'Malley's but it was recently decided that a more neutral name was in order, so the Phuket Football Club was born. The name change, together with the launch of its new website (www.phuketfootball.com) has indeed proved propitious for the club, sparking widespread international interest.

As a direct result of the club's website, a team from

South Africa contacted the Phuket Football Club with a view to playing a match.

While they do play the occasional eleven-a-side match – beating the British International school 4-0 last time out – the Phuket Football Club has a busy seven-a-side schedule in upcoming weeks. On the weekend of November 22-23, the team will be participating in the Andaman International 7s. The following weekend, they will compete in the Phuket International 7s.

This year, the venue for both tournaments has been moved to Ao Kham near Phuket City, following concerns over the state of the pitch at Karon stadium.

While there is no shortage of friendly matches and the occasional tournament in Phuket, there remains a lack of structured football. To address this, Billy is planning to launch a weekend seven-a-side league and has requested that any interested teams or players should contact him at 081-894 0794.

For more information on the Phuket Football Club visit their website: www.phuketfootball.com.

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Americans Ross and Boss prevail

KARON: In Sunday's final of the PTT Phuket Thailand Open volleyball tournament, Jennifer Boss and April Ross overcame fellow Americans Nicole Branagh and Tyra Turner. The tournament, held at Karon Beach, was the latest stop on the Swatch FIVB Beach Volley World Tour.

After two sets, the teams couldn't be separated, with Branagh and Turner winning the first set 21-18 and Ross and Boss the second 21-14.

The final went into a nail-biting third-set decider, in which Boss and Ross eventually prevailed 15-12.

Earlier in the day, Tamsin Barnett and Becchara Plamer from Australia were defeated by the German pairing of Geeske Banck and Anja Gunther in the third-place play off.

After their victory, Jennifer Boss said, "We lost the first set and had to come back, so we are really happy with how we played today."

The Swatch FIVB Beach Volleyball world tour will return to Thailand in 2009.



Phuket Cricket Union Under 15's Tour returns



PHUKET: Ten boys, selected from local schools in Sapam and Cherng Talay and products of Phuket Cricket Union's Youth Development Program, have just returned from the second International KAF Under-15 eight-a-side Cricket Tournament, held in Royal Selangor Club grounds in Kuala Lumpur from October 23-26. The Thai team played against teams from Malaysia, Singapore, India, Indonesia and Australia.

The Thai boys put up a spirited performance with excel-

lent teamwork, emerging with three defeats and one victory.

First up was the Singapore Under-15 national team who notched up an impressive 97 runs from their allotted 7 overs, with the loss of just four wickets.

The second game against the Perak Colts saw improved bowling with Nattapat Somnam narrowly missing out on a hat trick.

Perak posted a lofty target of 73 for the loss of five wickets.

The third game, against SK Cricket Academy Blue from In-

dia, pitted the boys against an outfit that was two years younger and despite some disciplined bowling, Thailand's attack failed to exert pressure on the Indian batsmen, who eventually cruised to a comfortable victory.

The final game came against KL Combined Schools and the Thais suffered an immediate setback with the loss for a second-ball duck of Kritsana Haituk. However, Chayathit Kaewpithak, together with Phutanet Suriya, laid a foundation for a shot at victory.

A total of 73 runs was a respectable target to defend, but after a disastrous opening two overs, which yielded 32 runs, all hope seemed lost.

However, with tight bowling from Chayathit and Sompob the following two overs surrendered 13 runs.

With everything still to play for, the nerve-racking final over, bowled by Chokanan Jitrong, signalled the coming of age of the Thai boys, with a wicket maiden and a sweet victory.

Richard Brown

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Decor

Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod

The subject of Asian art is, as you would imagine, pretty vast and would certainly make for too rich a dish for us to devour in a single sitting. So, for the purpose of manageability, we shall focus in today's column mainly on art coming from the south of Asia, plus a little from the south of China.

Let us explore beyond the ubiquitous and popularized Buddha reproductions that adorn so many homes in this part of the world, and consider just one or two of the thousands of fascinating artifacts and ideas that can go to make your home beautiful.

First off, ponder, if you will, the iconic Chinese incense burner. No doubt you will have seen numerous examples of these in and around Chinese temples. A staple prop in many a Chinese movie, the incense burner has become so woven into the daily fabric of life that you could be forgiven for missing it.

In your home, the incense burner could sit simply and prominently in the middle of the hall. It can happily stand alone, or, as I have done, since my home is a bit on the cavernous side, you can create a lotus pond around it, which adds to the serenity of the whole thing. The lotus pond needn't be enormous; about 80cms wide should do it. Even in a modest sized home, an elegant, well placed incense burner can become a stand-out decorative attraction. Placed on a coffee table or filled with sand, illustrated with symbols or covered with glass, the incense burner's versatility and mobility makes it an excellent piece on Asian art for the home.

The second piece I would beg you to consider is a "Hinge" or blind. You often find them in Chinese or Vietnamese houses, where they are used to partition a room into smaller areas or as a dressing screen for ladies of impeccable virtue. When not in use, these unwieldy and rather cumbersome objects can be a bit of an eyesore, so why not consider using them in the doorway? If you can find one tall enough, with hand-carved ornate hinges, the effect can be quite stunning.

It is difficult to delve for long into the wonderful world of Asian

Imagineering Oriental art decor



art without, sooner or later bumping into a Buddha. When they say "Buddha is everywhere", they're not kidding! Given the omnipresence of Buddha images in Asian art, you might feel that you know all there is to know about the subject. However, as your friendly neighborhood Buddhist, perhaps I might offer one or two helpful pointers.

In Thailand, every day of the week is symbolized by a different Buddha image. For example, I was born on a Saturday, which is represented by an image of Buddha meditating, while being sheltered by seven Nagas.

The story goes that, as the Buddha was meditating, a threatening storm approached. The

King of Nagas, noticing Buddha's diligence and dedication to his task, transformed himself into a giant Naga and crawled under the Buddha and lifted him up above the rising floods. The Naga's head then divided in to seven separate heads above the Buddha to protect him from the rain.

The story goes on, but the point I want to make is that of all the different Buddha images to choose from when you are decorating your home, this "Buddha for every day" might not be a bad idea. You can arrange then along a wall in a classic style, with gold foil and a black background. This will create quite a striking visual impression in any part of the house. However, one word of

warning: do not place any decorative Buddha image anywhere too low or near to the ground, as this would be considered disrespectful to Buddhists.

Other eye-catching items, items including moving dolls that sing, dance and play a regional musical instrument, can be found on display at Fine Orient on Vichit Road. Now, that would be interesting! But let us save that for another time.

If you have any comments or suggestions for for this column, or if you would like to share a great idea for home decoration, please do drop me a line at Riz@PhuketGazette.Net or give me a call at 076-236555.

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Home of the Week

Rawai

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Inside the high-security, paparazzi-proof perimeter wall, an expansive driveway leads up to a covered carport, where you will find more than enough space to garage your three favorite Bentleys. Further inspection of the walled-in area reveals a garden and terrace dominated by a private swimming pool, complete with an aesthetically crafted waterfall feature.

Inside the villa, you will find three bedrooms, two of which have en suite bathrooms.

In traditional Balinese style, the villa feels very airy, with huge floor-to-ceiling patio windows, which, when opened fully, allow for more fresh air than you could shake a stick at. The patio windows open out on to the poolside terrace, affording "Kodak moment" type views from the living room.

The living area is presented in a U-shape and traces the contours of the pool outside. The wooden floors and vaulted ceilings engender a naturalistic ambience, with fresh breezes flowing in through those humongous patio windows. The living space is made up of a lounge, dining

Rawai Room with a View

room and western kitchen. In the lounge, a large eight-seat wicker sofa and robust wooden coffee table offer you the chance to put your feet up and appreciate all that breeze coming through the patio doors. Reclining on the settee, you can enjoy views of the pool and garden.

The western kitchen is tastefully fitted out with wooden cabinets and granite work tops, and comes equipped with enough state-of-the-art appliances to impress a TV chef.

This house, in tranquil countryside surroundings, is available for purchase with Chanote title deed at 11.5 million baht. It may be acquired on either Freehold or Leasehold terms.

Rawai is currently the fastest growing tourist region in Phuket. Residents are seldom more than five minutes away from an array of international and seafood restaurants.

For more info contact Patrick Lusted at Siam Real Estate, quote reference number: HSIL2326. Telephone 076-288908. E-mail Patrick@siamrealestate.com Visit www.siamrealestate.com



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PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

As the wheels of the tourist high season crank open the floodgates on our paradise island, it is the season to be renting. Never before have there been so many options for renters, with a range of daily, weekly, monthly and long-term stays on offer.

Phuket's vacation rental market arguably remains under serviced and under promoted, unlike Bali and more mature markets such as the Gold Coast in Australia or Hawaii, where condo hotels make up the lion's share of the accommodation supply.

Given the increasing number of villas, condos and apartments now nearing completion, this, along with the continuing global financial crises – forcing property investors to reduce capital appreciation growth risk vis á vis ongoing rental yield management – has set the stage for market momentum in this sector.

There will come a day in the not too distant future when the villa- and condo-rental market is going to become a key competitor to traditional hotel supply. Fueling this trend are significant advances in Internet technology allowing small businesses or individual owners to access international markets.

It's a day of reckoning for 'brand equity' arguments. In a nutshell, the Internet is a great leveler of the playing field.

Looking at the success of e-commerce engines, such as Phuket.com, along with the emergence of the low-cost airline carriers (LCCs), such as AirAsia, Jetstar and Tiger Airways, which rely on Internet bookings, it's now normal for tour-

Paradise for rent

Traditional hotel supply market takes heat from independent villa and condo rental sector

Internet sites such as www.vrbo.com allow individual property owners to attract international guests to their property – leveling the playing field for small business.

ists making holiday arrangements to put DIY plans together by researching and booking their options on the Internet. A number of large-scale Internet sites which specialize in these types of rentals already exist, such as vrbo.com (Vacation Rentals By Owners), Perfectplaces.com and Homeaway.com. Surprisingly, some of the dominant booking engines for hotels in Asia (Zuji, Asiarooms and Wotif) have yet to embrace these product offerings.

Many of Phuket's property management companies offer rental services. The one with the highest profile at the moment is Phuket Island Property Services (www.phuketvillarentals.com). Others in the same league include Knight Frank, Lynx and Phuket Marbella. At the upper end are Shibumi and Phuket Villas & Homes. One locally grown suc-

cess story is the popular Two Villas brand, which has developed a number of pool-villa projects on the island and spun off a new service: Twovillasholiday.com, which is aimed at providing rental management for villa owners, enabling them to enhance returns and focus on the surging leisure market.

