

# Phuket Gazette

Volume 15 Issue 51

News Desk - Tel: 076-236555

December 20 - 26, 2008

Daily news at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)

25 Baht

The Gazette is published  
in association with

**The Nation**

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## Phuket Democrats hopeful

PHUKET: Phuket's two constituency MPs say they are looking forward to working with their new government coalition partners – including members of a faction loyal to former Democrat Party nemesis Newin Chidchob – in order to heal the nation's political rift and economic woes.

Both Democrats Tossaporn Tephabuttra and Rewat Areerob were among 235 MPs who voted for Party leader Abhisit Vejjajiva during the extraordinary session of the lower house held on December 15 to find a replacement for former Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat, whose People Power Party (PPP) was dissolved under a Constitutional Court ruling on December 2.

Among those backing Mr Abhisit were 37 members of the PPP's "Friends of Newin" faction, Isarn- based MPs loyal to Newin Chidchob, a former PPP executive who, like Mr Somchai, was banned from politics for five years by the court ruling.

Mr Newin is infamous in Phuket for leading the no-confidence debate that followed the Phuket SorPorKor land scandal that eventually led to the downfall of the first Chuan Leekpai administration in 1995.

After over a decade in the court system, resulting legal battles saw MP Tossaporn and several other Phuket tycoons lose SorPorKor land claimed by their families.

Despite the history between the two men, MP Tossaporn said he has no problem working with Newin's "friends".

"Mr Newin himself has no official position in government, as he has been banned from politics for five years. The Friends of Newin are concerned about the political turmoil in the nation, just as we are.

"I have had a chance to talk with Newin's supporters. They assured me that the Newin faction will support the govern-



Democrats Tossaporn Tephabuttra (left) and Rewat Areerob (right) were among 235 MPs who voted for Democrat Party leader Abhisit Vejjajiva during the December 15 election.

ment's policies and that their main concern is finding solutions to their constituents' problems," he said.

Explaining that Mr Abhisit must appoint a Cabinet and state his policies before Parliament by year's end, he described the new government as a "New Year's gift to the Thai people" that will bring about national reconciliation.

The alliance will ease tensions between the anti-Thaksin "yellow shirts" of the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) and the "red shirts" of the pro-Thaksin United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship (UDD), Mr Tossaporn said.

Because both the business sector and academia trust in Mr Abhisit's ability to tackle the social and economic crises, investor confidence will increase to create more jobs, thus easing social problems, he said.

"I believe all parts of society will give the new government a chance to set policies that will benefit all Thai people," he said.

The coalition government

will likely get six to 12 months to work "without obstacles". If in that time it wins the people's trust, the Abhisit administration could govern until the end of its scheduled term in 2011, he said.

Asked about issues facing Phuket, he said global economic troubles would continue to drive job-seekers to the island from other parts of Thailand and abroad. Saying he has a plan to present to government on how to deal with this problem, Mr Tossaporn said Phuket needs to be a "good host" for people who come here to try to rebuild their lives.

Simply trying to drive them away was not a viable solution, he added.

When asked about specific projects earmarked for Phuket, Mr Tossaporn said it was still too early to comment because Mr Abhisit's policy platform was still under discussion.

However, efforts are already underway to tackle the island's worsening traffic problem and the Transport Ministry is designing an underpass for the

Darasamuth School intersection, with work on the project scheduled to begin in 2010, he revealed.

Asked about the long-talked-about plan to have Phuket upgraded to a "special administrative zone" like Pattaya, Mr Tossaporn said the emphasis at the current time should be on solving national economic and political problems, not trying to restructure the country.

Phuket's other constituency MP, Rewat Areerob, said he will press the government to find solutions to the worsening unemployment problem, particularly in the hard-hit tourism sector. He suggested that tax breaks for tourism businesses would allow companies to retain more of their staff.

The Gazette also contacted Chalermklak Kepsap, another Democrat who represents Phuket as a party-list MP under the new proportional representation system. However, her secretary said Ms Chalermklak did not care to comment on political matters at this time.



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## Kiwi speedster nabbed

KAMALA: A racing driver from New Zealand was arrested by Kamala police for alleged possession of *ya bah*, *ya ice*, ecstasy and marijuana last week.

Peter Scharmach, 44, was arrested at a police checkpoint in Kathu at 12.30am on December 13. Scharmach is a well known figure within car racing circles in New Zealand.

Kamala police say that officers at the checkpoint asked Scharmach if they could check his vehicle, a black Honda Jazz. When he reacted suspiciously they carried out a search of his car, finding a backpack containing a *ya bah* tablet, 1.4 grams of *ya ice*, 0.79 grams of ecstasy

and 12.41 grams of marijuana. The bag also contained 42,000 baht in cash and drug paraphernalia.

Scharmach was taken to Kamala police station and charged with possession of Class 1 drugs and possession of a Class 5 drug with intent to supply.

He is understood to have pleaded not guilty to the charges, claiming that he is a successful businessman who does not make his money selling drugs.

Scharmach's lawyer has requested bail for his client so that he can travel to Germany for business reasons before returning to Thailand for his court appearance, set for January 13.

## Kajonkietsuksa School bus crashes



THALANG: Fourteen tired students and staff of Kajonkietsuksa School returning home from Haad Yai had a rude awakening on the night of December 16, when the bus they were traveling on crashed into the Heroines' Monument roundabout at about 10 pm.

The bus, nearing the end of an eight-hour journey, was carrying seven of the school's top students, seven teachers plus the driver. The youths, from both primary and secondary levels, won

the Phuket round of an education contest to earn the right to enter the regional competition in Haad Yai, where they took fifth place.

As the bus was circumnavigating the monument roundabout, a pickup truck coming from the direction of Pa Khlok apparently cut them off, causing the bus to crash into the circle, a source at the school said.

Nobody was seriously injured in the accident, nor were either of the two iconic statues in the circle's center damaged.



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## The day the music died: Sukhumvit Road boarded up



There were reports of fighting at the entrance to the Sukhumvit Road beer bar complex in Patong, which was boarded up for the night of December 11 as a way of encouraging tenants to sign new contracts with Moodies Entertainment, which has reclaimed the right to operate the complex.

PATONG: Scores of publicans running beer bars at Sukhumvit Road night entertainment complex on Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd were locked out of their businesses on December 11 after refusing to sign new rental agreements with Moodies Entertainment, which has reclaimed the right to operate the complex.

Kathu Police Inspector Sophon Borirak told the *Gazette* that he received a report from Moodies saying the action was taken because many publicans operating beer bars in the two-story complex were in breach of contract.

According to Lt Col Sophon, Moodies representatives told police that they had rented out the complex to Sukhumvit Road Entertainment Co Ltd, who subdivided it into beer bars and established rental contracts with their proprietors and opened the Night Station disco at the rear.

According to Moodies, the company stopped paying the agreed rental fee, so Moodies wanted the tenants to sign new rental agreements directly with the firm.

However, the tenants – many of them with financial support from foreigners – initially

refused to do so, saying they already had legally binding contracts with Sukhumvit Road Entertainment.

Moodies told police that they are preparing to take legal action against the company, Lt Col Sophon said.

The *Gazette* has been unable to contact either Moodies General Manager Chris Koppers or Wattana Meetam of Sukhumvit Road Entertainment Co Ltd for more information about the legal dispute.

Before moving to Phuket, Mr Meetam ran the Sukhumvit Square Night Entertainment Area on Soi 10 of Bangkok's Sukhumvit Rd, which was bulldozed in a pre-dawn raid carried out by paramilitary thugs in January, 2003.

A week after the December 11 blockade, some foreign bar owners had reportedly signed new contracts with Moodies. Others said they were confused because they hadn't received clear information from either party in the dispute.

At least one was considering moving out of the complex due to what he perceived as the threat of possible violence to his family and staff.

## Chalong police clampdown

Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

CHALONG: Motorcyclists in the Chalong area would be wise to wear a crash helmet and carry all the necessary documentation over the coming months, as Chalong Circle police have set up a checkpoint as part of an ongoing road safety campaign.

Unlike previous years, when the the holiday season safety campaigns bore names like "Seven Days of Danger," police have given this year's campaign an ambitious new twist, calling it: 365 Dangerous Days – Prevent Road Deaths Year Round Through Respect for Traffic Law.

Pol Capt Anirut Putnuel of Chalong Traffic Police told the *Gazette* both Thai and foreign motorists are subject to inspections at the checkpoint.

"We are checking for vehicle registrations, driving licenses, insurance stickers and making sure motorcyclists are wearing crash helmets and car drivers wearing safety belts. We are also monitoring people's driving behavior," he said.

The 365 Dangerous Days safety campaign, launched by the Royal Thai Police at the beginning of August, runs until the end of July 2009.

The current safety crackdown has already yielded results, according to police, with no road fatalities being recorded in November in Chalong Police District, which covers Rawai, Kata and Karon.

"This is good news for Thais as well as foreigners because it ensures that all motorists are aware of Thai traffic laws, which are different to those in other countries. When foreigners come to Thailand, they need to obtain an international driver's license or get a Thai driving license by passing a test at a Department of Land Transport office," he added.

Those failing to comply with minor law are subject to the following fines:

- No vehicle registration: 1,000 baht.
- Failure to wear a crash helmet while operating a motorbike: 500 baht.

For more serious offenses requiring legal proceedings, the following penalties apply:

- Fake documents: 1,000 to 10,000 baht fine, or 6 months to 5 years in jail, or both.
- Drunk driving (blood alcohol content > 0.05%):

*Not involved in an accident:*  
A fine of 5,000 to 20,000 baht, or 6 months in jail, or both.

Offenders will also have their driving license confiscated and be liable for court costs.

Foreign offenders may be subject to investigation by Immigration Police.

*After an accident:*  
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## Lack of water treatment facilities threatens tourism



Untreated waste water from restaurants and resorts in Kata is allowed to flow directly into the sea at Kata Beach.

KATA: Kata Beach is a popular destination for many tourists who visit Phuket, yet despite its popularity, the area's antiquated drainage system is sending filthy and foul smelling water into the sea, polluting some of Phuket's pristine beaches.

At the heart of the problem lies Kata Beach's dilapidated and archaic drainage system, with its outmoded drain covers and the proliferation of open air water through-flow areas. Chatporn Chroenwetch, the government director responsible for the treatment and management of water, confirmed that the age of the existing network is the primary concern.

"It is an old drain that we have been using for sometime but we have already drawn up plans to install a new system that will filter out the dirty water. We have also received 12 million baht of funding to replace the old system."

With plans in place and funding secured, the upgrade of the drainage network was opposed by Club Med Phuket, which argued that the Karon Municipality did not have the right to develop land owned by the resort.

While Club Med's attempt to block the planned redevelopment languishes in the court system, legal red tape requires that the old system remains in use.

Another serious problem arises through foul smells emerging from Kata Beach's open-slot drain tops. Due to the covers not being completely sealed, many

tourists are having their sense of smell assailed by the stench of septic water. Kata resident, James Eric Gibson, informed the *Gazette*, "Every time I step over a drain I can smell the water below. If I park over a drain, the smell fills the inside of my car."

Mr Chatporn insisted that plans were afoot to tackle the problem.

"We have already received funding from the Government to replace all the existing open slot drains in 2009. We have also hired the Eastern Thai company to check, repair, clean and maintain the existing drains within the Kata Beach resort."

Potentially, the greatest worry is the flow of polluted water into the sea. The expansion of tourism over recent years has dramatically increased the amount of water used by the resort, resulting in higher levels of pollution.

Many hotels within the Municipality have installed water treatment facilities but the number of tourists simply overloads the process and the excess water is allowed to flow into the sea. Mr Chatporn alluded to another plan to tackle the issue concerning hotel water.

"In 2009, if hotel water doesn't meet the Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), the benchmarking tool of water quality, then we will prevent the water from entering the main drainage system until it is clean enough to do so."

**Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn**

## Foreigners allowed to stay as long as they like, must leave every 15 days

By Stephen Fein

PHUKET CITY: Phuket Immigration held a press conference on December 16 to announce recent changes in Immigration rules. The announcement confirms that foreigners arriving at any of Thailand's land checkpoints without visas will be granted permits-to-stay of only 15 days, just half the former number of 30 days.

The press conference was led by Phuket Immigration Superintendent Chantapol Yongbunjerd, who also confirmed that the former rule preventing foreigners entering on "visa exemptions" from staying more than 90 days over a 180-day period was no longer in effect.

As a result, foreigners from any of the 40 countries eligible for visa exemptions can now reside in Thailand as long as they wish, provided they don't mind making "visa runs" every 15 days.

The new rule is in effect at all 54 land border checkpoints, including Ranong, the most popular destination for foreigners living in Phuket who need to make visa runs to remain in compliance with immigration regulations.

Col Chantapol said the new order, issued on November 25, was introduced as a way of cracking down on foreigners working illegally in the country, such as those involved in the real estate industry.

On the issue of illegal foreign laborers, Col Chantapol said he thought that the number of alien workers currently residing in Phuket was probably in the region of 70,000 to 80,000.

Col Chantapol used the occasion of the announcement to introduce two new Immigration Inspectors assigned to Phuket Immigration.

Kanya "Taen" Petchpairoj will be in charge of visa issues and administrative matters, and Lt Col Suparerk Pankosol, who was recently transferred from Samut Prakan, will be in charge of investigations.

## Phuket Carnival signals official start to high season




Miss Patong, a regular fixture at the annual Phuket Carnival, waves in a new high season. Photo: Dan Miles.

PATONG: On December 15, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Interior, Peerapon Tritasawit declared the high season at Patong Beach officially underway with the launch of the annual Carnival.



Mr Peerapon was joined at the ceremony by Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan, who delivered a speech emphasizing how proud he was to preside over the opening. The carnival began in impressive fashion, with a grand parade through the streets, led by the police mounted division, marching bands and a procession of people in brightly colored regalia.

This year's carnival marked the 23rd anniversary of the the carnival and the popular tourist destination has continued to enjoy support from the whole of Phuket during the event, taking advantage of the opportunity to promote the entire island to the assembled masses.

Over the past 23 years the Carnival has evolved to become something of an institution in the beachside resort. During this time many of the local businesses, shops and hotels have contributed to make the event a popular fixture in the Phuket social calendar.



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# It is rocket science

Three local boys from Muang Thalang school recently represented Thailand at the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum -15 (APRSAF-15) Water Rocket Challenge in Vietnam on December 13.

The APRSAF has held an annual competition since its inception in 1993. This year's final was held in Hanoi, Vietnam with the Muang Thalang school representing the kingdom for dint of winning the country's national finals.

Mr. Manop, a teacher who acted as a consultant to the boys told the *Gazette*, "We have been entering the national water rocket competition for the past 3 years but only managed to win the competition for the South of the country. This time around we have won the competition for the whole of Thailand. We now have the honor of representing our country in Vietnam."

The team, from Muang Thalang Year 3, comprised Trirawat Warakeansian, Wisarut Changpingnang and Suttawit Ninsamut.

Phuket Governor, Preecha Ruangjan, visited Muang Thalang high school earlier in the week to offer his best wishes and congratulations to the group of students destined for Vietnam.

In Hanoi they competed against teams from around the Asia-Pacific region launching a rocket made here in Phuket.

In judging water rocket competitions, the score is determined by the point where the rocket makes initial contact with the ground in relation to the target, positioned 57.5 meters from the launcher.

The maximum score possible is 100 points per launch, which is awarded if the rocket strikes the target.

A water rocket uses compressed gas as its power source and the vessel most commonly used is a plastic bottle.

The bottle is partly filled with water and then sealed. It is then pressurized with gas, usually air compressed from a bicycle pump or air compressor up to a pressure of 125 pounds per square inch (psi).

Occasionally, carbon dioxide or nitrogen is used from a cylinder. The seal on the nozzle of the rocket is then released, causing a rapid release of water. The sudden expulsion of water is often able to propel the rocket a prodigious distance into the air.

Heights and flight duration are determined by aerodynamics, the volume of water, the initial pressure, the rocket nozzle's size, and the unloaded weight of the rocket.

Typical launch pressures vary from 75 to 150 psi. The higher the pressure, the larger the stored energy and the further the rocket is propelled.

LATEST: As the *Gazette* went to press the official result of the APRSAF was announced. The winner of the event was Singapore with Japan in second place and the Phuket team representing Thailand finishing a highly creditable third.

**Pictured right: Pumping up the rocket prior to launch.**  
**Pictured bottom right: The Phuket team who came third.**



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Care & Share



# Marine farm sustains livelihoods

By Atchaa Khamlo

The Rassada December 26 fishery group on December 11 joined with the Phuket Provincial Fisheries Office to launch a project at the group's offshore fish farm aimed at educating people about the principles of a sufficiency economy and encouraging agricultural tourism.

Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan presided over the opening ceremony, culminating in the release of 500,000 newly hatched sea perch and shrimp into the sea as part of a merit-making ceremony in honor of HM The King Bhumibol Adulyadej's 81st birthday on December 5.

Gov Preecha presented the farm with new floating pens and other equipment, which had been donated by Hilfswerk Austria, an EU-sponsored development organization that has supported the fishery since 2007.

The Rassada December 26 group, which now has 31 members, was set up on July 26, 2006 and named after the date of the tsunami that devastated the area in 2004. The group was established to help fisherman living along Soi Kingkaew in Rassada to rebuild their livelihoods following the disaster.