With a continued downturn in residential property following "Black October", there seems to be a growing trend in conversions of villa and condo projects into hotel managed projects, which tap into the island's predominate food chain – tourism.

Mixed-use projects, such as Phuket Pavilions, were early starters in selling units under hotel management, and have established room rates and occupancy levels which are the envy of many upper-tier hotel properties. Some

international hotel management companies, such as Outrigger from Hawaii, have used these types of properties to enter an extremely competitive market, with Outrigger Serenity Terraces Resort and West Sands Outrigger brandings now in place.

As in any business model, it's not all fresh air and sunshine for owners of these types of units. Traditionally, investors who buy on the basis of aggressive rental yield projections come away sorely disappointed when year on year figures show only a small percentage against the anticipated returns.

Looking at leisure markets, such as Australia's Gold Coast or Queenstown in New Zealand, it's common to see ongoing minimal returns or even negative yields (rental revenue minus expenses, fees and management charges)

forcing owners to dig into their own pockets to subsidize their property. Longer-term refurbishment of the units, capital repairs and the need to upgrade and replace the required furnishing package are often neglected in developers' sales collateral. However, there is light at the end of the tunnel for many of these types of properties.

Capital appreciation and real estate allows investors to skin a cat two ways: rental yields or sale of the property at a profit.

In Thailand, condo hotels and villa rentals remain a gray area of much taxation and statutory licensing legislation, including application of hotel licenses. The recent update of the condominium juristic act makes the appointment of a long-term management agreement with a hotel operator challenging, to say the least, and casts a certain specter of associated risk on this segment.

Logically, the relevant government authorities should be pro-active in embracing the tax potential of these enterprises. With the positive cash income flow though accommodation, the funds going to provincial and municipal tax coffers could be well spent on improving local infrastructure.

For visitors to Phuket, the continued diversity of products is a welcome improvement. There is much to be said for the value-for-money equation between renting a suite in a condo hotel at a similar price to a hotel room or renting a four-bedroom pool villa with family and friends at a similar cost to that of a villa at an upscale luxury resort.

As the Internet gives small business the ability to customize and attract niche business, it should be a wake-up call for hotels to view this growing segment as direct competition.

Bill Barnett is the Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks (c9hotelworks.com), a Phuket-based hotel and residential property consulting firm. With more than 20 years' experience in the region, he has played an active role in some of the island's biggest developments.



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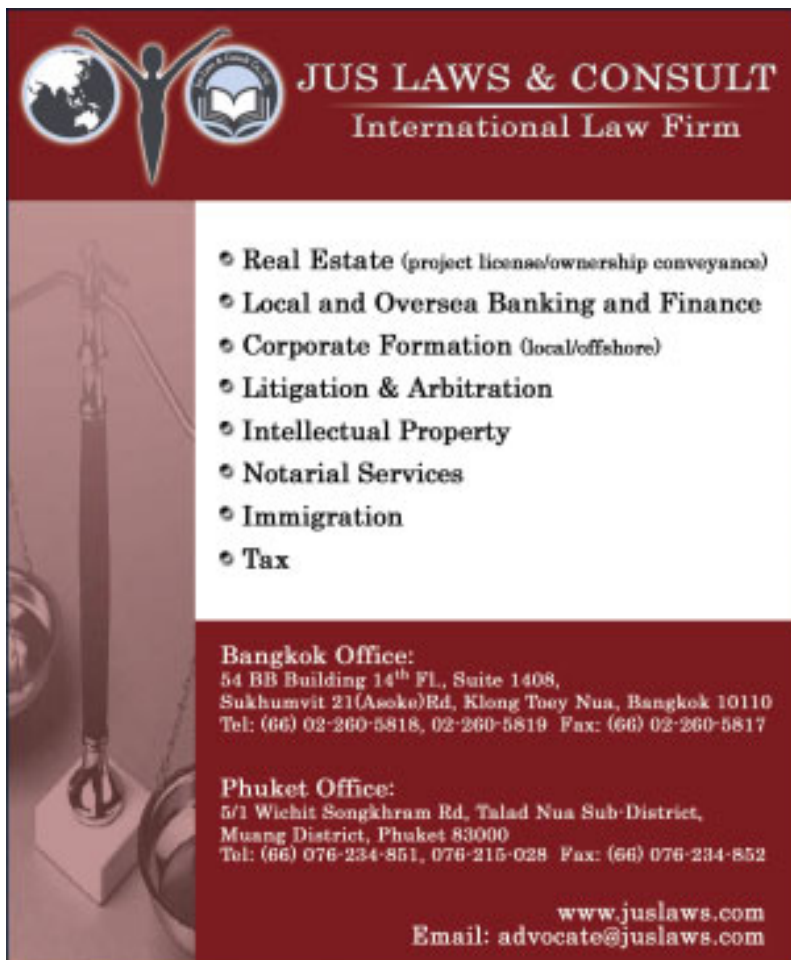
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Construction Update

Building with Scandinavians in mind



Kamala Regent condominium units come with fitted kitchens.

Kamala Regent Resort is a mixed residential development currently under construction near Kamala Beach. The project features a variety of condo-

minium units and a secluded pool villa compound aimed predominantly at Scandinavian home buyers.

Construction of Kamala Regent began in March 2007 and

is scheduled for completion by the end of May 2009. The project is being developed by G-1 Land Co Ltd and comprises four 5-story condominium blocks containing a total of 79 units and six



One of the four 5-story condominium blocks is nearing completion.

separate pool villas in an adjacent gated community.

There are four types of condominium unit. Floors one to four will comprise two- and three-bedroom units with two bathrooms covering between 100 and 106 square meters in total.

These units include dining and living areas and each has a terrace area. They are priced at about 4.5 million baht, with variations in cost depending on the view: sea view, hill view or pool view. The fifth floor will have 16 three-bedroom, three-bathroom units covering 212 square meters each.

Each of these larger top-floor penthouse units has a roof deck with a Jacuzzi area and an outdoor shower. Prices for these units are set at about 10 million baht.

There is also a single extra-large 2-bedroom, 3-bathroom unit

covering 223 square meters in total, which has a living room, entertainment room, family room, dining room, kitchen, and terrace.

The project's single-story pool villa compound comprises six plots with unit prices starting at just over 9 million baht.

The villas each have three bedrooms and three bathrooms, plus a living room, dining area and a loft. They each have parking spaces for two cars.

According to the developer, the Kamala area is popular with Scandinavians as it is relatively quiet yet close to the beach and entertainment areas, such as Patong, which is approximately a 15-minute drive from the development.

Furniture is included in the cost of the villas, which comprises built-in wardrobes, fitted kitchens and a range of modern chairs, tables and beds.

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- Villa size 2,666 sq.ft. +
- From THB 26.8 million

Property Gazette

Properties For Sale

RAWAIYA SUITES CONDOMINIUMS



Rawai Beach, 1 and 2 bedrooms, ensuite bathroom, fully furnished, 65 to 130 sqm, total 27 units. Ready to move into in December, rent out in high season. Full facilities, freehold available. Prices: 3.7 to 3.9 million baht. Sales: +66 (0)76 245964 or email to: sales@tharadonestate.com. Tel: 076-245964, 085-784-2004. Fax: 076-245962. For further details, please see our website at www.tharadonestate.com

HOUSE FOR SALE

5.5 million baht. Fully furnished. No agents. Tel: 081-894 2009.

GOLF VIEWS CONDO

Condo on the Phuket Country Club golf course for sale. 66sqm, 1 bedroom with living room and large balcony. 1.29 million baht. Tel: 086-547 1188.

28 RAI NEAR BYPASS RD

Chanote land with 200m of frontage along road 3001 opposite the new outlet mall. Tel: 081-893 6630. Email: baansorada@hotmail.com

STUNNING PATONG STUDIO APT

Large studio in Phuket Palace condo near Simon Cabaret. All modern conveniences, large balcony, bath, aircon, kitchen, cable TV, on the top floor. Spectacular views of the ocean and Patong Bay. Huge swimming pool & tennis courts. 3.7 million baht or near offer. Tel: 076-296738, 087-031 2154. Email: info@kellyshotelphuket.com

LUXURY DEVELOPMENT LAND



Ao Po, Phuket, Thailand. 23.5 rai seafront/view. Ideal for development or subdivision. Neighbors include The Estate luxury development, the new Ao Po Marina and Jumeirah Private Island. Quick sale. Call 081-970 4765. Visit www.phuketluxuryland.com

13 RAI NEXT TO MANGOSTEEN

13-178 rai of beautiful hillside land for sale. Land plot is right next to The Mangosteen Resort, ideal for mixed residential development! Price: 99 million baht. Tel: 076-289399, 081-536 5846. Fax: 076-289389. Email: hajo@mangosteen-phuket.com

KARON LAND - URGENT

1 minute to the beach, great business location for home, guesthouse, apartments. 6.7 million baht. Must sell urgently. Call Moon. Tel: 086-948 0885.

SUPERB SEA VIEW

1 rai, Yamu Hills. Fully serviced, underground power/water, gated security, ready to build on. Tel: 081-088 8271. Email: capt@loxinfo.co.th

BRAND-NEW HOUSE

For sale in Baan Suan Loch Palm. 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Price: 10.5 million baht. Urgent sale! Tel: 087-2799500.

NEW KATHU POOL VILLA



near Loch Palm for sale. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, fully furnished. Great hill & golf-green views. Land area: 200 sqm. Indoor area: 140 sqm. Pool: 7x3m. Price: 6.9 million baht. Phone: 089-724 1140. Email: nong.insurance@yahoo.co.th

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. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



35/20 Soi 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 aircons, some furniture, 50sq wah, garden. For sale at 4 million baht or for long-term rent. Must see. Contact Nina. Tel: 087-689 9679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

ON THE BEACH

2-bedroom apartment in north Patong. Foreign freehold, top floor, swimming pools. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-276-5117. Email for photos. Email: jhshand@gmail.com

BOAT LAGOON

Twin house for sale or rent, 2 and 3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 081-344 4473, 081-862 2962.

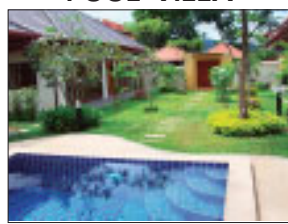
FOREIGN FREEHOLD

condo in Rawai, 250 meters from the pier. 54sqm. 1,300,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

CONDO: 63SQM, PATONG

100% renovated, freehold. 2 rooms, terrace & nice view, pool, security. Beach: 200m, furnished, TV, Hi-Fi, 2 aircons. 4.9 million baht. Telephone: 086-9760809.

RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA



Sale, lease. 1, 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms, furnished, ADSL, 1.9 million baht ono. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

GARDEN VILLA AT BAAN SAKOO



on 1 rai with 3 big bungalows and 1 big house. 7 bedrooms & bathrooms, swimming pool, fully furnished, 2km to Nai Yang Beach and 5 minutes to Phuket International Airport. Only 9 million baht. Tel: 087-270 9093, 087-689 9679. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

68 RAI OF KRABI LAND

Super-prime hilltop, 280 degree bay view above Sheraton. Chanote and Norsor 3. B6.5m per rai. Email: thunderoredigger@gmail.com

LUXURY HOUSE

for sale or rent. Mission Heights community, 5 mins from Mission Hills Golf Club. 4 bedrooms, en-suite bathrooms with bath and shower, large Western kitchen, 90-sqm pool, garden, service included. Fully furnished. Contact So. Tel: 081-862 2962, 081-344 4473.

NICE PLOT

near Layan Hills Estate and pool villas project. Chanote title and road access on 4 sides of the plot. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-5399269.

VILLA IN NAI HARN

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Western kitchen, aircon. 3.9 million baht. Tel: 076-288-047, 081-894 1660. Email: cottrell@tttmaxnet.com

2-STOREY HOUSE

5.5 million baht. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 72sq wah with some furniture at Villa Samkong. Call Khun Nan. Tel: 081-6779837. Email: knahniz@hotmail.com or okika_j@hotmail.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

LAND AT PA KHLOK



49 rai, nice flat land. Chanote, 2.5km from Heroines' Monument. 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-1802143.

2 RAI (3,200 SQM)

Sea view land plots available at the prestigious Yamu Hills near Cape Yamu. Full infrastructure from only 5 million baht per rai. Financing available. Tel: 086-6865998 or 081-7871108. Email: info@tropical-homes.net

2 BEDROOM FREEHOLD CONDO

This is a luxury, low-rise two-bedroom condominium unit at Royal Phuket Marina, Phuket's largest marina development on the island's east coast. Owners within each of the three-building cluster of condominiums will enjoy the shared 20m long swimming pool. Lift access to the upper floors, private underground parking and 24-hour security is also provided. Foreign freehold ownership is available for this apartment. The marina includes bars, restaurants, shops, a professional spa, gymnasium, and tennis courts. Tel: 076-360943, 084-8519795. Email: phuketproperties@gmail.com

RAWAI, 2-STOREY HOUSE

160sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 400m from beach. Price: 1.8 million. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

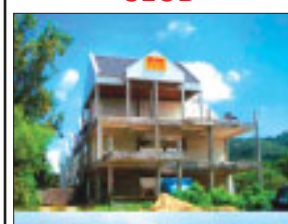
LAND AT NATAI

near Khao Pilai Beach. 20 rai w/ Chanote title, only 1.7 million baht per rai. 300m from the beach. Road, electricity access. Urgent sale. No agents. Tel: 081-539 9269.

PERFECT LAND

Nearly 2 rai at Bang Tao. Very good location for business. 18 million baht. No agents. Tel: 086-9442065, 087-6899679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB



Duplex renovation project directly on 15th fairway for sale. Reduced price. See www.fairway15.com Tel: 081-894 1994.

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: 32sq wah. Tel: 089-472 9118.

SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Tel: 082-411 2138.

PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Cherng Talay and Surin. 43 rai, 1ngan, 85sq wah. For sale by owner. 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-9562406. Email: phatsarar@gmail.com

PATONG LAND

Prime land, 5.5 rai, central location in Patong. Mail or call after 11am. Tel: 081-4095175. Email: jctailor@loxinfo.co.th

BEAUTIFUL VILLA

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms in small secure development. Sala, overflow swimming pool, secluded garden, large car port, quality kitchen, fully furnished. 10 million baht. Tel: 085-7840569.

11 RAI - WAT CHALONG

Flat land with road and water frontage. Next to Land & House Park and Wat Chalong. Chanote: 11-3-60 rai. 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-893 6630. Fax: 076-241408. Email: baansorada@hotmail.com

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Property Gazette

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, 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

SALE/RENT, KAMALA

Single house near beach, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen. 4.2 million baht. Tel: 086-277 3381.

LAND IN KATHU

444-sqm plot near waterfall. 2.5 million baht. Phone: 089-724 1140.

3-BEDROOM VILLA WITH POOL

For sale or rent, in Rawai, 3 big bedrooms, big garden, private pool, aircon. Full kitchen, great location, secure. Tel: 087-893 8747.

NICE 5 BED 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 Visit our website at www.jikkycar.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.

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

FREEHOLD IN PATONG

for sale. New studio with pool in Patong, 45sqm. 3.2 million baht. Quick sale. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: antoniocpala@yahoo.it

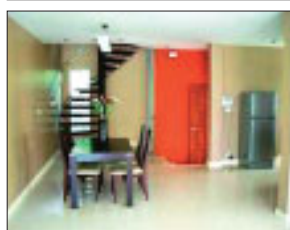
STUDIO APARTMENT

for sale in Kata. New building incl elevator, pool, restaurant, gym and parking. Walking distance to beach, shopping and nightlife. Tel: 087-893 8747.

NAI HARN LAND

for sale. High-end walled plot 720 or 360 sqm. Chanote, cable TV, mains, tel line, good views. Price: 4.4 million baht or 2.25 million baht. Tel: 076-613227, 085-782 7551.

HOUSE WITH AMAZING SEA VIEW



in Rawai. Super-modern, furnished, 3-storey 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

PRANGTHONG VILLA SALE/RENT

2-story villa in secure estate between Phuket Town and Chalong. 3 bedrooms and separate maid's room. 64 sq wah, chanote title. For sale at 5.9 million baht. For rent at 25,000 baht per month (long term only). Tel: 081-893 6630. Email: baansorada@hotmail.com

BARGAIN. KATA BEACH

3-level house, only 1 min to beach. Owner moving. 3.3 million baht. Tel: 084-840-5834.

KOH YAO YAI

3.8 rai, 1 million baht. Chanote, electricity, near pier. Thai owner needs money. Call for more details. Tel: 081-892 8208.

BIG COLONIAL HOUSE



Anuphas Golf View, built 2005, 600sqm, living space, 2 floors with 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, dream kitchen, large foyer, large dining and sitting area, separate entertainment room and snooker room, maid's room, on a 1,700sqm tropical garden. 40 million baht. Tel: 089-587 8173.

NEW BUILDING FOR SALE



in busy area, Soi Sai Nam Yen, Patong Beach.
* 4-storey
* 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.

VILLA + 2 HOUSES IN PATONG

Villa + 2 houses with 8 small apartments. The owner is using the villa + pool and 2 apartments. Six apartments are for rent. 700 sqm freehold land. For sale by owner direct at 40 million baht. No agents. Tel: 089-290 9567. Email: lars.micksater@comhem.se For further details, please see our website at www.bromma thaihouse.com

MINI GOLF FOR SALE

Mini golf course with all the possible equipment. Ready to run business. For RENT OR SALE. On 1 rai in Khao Lak. Tel: 081-8912273. Fax: 076-340182. Email: rkfashion@phuket.ksc.co.th

BUNGALOW IN CHALONG



Newly refurbished 3 bedroom, bungalow on 65sq wah. Brand new modern kitchen and bathroom. Covered parking and landscaped garden. Price: 4.2 million baht. Tel: 089-922 2800. Pls email: meen443_40@hotmail.com

MAI KHAO LAND



for sale. 11 rai, Nor Sor 3, 500 meters to the beach. Contact Tor. Tel: 084-5071834. Email: mrpantor@hotmail.com

LAND VILLA CONDO

Oceanfront estate, 160 million baht. Patong seaview plot, pool, villa, 16 million baht. Laguna, 1 rai, lake view, 15 million baht. 19 rai, Phuket central, 25 million baht. Condo Patong central 4.7 million baht. 40+ rai beachfront, 1,800 million baht. Tel: 087-2849541. For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-no1.com

CORNER BUILDING OFF BYPASS

2 units, 24 + 33 sq wah, 4 stories. Located opposite Kejmukda restaurant, 300m from the Bypass road. 7-Eleven is on the ground floor. Price for the building is 15 million baht. Tel: 081-893 6630. Fax: 076-241408. Email: baansorada@hotmail.com

KRABI AREA SEAVIEW LAND

19 rai of hillside land overlooking mountains and Phang-nga Bay. 1.2 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-9410410. Email: here@fastmail.fm For further details, please see our website at http://krabi.land.here.fastmail.fm/

SPACIOUS HOME IN LOCH PLAM

Secure estate, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 6 aircons, 1 year old, 327sqm on 560sqm. Asking 20.9 million baht ono. Owner. Tel: 083-967 5777.