The Kingkaew fish farm is located around 1 kilometer out to sea from Soi Kingkaew, in tambon Rassada's Village 3. Its 32 pens currently hold around 500 grouper fish, 2,400 sea perch and 10,000 sea oysters. The group also aims to begin farming mussels in January.

The farm is restocked either by buying young fish from other farms or catching them in the sea and raising them for later sale or consumption.

The fish farm also incorporates Rassada Crab Bank, which was launched on January 10,



2008 and now consists of eight pens containing horse crabs (*portunus pelagicus*) and black crabs (*scylla serrata*). The crab bank was established in a bid to restore the crab population in the waters around Rassada.

Local fishermen "deposit" any ovulating females they catch to allow them to reproduce in the bank's pens. Currently around 40 crabs a day are deposited in this way.

After ovulation is complete, the females are then sold, while the eggs are cultivated in the pens. The group estimates the farm now holds around 1,200 crabs and 6 million eggs.

Rassada December 26 is led by its president, Jaran Than-Udon, who conceived the latest project. The project will involve young people visiting the farm to

learn about fish farming and sufficiency economy principles.

"We have a lecturer who can teach students how to farm many kinds of fish based on our real experiences and the problems we've faced," Mr Jaran said.

The group also intends to host visits from groups of tourists who want to learn more about fishing farming.

Speaking about the accusation that the Kingkaew community have encroached illegally on the land they live on, Jaran Than-Udon told the *Gazette* "Nowadays a lot of people think we have encroached on the land. But we want people to know that we are going to improve this place and turn it into a center for local people to learn more about fishing."

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## Queer News

### Youth loses face in explosive sex act

**ANG THONG:** Following on from last week's Queer News about the unfortunate Army private with the fish in his throat (see Queer News December 13) comes another sorry tale from a Thai youth about the perils of putting foreign objects in one's mouth.

This story came to light when an eighteen year old youth, identified only as Chai, was brought in to Wisetchaichan Hospital suffering major wounds to his cheeks and jaw on December 7.

After word of the boy's misadventure got out, journalists be-

gan to arrive at the hospital waiting room. Mr Chai's family, however, somewhat understandably given the stupidity that caused the injury, refused to talk to the press pack.

Despite this, details of the incident did emerge from other witnesses.

In the early hours of December 7, Chai and some friends were larking about with firecrackers. Chai, being a bit of a joker, then put a firecracker in his mouth and began to suck it.

To up the ante somewhat, he lit the fuse – with predictable results.

The firecracker exploded, taking much of Chai's cheeks and mouth with it.

Friends rushed him to the hospital, where doctors performed emergency surgery to save as much of his mouth as possible.

Following the surgery, doctors said he was in a stable condition, but refused to let journalists in to talk to him so no further light could be shone on why he decided to perform a sex act on a lit firecracker. It is suspected that alcohol may have been involved.

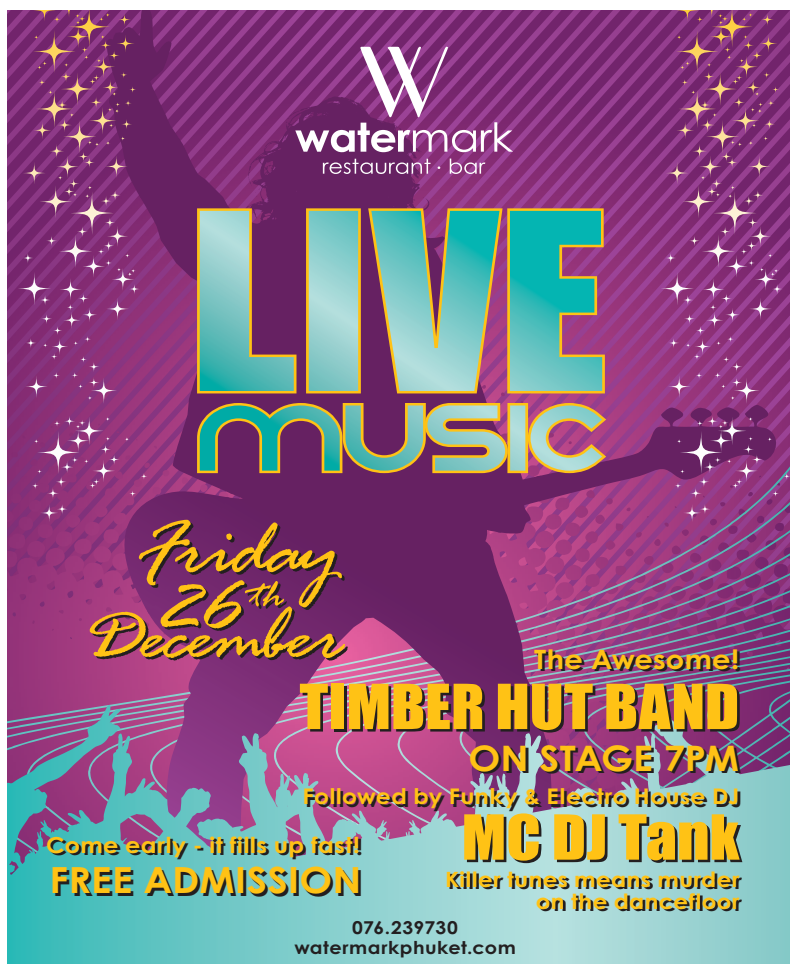
Source: KomChadLuek

### Lunar perigee brightens the night sky



This photograph was taken at Phuket's Big Buddha image by Phuket-based photographer Sakhorn Saengtongsamarnsin, who waited on Nakkert Hill until 4am for the perfect celestial shot.

Last Friday December 12, the moon was visibly bigger and brighter than usual, as it reached its closest point to the earth in recent years. Luckily for stargazers in Phuket, there were few clouds in the night sky, enabling people to see the moon at about 14 percent larger and 30 percent brighter than usual. According to NASA, Earth's satellite was 30,000 miles (48,000 kilometers) closer to Earth than at the other extreme of its elliptical orbit. The following night, Phuketians were treated to a display of celestial fireworks in the form of a midnight meteor shower (leonids), which is an annual event that occurs when the earth passes through the dust trail of a comet that was first recorded in 1895 and has a 33-year orbit.



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## Belgian man's racing pigeon proves to be top of the coop



The winning pigeon touches down in Bangkok after completing the 575-kilometer flight from Chiang Mai in just over 4 hours.

CHIANG MAI: Of 708 racing pigeons that took off from Chiang Mai on the inaugural Thailand Grand Pigeon Race on December 11, just 150 made it to Bangkok. They were competing to win a royal trophy and big cash prizes for their owners.

The winner, landing on its cage on top of a building in Bangkok's Yannawa district after a marathon 575-kilometer flight, belongs to Belgian national Chris Hebberecht. It fluttered in sharp at 4.06 pm.

Winging in a few minutes later, at 4.18 pm, were six Thai birds.

Thanks to his speedy pigeon, Hebberecht will win a trophy from His Majesty the King and a cash prize of just over one million baht.

Birds registered in the race have owners from Belgium, the Netherlands, Romania, Britain, Switzerland and, of course, Thailand.

The arrival times of the pigeons were recorded by a computer linked to microchips implanted in the birds.

Before the final leg from Chiang Mai to Bangkok, the pigeons had flown races from Nakhon Sawan, Phichit and Uttaradit to the capital.

"This is a colorful activity and should help boost the country's tourism," commented Chiang Mai deputy governor Chuchart Keelapaeng.

The race was jointly organised by Thailand's Racing Pigeon Federation, the Grand Pet Show and Friendship Associations.

## Ministry warns of bronchitis risk

Children and the elderly should take extra care of their health to avoid developing bronchitis, the Ministry of Public Health Ministry (MoPH) warned on December 11.

Symptoms of high fever, severe cough and chest pain warrant an immediate visit to the doctor, said ministry permanent secretary Dr Prat Boonyavongvirod.

Almost 43,200 people nationwide suffered from bronchitis last winter, with the Northeast the hardest hit, he said. Around 14,000 patients were from that region.

In addition to the elderly and young children, other high risk groups include chain smokers and HIV/Aids patients.

According to the Bureau of Epidemiology, last year 142,250 people caught bronchitis, with 1,043 dying from it. Bronchitis is still the major cause of fatalities in children under five.

## Crackdown on illegal dorms

From January 1 next year, student dormitory owners who do not legally register their quarters could face up to six months in jail for violating the Dormitory Act, according to Acting Social Development and Human Security Minister Udomdet Rattanasathien.

Mr Udomdet added that all dorms outside university campuses would be inspected to ascertain whether they are registered with the ministry. A recent survey recorded some 30,000 dorms across the country, of which only 12,739 were registered.

Legally, a dormitory is defined as a rental residence providing for five students or more, aged under 25, who are studying for a bachelor's degree or at lower levels. The residence must be registered as a legal dormitory and its owner must separate dormitories for male and female students.

## Chiang Mai canopy walkway to be longest in SE Asia

CHIANG MAI: The Natural Resources and Environment Ministry's Botanical Garden Organization will invest 50 million baht to build Thailand's first canopy walkway in the Queen Sirikit Botanical Garden in Chiang Mai's Mae Rim district, a senior official has announced.

Organisation president Withoon Karuna said the walkway, 350 meters long, will help research and stimulate eco-tourism. Still at the design phase, it should be completed by 2010.

Before the project starts, an environmental impact assessment would be carried out to prevent damage to the 6,500-rai garden. If completed as planned, the walkway would be Southeast Asia's longest canopied walkway, he added.

Although the walkway is primarily intended to benefit research, it could boost tourism at least threefold from the current 300,000 visits per year, Mr Withoon said. At present, there are only a few canopied walkways in Asia, including one in Malaysia's Kinabalu National Park and the recently completed Lu Bukit Hijau Park, and another in Brunei's Ulu Temburong National Park.

## More females are smoking

The number of Thai women smokers is expected to drastically rise from 1,664,000 in 2000 to 12 million by 2025, according to the Action on Smoking and Health Thailand Foundation.

However, a survey conducted last year by the National Statistical Office shows that only 17,059 women were habitual smokers.

The foundation's secretary Dr Prakrit Wateesatokit, said the rising number of female smokers could be blamed upon the intensive marketing strategies employed by tobacco companies.

"We have to address this issue immediately and educate them about the dangers of smoking," he said.

Another study carried out this year by Chulalongkorn University found that the key reason behind pregnant women smoking was that they wanted to try it out, were persuaded by friends or believed cigarettes helped them relax.

The study, conducted on 1,600 pregnant women nationwide at an average age of 27, showed that most were first-time mothers and had every intention of breastfeeding their infants. Most of the respondents said they were finding it difficult to quit because people around them smoked, that it had become a habit or that they were addicted. Though most seemed to know about the risks of contracting cancer and other tobacco-related diseases, not many knew that pregnant smokers risked pre-term labor and ectopic pregnancy, while their infants were at increased risk of dwarfism and other birth defects.

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

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## Ranger rampages on train

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: One person died and six others were injured when an army ranger opened fire on fellow passengers on a train passing through Nakhon Sri Thammarat on December 10.

The gunman, 21-year-old Aekalak Pudpong, was arrested at the scene.

Police Superintendent Col Pasapon Tawichsri said mental health experts would be brought in to help question the man, who was unable to speak coherently following his arrest.

Mr Aekalak was given a urine test to see if he had abused any substances, but results were unavailable at press time.

According to available information, the Narathiwat-based ranger boarded a Bangkok-bound train to visit his family in Chumphon. Around 10 pm, Mr Ekalak started shooting.

Witnesses say Mr Ekalak was returning from the toilet at around 10 pm when he suddenly pulled out a gun and opened fire on passengers.

Najjawa Sani, a 20-year-old nursing student, was killed immediately, while Sabiya Sayoh, 22; Kama Bibing, 23; Abdullah Yimadiloj, 25; and Pongsakorn Anusit, 21; were severely injured.

Pongsakorn was a member of the train catering staff. A few other passengers received minor injuries. Witnesses said an on-duty policeman on the train subdued and arrested Ekalak.

## Late night attack

SONGKHLA: A man was seriously injured after being shot while driving in Songkhla's Bang Klam District on December 11. Police are unsure whether the target of the attack was the driver or his female passenger, only known as Wan, and the owner of a karaoke bar in Haad Yai. She escaped unscathed.

The pair were driving through Tambon Tha Chang about 1:30 am when two men on a motorcycle pulled up close behind them and fired shots through the back window of the car before speeding away.

The driver, 35-year-old Chalerm Nawadech, was hit in his right shoulder.

Afraid the gunmen would return, Mr Chalerm managed to keep control of the vehicle and drive on to Haad Yai Police Station. From there he was taken to Haad Yai Hospital, where doctors operated on him and later announced him out of danger.



Two women in Pattani's Muang district live in waist-high floodwater as torrential rains continue. Photo: Charoon Thongnual.

## Monk survives assault by thieves

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: Police in Nakhon Sri Thammarat's Muang District arrested three youths for allegedly stabbing a monk and throwing him from the third floor of his temple's administration building, where he caught them burgling.

The monk, 35-year-old Phra Chuchart Inthapunyo, survived the attack but remains in intensive care at Maharaj Hospital where he was treated for stab wounds to the head, ear, neck, ribs and stomach. He also broke his

left arm and left leg in the fall.

Police said that they believe Phra Chuchart heard a noise and on seeing men rifling through the temple's artefacts, shouted for help before being set upon by the robbers. The men then ran out of the building and drove away on two motorbikes.

On December 12, police arrested the three suspects as they were drinking in a rented house next to the temple. Police named the suspects as: Narongchan Phukkarat, 21, a third year law student at a well-known local university; Somchai Khongchum, 19, who is unemployed, and another youth who police identified only as Phanuphong, 18, the son of the owner of a chain of construction material shops, reportedly worth hundreds of millions of baht.

Police said the youths confessed that they were trying to rob the temple to get money to spend on alcohol and threatened Phra Chuchart when he disturbed them, but he refused to back down so they attacked him.

However, all three denied throwing him off the balcony, claiming that he fell while trying to escape. Police said they do not believe the youths, but will have to wait to interview Phra Chuchart before drawing any firm conclusions.

All three youths have been charged with robbery and attempted murder.

Phanuphong's father tried to bail out his son, but police refused and said they would also object to bail being granted in the court.

## UNICEF surveys Southern children

Children growing up in the deep South show symptoms of anxiety and stress, but do not blame religion as a cause of the local unrest, a United Nations survey has found.

"We are committed to raising awareness of the situation of these children and enabling them to tell their own story and to ensuring their voices are heard and their rights are respected," said Tomoo Hozumi, Thai representative for the United Nations Children's Fund.

The report, called 'Everyday Fears: Children's perceptions of living in the southern border area of Thailand' also showed local children's positive outlook in that that none of them expressed a biased or negative view of other religions.

The study was conducted between 2006-2007 among 2,357 Muslim and Buddhist children aged 7-17 from 56 communities in Narathiwat, Pattani, Yala and Songkhla, where daily violence has killed at least 3,000 people since late 2003.

One-third of the respondents do not want to take revenge on the rebels, while another third wanted to.

The last third did not express an opinion.

"I don't want to see blood, the dead and grieving people when the head of their family dies anymore," said Sahadam Waeyusoh, 16, a child representative from Pattani, who has witnessed four battles between armed soldiers and militants.

UNICEF Thailand's child protection officer, Settasak Aka-nimart, said the research study also offered recommendations for follow-up action.

They include promoting awareness of children's rights and child protection among civil society and all armed groups, providing peace-building education and activities for children, banning corporal punishment in schools, and strengthening mechanisms for reporting and responding to violence against children within families, communities and schools.

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



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# Cultural festival breathes life back into old Phuket

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn



**ANYTHING OLD GOES:** There were many traditional things to eat, drink and see at the Local Life Festival, but it wasn't always immediately clear exactly what some stalls were selling. Even so, each to attend the festival, took something home with them, even if it was simply a piece of nostalgia from a trip down Memory Lane.

A throng of people of all ages turned out to play their part in preserving Phuket's links with the past and lifestyles of days gone by, last Sunday for one of Phuket Town's cultural highlights of the year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Local Life Festival or *Poon Tae*.

Participants meandered

along Thalang Road and the trendy Soi Romanee, in the heart of Phuket Town, under decorative festive lights strung across the streets, while people dressed in traditional costumes entertained the public and tended arts and crafts stalls.

The picturesque streets lined with Sino-Portuguese style

buildings, where the annual festival is held, are well-preserved remnants of the island's tin mining days when miners and merchants lived on the island.

The festivals are organized by the Old Phuket Foundation with the aim of keeping local traditions and culture alive.

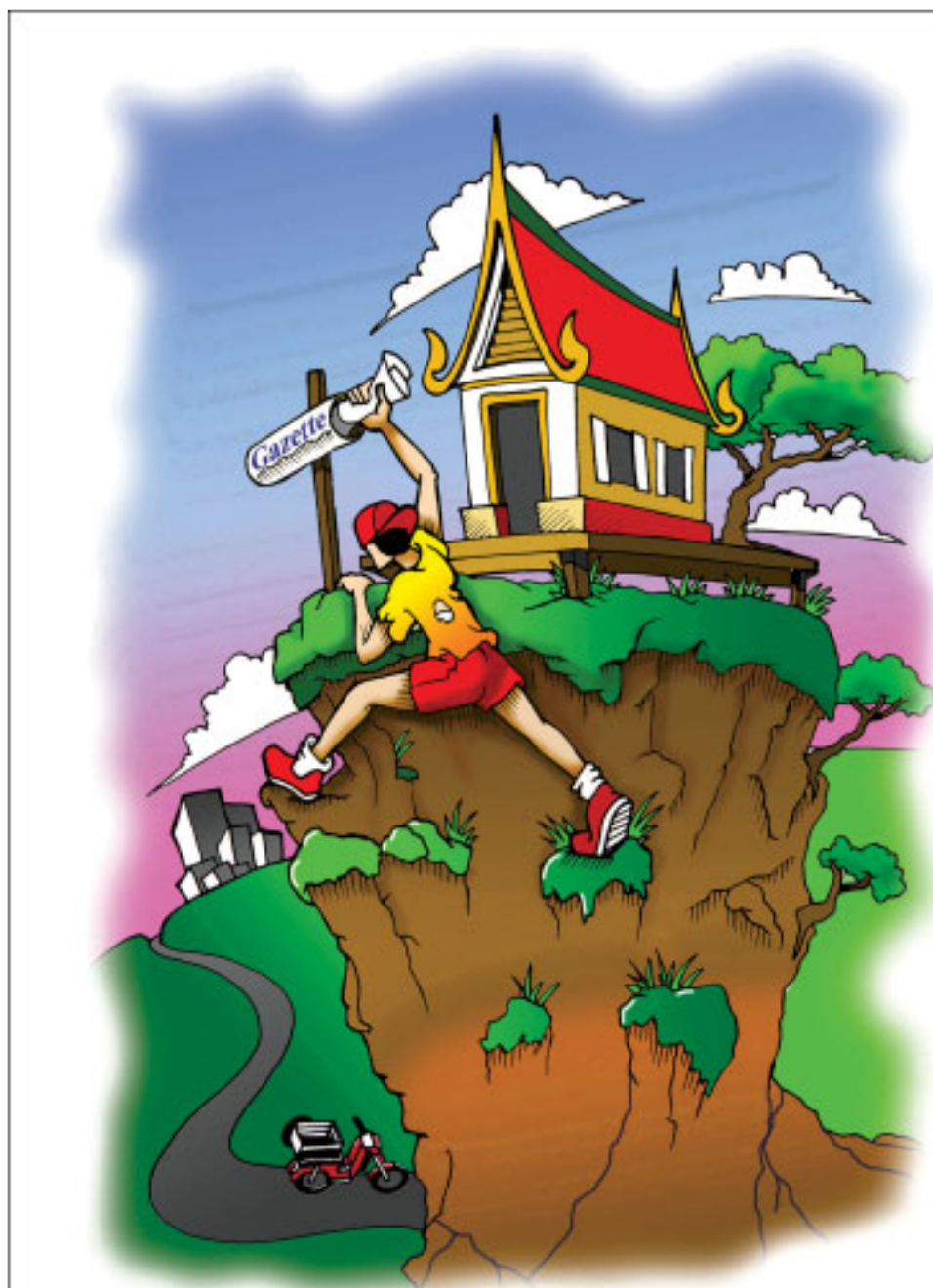
As well as a wide range of

arts and crafts on sale there were local savory and sweet delights to sample at very reasonable prices, and lots of eye candy, too, with a puppet show, Kung Fu demonstrations and the presentation of the Best Traditional Costumes awards.

President of the Old Phuket Foundation Dr Prasit Koysiripong

said that the festival is staged as a reminder of Phuket's cultural past in an attempt to ensure that the history of the region is cherished and remembered by future generations.

The next Local Life Festival is planned for Sunday, December 13.



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# A cracking Christmas pudding recipe

The festive season is all about feeling full and it just wouldn't be the same without a Christmas pudding sitting proudly on the table, drawing appreciative sighs from relatives as the remains of the turkey are cleared away.

But as the lights dim and flames lick over the top of grandma's festive handiwork, everyone realizes the awful truth: nobody wants to eat any; they're simply too full from the mounds of chocolate, sweets and dinner they've been gorging themselves on all morning.

Despite feeling like geese being fattened for *foie gras*, everyone takes a portion of pudding that, although small, somehow weighs roughly the same as a baby blue whale.

As if that's not enough, brandy butter, as rich a sauce as you could find on planet earth, is poured in generous measure over each bowlful.

Daunted by the prospect of tucking in, some of the less corpulent family members attempt to dodge their Yuletide duty, but in the name of Christ-

mas spirit and good cheer, all are eventually garrisoned into the painful process of slowly working their way through Christmas dinner's time-honored climax.

If you want to have a go at making your own Christmas pudding, read on, for a simple recipe. Traditionally, a coin is dropped into the mixture, which every member of the family should stir for good luck, and then everyone has to ensure that they don't swallow, break a tooth or choke on the "lucky" coin. All that remains then, is to undo your belt, let it all hang out and contemplate the prospect of watching your uncle snoring in front of the compulsory James Bond film trotted out each year.

Traditionalists will contest that this recipe should have appeared in the *Gazette* at least a month ago to give sufficient time to soak the fruits and berries in the rich, alcoholic mixture that produces a moist pudding, which ideally, is served with a brandy or whiskey sauce. But you can always save this Christmas edition of the *Gazette* for next year and be well prepared to mix up your pudding in September.

## Recipe

With the following ingredients, you can make a 4-pound pudding. That's just under 2kg of stodge in metric measurements. You will need:

- 3 ounces of flour
- 5 ounces of bread crumbs
- 5 ounces of suet
- 1 1/4 pounds of mixed dried fruit (currents, raisins etc.)
- The rind of 1 small orange
- The rind of 1 small lemon
- 1 small cooking apple (grated)
- 2 eggs
- 1 tablespoonful of treacle
- 1/2 teaspoonful of mixed spice
- 1/2 teaspoonful of cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoonful of nutmeg
- 1 small carrot
- 6 ounces of sugar (brown or white)
- 4 ounces of sugared fruit peel
- A pinch of salt



## Preparation

In a large bowl, mix the flour, bread crumbs and suet along with the mixed dried fruit. Then add the grated orange and lemon rind and grated apple, plus the juice from the fruits. As you mix, add the eggs, treacle, spices and other ingredients.

This is the point where you add a teaspoon of alcohol to the mixture, such as whiskey or brandy. The mixture then needs to stand overnight in a covered bowl. The next day, place the mixture into a well-greased pudding bowl. Cover and seal it with grease-proof paper and seal it up with string.

## Cooking

Christmas puddings are cooked by steaming them, so use a pressure cooker (about two hours), or place the pudding in a bowl, which is put inside a water-filled pan on the stove. This takes about four hours. The lengthy cooking time is due to the pudding being so dense. The pudding can then be kept until you are ready to serve.

## Serving

When it's time to serve the pudding, it will need to be reheated. Whatever you do, don't try and speed up the warming process by putting the pudding in a microwave, as this traditional dessert does not take kindly to modern culinary treatment, and will redecorate your kitchen in a colorful explosion of bibulous sultanias and suet mix if you attempt to do so.

Instead, warm the pudding in a saucepan of water on low heat for approximately two hours, but don't let any water enter the pudding or the saucepan boil dry.

For special blue-flame effects, pour two tablespoons of high-proof whiskey over the pudding, before you dim the lights, and set the pudding alight. Oh, and have some warm custard or brandy sauce on hand to pour over the pudding for that snow-topped pudding effect.

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# New hybrids on the horizon



The new Insight is powered by a version of Honda's IMA hybrid system. It also includes interactive, driver-focused fuel economy enhancement technology.

The CEOs of Detroit's "Big Three" car manufacturers, Alan Mulally, Rick Wagoner and Bob Nardelli, were once famously lambasted for traveling to Congress by corporate jet. On their next trip to Capitol Hill, they traveled in hybrid cars.

The Toyota Prius was the first hybrid sedan to come to market back in the late '90s following the appearance of a concept hybrid at the 1995 Tokyo

Motor Show. It was a rudimentary small car with a supplementary electric motor to aid or replace the gasoline engine, depending on conditions.

Contrary to popular belief, hybrids have been around for almost 100 years, but it is only due to environmental concerns – and of course the relatively high price of oil – that they have become so fashionable today.

Hybrids are currently all the rage, with the Toyota Prius sell-

ing more than a million since its introduction, and Honda offering – at least in the United States – dual-motor Civics. Honda intends to launch its second-generation Insight hybrid in January, and it will be shown at the 2009 North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit.

The new five-passenger, five-door Insight is powered by a lighter, more compact version of Honda's IMA hybrid system and will go on sale in early 2009. The



The latest hybrid offering from Audi is a seven-seat SUV called Q7.

Insight is expected to have annual global sales of 200,000 units per year and will utilize a new interactive, driver-focused fuel economy enhancement technology named the Ecological Drive Assist System.

Toyota moved into the luxury hybrid segment with the launch in 2007 of the Lexus RX400h SUV and the Lexus LS600h luxury saloon. Audi has also taken the opportunity to offer a seven-seat SUV hybrid with the introduction of the innovative Q7 Hybrid. Porsche intends to introduce a hybrid version of its forthcoming Panamera four-door sportscar, while BMW, Volkswagen and, of course, the ailing Detroit companies are all working on various hybrid models.

The Prius has been hugely successful across the world, although there are those who question the true effectiveness of its hybrid technology. True, it improves fuel consumption and, while the electric motor is powering the car, is virtually pollution-free. However, analysts calculate that from production to destruction – that is the entire lifespan of the vehicle – it is one of the least efficient models. To recycle or dispose of the batteries, the electrical windings and various other hi-tech components is vastly more expensive, both in monetary and environmental terms, than a conventional vehicle.

No engine technology alone can deliver an optimal solution to the emissions problem. All fuel solutions have their shortcomings.

Gasoline engines emit less nitrogen oxide than diesel engines and produce insignificant levels of particulate matter. Diesel engines, on the other hand, are more fuel efficient and produce less carbon dioxide than gasoline.

Among non-petroleum power sources, electric vehicles, for example, are clean, but cannot deliver satisfying overall drive performance or acceptable driving range, and always have to be recharged.

But what if different power sources were combined to enhance their respective benefits and reduce shortcomings?

This leap forward has been achieved in the creation of the Toyota Hybrid System, now one of the company's core vehicle technologies.

The revolutionary breakthrough achieved by hybrid technology is the intelligent management of the energy flows from two different power sources, so that each segment of driving – acceleration, open road, braking and stop-go – is performed in an environmentally and mechanically beneficial way.

Toyota's system, known as "hybrid synergy drive", powers the latest Toyota Prius, giving the Prius nitrogen oxide emissions of 0.01 g/km, and hydrocarbon emissions of 0.02 g/km. By 2010 the demand for hybrid cars is expected to account for at least 5% of all passenger vehicle sales.

Jeff Heselwood.

Email: [jhc@netvigat.com](mailto:jhc@netvigat.com)

## SINGING WORKSHOPS AT BIS!

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Please check out <http://www.euphonicproductions.com/index.php> for a full background and further information. Joshua is also a songwriter for Chrysalis records and currently spends his time between Hollywood and London.

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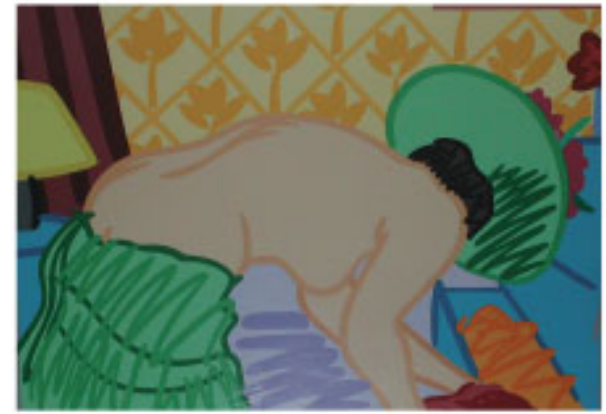




Zhang Xiao Gang, Big Family,  
138cm x 104cm, Year 2006, Edition 58



Ha Shiyu, TWO ITCHINGER III, Oil painting  
on canvas, (W)148 x (H)127cm



Tom Wesselmann, Judy Trying on Clothes, Lithograph,  
135cm x 106cm, Numbered 18 of 65, signed by Artist



Painted Pottery figure of  
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He Duo Ling, Lithograph,  
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Wang Guang Yi,  
signed lithograph



Ying Zheng, Oil painting on  
canvas, 127 x 160cm,  
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# This week



**YOUNG AT HEART:** H E Admiral ML Usni Pramroj (left) and his wife Tanpuying Varaporn (2nd left) at Mom Tri's Boathouse with 101 year-old Madame Bronner (front), M L Tri Devakul (2nd right), Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan (right) and Boathouse GM Louis Bronner (centre). Admiral Pramroj was in Phuket to present the Phuket King's Cup Regatta Royal Awards on behalf of HM The King.



**BLESS THIS HOUSE:** A blessing ceremony was held on Tuesday December 2 at The Courtyard by Marriott Phuket at Kamala Beach. Shown here are, from right to left, Mr Mueller (white shirt), Mr Appat (Cluster Director of Finance), Sigrid (GM of Courtyard Patong) and Khun Theera.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Mr Peter Komposch (center), General Manager of the Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket Resort, threw a party for the resort's 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary at the Casuarina Beach Restaurant. Pictured are guests of honor, French sisters Mrs Odette Zuzanne Venetz-Parisse (left) and her sister (right). The sisters have holidayed at the hotel for 17 consecutive years.



**SAFE & SOUND:** Patong Hospital organized a lecture on health and safety at work, given by Sub Lt San Oonbajong, chief of security at Thai Airways Group Ltd. Invitees from a variety of companies and organizations around the island attended the lecture, which was held at the Phuket Merlin Hotel.



**SUNSET COCKTAILS:** Dewa Phuket, a resort located on Nai Yang beach, hosted a cocktail evening for over 200 travel and media representatives, along with industry colleagues and friends. Pictured from left to right are: Mr Jan Kirstein, General Manager of Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket, Mr Lilian Woon Carpenter, Resort Manager, ML Sukhatai Chumpala and Henry Kaye.



**HAPA-NING PLACE:** Phuket lifestyle resort Indigo Pearl has been voted "Best Design Concept in SE Asia" in the annual Hospitality Asia Platinum Awards (HAPA). The award was accepted by Indigo Pearl General Manager Arnaud Girodon at a ceremony on November 28 at the JW Marriott in Kuala Lumpur.



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## Seeing mind, body and spirit

**A** versatile artist and devout Buddhist, Santi Thongsuk's work emphasizes figure, human form, facial expression, political themes and Buddhist images. His work has been exhibited a number of times in Thailand and has also been shown in Great Britain and Singapore. Santi had two works on display (one of which sold) at a Christie's auction in Bangkok in 2000, which was held under the banner "Important Thai Paintings".

The concept of "The Rhythm of the Heart" intertwines elements of mind, body and spirit. Keeping the mind in a calm, relaxed and steady state will lead to a happy, full and peaceful existence – a strategy for a perfect life.

A steady mind is able to focus, concentrate, create, modify and motivate. It cultivates an awareness of our surroundings and yet never tires. It is a state of mind that resides in the moment, updating information through the senses, with an insight that enables it to distinguish good from bad. We should develop such a life, free from anxiety and restlessness.

While the mind plans, the body works as the mind's tool, and must remain strong and fit in order to serve as a useful instrument. The body requires movement to function and stay healthy, keeping the inner organs strong

and the outer body looking young and fresh.

Humans are unique beings with a balance of mental and physical facilities, beautifully constructed by nature, and further blessed with the ability to invent, develop and preserve.