KHAO LAK BEAUTIFUL



beach land for sale, 25-40 rai, all title deeds, 150m-wide beach front. 10 mins drive from Le Meridien KhaoLak. 1 km down Soi Baan Nam Khem. Ideal for resort development. Contact Maneerat. Tel: 081-812 0388. Email: mgrueneberger@yahoo.de

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

SEA, HILL & GARDEN VIEWS

2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 160sqm, beautifully appointed designer apartment in peaceful Kata Noi. 150 metres to the beach. Well-established, meticulously maintained and secluded development with 24-hour security. Handicap accessible. Many extras included. 14.7 million baht. Offers invited. Tel: 087-265-8801. Email: ruckzuck98@hotmail.com For further details, please see our websites at www.katanoicondo.com or www.photoshow.com/watch/aT6bx5cx

BANGTAO HOUSE

for sale. 3 bedrooms, 5mx9m pool, auto gate, fully furnished, ADSL, sat TV, 5 aircons, 2 levels. Tel: 087-268 8752 or 084-851 6121. Or send email to phuketmat@yahoo.com, or visit our website at www.phukethome.ws

HILL LAND SOUTH OF AIRPORT

18 Rai of Nor Sor Sam Gor land for sale by owner. Six km south of airport. Prepared for development with roads and drainage. Partial sea view towards NaiYang. 36 million baht. Tel: 081-8936630. Fax: 076-241408. Email: baan sorada@hotmail.com

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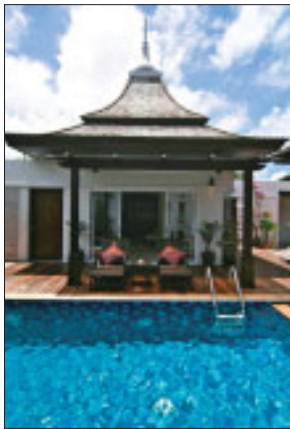
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Property Gazette

POOL VILLA, NAI HARN



Best location in Nai Harn. Excellent investment. Rental income of 75,000 baht per month for 8 months in low season. For high season, US\$550 per night is possible. Cedar roof, 2 bedrooms. Jacuzzi, waterfall, zeroscape. Only 12.5 million baht. Tel: 085-111 1155. Email: alexander kbh@gmail.com

THE WHITE HOUSE VILLA



for sale (27.5 million baht) or for rent. The White House Villa is one of the finest tropical pool villas in Patong. Best location for nightlife and touring Phuket. Located high on the hill above the Amari Coral Beach Resort at the south end of Patong. No agents! Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

KAMALA TOWNHOUSE



near Phuket FantaSea, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, car park. 3.2 million baht. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

RENOVATED DELUXE TOWNHOUSE

A beautiful 2-bedroom home of more than 120sqm located in Chalong. The home has been renovated over the last year and has granite and wooden floors, full granite bathrooms, and 2 full western kitchens with oven and breakfast bar. The home is fully furnished (if desired) with quality furniture, including huge sofa, large TVs and teak furniture. Within the complex is a swimming pool and mini mart. And, as the home is located on a dead-end road, it is whisper quiet every night. A great place to live. Private sale at 3,350,000 baht. Tel: 087-8881921. Email: ideveloptv@gmail.com

VILLAS, CONDOS

Great properties for sale in Phuket at www.janepropertyphuket.com



The BayCliff Co., Ltd. : 39/12 Prabaramee Road, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150
Tel: (66) 076 342 696 Website: www.thebaycliff.com Email: sales@thebaycliff.com

RAWAI 3 BEDROOMS



House for sale, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, with pool, sea view. 160sq wah. 12.9 million baht. Tel: 086-475 2424.

AGRICULTURAL LAND

for sale. 120 rai of agricultural land for sale, 20km from resort area of Khao Lak. Total price 3.84 million baht. Please telephone 087-020 0191 for further information.

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

SEAVIEW NORTH OF AIRPORT

4 lots of Nor Sor Sam Gor land for sale by owner. 4.5 rai in total, 3 neighboring lots: 3-1-17 Rai, and 1 separate: 1-0-83 Rai. 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-8936630. Fax: 076-241408. Email: baansorada@hotmail.com

NEW POOL VILLA

near Kata. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished. www.landandhouseforsale.phuket.net 6.8 million baht. Tel: 086-2809416.

LAND NEAR LAGUNA

Soi Pasak, 2 rai with Chanote. 6.5 million baht per rai. Call Khun Noi. Tel: 087-281 8006, 081-737 3711.

HOUSE IN BANGTAO

2, 3, 4 bedrooms from 3.6 million baht to 13 million baht. Tel: 087-2688752. Website: www.phukethome.ws

4 BEDROOM HOME, SAIYUAN



672sqm. 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, modern kitchen, working room, maid's room, and a big garden. Mountain view. For rent at 35,000 baht per month. For sale at 8.8 million baht. Tel: 081-787 2201. Email: phuket8@hotmail.com

THE BEST VIEW ON THE ISLAND



New, 80-sqm contemporary apartment overlooking Chalong Bay. 1800 unrestricted sea view. Private Jacuzzi, frameless-glass rain shower, European-style kitchen w/ built-in stainless oven, sky air-con. Common swimming pool, sundeck, massage, reception. Best location of the units in the project. Only 4-4.4 million baht. Tel: 085-111 1155. Email: alexander kbh@gmail.com

PATONG TOWER CONDO

Freehold, 5 million baht, furnished, 1 bedroom, lease / option to buy. Tel: 084-6301770.

FULLY-FURNISHED HOUSE

5 mins to Cape Panwa, Phuket City. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 084-852 8096.

3 BED HOUSE

Detached 3 bed, 2 bath with phone line and own water. 24 hour security. Approx 70 sq/wah. Kathu. 3.3 million baht ono. Interest free installments considered. Tel: +66-85-789 5092. Email: davestacey16@hotmail.com

NEW CONDOS IN PATONG



Best location, deluxe condos, fully furnished, ready to move in. Top Western quality. 2 rooms: living room with pantry kitchen, bedroom, big bath. 67-sqm, pool, garden, car park, 24-hour security, TV. Internet, safety box. 3.6 million baht (70,000 euro). Lotus Residence. Please contact Peter for more info. Tel: 081-892 8526. Email: info@phuket-besthomes.com Website: www.phuket-besthomes.com

CONDO @ THE PALMS, KAMALA

Brand-new luxury 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom apartment, 20 metres from Kamala Beach. Highest quality furnishings, plasma TV. Every facility. A beautiful residence or investment with very high rental returns. Please contact for more details. Tel: 084-630-2416. Email: jonhassall@aol.com

HOUSE IN CHALONG

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maid's room, big kitchen, air con, swimming pool. Can park 2 cars. Price: 8.5 million baht. Tel: 083-1036578.

PLANTATION SALE

26 rai, Bangpae waterfall, best for residential. 2.2 million baht per rai, whole plot or divide. Nick. Email: stoptong@yahoo.com

1/2 RAI LAND NEAR LAGUNA

Land plot 1/2 rai (800 sqm) in Baan Don near Laguna. Chanote title, filled and ready to build a villa on. For sale at 2 million baht. Tel: 086-943-4824. Email: orchids_hkt@yahoo.com

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To ensure clarity, please email. Do not Fax!

Property Gazette

Properties For Rent

PATONG



For more information email a.pueng@gmail.com

BEAUTIFUL VILLA

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, in small secure development. Sala, overflow swimming pool in secluded garden, large car port, quality kitchen, beautifully furnished. 60,000 baht/month. Tel: 085-784 0569.

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 Please see my website at: www.houseinphuket.com/

TOWNHOUSE, TAINA ROAD, KATA

for rent. Taina Road, Kata Center. 2 units, long-term rent for five years up. Ideal for bar or restaurant. Contact Khun Charoon. Tel: 086-9538692.

LUXURY POOL VILLA

3 bedrooms, 5 min to Boat Lagoon & BIS. 75,000 baht per month. Email: simon@worral.info

HOUSE IN CHALONG

for rent near Palai Beach. 3 bedrooms, aircon, fully furnished, kitchen, ADSL, car park. Tel: 089-728 8311.

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: 087-383 0936.

NEW HOUSE, PA KHLOK



for rent. In Pa Khlok, just 1 km from Heroines' Monument. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, small garden. 16,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-690-0626. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

KAMALA FOR RENT

4-bedroom detached house in select quiet compound. 20-meter pool, sat TV. Wifi, 24-hr security. Tel: 081-9560527.

POOL VILLA IN NAI HARN

3 bed, 2 bath, aircon. 25,000 baht per month, long term. Contact. Tel: 076-288047, 081-894 1660. Email: cottrell@tttmaxnet.com

HOUSES FOR RENT OR SALE

Covering all of Phuket - specialize in Rawai, Nai Harn, Chalong. Tel: 086-475 2424.

RAWAI POOL GUESTHOUSE



Private aircon room, fridge. Cable TV, Wi Fi. 10,000 baht per month. Contact for more info. Tel: 086-940-8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

HOUSE FOR RENT OR SALE



Phanason Kathu, furnished. Single house, 2 bedrooms. Ready to move in. Tel: 089-662 8733.

NEW HOUSE

for rent. Fully furnished. Villa 3, Soi 8/1, 70/76. Good price, private area, 65sq wah. Tel: 081-537 6045.

CHALONG BEACHFRONT

townhouse. Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, swimming pool, ADSL, garage. 10,500 baht/month. Tel: 089-470 6104. For further details, please see our website at www.phuketvacationhouses.com

RENTALS

Centralized property search covering all of Phuket. Holiday long term. Tel: 089-908-7597. Email: info@seekers-property-services.com

SALES AND RENTALS

in Rawai, Nai Harn and Chalong. All prices. Big, beautiful house and pool, 50,000 baht/month. Tel: 085-795 5383. For further details, please see our website at www.warmwaterland.com

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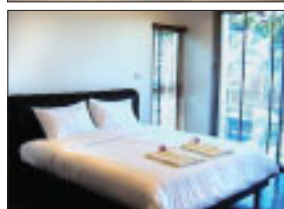
Two Villas HOLIDAY

Head Office: 9575 Moo 7, Saiyuan-Kata Road
T. Rawai, Muang, Phuket 83130
Tel: 076 289 614, Mob: 081 970 1533
reservation@thevillaservice.com, www.twovillasholiday.com

Two Villas HOLIDAY is a cost effective holiday option for families or intimate honeymooners who will appreciate the level of privacy without unnecessary disturbances found in a large hotel or resort.



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

HOUSE IN THE PARK

Fully furnished house in the park for pet lovers only. Clubhouse with swimming pool, gym, restaurant. The house comes with 3 cats, 1 dog, a housekeeper and a car. Tel: 076-345787, 081-895 0680. Fax: 076-290-407. Email: vikingresidence@gmail.com

HOUSE AT CAPE PANWA

for rent. 1 bedroom + 2 bedrooms on beach at Cape Panwa. 10,000 baht/month. Available now. Pls call 087-264 3628 for more details.

NEW HOUSE

for rent at Topland Phuket project. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, near Tesco Lotus. Price 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-270 0895.

NICE VILLA FOR RENT

4 bedrooms, fully furnished. Email for photos, then call or mail for further details. Tel: 076-273 466, 081-968 9046. Fax: 076-238948. Email: pen@phuketpropertytrip.com

NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



for rent. 3-story villa, sea view, hill view, garden, pool, 4 bedrooms with 2 en-suite bathrooms, 6 bathrooms, ADSL. Jacuzzi. Big living room, kitchen/dining, laundry room. 5 aircons. 8m x 3.5m private pool. 2 parking spaces. Tel: 081-677 9837, 089-646 4786. Email: sync_koji@hotmail.com

VILLA WITH POOL

Start Dec 1. Two months. 2 bedrooms, pool. 70,000 contract. Tel: 087-284 4425.

B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-692 3163.

HOUSE FOR RENT

House for rent in Boat Lagoon. Tel: 076-273 466, 081-968 9046. Fax: 076-238948. Email: webmaster@phuketpropertytrip.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketpropertytrip.com

CHALONG NEW HOME

2 bedroom, furnished home for rent with telephone, UBC, and aircon. Tel: 089-652 1473.

NEW HOUSE (BANDON)



for sale/rent near Laguna. 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, just bring your bag. Price negotiable, 1-year contract. Tel: 089-874 2960. Email: pwarunee@hotmail.com For further details, please see: www.phuket-on-tour.blogspot.com

THAI VILLA AND POOL

in Nai Harn, 1 km to beach, very quiet location, stunning view, 2 bedrooms, en-suite Jacuzzi, open-plan lounge, diner, European kitchen, private garden with parking. Rent long term for 45,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-270 5126.

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

for rent. Brand new, fully furnished, fully air-conditioned with communal swimming pool. Near Boat Lagoon and British International School. Please contact: Eng: 086-940 5187, Thai: 086-952 2070.

2 BEDROOM HOUSE

Bypass Rd, behind Soi Soho Roast Duck. Fully furnished, cable TV, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, living room, fully furnished, warm water, 2 aircons, ADSL, parking and garden. 14,000 baht per month. 1.5km to Tesco Lotus. Tel: 084-848-7474. Email: kasina_navama chiti@yahoo.com www.phuket-land-paradise.blogspot.com

NEW HOUSE

for rent/sale. Fully furnished. Villa 3, Soi 8/1, 70/76. Good price, private area, 65sq wah. Tel: 081-537 6045.

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Very unique price 375,000 Euro ex factory 3 double cabins all en-suite bathroom.



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Email: broker@asia-marine.net
www.asia-marine.net

CEASER THUNDERCAT

Inflatable racing cat, 40hp outboard, amazing fun, control, speed, and stability. Trailer included but needs work. 195,000 baht. Please contact. Tel: 086-941 0639. Email: andrew@damaskdesign.net For further details, please see website at www.ceasarmarine.com/images/ceasar_thundercat_flyer_small.pdf

20M CATAMARAN

Live-aboard, wood-epoxy composite, not finished. Make an offer. Tel: 087-461 8089.

37FT YACHT

For sale. Pristine condition, 2002, 5.5 million baht. 6 beds, full options. For more info call 085-783 1890.

DINGHY

4m Cholamark built, 1 year old, 40hp Yamaha, optional center console, 8-person life raft (needs inspection), kayaks, BCDs, regs, etc. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-952 0772.

HOBIE 14 FOR SALE

with launching trolley. View near Tesco. 65,000 baht. Tel: 076-224596.

35-FOOT POWER CATAMARN

New fiberglass catamaran for sale. Ideal for diving and hotel transfers. Email: tony@steppaboats.com

14-FOOT SEA DOO JET BOAT

Twin 85hp engines. Rebuilt, fast, cover, canopy, trailer, GPS. Price: 395,000 baht. Tel: 085-785 1597. Email: kcoyle@pinn.net

NEW POWER CATAMARAN

Brand-new fiberglass catamaran for sale. Perfect dive boat or hotel transfer vessel. Email: tony@steppaboats.com

DEEP-SEA FISHING BOAT

40ft-long, 12ft-wide, 18-ton fishing boat for sale. Will be at the ship yard during week 40-41 for service. Fully equipped for fishing, snorkeling. Diving no problem. Capt and deck crew available. 1.8 million baht. Owner moving to Philippines. Tel: 087-282 5008. Email: katafrog@hotmail.com

DINGHY FOR SALE

3.1m, 15hp Yamaha. Please contact for more info at Tel: 081-787 4690.

TOUR CRUISER FOR SALE

38-ft tour cruiser for sale. All fiberglass. Excellent fuel economy. Mercruiser inboard diesel engine, cruises comfortably at 27 knots. Very low hours on the engine. Toilet & freshwater shower, large sun roof, s/s ladder at bow and stern for beach access. Commercial Thai registration. 1.65 million baht. Tel: 081-9790525. Email: bosch.michael@gmail.com

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Specialized in woodwork for boat and house. New office and workshop in Boat Lagoon now open. Our services include: boat maintenance, full hull repairs, internal works, teak woodwork, teak accessories, fiberglass repairs, spray painting, boat building, home furniture, kitchens, built-in or moveable bars, counters, work desks and much more. Contact. Tel: 076-243089, 081-9683118. Fax: 076-242-742. Email: info@procarpentering.com For more information, please visit our website at www.procarpentering.com

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Contact: Andrea de Bruin / Marcus Overman
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 01 968 1437
tel/fax: 076 239 729
email: brokerage@leemarine.com

Yacht Haven Marina Office
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket
Contact: Jim Paulsen
Mobile: 081 891 3237
tel/fax: 076 206 260
email: yacht Haven@leemarine.com

Pattaya Office
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach
Contact: Mark Heath
Mobile: 0817879408
tel: 038 235 061 fax: 038 235 062
Email: mark@leemarine.com



Find more classified ads

"Boats & Marine"
at www.phuketgazette.net

Island Job Mart

Bio Latex Co Ltd (Phuket branch)

We are currently seeking

Salesperson

- * Russian nationality only (female/male, 3 persons)
- * Japanese nationality only (female, 2 persons)

- Accommodation
- Salary commensurate with experience (first 3 months 70% + accommodation) (after 3 months 100% + accommodation + commission)
- Working time - 9am to 5pm

Please send CV, recent photo and references to:
Email: ellezza-phuket@hotmail.com
kennyasumoto@gmail.com

Tel: 076-352013, 081-8937162 Fax: 076-352133



ONLINE JOB APPLICATION
HOTEL - ACCTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B
www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm

PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE MGMT

The Sands Condominium is offering 2 exciting opportunities.

PROPERTY MANAGER

- Requirements:
- Property management experience
 - Budget management
 - Legal/juristic person
 - Rental program management
 - Office admin & computer skills
 - Excellent spoken and written English

MAINTENANCE MAN

- Requirements:
- Strong construction/maintenance background
 - Hands-on and management experience
 - Spoken & written English

Salary depends on experience. Please send a cover letter.
E-mail: thesandsjp@gmail.com, prama_mantana@yahoo.com
Tel: + 66(0) 84 0589856 (Yaa) Tel/Fax: +66(0)76 388329 (Yaa)

PSS Asia Co., Ltd. Innovative Security Solutions is looking to fill the following positions:

Sales Manager:

- Thai nationality, male or female, age 26 to 45 years
- Good command of written and spoken English
- Computer knowledge and technical know-how

Secretary:

- Thai nationality, female, age 26 to 45 years
- Good command of written and spoken English
- Knowledge of common computer programs is an advantage
- Accounting knowledge is a plus

Please contact in person at **Vimami Co., Ltd.**
74/8-9 Moo 2, Chao Fa West Rd., Vichit, Muang, Phuket,
or send your application and CV to
vimami@vimami.com

campbell kane

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd. the developer of The Cape Residential Villas, The Bay, and The Yamu Resort Hotel and Villas, is seeking an experienced senior sales manager for all three of its properties in Phuket.

These are luxury oceanfront homes selling for between one and ten million USD each.

Villa Sales Manager

Qualification:

- Thai national with 5 year's successful track record selling luxury property to foreigners
- Excellent communication skills in English, both oral and written
- Familiarity with Thai real estate law is a plus
- Pleasant personality and professional appearance

Remuneration:

The position provides an excellent salary, competitive sales bonuses, and full benefits.

Please send resumé with covering letter stating salary expectations to
annie@campbellkane.com

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd., 28/7 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Rd., Koh Kaew, Phuket 83000 Thailand
Tel: +66 (0)76-204008-9 Fax: +66 (0)76-239836

The new high-end Andara Luxury Boutique Hotel & Villa Resort located at Kamala Beach Phuket is looking for a qualified & energetic person to fill the following position:



PROPERTY SALES EXECUTIVE

Candidates should have proven hotel management experience in similar positions as well as possessing the following:

Qualifications:

- Foreigner only, with at least a Bachelor's Degree in a related field
- Minimum 5 years' experience in selling Luxury branded residential properties
- Entrepreneurial, excellent service-mind, Positive thinking with "Can Do" attitude
- Ability to understand all aspects of sales management.
- Extensive knowledge and experience in the real estate market with successful sales results is essential.
- Highly professional and able to maintain poise under pressure.

Interested candidates, please send full resume, expected salary & enclose a recent photo by fax or e-mail to **PARADISE GROUP:**
The Plaza Surin 5/50 Moo 3, Chermgthalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110
t: 66-76-271242 e: hr@paradisepuket.com and apple@paradisepuket.com

WAITER & BAR STAFF WANTED

Spice Island, a new and exciting restaurant, is looking for experienced waiters, waitresses and bar staff. Please send your CV to us for consideration. Tel: 081-8937028. Fax: 076-254827. Email: spice.island.phuket@gmail.com

RESTAURANT CASA D'ORASA

We need one professional waiter/waitress, English speaking. We also need one cook's assistant for Italian cuisine. For more information please contact Khun. Orasa. Tel: 087-518 8837. Email: peterwiniker@hotmail.com

ADMIN: ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

Female, Thai national, English (spoken and written), assistant to accountant, good with Microsoft Office, Word, and Excel. Please send CV, references and expected salary. Walk-in interviews are also possible. Tel: 076-245962. Email: hakan@tharadonestate.com

Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa, Mai Khao Beach



We are looking for our last few special team members to come and join Anantara Phuket.

So if you are a hotel professional who would be proud to help us deliver the Anantara Story we would love to hear from you.

Villa Operations

- Airport Representative
- Telephone Operator Supervisor
- Telephone Operator (Female)

Housekeeping

- Villa Attendant
- Villa Runner (Male)
- Villa Administrator
- Florist

Finance

- Purchasing Manager
- Purchasing Clerk

Food & Beverage

- In Villa Dining Attendant (Male)
- Kitchen**
- Chef de Partie

Sales

- Public Relations Manager

Human Resources

- Human Resources Director

Engineering

- Senior Gardener
- Handyperson x 3 – (Electrical/Mechanical)

English Pub in Turtle Village Opening Dec 08

Front of House

- Pub Manager
- Pub Supervisors x 2
- F&B Attendants x 7
- Bartenders x 5

Kitchen

- Sous Chef
- Chef de Partie x 2
- Demi Chef
- Commis x 4

All associates will enjoy 5-day work week (average 45 hours per week). Transport to and from Phuket Town will be provided. Submit your CV with covering letter stating the position you are applying to email address recruit_phuket@anantara.com

Good luck with your application!