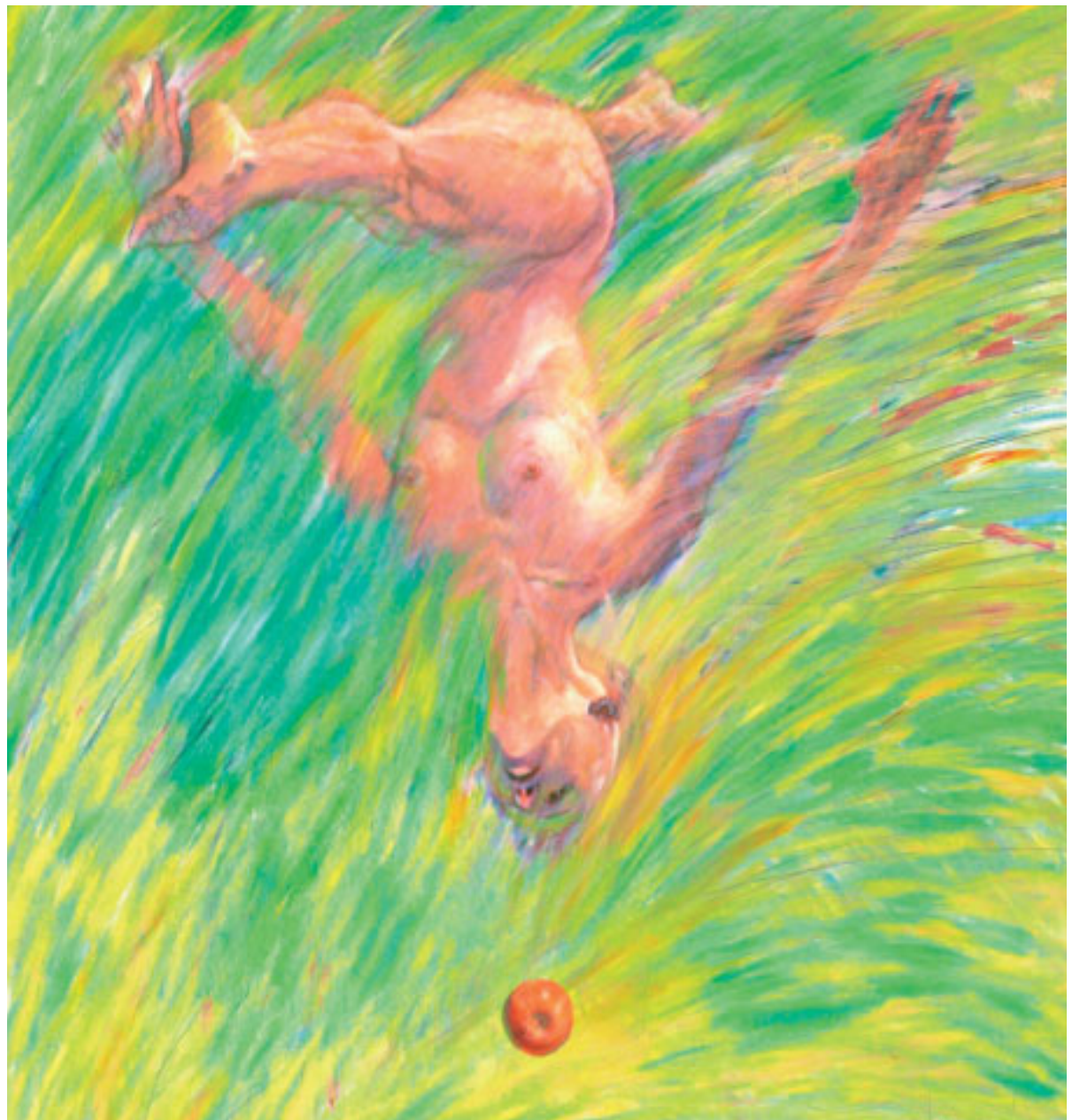
Lack of insight and awareness leads the mind to blindness, shallowness, negativity and hatred: destroying humanity and our own happiness.

However, goodness can never be fully destroyed; it will wait and it will return.

Awareness is the only way to define and follow the middle path. The person who lives in a state of awareness can understand himself and others, and also knows how to respect and enjoy the poetry of life.

Santi Thongsuk was born in Ubon Ratchathani in 1969. He received a Bachelor's degree in painting from Bangkok's Silpakorn University in 1994 and in the same year won the first ASEAN Art Awards in Singapore for the painting 'Breath in the Capital City'.

*The exhibition "The Rhythm of the Heart" will be showing from December 20 to January 17 at D Gallery at the Royal Phuket Marina. For more information contact Ms Jittiporn Barua on 076-360867 or by email at jittiporn@dgallery.co.th.*



*To Slide Over* (Oil on canvas, 131cm x 147cm) by Thai artist Santi Thongsuk is part of a new collection of paintings entitled "The Rhythm of the Heart" that intertwine elements of mind, body and spirit.



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Pruerk-Amporn	136.4	8,700,000	100,000	4,250,000	4,350,000

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# Luxury super yachts rendez-vous



By Bruce Stanley

**F**eadship, the globally renowned builder of many of the world's most famous motor yachts, was the sponsor of the first Asia Superyacht Rendez-Vous, which took place last week in Phuket.

It attracted most of the region's yachts over 25 metres, in addition to mega-yachts that sailed to Phuket from their traditional ports in the Mediterranean. Festivities and races were held at The Chedi resort and in the waters off Surin Bay on 17 and 18 December.

Located at the Royal Dutch Shipyards, Feadship has been building luxury yachts for over 160 years and currently has over 200 of their prized boats sailing

around the world. The company is partially owned by the luxury brand Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessey (LVMH), and is a major sponsor of yachting events around the world.

The waters around Phuket island have been attracting attention from the international boating community in recent years as its members search for new and larger playgrounds for their luxury yachts.

There's been tremendous growth in the sale and charter of luxury yachts since the turn of the century. There's a new generation of wealthy people who want to enjoy the benefits of sailing aboard their own motor cruiser.

Some people now have several yachts in their collection, anchored in different parts of the world. Many are looking for new places to cruise, away from the crowded Caribbean and the Mediterranean. So new destinations like the Adriatic and South-east Asia are drawing interest.

Recently, yacht charter agents from the prestigious builders and suppliers of the world's most extravagant yachts came to Phuket to find out if the region could accommodate the refined tastes of the rich and powerful,

who demand five-star service while relaxing on their cruisers.

Gordon Fernandes, the General Manager of Asia Pacific Superyachts, provides such services to European yacht owners looking for new destinations and experiences on the sea.

"Phuket has come of age as a yachting destination," says Gordon. "Not only do we have some of the world's most beautiful scenery, we now have the capacity to service these guests, who demand luxury foods, products and excellent service to meet their high standard of living. These have only recently become available in the region."

Gordon organized many of the super-yacht festival's fun events, which began on December 17 and concluded the following day.

The first event was a competition in which crews from each of the super-yachts were pitted against one another to construct a miniature yacht from a bag of materials which included string, foam, wood, lead weights, spinaker fabric, paper and glue.

The completed miniature yachts were placed at the beginning of a three-metre long gutter and crews had to create winds



The slender 55-meter super yacht *Lady Christine*.



Aboard the 42-meter mahogany superyacht *Queen of Andaman*.

## "Sharing The Festive Spirit"

Millennium Resort Patong truly hopes that you will be able to spread some Christmas spirit by helping us raise much needed funds to help the 'New Life Foundation children's orphanage in Phuket.

For only THB 75 you can purchase one of the special Christmas goodies on offer as all the profits will go to the orphanage.

This special self funded shelter takes care of children who through various circumstances have been left abandoned. This Christmas we are launching our year round support programme which has been created to bring some happiness into the lives of these unfortunate children not only in 2009 but also throughout the years ahead as well as giving career opportunities to them in the future.

Thank you for your kindness and support in helping them towards a brighter future!



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with their breath to blow their little vessels along to the finish line. The contest was a competition of ingenuity, craftsmanship and fun.

A four-hour sailing competition by the super-yachts began at 10:00 am the following morning in a race designed by Andy Dowden, race officer for many of Phuket's premier sailing events, off the coast in front of The Chedi.

A sunset cocktail party was held aboard the newest entry into Phuket's burgeoning yacht charter community, the super-yacht *Queen of Andaman*, 42 metres

of marine luxury.

"The *Queen of Andaman* is a new yacht, built at Bodrum, Turkey, which competes favorably with any vessel in its size range in the Mediterranean.

The fact that the owner wants to charter in the waters around Phuket is a statement about the level of interest in sailing in Thai waters," says Gordon.

"The Asia Superyacht Rendez-Vous is planned as an annual event and represents Phuket's coming of age as a major yachting destination with the international community," he adds.

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# Music fair inspires kids to aim for fame



Some kids were left dreaming of becoming famous musicians and hoping that Santa might have room in his sack for an electric guitar or perhaps one of the latest high-tech keyboards, when they had the chance to make noise with notes in at the Yamaha Music Fair, which was held at Central Festival last weekend.

A plethora of classic and modern electronic instruments were on display for people to try out during the three-day event, which was organised by Siam Kolkarn Music School with the aim of inspiring youngsters to take up learning musical instruments. Aspiring musicians were able to try out grand pianos, electronic keyboards and drums, and inspiration came in the form of stage performances by teachers and students of the music school. The highlight of the event was a virtuoso piano performance from popular Thai musician Saksit "Tor" Wetsupaporn.

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# Four fresh faces flesh out the art scene

By Bruce Stanley

The art program at Siam Indigo sets out to show case the most exciting art in Thailand. Lek Ratanachinakorn and his business partner, Celine Masson, look for emerging painters at galleries in Bangkok and even in public markets.

"For our current show,

'Yenta Four', Lek found four artists at Chatuchak market, in Bangkok, who create exceptional work representative of the new generation of Thai painters," explains Celine.

"These painters graduated from art colleges and are very talented with the use of concept and the application of materials," she

added.

Ekkachai Prabpanja is showing a variety of paintings of market scenes taken from real life in his favorite markets around Bangkok.

He does not idealize the Asian market, rather, he takes photos of actual vendors and customers in the colorful, crowded marketplaces and then returns to his studio where he paints these vital scenes, perhaps adding light and shading to bring his paintings of iconic images of daily life in the fresh markets to life.

Praphat Pankang offers a very different palette. He loves the female body and paints elegant, feminine women, combining Asian and Western female forms.

The women in his paintings are sensual, seductive and very beautiful. He favors light tones to lend his paintings an almost idealized quality but eschews hiding the more intimate parts of the anatomy.

Peera Pongchompu has created the "Ocean" series, a collection of acrylic paintings that explores the depths of emotion. His paintings are dark, moody and sophisticated.

His work frequently depicts bodies of water as metaphors for the changing nature of emotions



**Happy New Year 2009**

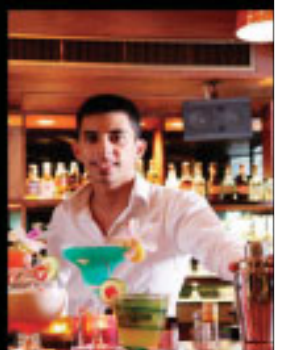


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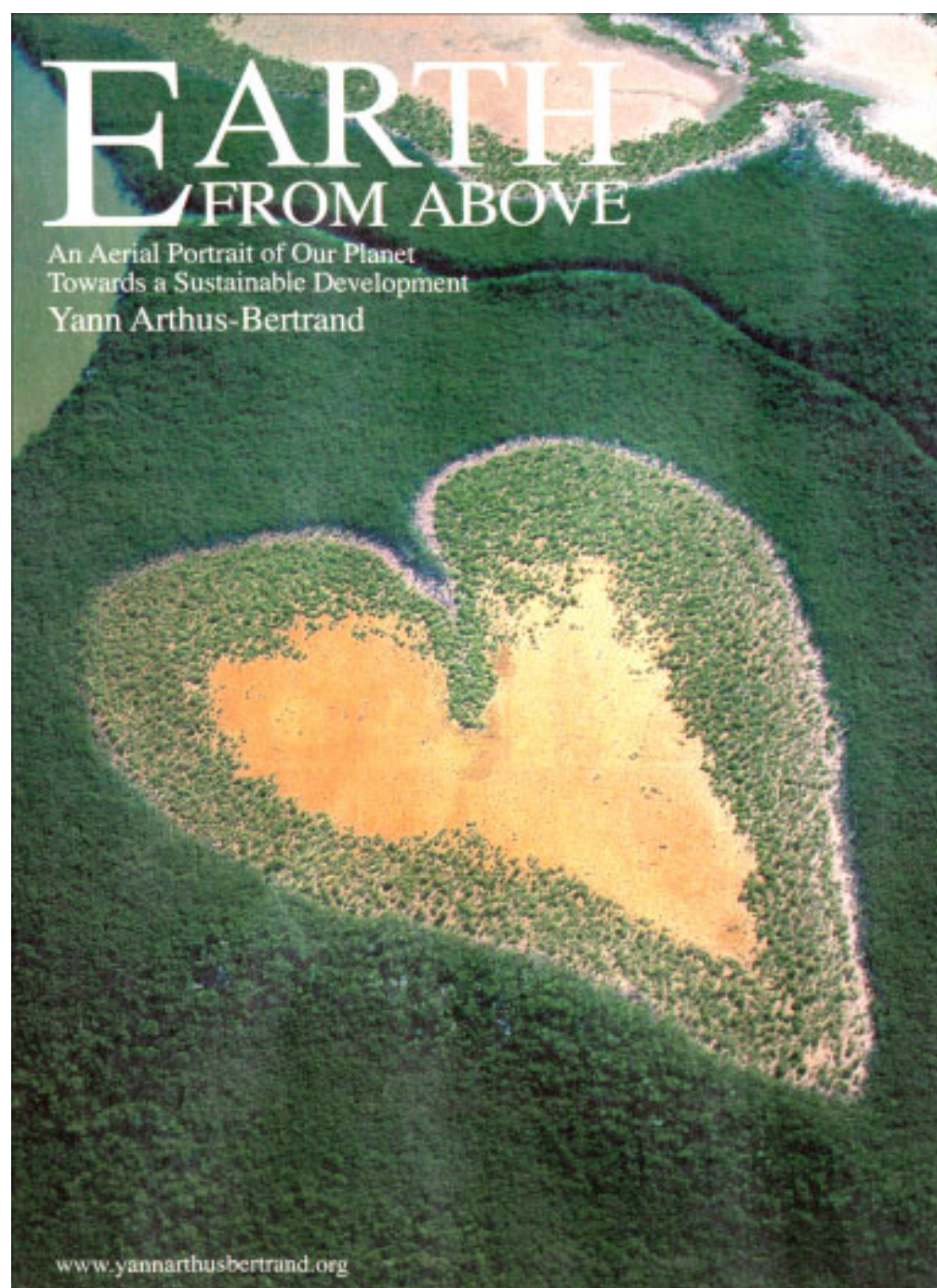


and as a medium for the imagination. His work is large and somewhat minimalist, with expansive brushstrokes used to convey the image of moving water.

Jatuporn Wongtong is the lone woman showing in the group. She creates stylized female forms, iconic women with the head of an animal in what almost seems like homage to an Egyptian goddess.

While concerned with the female form, her use of fluid texture, hiding or covering her female images, adds layers of complexity to the canvas.

The Siam Indigo Gallery will showcase 'Yenta Four' in both its restaurant and upstairs in the clothing gallery. This is a show not to be missed. It adds intrigue to a pleasant evening while having dinner at one of Phuket City's most engaging restaurants.



Central Festival Phuket, together with ZEN and Raimon Land PLC, requests the honour of your presence at this special event

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- The outdoor Grand Exhibition by Central Festival Phuket is held from Now to 1 February 2009 (100 days).
- This event showcases 120 stunning aerial photographs taken above more than 100 different countries.
- Each image features an informative caption explaining man's imprint and assault on his environment.

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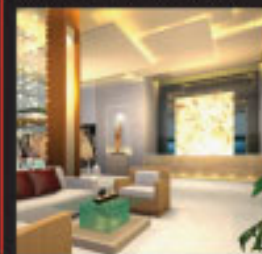
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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**December 20. "The Night" Christmas House Party.**

"The Night", organized by the All Seasons Naiharn Phuket resort, is a live disco featuring DJ Miss Caro from Paris mixing deep and sexy house music, with Oye on percussion and Fluo body painting. The party starts at 8pm and goes till late. Free buffet. No entrance fee. Standard drinks 90 baht. For further information, contact Pim or Chart. T: 076-289327. E: hrm@allseasons-naiharn-phuket.com. www.allseasons-naiharn-phuket.com.

**December 20. M Cuervo Solo Shot.**

Enjoy Jose Cuervo 100% Blue Agave Tequila at the O2 Lounge, Mercure Patong Phuket, from 8pm to 11pm. Every Saturday night: buy one, get one free. House band: the Legend Trio. For further information contact Mr. Chonlathich na Nakorn. T: 076-302100. E: salespr@mercurephuket.com. W: www.mercurepatongphuket.com.

**December 20 – January 17. The Rhythm of the Heart – Art Exhibition.**

An art exhibition entitled "The Rhythm of The Heart" by prominent Thai artist Santi Thongsuk will run from December 20 to January 17 at D Gallery, Royal Phuket Marina. Santi Thongsuk, a versatile artist and devoted Buddhist, won the first ASEAN Art Awards in Singapore (1994). He has participated in a number of domestic and international exhibitions and was represented at the Christie's auction in Bangkok entitled "Important Thai Paintings". Exhibition hours are: Tue-Sat, 11am to 7pm; Sunday, 12pm to 6pm. For more information contact Ms Jittiporn Barua. T: 076-360867. E: jittiporn@dgallery.co.th. W: www.dgallery.co.th.

**December 21. PC Group Therapy Chalong.**

From 10am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For



## Punchline Comedy Club Live International Stand-Up January 20

8pm-11pm. Holiday Inn Resort Phuket in Patong.

The Punchline Comedy Club returns with another three top class, professional stand-up comedians Brits John Gordillo and Roger Monkhouse and Australian Kitty Flanagan.

"Flanagan is one of the most subtle and perceptive of performers regardless of gender" -*The Sunday Herald*.

For further information contact Boom. T: 083-646 4671. E: info@phuketcomedy.com. W: www.phuketcomedy.com.

directions to Sandwich Shoppe Chalong (ChaoFah East near Wine Connection), see the web site. Sponsored by the Phuket Gazette and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes. For more information contact Woody Leonard. T: 089-1960940. E: woody@khunwoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

**December 21. Christmas Crafts Workshop.**

A Christmas crafts workshop for children aged 3 to 7 years will be held from 1pm to 3pm at Act & Art, 29/74 Chuan Chuen Lagoon. Starter kits are available at a small cost for materials. Maximum 15 kids, registration by phone or email is essential. Mums are welcome to join in. For fur-

ther information contact Kru Pla. T: 087-270 7163. E: actandart@rocketmail.com.

**December 23 - January 1. Gourmet Festive Season @ Wine Connection.**

From December 23 to January 1 at Wine Connection in Chalong and Bang Tao, enjoy 10 days of gourmet festivity with our chef's suggestions such as salad of duck foie gras with smoked duck breast and Parma ham, imported monkfish with crab bisque, Australian veal topside with French chanterelle mushrooms, and many more.