UNLIMITED EARNINGS

Thai nationals required for marketing office in Patong. 5-day working week, 9am-4pm. Will be working outside. Please contact Annie for more details. Tel: 080-529 0087.

+ 50,000 BAHT PER MONTH

Swedish/ Norwegian/ Danish/ Finnish speaking, work permit free. Contact Marc for info. Tel: 086-683 3526. Email: marcjonker_69@hotmail.com

SELL LUXURY TECHNOLOGY

for our special luxury products. We need a marketing/sales person to expand our team. Experience in sales an asset. Salary + commission over 60,000 baht/month. Send CV to: pascal@taillard-electricity.com

ACCOUNTANT WANTED

Thai national with experience, computer skills. Full time. Tel: 081-537 6866.

WANTED URGENTLY

Native English speaker for part time/full time work in an international child care center in the Rawai area. Please call for more information. Tel: 076-289784.

SALES - ENGLISH NATIVE SPEAKER

Telesales consultant required for 7-week contract, starting ASAP. Target orientated, hard working, strong work ethic needed. We are a UK company based in Rawai. Email: lan@evocation.net

PART-TIME ENGLISH

Teachers for adult education wanted. Please send your CV and recent photo to: hans_lange@hotmail.com

HOTEL RECEPTIONIST

We are seeking a male receptionist, 22-35 years old. Good spoken and written English. Internet and email skills. Smart appearance. Minotel hotel, Sawadira Road, Patong Beach. Pls contact us for more details: Tel: 076-296654. Or email: minotel@fastmail.fm

POOLMAN WANTED

for maintenance. Full-time. Experience with saltwater system pool. Flexible. Tel: 081-537 6866.

RECEPTIONIST KATA

Hotel requires a female Thai receptionist. Must be reliable and speak English. Please contact for more information at Tel: 081-892 1621.

Looking for a job?
Looking for a better candidate?
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at www.PhuketGazette.Net/

Island Job Mart



URGENTLY REQUIRED: Phuket Office
The BayCliff Development Co., Ltd. a real estate and development company is currently looking for capable and reliable employees for its affiliated hotel in Phuket for the following positions:

Receptionist/ Reservation Officer

- Thai Nationality
- Male or Female age 20-35 years old
- At least 1 year's experience
- Service mind, flexible working hours
- Must be reliable and speak English
- Fair computer skills

Housekeeping Attendant

- Female age 20-40 years old
- At least 1 year's experience
- Service mind

Engineering

- Male age 25-40 years old
- At least 1 year's experience

Chief Accountant

- Female age 25-40 years old
- At least 2 years's experience
- An excellent working knowledge of operational and communication skills

Sales Manager/Assistant Sales Manager: Bangkok Office
Qualifications:

- Thai, Male or Female, age at least 25 years
- Bachelor's Degree in Sales or other related field
- Previous real estate sales management experience required
- Must be technically literate
- Proficiency in MS Office
- Excellent command of written and spoken English
- Service mind, hardworking and able to work under pressure
- Friendly personality, positive attitude and must be a team player
- Good leadership
- Active listener
- Be able to work upcountry occasionally

Sales Representative Super Car Showroom in Phuket
Qualifications:

- Male/Female age 25-40 years old
- Previous experience in Phuket field
- An excellent working knowledge of operation and communication skills
- Service mind
- Good command of spoken and written English

Candidates with the above requirements and qualifications are invited to send a resume with a recent photo via email:
niramon@thebaycliff.com

The BayCliff Co., Ltd.
39/12 Prabaramee Road, Patong, Kathu,
Phuket 83150 Thailand.
Tel: (+66) 076-342698
Fax: (+66) 076-342686
Website: www.thebaycliff.com

Bang Tao Beach Ltd, a real estate and development company, is looking for capable and reliable employees for its newly established office in **Phuket**, as follows:

OFFICE SECRETARY

1 Position

Female, 20-26 years, diploma or higher, min 2 years experience, computer literacy (MS Office), fluent in English (spoken & written).

ACCOUNTANT

1 Position

Female, 20-26 years, diploma or higher, min 2 years experience, computer literacy (MS Office), English speaking.

OFFICE MAID

1 Position

Female, min 2 years experience, English speaking an advantage but not necessary.

Interested **Thai nationals** (preferably own transportation) please contact or send CV to **Khun Onuma**
Tel. 0-2632-9777 Fax. 0-2632-9779
E-mail : onuma@kajima.co.th

Employment Wanted

THAI WOMAN

I can read, write and speak very good English, very good German, and basic French. I have good computer skills. I have my own car. I am trustworthy and reliable. If you are looking for a good worker, please do not hesitate to contact me. Email: patty.bamert@gmx.net

WINDS OF CHANGE

Swiss chef is ready for you. 25 years' experience in international and contemporary kitchen. My goal is that guests return. Tel: 087-882 1499.

EXPERIENCED BAR MANAGER

English nationality, experienced in stock taking, sales, etc. Looking for relief/part time work within Phuket. All offers considered. Please contact me for more information. Telephone 085-460 8487 or email bobhammond@hotmail.co.uk

PAINTER/DECORATOR

30 years' experience in England. Seeking work in the Phuket area. No job too small - give me a call! Tel: 085-460 8487. Email: bobhammond@hotmail.co.uk

ACCOUNT, MEMBER SERVICE, HR

We need:

- 1 Member Service staff
- an HR officer with knowledge of visas and work permits and experience in HR field
- 1 Accounting Manager with experience of more than 5 years and the ability to use advanced Excel program.

All positions are for Thai nationals. Candidates must have a strong command of English - written and spoken (business level). Tel: 076-326291. Email: recruitment@premierpropertyleisure.com

SPECIALIST DESIGN KITCHENS

Dutchman, specialized in design kitchens and bathrooms, with a lot of experience in renovation and general interior building, is looking for opportunities. I have excellent communication skills, live in Phuket, and speak fluent English, Dutch, and French - and fairly good German. Tel: 085-156 9084. Email: richard19@hotmail.fr

SILK
RESTAURANT & BAR

SILK RESTAURANT & BAR a Lan Kwai Fong Group Company. One of Phuket Island's most popular restaurants. We are seeking motivated and dynamic professionals to join our team of professionals for the following positions:

RESTAURANT MANAGER

- Male/Female with 5 years' experience in Thai Restaurant
- Excellent command of English language, MS Office skills, Internet & others
- Able to control & run a restaurant, co-operating in promotional events and managing on Restaurant advertisements
- Able to work within fiscal controls & meet budget forecast requirements
- Ability to lead staff by example
- Very pleasant personality, customer relationship management experience, have initiative, creative with good interpersonal, presentation, self motivated great organizer & organization skills.
- Knowledge of food & wine, Phuket's hotel & travel agencies a definite advantage

SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

- Thai nationality with degree in Sales & Marketing or related field
- At least 5 years' experience with background in Sales & Marketing of Thai Restaurant and Tourism background is preferable
- Strong communication skill with customer's decision-making level. Should be aggressive in the pursuit of sales, independent, creative and smart thinking, co-operating in promotional events and managing restaurant advertisements & able to set up menu will be advantage
- Very pleasant personality, have initiative, creative with good interpersonal presentation & organization skills
- Excellent command of English language, MS Office skills, Internet & others
- Knowledge of Phuket's hotel and travel agents a definite advantage

Attractive salary with benefits and career opportunities are offered to successful candidates. Please submit your full resume, expected salary and enclosed a recent photo by fax or email to:

SILK ENTERTAINMENT LTD.

5/50 moo 3, cherngthalay, thalang, phuket 83110 thailand
f: 076-271242 e: hr@paradisephuket.com website: www.silkphuket.com

Asia Marine is recruiting for an Insurance & Admin Executive.

- Female
- Thai national
- Good command of written and spoken English
- Previous experience in this field a plus

Please send your resume with cover letter in English to insurance@asia-marine.net

CONDO MANAGER REQUIRED

Will be responsible for maintenance of common areas; supervision of Thai staff; liason with owners & management board; and control, budgeting and accounting functions. Interested parties should apply by email at: kalimresidence@gmail.com

COFFEE SHOP NEEDS A MANAGER

English speaking, computer skills, good salary. Contact tel: 086-509 7510. Email: jpp77@yahoo.co.uk

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Articles For Sale

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9CT gold watch: 6,000 baht. Lady's dress ring, emerald style: 3,000 baht. My ring: 7,000 baht. 9 CT, solid silver rose bowl: 6,000 baht. Tel: 087-922 3242. Email: patong man123@hotmail.com

I POD, VIDEO

Ipod, video version, 30 GB, with charger. One year old, but good as new as never really used. Open to offers. Tel: 086-953 8616. Email: jenchanisa@gmail.com

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Imported quality Quinny Speedi SX, three-wheel baby/toddler stroller with Maxi-Cosi car seat (fits together). 10,000 baht. Good quality traditional dark wood crib with pads and mattress. 7,500 baht. Or everything for 15,000 baht. Tel: 076-282795, 081-787 9454. Fax: 076-246180. Email: andersp@loxinfo.co.th

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LEAVING THAILAND

Red and white leather beanbag: 800 baht. Karana tent, sleeps 5: 1,000 baht. Karana Tent, sleeps 3: 500 baht. Tel: 084-857 7706. Email: shertin@gmail.com

MOVING SALE ONE YEAR OLD

surround sound TV: LG 37" w/ 5 speakers + cabinet: 46,000 baht. 2 small teak dressers: 4,000 baht. Samsung fridge, 67": 5,500 baht. Imported portable oven with 2 top burners (electric): 5,000 baht. King support mattress with sheets and pillows: 6,000 baht. Also have 5 plants, 4 sets of curtains and rods. Tel: 084-846-4256.

MOVING SALE

Never used sofa, bed, mattress, cooker, 3 fridges, coffee machine, 2,000 DVDs in Italian/French, Pioneer DVD recorder, computer scanner-laser, Acer laptop, Samsung TV 21". Tel: 081-294 5441.

NINTENDO WII

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used one time. Bought for 5,230 baht, selling for 3,500 baht. Contact Colette. Tel: 089-212 1254.

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LG 42" PLASMA TV

Excellent condition, complete with wall brackets. Price: 24,950 baht. Tel: 086-943-3056.

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I bought these on Ebay and they are too big for me. Turquoise leather, open-toe cork wedges, from the UK. Very unique and great condition. Price 650 baht. Email: sylvie@andamanavenue.com

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Bulletins

PUBLIC NOTICE

Bungy Thrills Int'l Co Ltd wants to add 1 Director, Khun Unruean Kaeobun.

Terrence Andrew Pearce and 2 Thai directors to have power to sign all company papers and stamp.

RALPH BLENKISOP

Hello again, Ralph. I have another letter for you. You can get it Mon to Fri at my office. John. Tel: 076-330 967, 081-892 0474. Fax: 076-330990. Email: John@siamdivers.com

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Is holding meetings in English at the following places in Phuket:

- Mission Hospital Phuket City On Wed and Sun 7 pm
- Bangkok Hospital Phuket City On Fri 7 pm
- Patong Hospital Patong On Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun at 7 pm and Fri at 8 pm
- Chalong Health Clinic near Chalong Circle Tues 1 PM For Phuket info (English) call 081-8564031, 081-8912895 or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com
- Scandinavian speaking Group Wat Karon School Karon On Tue 7 pm and (Sat Nov-April only) 7 pm Tel: 086-9448463 Suv, 082-2765958 Nor Krabi Group Call: 084-4463130 for details

For info on other Thailand AA meetings please call 02-2333558 (for Thailand) or 02-2333558 (for Thailand) or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

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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@piwv.info) or K. Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948. Email: sue.arnulphy@piwv.info).

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Play Wednesday afternoons at Royal Phuket Marina. Tapas + drinks included. Contact Alan. Tel: 084-065 7590.

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I am looking for someone in Phuket who is interested in buying a small speed boat, such as "Crownline", as a half owner. I live in Rawai. Please contact me, Gary, as above if you might be interested. Tel: 089-090 6969. Email: tropical breeze_1@hotmail.com

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Anyone interested in getting a group of Ladies, 40+, together to enjoy social Tennis? Contact me by email or mobile. Tel: 089-469 8100. Email: didee51@yahoo.com.au

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PATONG SHOPHOUSE

Home bar on Bangla Road. 16 million baht, Chanote, or 30x30 lease. Tel: 087-881-7600.

GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE

Good location with restaurant, 6 rooms, newly renovated, ready to run, includes website. 1.2 million baht. Tel: 087-069 1823.

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for sale near Heroines Monument, Pa Khlok. Room (aircon) + terrace = 40sqm. Fully equipped/running. Upstairs 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, partially furnished. 225,000 + rent 14,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-700 4094. Email: catayacht@csloxinfo.com

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for lease. 2-year contract - 300,000 baht and 15,000 baht. Tel: 084-850 7739.

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RESTAURANT & BAR

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SHOP FOR RENT

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in Patong for lease on the main road. 2nd & 3rd levels sea view, fully equipped, 60 seats, air conditioning. For 2 million baht only. Tel: 081-797 7199. Email: oscarfashion12@hotmail.com

RESORT FOR SALE

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PATONG GUESTHOUSE

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RETAIL SHOP FOR SALE

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SHOP IN PATONG

for rent. Best location. Soi Foodland, 50sqm. All branches, please contact Khun Peter. Tel: 081-892-8526.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

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BEACHFRONT RESTAURANT

Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) is accepting tender proposals for operation of the F&B facilities in its new Beachfront Club House at Chalong Bay. Applicants must submit a resume showing a minimum of 5 years experience in restaurant management. For tender application information, please contact Allan Mossop: allan@pipsphuket.com, or Tel: 076-270752, +66-(0)81-737 0722. Applications must be submitted before 3pm on Friday, 7 November, 2008.

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Wants golden labrador girlfriend to make pups. Tel: 083-967 5777.

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Soi Dog Foundation Tel: 081-7884222

Wheels & Motors

Saloon Cars

NISSAN SENTRA 2000

New LPG, automatic, stereo, aircon, looks perfect. Supercheap asking price of only 99,000 baht. Tel: 089-728 6752.

CHEVROLET OPTRA

1.6 Estate, year 2005, 1 year of top insurance, family car, only one owner (farang), excellent condition. 510,000 baht. Contact Khun Porn, as above. Tel: 076-661572, 087-274 0680. Email: noe.gabriele@hotmail.com

NISSAN 350Z

Good condition, convertible, year 2008. Tel: 081-956-7700.

NISSAN SENTRA 92

230,000km, good condition 120,000 baht. Tel: 086-064 8265. Email: qrospidou@hotmail.com

MISUBISHI LANCER

Auto gear, 99,000 baht, power steering, no rust, CD player, new aircon, service record, new tyres. Tel: 084-184 1856.

1990 TOYOTA CORONA

Excellent running condition. Female owner. Used daily. 1st class insurance. Aircon, power steering, electric windows. 105,000 baht (non-negotiable). Tel: 076-381523, 084-006 8736. Or email: intlicense@yahoo.com

FORD FOCUS FOR SALE

2006, 4 doors, blue, auto, 1.8L, just 10,000km, full service. 750,000 baht. Tel: 083-103 6578.

TOYOTA CORONA



4-door, AC, CD, solid transmission, everything new. 90,000 baht. Tel: 081-397 4222.

HONDA CITY 1997

Economical, nice car, CD player, 135,000km. Can be seen at QSI school. 190,000 baht obo. Tel: 076-354077.

FOR SALE: NISSAN SUNNY 1,800

Vip neo, leather, gold, 40,000km, 1 year full insurance, 4 years old. 475,000 baht. Contact. Tel: 089-8540277 (English) or 086-4417686 (Thai). Email: djxav@loxinfo.co.th

2006 HONDA CIVIC 1.8 I-VTEC

Auto, full options, chrome wheels, many extras, 35,000km, well maintained. Asking 650,000 baht. Tel: 084-4464492. Email: rabbit_tweety@live.com

VOLVO 2.3 T

Blue colour, very fast due to upgraded computer. Only 625,000 baht. Excellent condition w/ all service from Volvo. Contact. Tel: 081-0917565. Email: vikas.malik@courtyard.com

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

SUBARU 1800 GLF-5

Metallic blue, very good condition, recently spent 50,000 baht to recondition engine, battery, petrol pump, alternator. Service receipts available. 80,000 baht. Tel: 080-7179353. Email: wblueboy@aol.co.uk

HONDA CITY TYPE Z

Year 2001, dark blue, 1.5cc, manual, aircon, central locking, 138,500kms. 320,000 baht. For sale direct from owner. Contact. Tel: 081-9707019. Email: nisaya19@yahoo.com

MITSUBISHI CEDIA VIRAGE

2004, limited edition. Immaculate condition. Black. Asking 450,000 baht (negotiable). Tel: 081-8922248. Email: rajbalaguru@yahoo.com

CHEVROLET OPTRA 1.6L

2006, auto, 18,000km, gray. Can convert to gas. Blaupunkt 5-CD stereo. 480,000 baht or 170,000 + take over payments. Tel: 081-8934661. Email: valiant@loxinfo.co.th

SLK MERCEDES 200

1997, green. Perfect condition. 98,000km, full insurance. Asking 1.5 million baht. Tel: 087-2849690. Contact for more details. Email: fullmoonbeach@hotmail.com

'98 TOYOTA SOLUNA

Excellent condition, 1.5 liters, 5-speed, power windows and locks. 255,000 baht. Tel: 081-0036902. Email: contact@purist.biz

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

NEW HONDA JAZZ

Red Jazz, 2009 SVAT, 2 months old. 1,000km. Includes 50,000 baht in accessories. Sale due to relocation of lady owner. Cash or finance transfer. Tel: 087-2747648. Email: debspatterson@gmail.com

TOYOTA CAMRY

New Model 2006/2007. Dark Blue, 40,000km all options. Cost new: 1.75 million baht. Will sell for 1.2 million. Tel: 081-7888280.

HONDA CITY ZX V-TEC 2006

31,000km, automatic, ABS, air-bag, 2005/45 ZR, 16' mags, 1-year warranty. 495,000 baht. Tel: 087-8866766.

TOYOTA ALTIS FOR SALE



2001, gold, automatic gearbox, full set of options. CD player. Price: 470,000 baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-6900626. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

Pickups

2007 FORD RANGER PICKUP

Like new, only 23,000km. Still has 13 months of factory warranty. Extras include alloys, maxi-liner, Carryboy box, and 3 months of first class insurance. Western lady owner. Living in Thailand; hence the low price of only 375,000 baht. Tel: 081-895 4480. Email: mat@pcphuket.com

CUSTOM VIGO

Best Vigo in Phuket. 2006/7. Road permit is valid for 1 year. Fully fitted inside and out. Excellent condition. Priced for a quick sale at 850,000 baht. Tel: 083-481 1203. Email: glory@12buzz.com

ISUZU DMAX 2008

Brand new, bought for 735,000 baht. Selling for 595,000 baht. Less than 4,000km. Call for information. Tel: 081-271 3045.

MITSUBISHI STRADA 25 TURBO

2 small scratches in doors. Good condition. Insurance paid until August 2009. See for yourself. 350,000 baht. Call 076-285352 or 089-473 2377 for more details. Or email morten.pasby@gmail.com

2007 CHEVROLET COLORADO

4-door, common rail, 3.0cc, tax, insured. 395,000 baht. Please call for more details. Tel: 084-441 3633.

ISUZU D-MAX 4-DOOR 2004

2.5 manual, 100,000km, CD/DVD player, radio, TV. 399,000 baht ono. Good deal. Please call for more details. Tel: 081-387 3809.

2006 TOYOTA VIGO



Prerunner for sale. Manual, 58,000km, 3.0cc diesel. Full options: DVD-MP3, rear parking sensors, front Para shock, etc. Nice pickup in very good condition. Price: 650,000 baht. Please call 089-725 6994 (Eng) or 086-745 3359 (Thai). Email: jdelatorre@helmsbriscoe.com

NISSAN BIG M

115,000 baht obo. 1990, very good condition with newly rebuilt engine. Very reliable, many extras. Tel: 086-684-5368.

MAZDA PICKUP

125,000km. Perfect condition. 100,000 baht. Contact. Tel: 087-9757672. Email: eric.jehannin@neuf.fr

2001 FORD RANGER XL

pick-up, diesel, well maintained. CD player, aircon, silver. Nice pick-up, 215,000 baht. Rawai. Tel: 089-473-1351.