From 11am to 10pm. For further information contact Pascal. T: 076-282411. E: fb.phuket@wineconnection.co.th.

**December 26. Seafood BBQ Buffet Dinner – Mercure Patong Phuket.**

Enjoy a variety of fresh seafood and gourmet meat straight from the grill, as you soak up the views of Patong Bay from the rooftop. Live duo band ensures an evening of spectacular entertainment. 799 baht nett per adult, and 399 baht nett per child. Includes one complimentary glass of soft drink. From 7 pm to 10 pm every Tuesday and Friday. Advance reservations are recommended. For further information contact Mr. Chonlathich na Nakorn. T: 076-302100. Ext. 1311. E: salespr@mercurephuket.com. W: www.mercurepatongphuket.com.

**December 28. PC Group Therapy, Chalong.**

For further information contact Woody Leonard. T: 076-344516. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

**December 31. New Year's Eve. Public Holiday.****January 1. New Year's Day. Public Holiday.****January 2. Public Holiday.****January 18. TriBallistic Triathlon Series 2009. Race 1 of 4.**

Start the New Year with a bang at the TriBallistic & Phuket International Academy Triathlon Series 2009. The first of four events gets underway at the JW Marriott Resort & Spa on January 18. This great event is set to

include:

- Splash & Dash 50m swim, 1.5km bike, 750m run
- Junior 200m swim, 6km bike, 1.5km run
- Senior Sprint 750m swim, 20km bike, 5km run.

Teams welcome. Prizes for all podium finishers, medals for all finishers. Preferential overnight rates for athletes with online registration: www.triballisticclub.com.

Transition opens at 6am, first race 8am. Sports nutrition and TriBallistic merchandise for sale on race day. For further information contact Shaun Boulter. T: 089-5902014. E: tri@triballisticclub.com. W: www.triballisticclub.com.

**Jan 26. Chinese New Year.**

The Chinese New Year starts with the New Moon on the first day of the new year and is the biggest social occasion in the Chinese calendar. It is celebrated with gusto amongst Thailand's sizeable Chinese community, and legions of Chinese tourists from neighboring nations choose to enjoy the holiday in Phuket.

**Feb 9. Makha Bucha Day.**

Makha Bucha Day falls on the full moon of the third lunar month and commemorates the Buddha's ordaining of 1,250 monks who had arrived unannounced from afar only seven months after the Buddha began his teachings. It is also held to be the date the Buddha delivered his Fundamental Teachings – just a few months before his death.

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It is, sadly, all too common for followers of economic news to be assailed with comments like, "The economy will find matters difficult for the first half of 2009 but the second half will see a recovery." Or, "We are currently in a bottoming process and are likely to build from here."

It's true that something of a rally is going on in some stock markets this month but, as Simon Grose-Hodge, director of strategy at LGT Liechtenstein said in an interview on CNBC, "Any rally in stock markets in December will be taken in January". He also said that if the European Central Bank (ECB) did not move decisively on reducing interest rates, Europe would be the last region to exit the global recession.

However, it is difficult to have much faith in the ECB. In July, it raised interest rates, be-

lieving inflation to be the primary problem. It now understands that inflation is the least of its problems and that interest rates have to be cut to fight the true enemy; recession. However, their response has been tepid, compared with other central banks. Even China has had four rate cuts since September.

The current economic turmoil is so severe that some analysts say it's the worst in twenty years. Others say it's the worst in a century. Alan Brown, a senior executive with asset management group Schroders plc, recently said that the current crisis was the worst since the Great Depression, which was more than 70 years ago. He says Schroders sees the UK economy contracting by 2% in 2009 and the US by 1.5%. He also sees interest rate yields reaching zero. Schroders hopes for a modest recovery in 2010 but describe this as being more "an act of faith" than anything else.

In an in-depth interview on CNBC, legendary analyst Meredith Whitney, Executive Director of Equity Research with US financial group Oppenheimer & Co., predicted that US house prices will fall by another 20% - a total drop of 40%. The US consumer is entering a period of "forced deleveraging" with banks and other financial institutions often refusing to extend existing lines of credit, including credit card debt.

Ms Whitney went on to say that between 2000 and 2008, five trillion dollars was financed by securitization of home loans.



**'If the European Central Bank (ECB) does not move decisively on reducing interest rates, Europe will be the last region to exit the global recession.'**

None of this money would be available in future. Securitization of home loans has, obviously, come to a halt, permanently.

The yield on three-month US Treasury notes has fallen to zero. At times, it has even shown a negative return. The reason for this unusual situation is simply a flight to safety.

In the midst of all this, it may seem incredible that equity markets are able to show a rally in prices. However, there are good underlying reasons. Firstly, many investors, usually institutional, are "shorting" the market at the slightest sign of any rally. It is necessary for them to buy back the shares that they are "shorting" to avoid making losses on their strategy.

Secondly, many investors simply "dollar cost average" their investments, creating regular demand. Lastly, there are always investors, usually retail, who believe the market has bottomed and wish to enter.

Bear market rallies are often very sharp and substantial. The behaviour of the Dow Jones Index in the early 1930s is a perfect example of how volatile a bear market can trade.

Most of the economic conditions apparent in the US economy can also be seen in the UK, such as extraordinarily high levels of consumer debt, combined with bank balance sheets under severe stress.

The one major difference is the housing market. The US built enormous numbers of new dwellings during the last boom but the UK produced far less housing stock. The difference between the two countries (after population adjustments) is also partly accounted for by the number of old dwellings in the UK that had to be condemned.

The current recession is not "normal" for its type. Recessions are usually brought on by excess demand leading to rising inflation. In a "normal" recession, central

banks simply raise interest rates to force demand downwards and recession is simply caused by central banks intervening too late and having to take measures that are simply overkill. Sometimes, central banks are simply "lucky". A perfect example was the US economy in the mid 1990s, where interest rate moves by the US central bank (US Federal Reserve) simply cooled the economy without a recession. Even Alan Greenspan, who was then Chairman of the US Federal Reserve, openly states that he does not quite understand "how they got away with it". This is known as a "soft landing".

The current recession is led by debt and is much more difficult to resolve. Simply reducing interest rates will not solve the problem. However, economics, like medicine, has made enormous strides in terms of treatment and understanding since the 1930s.

But, for economies in the US and UK, debt levels are going to take years to fall to reasonable territory. Recovery requires demand, which will have to come from new areas.

Some hope the demand will come from the middle classes of countries such as China and India. Unfortunately, these would-be consumers seem to be more interested in saving money than spending it.

In the short term, many governments are going to have to create demand themselves. Unfortunately, most are already running deficits, so government debt burdens will rise.

However, they are aware of the trap that Japan fell into in the 1990s with infrastructural spending, so demand must be created on a massive and rapid scale. Anything less will just make the problem worse.

Next year, the US will be building roads, bridges, public buildings and schools at an enormous rate. They will need to spend huge amounts of money in the shortest possible time to counteract a falling private sector. Meredith Whitney is correct when she says that the result will not please capitalists.

The result will be enormous government-sector debt. There is one tried and tested way of reducing massive debt: inflation.

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By Anand Singh

# King Visits Phuket Town Market

## From the writings of the first Siamese monarch to spend a day on Phuket

**K**ing Chulalongkorn (Rama V) was the first-ever Siamese monarch to visit Phuket. During his second visit to the south of Siam in 1890, the king kept a journal of his travels, and a few pages are dedicated to Phuket. They describe his visit in vivid detail, giving local historians a rare insight into 19<sup>th</sup> century Phuket from the point of view of the sovereign himself, one of the most influential men in the history of Thailand.

On May 1, 1890, King Chulalongkorn and his entourage disembarked from the royal yacht in Phuket Bay and set foot on the island at what is now Saphan Hin, the closest port to Phuket Town. According to his account, many people were present to welcome him. Awaiting him in front of the port master's office were His

Majesty's Bangkok guards along with several government officials as well as the leaders of some of the local Chinese labor organizations.

The procession then moved to the royal pavilion, which had been prepared in advance. Clearly, no expense had been spared in constructing this makeshift residency.

According to the king, it was decorated in Sino-Western style and included a number of traditional *sala* (resting houses) and Western-style gardens, surrounding the pavilion area. The pavilion was constructed out of wood and featured an audience hall, bedroom and dining room

among other facilities. The decorations and furniture inside the pavilion were described as "Penang style". "There is everything here that is needed," the king observed.

Some new roads were constructed and old roads were duly repaired to facilitate travel for the king. The road to Thalang, for example, was upgraded especially for the occasion.

Despite these efforts, some roads that were in a dire state of repair, such as the one leading to Kathu, were left untouched, forcing the king's visit to be canceled.

Most of the funding for the construction and repairs to the pavilion came from rich Chinese entrepreneurs based on the island.

Over the course of the day, many high ranking officials, prominent citizens and community leaders came to the king's residency and were granted an audience. Captain Weber, an English official stationed in Phuket, also paid the king a visit. From his account, King Chulalongkorn had previously met the captain on his first visit to the island. He remarked that he didn't recognize him immediately as the captain had aged a lot.

At 3 pm on the same day, His Majesty went to visit a Chinese operated tin mine behind the pavilion. The mine belonged to Phuket noble Luang Bumrung, who had managed it for 25 years and had five other tin mines in neighboring tambons, employing more than 1,300 miners, 900 in the one visited by the king.

The king remarked that this mine produced very large quantities of tin and that in Phuket the mines in general were a lot deeper than in Ranong.

Luang Bumrung's mine was vast. Three bridges were suspended across the mine and lines of miners continuously ferried tin ore out of the mine.

Traditionally, the miners would wash the ore in a running stream. But here, the king noticed that three mechanical

pumps were used to help to wash the ore, each of them costing about 2,600 dollars.

Apparently, there were 62 large mines and 69 smaller mines operating on the island around the time of the king's visit. The mines employed a total of 8,984 workers. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, an industry operating on such a scale was considered remarkable, and it shows how important the mining industry really was in Phuket.

The king's procession moved on to the market place in Phuket Town. Buildings lined both sides of the small road that led through the market. The town was packed with people hoping to catch a glimpse of their monarch on this very auspicious occasion. The king compares the bustling market, filled with food stalls, to the likes of the Sampaeng market in Bangkok.

He wrote, "We do not need a lengthy description. It is very much like our Sampaeng market in Bangkok." But the goods, furniture and fabrics that were on sale were less varied than expected, probably due to the royal visit. The streets would most likely have been cleared of vending carts and stalls, and beautified with large red plants prior to the king's arrival.

Captain Weber rode a horse at the head of the king's procession. Four Chinese policemen also rode in front of the king's chariot. Soldiers guarded the chariot's sides and rear.

Along the roadside, guards and policemen, armed with rifles, were there to enforce security. The king's procession ended at the government office, which was the administrative center of the province.



King Chulalongkorn in full coronation attire earlier in his reign.

King Chulalongkorn had to cancel a visit to Wat Mongkol Nimit on Dibuk Road due to lack of time, though the king did authorize refurbishment of some of the temple's deteriorating buildings.

The king remarked that Phuket Town was large and developed; very different from what he'd witnessed on his previous visit 19 years earlier.

King Chulalongkorn was back at Saphan Hin port by the evening. Guns were fired in salute to the departing monarch. The Indian port administrator, Luang Laxmana, escorted the king and his party back to their yacht.

Although the king's visit was brief, it seemed apparent from his writings that he had been impressed by many aspects of the island, its development and its people. The people of Phuket would have been highly honored to welcome him.

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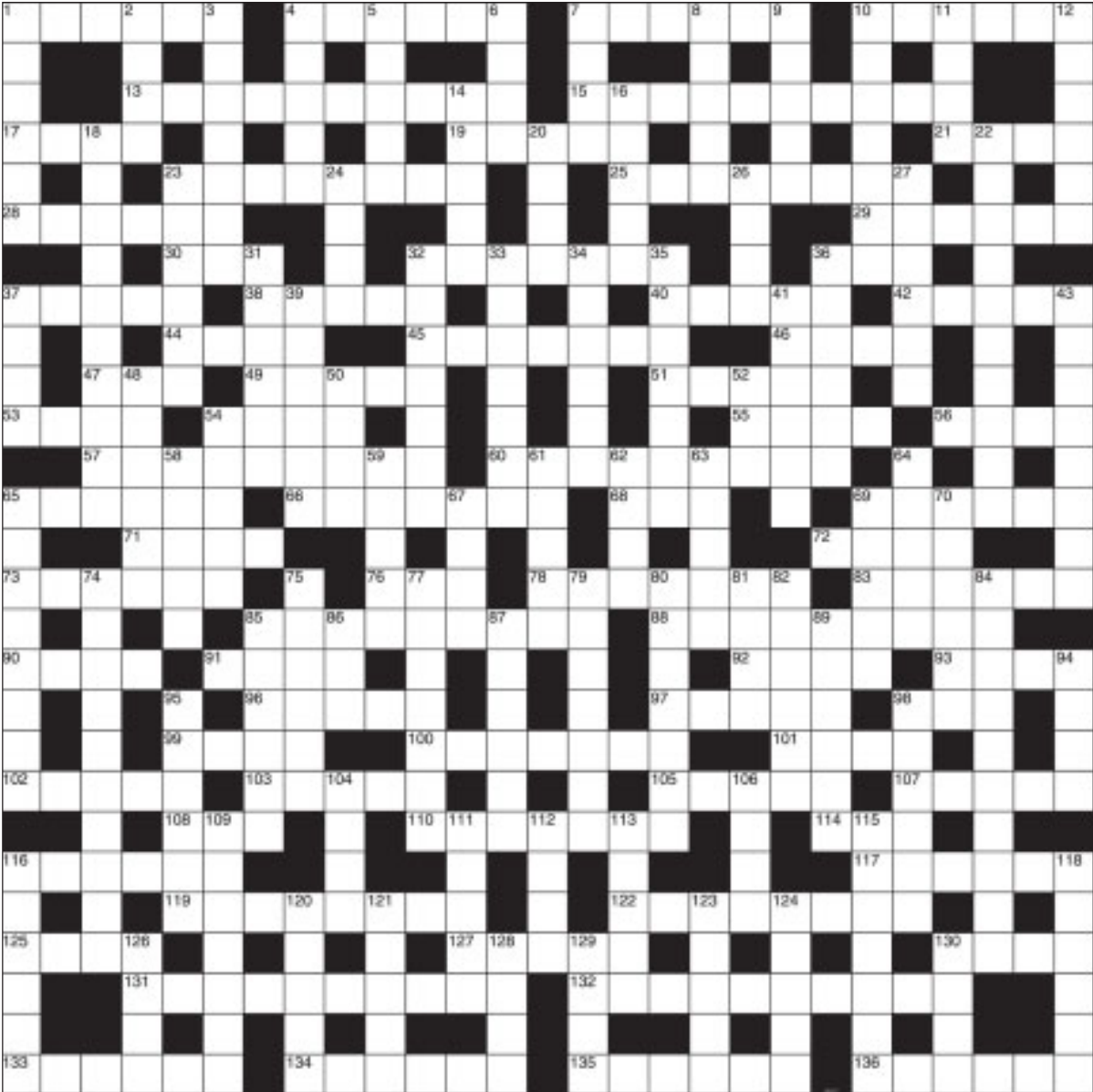
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Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

The principle of Sudoku is very simple: each row, each column and each “box” of nine squares within the puzzle must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 with, naturally, no repetitions. Guess if you will, but each Sudoku puzzle can be solved using logic alone. Beware: this puzzle has only one solution, which is on the next page.



The BIG Crossword

This week's cartoon

DAVE ELL

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Across

1. Red salad fruit

4. Separate (from)

7. Disinclined

10. Hired movies

13. Defiant

15. Parliament member

17. Replica

19. Twitch

21. Enclosed area

23. Sit astride

25. Ate

28. Movable

29. Largest desert

30. Fuss

32. Fruitless

36. 'Tis

37. Loud

38. Carpentry fasteners

40. Lunches or dinners

42. Store secretly

44. Candidates' assessment

45. Dissimilar

46. Alternatively, or...

47. Belonging to that woman

49. Harness-racing horse

51. Holiday entitlement

53. Christmas carol, The First...

54. Confusing network

55. Tennis ace,... Sampras

56. Slow down!

57. Letter of recommendation

60. Saviours

65. Capital of Oman

66. Aspiring actress

68. I am, they...

69. Prejudiced

71. Drew

72. Metal join

73. Cooks in oven

76. Weep

78. Made certain

83. Within reach (2,4)

85. Group of musicians

88. Gave food to

90. Flits (about)

91. Early Peruvian

92. Make impassioned speech

93. In proportion, pro...

96. Vietnam capital

97. House tops

98. Oomph

99. Honey wine

100. Broad knife

101. Singer,... Turner

102. Late Princess of Wales

103. Audacity

105. From Lausanne or Zurich

107. Cat cry

108. Blood colour

110. Gossips

114. Martial art, ... kwon do

116. Writes in block letters

117. Flood channel

119. Clamber

122. Famous "enigmatic" portrait (4,4)

125. Artist, Vincent Van...

127. Make fun of

130. Snooty person

131. High-born (5-5)

132. Temperance

133. Harangue

134. Margin of safety

135. Swiss lake

136. Marten furs

Down

1. Body powder

2. Well ventilated

3. Circled (Earth)

4. River-mouth flats

5. Tested (out)

6. Clasp

7. High mountains

8. Regretting

9. Radiates

10. Most conceited

11. Refuse

12. Actress,... Bullock

14. Manipulative people

16. Skips

18. Newspaper owners

20. Cain's brother

22. Snow slippages

23. Killer

24. Cold meats & cheeses shop

26. Sicilian volcano

27. Morse symbols, dots &...

31. Equal (2,1,3)

32. Coup organiser

33. Act of rubbing out

34. Departed

35. Iron extraction plant

36. Tiny islands

37. Fluorescent lamp gas

39. Astounds

41. Prising tools

43. Requested with authority

48. Votes in

50. Dollar division

52. Mimic

54. Measures (out)

58. Religion

59. Apprehend

61. Anaesthetic

62. Hearing organs

63. Paris underground

64. Grime

65. Yellow-flowering plant

67. Produces (egg)

69. Beauty And The...

70. Stick (to)

74. Renouncing throne

75. Covered shopway

77. Systematic routine

79. Innocence

80. Strip

81. Currency unit

82. Preliminary outlines

84. Adjustment

85. Available (2,4)

86. Tin container

87. Male feline

89. Assert

94. Affirm

95. Stings

98. Actress, ... Anderson

104. Rove

106. US Midwest state

109. Runaway

111. Wrongly assists

112. Tinned fish

113. ... and Juliet

115. Attacks

116. Little pig

118. Live coals

120. 4th month

121. Midriff swelling

123. Sister's girl

124. Jungle vine

126. Hawaiian dance

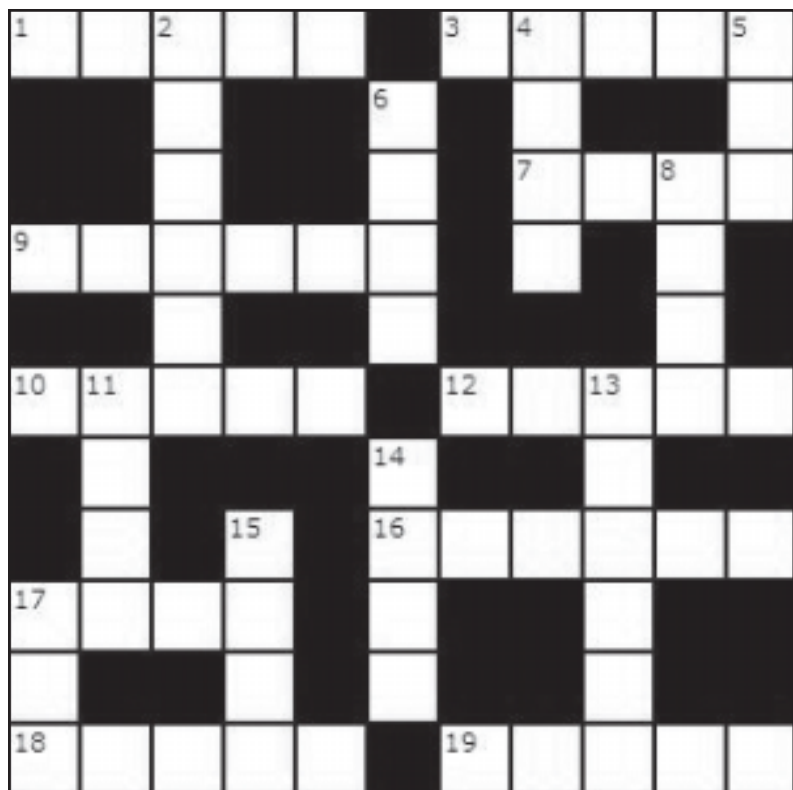
128. Glimpse

129. Self-satisfied

130. Social insult

Solution on next page





1. Fixed	2. Vital
3. Amusing	4. US state
7. Insects	5. Affirmative
9. Eaten with crackers	6. Expensive
10. Essential	8. Dessert
12. Trousers	11. Make uncreased
16. Get	13. Close
17. Tie	14. Precious metal
18. Youthful	15. Shock
19. Country	17. Used to unlock

*Solution below*

# MONSTER QUIZ

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Christmas Day births fall under which sign of the Zodiac?                               | 8. What was Frosty The Snowman's nose made of?                                    | 15. Which Pantomime features the character Baron Hardup?                    |
| 2. In what year did Queen Elizabeth II make her first Christmas broadcast?                 | 9. And who brought Frosty back to life?   | 16. What was first sighted by Johann Georg Palitzsch on Christmas Day 1758? |
| 3. Who composed "White Christmas"?   | 10. Who banned Christmas in 1647?   | 17. Which ballet is about dancing toys on Christmas Eve?                    |
| 4. On what night does the action of the film Die Hard take place?                          | 11. Which Pacific Island did Capt James Cook discover on Christmas Eve, 1777?     | 18. How many ghosts visited Scrooge in The Christmas Carol?                 |
| 5. In the 17th century, if you got "Christmas Clap" off someone, what have they given you? | 12. Who had a dog called Max and stole Christmas from Hooville?                   | 19. Who was born on Christmas Day 1642, and is buried in Westminster Abbey? |
| 6. Which boy's name means "Born on Christmas Day"?   | 13. Which Christmas carol do you associate with Ilex Aquifolium and Hedera Helix? | 20. Which opera begins on Christmas Eve in a garret in Paris?               |
| 7. From which country did the real Saint Nicholas originate?                               | 14. Which novel begins "Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents"?       |   |
- Answers below**

*Answers below*



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## Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

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

## Solution to this week's Quick crossword

# Monster Quiz Answers

1. Capricorn; 2. 1952 (1957 1st TV broadcast); 3. Irving Berlin; 4. Christmas Eve; 5. A kiss under the mistletoe; 6. Noel; 7. Turkey; 8. A button; 9. Santa Claus; 10. Oliver Cromwell; 11. Christmas Island; 12. The Grinch (who stole Christmas); 13. The Holly & The Ivy; 14. Little Women; 15. Cinderella; 16. Halley's Comet; 17. The Nutcracker; 18. 4; 19. Sir Issac Newton; 20. La Boheme.

## Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

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



# More memoirs by Clive James



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

Clive James became rich and famous from his first memoir, *Unreliable Memoirs*, a hilarious account of his childhood in Australia during the 1950s. He followed this up with two equally funny novels, firstly about his early years in London in *Falling Towards England*, and then on his academic career in Cambridge in *May Week was in June*.

He is a supremely facile writer, incapable of a dull sentence, and also a fast one – a talent he would need when, newly married, he embarked on a career as a freelance writer.

James has written four nov-

els; three collections of poetry, a travel book and 15 volumes of criticism, the most recent being *Cultural Amnesia*, a giant collection of essays on the great thinkers and doers of Western civilization.

Now, alas, he has come a cropper with his fourth volume of memoirs, *North Face of Soho* which is about the decade he spent in London after he left university and got married.

"Even I could see that the first consequence of getting married was the necessity to earn a living," he writes. "Until then, I had lived as a student, which is another way of saying that I had lived like a bum."

Clive tells the reader up front that he has no intention of telling tales about his wife and two daughters. So we are left with a hodgepodge of comical profiles about various editors, writers, theater and movie people. He's funny of, course, but the fluffy tone becomes cloying: like a seven course meal of cotton candy.

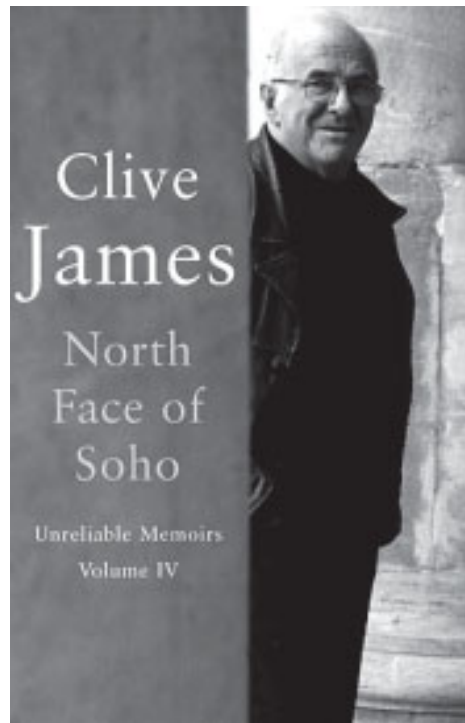
The *bons mots* fly apace. Famed theater critic Kenneth Tynan tells James that he should

graduate from TV critic to theater critic. "When I asked him if he could really, truly, still stand the theater, he said, 'I get a thrill every time the curtain goes up.' And I said, 'I get a thrill every time it goes down.'"

He had risen to TV host by the time he met the eccentric comedian and goon Spike Milligan: "I remember him pretending to be a hotel reception desk in Scotland, complete with ringing bell. The number got started when he found a bell left over from somebody else's sketch. By the time it was finished he was the whole hotel. In the control gallery we were falling about to the full extent that space permitted and when the tape finally rolled, we asked him to do the number again but he had forgotten it. That was the way he was. You have to imagine an illuminated manu-

script propagating itself at the speed of a ticker tape."

About TV comic duo Russell Harty and Janet Street-



and Janet looked and sounded like a cockney female assassin who had been trained to kill with her voice, which was not only raucous but seemed permanently surprised, like a macaw taking off repeatedly from a steam catapult."

There's also a solid bit of literary criticism. Clive James is a great admirer of George Orwell; not only his politics but his prose. When he was fighting in the Spanish Civil War, Orwell's central belief was that it wasn't enough to be against the Nazis, you had to be anti-totalitarian, which meant being against the Communists as well.

"No fan of capitalism myself – there had to be something easier than working for a living – I had nevertheless been raised in a house where that central belief of his didn't need to be stated, so when I read him at length, it was like a long verification of what I had always felt. My mother and father, both of them prime examples of the suffering proletariat of the 1930s, would have left me a Communist heritage if they had thought that there was anything to it."

So yes, there are brilliant bits in this book, but I'm not looking forward to reading more of his memoirs, especially as he becomes rich as a TV presenter.

Porter, he writes: "They were the ideal couple. Harty looked and sounded like an aesthete who knew Alan Bennett quite well,

# Much ado about "do"

Is it correct to say, "Let's do go to town today" – or any thing else beginning with "Let's do" and then a verb? Obviously, the 'do' isn't needed.

Thomas Armbricht  
Madison, Wisconsin

**Barbara replies:** "Do" is a remarkably handy little word with many jobs to, um, do. One of these is adding emphasis – its function in your example sentence, which is perfectly correct. Nonetheless, you're right to wonder whether the "do" there is redundant with the main verb, "go." "Let's do" can be a complete thought, after all, and in this case it would mean the same thing as "Let's go to town."

But your "do" is no more redundant than the extra "very" in "I'm very, very eager to go to town today." The general meaning would be the same without it, but the tone would change. Sometimes such words are useless or even counterproductive, throwing the tone off – but sometimes they serve a purpose. We word-lovers should keep in mind something Mae West said: "Too much of a good thing can be wonderful."

Many people use the word 'reticent' in place of 'reluctant.' I don't believe the two are interchangeable. According to the dictionary, 'reticent' means 'uncommunicative.' So I would think that saying someone

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

is 'reticent to comment' is redundant. I would also think that saying someone is 'reticent' to go somewhere or do something makes no sense, since the word pertains only to speech. Am I correct?"

Ruth-Ellen Cohen  
Bangor, Maine

**Barbara replies:** Today seems to be the day for redundancy questions. Your point of view is certainly the traditional one – for good reason. As the *New Oxford American Dictionary* explains,

"reticent" comes from the Latin prefix "re- (expressing intensive force)" plus the verb "tacere 'be silent.'" Etymologically, the word is about keeping quiet.

The *New Oxford American* is, however, the only one of five major American and Canadian dictionaries to agree with you completely. All of the others give

definitions that include words like "restrained" and "understated," and two say "reluctant" is a synonym.

In fact, "reticent" and "reluctant" overlap in meaning. Consider this sentence from a *Washington Post* last year: "Many partners in Facebook's Beacon seem reticent to address the raging privacy controversy surrounding the ad program, resorting to terse, vague statements or opting for outright silence when asked for comment."

Here "reluctant" could be substituted for "reticent," and "address" means something very like the "comment" you object to. But still, "reticent to address" is hard to fault, because the sense of the phrase is "restrained about speaking."

The word is truly wrong only where "reticent" alone would convey the same meaning or where there's no sense of keeping quiet – as in your examples of someone's being "reticent" to go somewhere or do something.

What exactly does 'first-generation' mean? Is it the person who came over to this country [the USA] from elsewhere, or the child of that person who is in the first generation born in this country?"

**Barbara replies:** Annoyingly enough, both of those uses are considered correct. Wondering which meaning was the original one, I looked up "first-generation" in the older dictionaries in my library. The earliest to include the term at all, from the 1960s, gives both of them.

Barbara Wallraff is a weekly syndicated columnist for King Features and a contributing editor and columnist at The Atlantic Monthly.

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**The Phuket Gazette**  
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## A brave new world?

The election of Democrat Party leader Abhisit Vejjajiva as Prime Minister on December 15 is a welcome and much-needed development, coming at the end of a year marked by the global economic downturn, unprecedented political division and nervousness about prospects for the national economy.

Abhisit, whose appointment was still awaiting royal endorsement as the *Gazette* went to press, will face huge challenges in healing the rifts of a nation sharply divided along class and regional lines.

Many have noted that given the tenuous state of the global economy, the task facing Abhisit is even more daunting than that of his mentor Chuan Leekpai, who inherited the financial mess left in the wake of the 1997 financial crisis.

It is of course a cliché to say that "politics makes for strange bedfellows", but Abhisit's rise to the nation's top political job through the defection to the Democrat fold of Newin Chidchob and 37 members of his Isarn-based "Friends of Newin" political faction is a stunning development, even by Thai political standards.

For years, Newin, as ex-Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's right-hand man, was perhaps the most despised national political figure among people in Phuket.

It was Newin who led the no-confidence debate that resulted in the downfall of the first Chuan-led Democrat Party administration in 1995.

Much of his ammunition came from Phuket itself, where some of the island's most prominent families – including those of two current MPs – were found to have been awarded SorPorKor land use documents intended for landless farmers. Some of these cases remain buried in the court system to this day, well over a decade after the initial scandal broke.

Newin's local foes also include some real farmers, 200 of whom gathered at Phuket Provincial Hall one day in July 2003 after hearing a rumor that Newin, then the Deputy Agriculture Minister, was coming to visit. They wanted to vent their anger at what they believed to be unfair politically motivated mistreatment by state officials directed by Mr Newin.

With so much animosity between Newin and Phuket, it will be interesting to see what kind of reception he receives from his new island-based "allies" in parliament.

If they really can all sit down and work together after all that has transpired, it will no doubt be a sign of hope for better things to come in the approaching New Year – a year that, even without the political turmoil, is going to sorely try most of the world's governments due to the global economic downturn.

- The Editor

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

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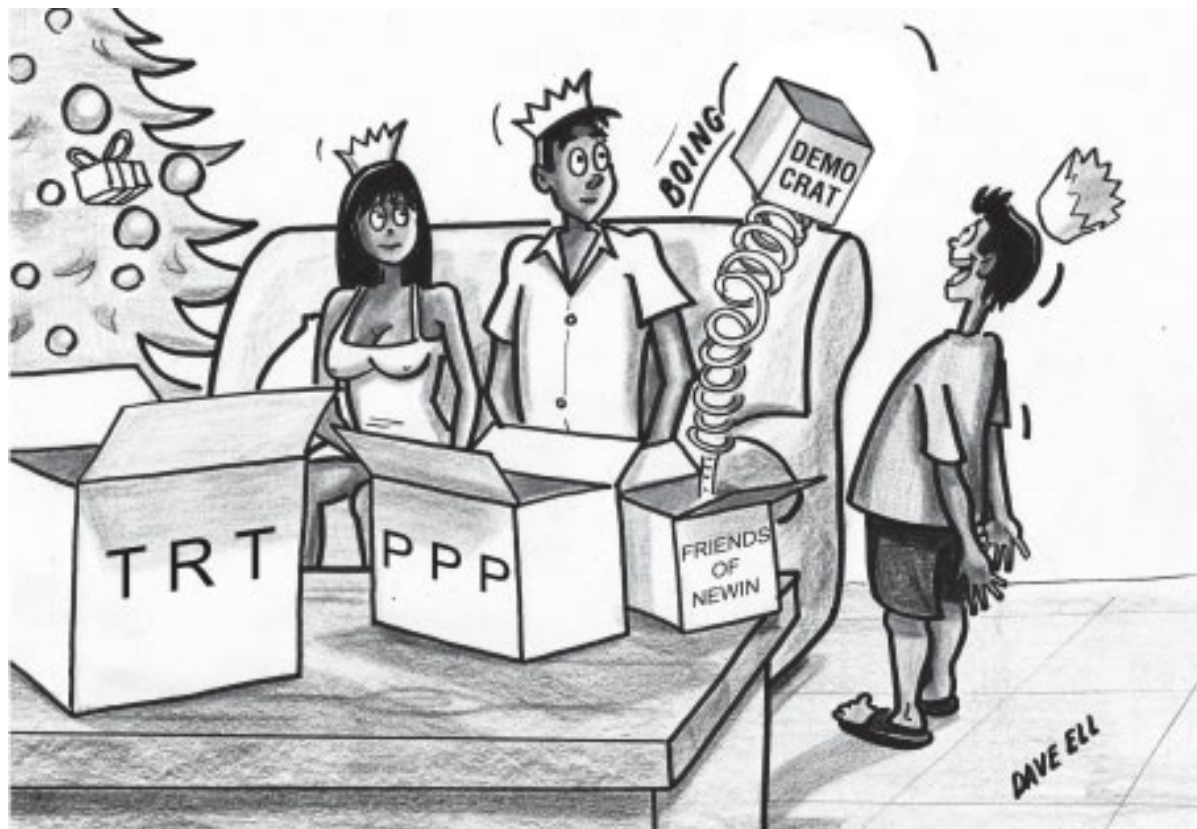
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## Letters

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

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

### Corruption the road-block to 'normalizing' public transport

We have watched the power of the people achieve a fantastic result for Thailand, a land we love very much. Let's hope now that the corruption clean-up started by the Surayud government continues right down the ladder to all those issues that hurt average everyday people.