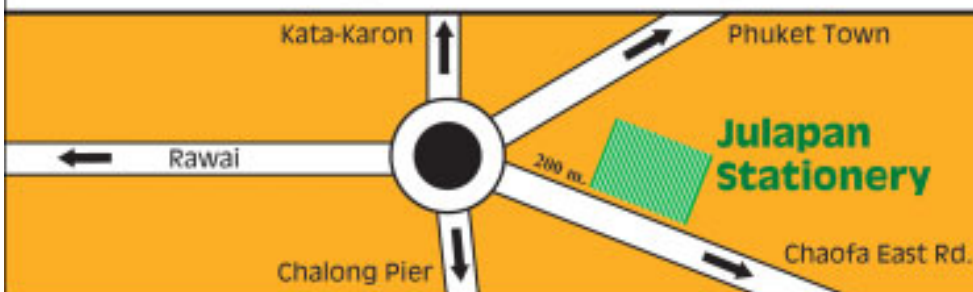
MITSUBISHI 2-DOOR

Diesel, new tires, new work just done on aircon, good runner. 99,000 baht. Full tax and insurance. Call Tel: 083-175-0485.

AMAZING MAZDA PICKUP

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All advertising must be paid for in advance.

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Wheels & Motors

4 x 4s

SUZUKI CARIBIAN

Economical red Jeep, good condition, 1 year registration, aircon. 100,000 baht. Tel: 076-319457.

VIGO 4WD 4X4 2005

G, manual, complete & top condition, extras, service book. Price: 560,000 baht. Tel: 087-294 5737.

TOYOTA VIGO



For sale. 4x4, 2 doors, 52,000km. 450,000 baht. Tel: 081-891 5602.

FORTUNER 2006 AUTO

Diesel, silver Lenso alloys, DVD, special reg no. Toyota warranty plus immaculate. 950,000 baht. Tel: 085-784 0569.

'02 FORD RANGER 2.5 4DR 4WD

Near-showroom condition. 185,000 kms. Carryboy and Sony CD/MP3. 310,000 baht. Tel: 086-9499255. Email: mikdevhot@hotmail.com

TOYOTA SPORT RIDER

2004. Immaculate condition, fully loaded, auto 4x4, one owner, must see. Tel: 081-7645179, 086-4780340. Email: j.t.torgersen@gmail.com

FORD RANGER 4X4

Hurricane, turbo. Full options, year 2004. Only 48,000km. 4-door, manual gear, sound system: 40,000 baht. Dark blue. Excellent condition. 450,000 baht. Tel: 081-8919461.

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. Contact for more details. Tel: 081-535 0202. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

LANDROVER V8i

Discovery, auto, excellent condition, 106,000km. CD, safe vehicle. Tel: 081-543-0980.

TOYOTA FORTUNER FOR SALE

Black Fortuner, 3 years old, very good condition. 800,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-803-7189. Fax: 076-342733. Email: robinbglee@gmail.com

SUZUKI JEEP & HONDA PHANTOM

1992 Suzuki: 80,000 baht. 2003 Phantom: 40,000 baht. Both in good condition. Tel: 087-2753614. Contact for more details at. Email: tradexpat@hotmail.com

TOYOTA FORTUNER

auto 4x4 for rent, 1 year old, color: night blue. 3.0L diesel, first-class insurance, rental for 6 months: 40,000 baht, or rent for 12 months: 35,000 baht. Tel: 086-9510076. Contact for more details. Or Email: chonmapoom_k@yahoo.com

ISUZU D-MAX 2004

Top of the line D-MAX. 4WD, 4 Doors, 3L, many extras. 425,000 baht. Tel: 086-942-1969. Or email: laclisque@gmail.com

ISUZU D-MAX LS

Perfect condition. 4D, 4WD, navy blue, many extras. Only 460,000 baht. Tel: 086-942 1969. Email: laclisque@gmail.com

Motorbikes

ATV 4X4 FOR SALE

Runs good, lots of fun. 25,000 baht. Tel: 085-783 1890.

HARLEY DAVIDSON

Soft tail deluxe, 2005, as new, 13,000km. 790,000 Call Joe. Tel: 084-054 8122.

HONDA SHADOW 400

American classic, 1999, excellent condition, nice bike. 135,000 baht. Tel: 085-384 8494.

HARLEY DAVIDSON 2009

Just Arrived! Nightster Black/Orange: 770,000 baht. O.T.R. Fat Boy Denim Black: 1,167,000 baht. O.T.R. Sportster 2007, 1200 R in Black, as new: 545,000 baht. Contact Marc at Motorcycle World at mobile number 087-887 9606. Or send email to: senna@cscms.com

GREEN YAMAHA MIO

Automatic, 2.5 years old, 9,700 km. Good condition with green book and insurance. Price: 23,000 baht. Tel: 084-668 4537, 086-953 3884. Email: miyax_25@hotmail.com

HARLEY DAVIDSON / DYNA

Low Rider - 2003 Anniversary. Only 4,500 km. Accessories, new tires, Green Book, tax and 1st class insurance. 620,000 baht. Tel: 076-398 040 or 089-474 1828. Email: gilbert@sunrise-divers.com

HONDA PHANTOM

chopper style, blue chrome, 13,000km, 3 years old, 45,000 baht. Tel: 087-8817600.

HONDA BROSS

650cc. Price: 85,000 baht. Call or mail to view. Tel: 085-796 7835. Or email: finale.2001@hotmail.com

2007 RED HONDA PHANTOM

Garaged from new and in brand new condition Tel: 086-757 1362. Or Email: peterconnor1980@hotmail.com

PHANTOMS

Yellow: 45,000 baht. Silver: 55,000 baht. Red: 60,000. All bikes 2 to 5 years old. Tel (English): 086-149 0005. Tel (Thai): 089-487 5126.

HONDA DASH 125CC

1999, 40,000km, fast bike: 180kph, fully legal + documents. Kathu. Price: 18,000 baht. Tel: 087-0331829.

HONDA CLICK

and Honda Wave, two years old, very good condition. Tel: 081-2945441.

HONDA PHANTOM, 3 YEARS OLD

13,500km. Price: 55,000 baht. Phone (Eng): 087-893 0589. Phone (Thai): 086-9483052.

MOTORBIKES

Very nice custom bike: Honda Steed. Green book, insurance and tax, new. 152,000 baht. Tel: 084-639 0392.

SUZUKI SV650

1996 in good condition. Very fast, green book, insurance. Contact for details. Tel: 081-5391380.

3 BIKES FOR SALE, GOOD PRICES

1) Honda Dash. 1999, top speed: 180kmh, open engine, 15,000 baht.
2) Yamaha Rainbow, 1998, 7,000 baht.
3) Yamaha Rainbow 1998, ugly but good engine, 4,000 baht. Tel: 076-381280, 085-781 1068.

Email:

horstuntembaum@hotmail.com

Rentals

RENT MOTORBIKE: 2,400 B / MO

Honda Wave: 2,400 baht per month. Honda Click automatic: 3,000 baht per month. Call or mail for details. Tel: 089-973 5081, 086-683 7162. Email: somthavin_pw@hotmail.com

TOYOTA AVANZA 1,500CC AUTO

for rent. 18,000 baht per month; 5,500 baht per week. Tel: 089-700 4094. Email: catayacht@csloxinfo.com

HONDA CIVIC FOR RENT

18,000 baht per month with full insurance. Negotiable for long term rental. Tel: 083-790 7118. Email: saranghada@hotmail.com

TOYOTA VIOS FOR RENT

2 years old and in good condition. 19,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-882 9246. Email: greatdeal94@gmail.com

CHEAP CAR FOR RENT

Honda city, automatic, long-term. Only 12,000 baht/moth. Tel: 086-743 2011. Email: woon_bank@hotmail.com

MINIBUS AND CAR FOR RENT



Minibus, Vios, Jazz, City for rent. We're offering low-season prices. Tel: 081-5388567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

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10,000-20,000 baht per month, full insurance. Tel: 089-472 7304.

Bicycles

65-YEAR-OLD BICYCLE

for sale. Old from Holland. We accept offers. Tel: 081-294 5441.

'06 TREK MADONE 5.2

Frame: OCLV 120 Carbon Aero

- Fork: Bontrager Race X Lite, carbon

- Wheels: Bontrager Race Lite

- Shifters: Shimano Ultegra STI, 10 speed

- Front & Rear Derailleur: Shimano Ultegra

- Pedals: Shimano Dura Ace 7800 Pedals.

Tel: 086-945 0370. Or mail: harald20@hotmail.com

Wanted

CAR WANTED

for 4 months. Must be automatic. Optical condition is not important. Not interested in Suzuki Jeep. Maximum budget is 12,000 baht per month. Email: office@neubrasilien.at

WANTED

Are you leaving Phuket and/or looking to sell a car? Wanted: small 4-door car up to, say 4 years old. Auto or manual. Must be direct from owner, all in good condition and reasonably priced. Tel: +34-629-791004. Email: info@aldeablanca.com

HONDA WAVE WANTED

125cc. Electric starter. Disc brake. Maximum 2 years old. Tel: 081-3670991.

Others

ENGINE FOR SALE

5.7 litre Chevrolet V8 c/w automatic transmission. Can be test run. 120,000 baht. Tel: 086-277 8461. Email: brunuiviv@hotmail.com

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PROPERTY RESALE

Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

<p>1 Laguna Townhome I THB 23 M</p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-storey Townhome 4 beds 3.5 bath 25 sqm private pool on golf course, enclosed laundry 	<p>2 Laguna Townhome I THB 21 M</p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-storey 3 beds Townhome 25 sqm private pool enclosed laundry on 8th hole of golf course
<p>3 Laguna Townhome II THB 24 M</p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-storey Townhome 25 sqm private pool on golf course 	<p>4 Dusit Thani Pool Villa THB 36 M</p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-storey Townhome 2 beds • rooftop pool guaranteed rental return
<p>5 Laguna Residence I THB 39 M</p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-storey detached house 4 beds 3 baths 48 sqm pool • on golf course guaranteed rental return 	<p>For more information on these and other properties, please call: +66 (0) 76 362 333 or email: resale@lagunaresale.com www.lagunaresale.com</p>



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1 KM and 6.5 KM Races
All ages are welcome to compete for
Individual Medals and School Team Trophies

There will be an awards ceremony
There will be raffle drawings for great prizes
There will be a silent auction for even greater prizes
There will be great food and sodas!!!
There will be good healthy FUN, FUN, FUN!

SATURDAY, 29 November, 2008

REGISTRATION FROM 14:00-15:15
1 km Race at 15:30
6.5 KM Race at 16:00

Location: Bang Wad Dam - Kathu

Entry Fee is 100 Baht for children and 150 Baht for adults.

Raffle Tickets are 50 Baht each and are available from QSI students or by calling 076 354 077.



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