Let's hope we can soon arrive as tourists in Phuket and be able to get a taxi at the airport without all the hassles caused by the wrong people being able to control the transport there.

Let's hope we can go out to dinner in Kata or Patong and be able to get a metered taxi back to our hotel without being ripped off by corrupt and protected tuk-tuk drivers.

It's amazing how blatant the corruption really is on the streets. The authorities don't seem to care how tourists are treated. In Bali, transport in metered taxis is always available, like in most countries. It's time for Thailand to normalize and finally fix the public transport problem.

S. Davey  
Darwin, Australia

### Some good news for Phuket's dog killers

I was appalled to find that the cute, healthy little puppies who were living in my area off Chaofa Thani Rd have been poisoned to death. They were innocent little puppies that lived peacefully near my house and even though I did not feed them, I enjoyed seeing them around. I

also know that our neighbors were feeding them and treating them well so I didn't mind at all when they came into my house to play once in awhile.

For the sake of our collective conscience, I would beg that no one on this island poison or otherwise torture puppies.

Like those murdered in our *moo baan* last week, puppies don't actually ask to be born. But once birth becomes a fact for them, they do try to survive and have a life.

I am writing this simply to let Phuket's (apparently many) dog poisoners know that it's not necessary to slaughter the animals. Next time you get the urge to murder a puppy, please simply contact PAWS (076-264504) or the Soi Dog Foundation (085-473 4636). They have solutions for both you and the dogs and can almost surely help you to feel better about yourself.

Anita Sjobloom  
Chalong

### Subtle hint in new Thai visa rules?

I was delighted to read in the *Gazette* that the Thai government is reducing to 15 days the length of stay permitted to those who enter the country overland, finally taking action against farang parasites who abuse Thailand's visa system to remain in the country far longer than they should.

The number of embarrassing foreigners I've met in this country who contribute nothing except problems is a bit depressing. So it's no surprise to me that the Thais are finally putting the squeeze on such people.

Generally speaking, those

foreigners who want to be here on a long-stay basis do tend to apply for a proper visa. The sheer fact that those who don't bother to do this are required to suffer frequent visa runs in order to remain here, could be a subtle, Thai-style hint to them that perhaps it's time to go home.

Etienne de Villiers  
Patong

### Sex the main event in Patong not food chains.

I've just returned to Phuket after three months out of town. In this short time, Patong has inherited another KFC, a third McDonalds, a fourth Starbucks, a third Pizza Company, four new Family Marts and three new 7-Elevens. In one area, Aroonsom Plaza, there are three Family Marts and a 7-Eleven within 60 meters of each other.

They keep talking about taking the sleaze out of Patong. Is this what they want to replace it with?

I believe Patong is popular with *normal* people also, because it is a harmless and fun red light district. This is why it's famous. It's unlike anything where most visitors come from. Jungceylon has proved that people don't come to Phuket for the designer label clothing and handbags that they are exposed to every day in their own country.

And they certainly won't come to Patong if you take out the interesting parts and replace them all with McDonalds and Starbucks.

Tony Nicoletti  
Milan / Patong

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



# 2004 tsunami remembered



**J**im Newport is a Phuket-based writer, whose publications include "The Vampire of Siam" trilogy and *Chasing Jimi*. Jim has been a resident of Kamala for more than 15 years, in which time he has worked as a production designer on the Hollywood hit movie starring Nicholas Cage, *Bangkok Dangerous* and also the TV series *LOST*. Jim was on the island during the 2004 tsunami. The things Jim saw and experienced as the tragedy unfolded at a time when many visitors to the island were on holiday and celebrating Christmas, prompted him to write the following poem, which has never before been published.

December 26, 2004:

**A**t sunset, like clock work, in the old days, the buffalos used to come down to the beach and bathe. They'd fill the sand and little children would run between their legs, delighted to see them.

These magnificent beasts with their gently curved horns and large sweet eyes, have all but disappeared from the island. Without work, they lost their purpose. They used to pull the plows that tended the rice paddies. Rice paddies on Phuket today are few and far between. If you find one, there's bound to be a foreign real estate agent negotiating with the farmer for his land.

Most of the water buffalos have been turned into those little meat balls you see sold on tiny skewers and served with noodle soup.

The Thais generally approach the water after the sun is low on the horizon. Then the beach erupts with laughing children. Impromptu soccer games occupy the older boys, while the girls and little boys grab sticks and these happy children draw patterns in the damp sand, toss shells on the sand and play the ancient game of 'hopscotch.'

The young mothers keep an eye on their flock while chatting. Some of the kids and their parents actually go in the water – Thai style – wearing

T-shirts and shorts.

The beach faces west. In the early winter the sun sets in the southwest. As it sets, glorious cumulus clouds blow across the sky from the south to the north. The verdant jungle at the southern tip of the bay is back-lit by the setting sun. The equally lush green hills to the north fill with deep shadows as the clouds float over them.

On the horizon the squid boats start to appear. They'll be out all night, casting their eerie glow to attract the squid to the surface. They used to use huge incandescent globes, but today they have been replaced by more efficient green fluorescent tubes.

Dogs and children chase sand crabs with the same wide-eyed wonder as they disappear in their holes.

As I write this I am watching the most glorious sunset I've ever been privileged to witness.

I pray to God that he allows me to live out my days here. Fifteen years ago I sought paradise and I found it in Kamala.

The sky is beautiful. It is too beautiful. The beach is glorious. The clouds on the horizon are pink and purple, the sun setting behind them. The children walking on the waters edge are reflected on the sand as if it were golden oil.

The lights begin to glow on the million-dollar homes on the hills.

It is all too much.

My secret paradise.

Again I've been seduced by Kamala.

Sometimes it takes a week. Sometimes two weeks.

But then it happens and suddenly everything is magical – and I don't want to leave.

This was going to be the big year. The pay off for all the previous years.

This year was going to make up for Bali bombings, SARS, 9/11, avian flu, Al Qaeda threats – this year everything seemed perfect. Everyone seemed happy.

The stars and moon were aligned. The heavens were smiling on Kamala. This year, surely, great profits would be made. This year. Surely, they'd make up for those miserable other years. This year, ...

Surely.

I arrived in Kamala on December 13. Everything was 'ship shape.' They were ready. 'Build it and they will come.'

Smiles everywhere.

This would be the best season ever.

The two weeks around Christmas and New Year are known as 'the season.' This is when 80% of the tourist trade income is earned. Hotels in Laguna – a self-contained luxury conclave, were charging \$580 (U.S.) & up per night.

The Chedi was over \$1000 per night and lord only knows what the grandparent of all the luxury resorts – the Amanpuri,

next door, was charging. My good friend Diver's wife, Prawnee, was earning \$300 & up each day bringing meals to the luxury houses on the hills overlooking Surin beach.

There was a real 'buzz' on the island. This was going to be the answer to all their prayers. Finally, a good season!

They'd waited so long. They'd worked so hard. They built new roads, sea walls, a lovely little park, sewer systems, hotels with air con, cleaned the beaches, moved the water buffalos –

They were ready. Ready to finally make some money.

And then God – like a cruel parent – sent a wave of destruction that wiped it all out in a few minutes.

All gone. All destroyed.

Many ... many died.

The first I knew of the tsunami was when I heard a sound – like a dull explosion – followed by many, many more. It went on for a few minutes. And then there was the sound of falling rock. Again – this went on for minutes.

And then there came the distant sounds of confusion – cries, yells. Screams.

In less than five minutes – Kamala was gone.

All the sweat, labor, love, tears, smiles, joy, sorrow, pain, laughter – all the good times, all the beer, all the wonderful food, all the friendly haggling with all the friendly shopkeepers, the little school that was boasting its first

new buildings in twenty years, the beautiful new park for the people with its flowers, trees and paths, all the thatched hut beachside restaurants...

All the umbrellas, beach chairs, barbeque grills, sarongs for sale, bungalows to rent, coconut trees, fishing boats, roadside vendors, jeeps for rent, motorbikes for hire, internet cafes, Indian tailor shops, mini-marts, 7-Elevens, two traffic lights, action movie wide-screen TV bars, laundries, massage parlors...

French restaurants, Italian restaurants, German restaurants, Swedish restaurants, photo print shops, pharmacies, wine shops, meat markets, delicatessens, beauty parlors, 'copy' artists and their masterpieces, newsstands, bookstores, arts & handicraft shops, DVD, CD and VCD shops...

Ice cream vendors, jet ski renters, parasail operators, scuba gear shops, mobile phone shops, car and motorbike repair shops, real estate offices, condos recently purchased, condos for sale, condos being built, houses recently purchased, houses for sale, houses being built, hotel rooms, swimming pools, hotel lobbies –

And God knows how many souls –

Gone.

Washed out to sea.

Destroyed.

Vanquished.

God's will be done.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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](http://www.phuketgazette.net)**

## Do I have to pay pension tax in Thailand?

**I**am a retiree from Norway. Do I have to pay income tax in Thailand on my pension from my home country? I already pay tax in Norway, but if I must pay it here, how do I do so?

Kjell Oedegaarden

**Svenn-Ove Jakobsen, Consular Officer, Royal Norwegian Embassy, Bangkok replies:**

The Thai and Norwegian governments have an agreement regarding payment of pension taxes but the information concerned is quite complex.

The easiest way to find out more is to contact the tax office

in your home town in Norway and ask them to explain, if required, the process through which you can make payments and who to contact to begin the initial setup.

It is also possible to use a lawyer to deal with income tax payments, but, naturally, this will entail additional costs. Finally,

you can research the issue yourself by going online and searching the internet for information.

For general information contact the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Bangkok, located at UBC II building, 18th floor, 591 Sukhumvit Road, Soi 33, Bangkok 10110 Thailand. Tel: 02-204 6500. Email: [emb.bangkok@mfa.no](mailto:emb.bangkok@mfa.no).





By S. TSOW

# Auction America: The Nerdwell Plan

Paris Hilton, Tom Cruise, Arnold Schwarzenegger. I bet lots of third-world dictators would love to have the Terminator as their personal bodyguard. We can recapitalize our economy by selling our celebrities.

Tsow: You can't do that, Fardley. They're human beings, for God's sake. That would be slavery.

Fardley: In such dire economic times, we cannot nitpick about moral niceties. Our celebrities will be sacrificing themselves for the good of the nation. However, political correctness requires us to avoid the S-word. We won't call them slaves. We'll call them mandatory companions. We can sell off the rest of the population, too, either individually or in bunches.

Tsow: This is the sickest idea I've ever heard of. What else would you sell?

Fardley: Well, if we can get a decent bid, we might sell the whole country. The land, I mean. One person wouldn't be able to afford the whole thing, so the world's billionaires might form a

consortium. OPEC might buy it. They practically own us anyway. Of course, we'll have to reject low-life buyers like Hamas, Hezbollah, Al-Qaeda, the Burmese junta and the Mafia. If we can't sell the whole country, we'll sell it off in chunks. I bet there are South American countries that would love to own Texas and California. Drug-rich Colombia and oil-rich Venezuela could team up to buy the newly integrated state of Texifornia.

Tsow: Texas and California aren't contiguous territories, Fardley.

Fardley: Hey, I'm a conceptualizer, not a mechanic. If you want to be a bean-counter, we can throw in the connecting states as a deal-sweetener.

Tsow: What other parts of the country would you sell?

Fardley: Alaska. We bought Alaska from the Russians a long time ago. I bet they'd love to have it back. There was a joke about Sarah Palin being able to see Russia from her house. If Russia buys Alaska, she'll be able to see Russia all around her house. Canada

could buy our northern states. France might buy back the Louisiana Purchase. Holland could buy back Manhattan Island.

Tsow: What about selling our national monuments?

Fardley: Great idea. I bet the Grand Canyon would fetch a good price. Of course, there could be problems if the buyer wanted to move it. Then there's the Mount Rushmore Memorial. I bet Hugo Chavez, Fidel Castro or Muammar Gaddafi would love to buy that and put his own face up there, right next to Washington and Lincoln.

Tsow: That would certainly give the place a cosmopolitan atmosphere. But if you're going to sell everything, who's going to collect the money?

Fardley: The government. Actually, we wouldn't really have to SELL everything. We could lease it out, say for terms of three years. Then, when the leases expire and the economy gets back on its feet, the government would reclaim the land and reimburse all the mandatory companions for their, uh, service.

Tsow: So an oil sheikh, say,

wouldn't actually be able to BUY Britney? He'd just lease her for three years? I wonder what shape she'd be in after all that?

Fardley: Well, we'll devise stern contractual measures to prevent abuse. Listen, this is a brilliant concept. I expect it to get me the Nobel Peace Prize. At least the Nobel Prize for Economics. For sure the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Tsow: They only give that to soldiers, Fardley. Now, what do you call your plan? The Nerdwell Plan for Utter Insanity?

Fardley: Don't be sarcastic. No, I'm a modest man who shuns the gaudy trappings of fame and glory. My name need not be invoked. We can call it the Great American Fire Sale, or the Grand American Sell-off. Or simply Auction America.

Tsow: I can't wait till the top guns of American finance hear about this one.

*S Tsow disclaims all responsibility for the Nerdwell Plan, but you can scold him anyway at s.tsow@ymail.com.*

## In The Stars

by Isla Star

### Birthday Capricorns will find spiritual matters more meaningful during the year ahead...

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Your chances of enjoying a relaxing Christmas look promising. Capricorns who were not expecting to be affected by seasonal goodwill are about to be surprised by family and friends' efforts. Put your work-related worries to one side and they will appear far less important after a healthy rest. Those celebrating a birthday this week can look forward to a year with stronger spiritual significance. Wear the color silver to encourage more sparkling charm.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): You learn that someone special has pushed the boat out concerning your Christmas gift. Aquarians whose budgets won't stretch to an equally lavish purchase should remember that it's the thought that counts. Try asking a Piscean friend for some creative advice and consider planning a picnic instead of forking out for a restaurant dinner. The chance of relocation is tempting, but you will learn of a better offer in January.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): A family Christmas lunch probably won't be the highlight of your holiday period. This will probably be because of someone's non-festive mood, but there's no reason to allow this person to affect everyone else's enjoyment. Pisceans are advised to plan a party and conveniently forget to invite the wet blanket. Those looking for love discover that it can be found in strange places. The number two can bring some good fortune on Monday.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Newly single Arians who have been worried about feeling lonely at Christmas discover that a tempting Taurean has other plans. This holiday romance stands good chance of turning into something long lasting. Those in a committed relationship may be less happy with everything their partner has arranged, but have a reasonable excuse for taking the reins on New Year's Eve. Wearing the color tangerine orange helps to promote a sweeter mood.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Those Taureans having difficulty in capturing some seasonal flavor are advised to turn to a Sagittarian friend for guidance. This person could take you on a magical sleigh ride to somewhere you've never been to before. Financial luck is forecast to come from far away – this could be in the form of an investment made long ago and forgotten about. Incorporate the color pine green to encourage sharper thoughts.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Those Geminis who know they are prone to bouts of selfishness should make an effort to put others first during this holiday week. You will be amazed at how good

it feels to do so. Tuesday is the best day for a holiday shopping spree – take a Libran friend along to point you in the right direction. Wearing the color snowflake white can encourage a purer outlook on life.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Your helpful hints have been dropped in all the right places. A secret Christmas wish is forecast to come true for those born under the sign of Cancer and this gift will be better than any material ones you may receive. A casual remark made by Scorpio during a holiday gathering can lead to new business opportunities in the New Year. Wear the color holly berry red to encourage more wealth.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Those Leos hoping for a special mistletoe moment this Christmas are advised to be alert on Wednesday. Your single status could be about to change in a heartbeat as a whirlwind romance is forecast to take place. The best day for financial discussions with influential people is Monday, but avoid being too demanding with Aries – delay agreements until the New Year. The number eight can be lucky this weekend.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): While you may not be in the mood for a holiday celebration with lively friends, it's exactly what you need to shake off the cobwebs. Virgoans who have had a recent romantic disappointment will particularly benefit from being in the company of people who really know how to party. The chance of a New Year getaway looks likely. Wearing the color turquoise will

help you to see life from a more fresh perspective.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Leaving everything to the last minute is a recipe for disaster, but many Librans will be sidetracked by work-related matters. Your talents for delegation can be put to good use during the build-up to Christmas. A Taurean friend or family member can be relied on to help organize festivities that go with a bang, but Capricorn's attention will be diverted. Wear the color cranberry red to encourage the holiday spirit.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Scorpio's frustration at not having their interest returned should fade away. A shy someone you've been trying to connect with is about to make a tentative approach. The best day for an intimate liaison is this Sunday – Cupid will back your attempts to make romantic headway. Santa's gift delivery service will be subject to delays beyond his control, but your thoughtful offerings will arrive in the New Year.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Those Sagittarians who couldn't afford to spend Christmas with overseas family learn that they should be able to make a trip early in the New Year. Your finances are forecast to improve from the end of this month, and the trend will continue for several weeks. Tightening the reins on holiday spending is still advisable as unexpected obligations could take you by surprise. The color lime green enhances your energy.



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Microsoft (MS) Vista has become a major embarrassment to the world leader in computer software. The company is on a crash schedule to deliver a replacement. Windows 7 is expected to be widely available in less than a year (mid- to late 2009), but persons familiar with MS (including Phuket's own Woody Leonhard) expect that Win7 will feature only minor changes from the latest Vista (SP-1). Is it time to consider the alternatives? There are quite a few, notably the Apple and Linux, but also including less well-known operating systems such as Solaris, BeOS and others. Note that we are talking about operating systems, the core software that makes the computer work.

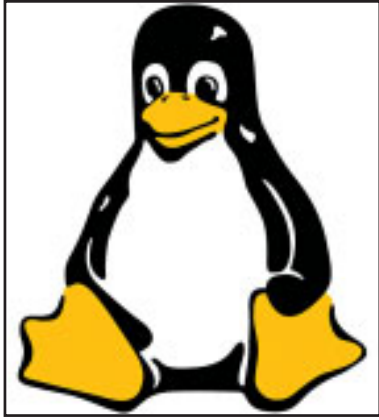
### Self-appointed savior

The self-appointed "alternative to Microsoft" is Apple. And a very respectable alternative it is, from one of the real founders of the personal computer industry. Apple has been delivering PC systems (integrated hardware and software) since 1975. The company has had major ups and downs, rarely exceeding 10% of the computer market, and sinking well below that in the past few years.

Apple has had particular success in graphics applications, and has garnered a hardcore group of fanatical Mac fans.

Two major developments in the past decade have earned Apple plaudits from serious computer users. The first was the introduction of the OSX operating system; the second, a change to industry-standard hardware based on Intel processors. The melding of the two has resulted in a powerful computer at a purchase price that is only about 10-20 percent higher than a comparable MS computer. Note the emphasis on purchase price, because, unlike MS, Apple charges full price for point upgrades (equivalent to service packs in MS products) of the operating system. Over a five-year service life this payment for upgrades (required to maintain system functionality and security) will cost

# Alternatives to Microsoft



**Linux: security is legendary due to the basic architecture of the system design.**

about US\$600 for the Mac, versus less than US\$150 for MS.

The OSX is an excellent operating system, arguably superior in design and usability to the MS products. And so it should be, with a system design based on the highly lauded BSD system, which in turn was an evolutionary derivation from the Unix system that is the fountainhead of almost all modern mainframe computers. The result is a proven design with a modular architecture operating on a very limited choice of Apple hardware devices. This is a sure formula for reliability and "no-hassle" (actually, relatively low-hassle) computing. But these features are offset in very large part by the cost, and even more by the limited choice of application software, and by the need to run Apple-approved hardware.

### You are currently using Linux

Surprised? Few people other than computer industry professionals and enthusiasts are aware that Linux is the prevalent operating system for the network routers, switches and servers that make up the highly complex worldwide internet. Nobody has counted the number of such units, but it is certainly a goodly share of the more than a billion computers currently in operation.

Google maintains the world's largest distributed computing system, with thousands of computers in each of its huge "server farms". The exact num-

ber and location of such farms is a closely held secret, but with over 60% (some claim a much higher number) of all internet searches it is highly likely that each and every computer user gets a major bite of Linux every day.

All right, you may say, but Linux is a techie-niche product, not really usable for the ordinary home or office. Microsoft would certainly like to have you believe just that, much as Apple would like to have you believe that Windows is a complicated, insecure mess and that having an Apple every day will greatly increase your computing health. Both notions are very much exaggerated and can lead to large, unnecessary expense.

The techie complexity angle was probably valid up to about five years ago. But the same could be said for earlier versions of Windows. During the past three years a major thrust for Linux development has focused on the user experience, including installation, clear and attractive GUI (graphical user interface) and device drivers.

A major Linux innovation is the Live CD – simply the entire OS and many application programs completely contained on a bootable CD, literally a "try before you buy" road test on your computer. If you like like it, just click an icon to permanently install it, either as the sole operating system or dual-boot alternative which allows you to select the OS to use (either Windows or Linux) each time you boot up the computer.

### Did I say try before you buy? Can you do this with Windows or Apple?

A major attraction of Linux is the price: it's free, with free updates and upgrades. No strings attached; free as in "free beer".

Originally developed by computer geeks, students and enthusiasts, Linux is developed and supported by thousands (millions) of such geeks/enthusiasts

around the world.

There are several companies that have developed a strong market for commercial support for Linux users. Red Hat and Novell are well known and profitable, providing services to companies and government agencies around the world. Many, probably most, private users find that the support available at user groups and forums is at least as adequate as that provided by the help desks at Microsoft and Apple.

The "free" goes beyond the operating system, and includes the applications installed and actually used by almost all users.

### Do you use MS Office?

Try Open Office v.3, which includes word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, database and other programs that are great replacements for the MS product and will read/write compatible data files. The Gimp is a great graphics/drawing program; Cinderella for video authoring; GNU Cash for personal finance; Evolution for email ... it goes on and on. Again, try before you buy, and free if you keep it. But few of the most popular computer games will run on Linux, although superb versions of classical games (chess, solitaire, etc) are freely available.

Linux security is legendary, due in large part to the basic architecture and limited access provided by the system design. Apple has made much of this aspect, as it rightly should. It is the same in Linux because they are branches of the same tree. Perfect security is not attainable, and the operator will remain the weakest link in the security chain, but Linux does a great job on the system. Security updates are occasionally needed and are typically posted within days and even hours of discovery.

There is not really one Linux OS, but rather many distributions (distros) that will include the Linux kernel (core operating modules and drivers) and a collection of supporting modules and scripts

that will vary considerably between the major distro groups such as Debian, RedHat, SUSE, Gentoo, Puppy, etc. These distro groups will generally include subgroups, such as Ubuntu and Sidux for Debian, Centos and Fedora for RedHat, etc. The free nature of Linux includes a licensing system that allows full use of the code by anybody, but does require that such users include full source code for any additions or changes included in the resulting distro. So, use it, improve it if you wish, and pass it on.

### The ultimate solution?

There is no perfect computer system (hardware and software) suitable for everybody. Microsoft tries to please all by including a multiplicity of services, functions and features that try to anticipate the possible use by a lab technician, office worker, commuting executive, front-line military user, home-keeper, child or student.

And make it work on about any personal or business computer with any conceivable hardware device attached. And then support this usability to be backward compatible with obsolete computer systems. A Herculean task, even for a company with enormous resources, and all too often strained and dysfunctional.

Apple has a much more focused approach, delivering a proven modular operating system that is designed to work with a limited pre-approved set of hardware. Linux takes a similar approach but carries it further by enabling it to function on most hardware, including older computers.

Our advice: give these alternatives a try, preferably with a live CD if available, and buy the system that suits your actual needs. They will probably be best served with a low-cost computing solution.

Leons Kovisars has worked with computers for over 40 years. He is a regular at the Woody's 'Computer Therapy' Workshops – every Sunday morning at Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.

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# Anyone for cricket?



CRICKET: When you think of Asian cricket, powerhouses India and Pakistan come to mind more readily than Thailand. While colonialism might have

sown the seeds of fanaticism for cricket in these countries a long time ago, the influx of foreigners into Phuket has seen interest in the game slowly increase.

The 2009 Island Furniture Cricket League (IFCL) gets underway in January here in Phuket. The league, which consists of five 11-a-side teams, is

now in its fourth year and operates under the auspices of the Phuket Cricket Union (PCU), the governing body for cricket in southern Thailand.

While this may sound quite structured, according to Richard Brown, the Honorary Secretary of the PCU, the IFCL is, first and foremost, about fun.

"We have players ranging in age from teenagers to guys in their 50s. Fitness and ability may vary but everyone enjoys themselves and it's always a really good day out," he said.

Cricket, even in the shortest form of the game, is more of a marathon than a sprint and in the IFCL, matches are contested over an innings of 35 overs per side. The games, which commence at 9 am on a Sunday, can last for up to six hours.

While cricket in Phuket has come a long way since the inception of the PCU, one element is still lacking, as Richard explained. "We still don't have our own ground and it is something we have been searching for for five or six years. We currently play at the Cherg Talay School, but it's a football pitch, not a cricket pitch."

"There's no square but what we do is roll the center of the ground to get it as hard and as

flat as possible and then lay a mat specifically designed for cricket, which we get from the Cricket Association of Thailand in Bangkok. Getting our own ground remains our holy grail though," he added.

Cricket's popularity is largely restricted to certain corners of the world and according to Richard the majority of participants in the league come from the former Commonwealth of Great Britain. "The league is made up mostly of expats from traditional cricketing nations like England, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa. There's also a big Indian contingent and we have two Indian teams," Richard told the *Gazette*.

Fun first and foremost, but make no mistake, all the teams play to win. "Each team plays each other twice in a round robin format, with the top two teams contesting a grand final. Last year's winning side was the Island Cricket Club. It can get competitive but is always played in the right spirit and we normally have a few beers and a BBQ afterwards," he said.

Players of all abilities are welcome and anyone interested in getting involved with the Island Furniture League should contact Richard Brown on 085-4741624.



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# Vagabonds lauded in London



Patrick Cotter, founder of the Phuket Vagabonds, and Rolien Moller of the Asia Center Foundation hold the IRB Spirit of Rugby 2008 award which the team received for their work helping orphaned and under-privileged children after the 2004 tsunami.

RUGBY: The Phuket Vagabonds rugby club were chosen to receive the prestigious IRB Spirit of Rugby 2008 award during a glitzy ceremony in London featuring the best players and teams in the world.

The Vagabonds were represented at the awards by Patrick Cotter who founded the team in 1995 and is the organizer of the annual Phuket Rugby 10s.

"It was a great honor and totally unexpected. To be in such esteemed company was quite a

humbling experience. This award is for everyone who has played for, supported, sponsored or played against us," he said.

Off the pitch, the Phuket Vagabonds have been closely involved with helping children affected by the tsunami and it is this work which was recognized by the IRB. According to Pat, "We won the award with the Asia Center Foundation for our work helping orphaned and under-privileged children after the tsunami.

"This has been primarily

through our scholarship program, which is run in conjunction with the Asia Center Foundation. We currently have 126 kids in the program and each year we raise funds at the Phuket 10s."

The Phuket Vagabonds came into being when Sri Lankan rugby champions Kandy RFC toured Phuket. A makeshift Phuket team was soundly beaten but out of the ashes of defeat rose the Phuket Vagabonds. They have since played various teams from around the world as well as from visiting ships from the British, Australian & US navies.

As the founder members have got older, the Phuket Vagabonds have spawned a veterans team, the Phuket Viagrabonds. They also remain actively involved at the opposite end of the age spectrum, developing youth rugby in Phuket. In conjunction with the Thai Youth Rugby development foundation, they plan to hold a weekend coaching seminar for schools from Phuket and around the South. This is provisionally scheduled to take place at BIS on the weekend of January 24 and 25.

For more information about rugby in Phuket, visit the Phuket Vagabonds website: [www.phuketvagabondsrfc.com](http://www.phuketvagabondsrfc.com) or contact Patrick at [phuketrugby@gmail.com](mailto:phuketrugby@gmail.com). For more information about the Asia Center Foundation, visit [www.asiacenter.ac](http://www.asiacenter.ac).

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## Home of the Week

Nai Harn

# Modern minimalism in peaceful Nai Harn

Home of the week brings you something truly out of the ordinary this time round, as modern minimalism meets tropical Asian design in the quiet and largely residential enclave of Nai Harn.

This white palace embodies a look and feel all of its own with its clean lines, porcelain clarity and contemporary style and sophistication.

The property, which sits on around 320 square meters of land, is laid out on three levels, all bathed in natural light. The home's Asian flavor is reinforced by an ornamental pond on the ground floor.

The house can be accessed either via the front gate or the car port and includes a path that traces the contours of the pond.

The first level comprises a large bedroom, which can be adapted for use as a home office or study, another smaller bedroom, a bathroom and a laundry room. The self-contained first level is relatively private, making it ideal for use as guest quarters.

A staircase leading from the carport allows you to enter the main living area on the second floor. Here, the open-plan layout encompasses a living room, dining area and spacious Western kitchen. An additional bathroom services this level.

Stroll out onto the second-floor balcony and you will discover the infinity edge pool, which has been built on top of the garage and affords beautiful views out over the ocean. There is also an outdoor shower located on this level.

The top level is dedicated to the master bedroom and ensuite bathroom. The large bedroom is hugged by an L-shaped



Stroll out onto the second-floor balcony and you will discover the infinity edge pool, which affords beautiful views out over the ocean.

balcony, providing a breathtaking 270° panoramic sea view. The bedroom is additionally equipped with a walk-in closet and dressing area that leads through to the master bathroom, which comes complete with luxuriously appointed bathtub.

The property also features phase-3 electricity, cable television, phone line and ADSL internet facilities.

Peaceful Nai Harn is home to one of Phuket's larger expatriate communities. Beautiful Nai Harn beach is within a few minutes' drive and the property is also but a stone's throw from a

host of great eateries, a Western market, local art galleries, coffee shops, saunas, and just enough night-life and live music to keep you young at heart.

The asking price for this property, which is available for purchase as freehold or leasehold, is 11,900,000 baht.

For more information contact Patrick Lusted at Siam Real Estate, quote reference number: HSSV2034. T: 076-288-908. E: Patrick@siamrealestate.com. Web: www.siamrealestate.com



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## Construction update

## Pa Khlok

# Pa Khlok project attracts international buyers

**A**t Pa Khlok, in the northwest of Phuket, construction is under way of eight deluxe one- and two-storey houses by developer Canary Phuket. The development sits on two rai of land near Kung Bay, just five minutes from Mission Hills Golf Club. The project offers easy access to Phuket Town and Patong as well as Phuket International Airport, Bangkok Phuket Hospital and the Royal Phuket Marina.

With 10 years of property development experience in Europe, Canary Phuket has assembled the collective talents of three design firms, Kwanglai Wonglee, Oriental Vista and Kaii, to create a stylish and luxurious living environment, describing it as "modern tropical".

Identifying three areas, landscaping, architecture and interior design, the property developers sought to tap the individual creative abilities of the leading companies in each field to produce a set of stunning plans.

With prices ranging from 12.8 to 14.8 million baht, Canary Phuket's Alain Tabruyn is confident that the properties will rank amongst Phuket's most desired.



The development sits on two rai of land near Kung Bay, just five minutes from Mission Hills Golf Club.

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Despite the slowing global economy and people shying away

from big investments, Mr Tabruyn remained confident that all eight properties would sell.

"We have already sold four houses to customers from Bangkok and Europe and with house prices falling, it is a good time to invest in property as the market will recover," he said.

Mr Tabruyn also revealed that Canary Phuket was already

planning its next development which is set to be a series of sea-view villas in Chalong.

**Canary Phuket contact:**  
Mr. Alain Tabruyn  
T: 081-970 7805,  
Khun Kwanjai(Lin) Wonglhee  
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Note: The above details including all pictures are indicative information only. The final details are subject to change(s) made by the Developer without giving prior notice to the customer.

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# Singing the praises of sa-tinky sator

By Bloomin' Bert

I sincerely hope my breath doesn't smell. I honestly don't think it does, but you never really know, do you? You can breathe into your hand and inhale whatever is produced, Mr Bean-style, but in reality that doesn't really give you much of a clue. The only guaranteed result is that you'll make a complete prat of yourself.

Even if someone in your vicinity does emit the kind of mouth odors that could strip paint off walls, most of us (even me, believe it or not) are usually way too polite and reserved to point out the reality of their gob-horrors to them. Bert – tactful? I can be polite sometimes. It just doesn't happen very often.

Perhaps members of the fairer sex are the most difficult to deal with on the cesspit-breath front. They can be intelligent, attractive, immensely well endowed and possess numerous other attributes. Beauty can hide a great many things, but it's totally unable to mask the reality of bad breath. Sweet nothings whispered late at night into one's ear aren't nearly so sweet when they smell like the back of a Phuket Municipality garbage truck.

You have to wonder, "How can she not know?" when the lovely lady has breath that would glow in a brightly lit room. There's really no way to handle a situation such as this. You could try the old "I've got some chewing gum – would you like a stick?" approach, but the outlook isn't particularly good, in reality. There's always the high-tech option – refer her to [www.badbreathogram.com](http://www.badbreathogram.com). Yes, it really does exist. Discreet, but hardly subtle.



**Sator is a long, flat bean with bright green seeds the size and shape of plump almonds, and is demonic in its bad-breath inducing abilities.**

If that fails, about the only possibility left would be "I've got a spare toothbrush, some dental floss, industrial toothpicks and a bottle of Listerine... how about giving them a try?" Perhaps wearing an army-issue full-face gas mask when out enjoying her company would also send out the not-so-gentle hint that something may well be amiss.

Food is hugely important in determining whether or not your exhalations cause those around you to recoil in shock. Garlic is a prime culprit, though the symptoms don't seem to last that long,

and the actual ingestion of the stuff is inevitably rather pleasant, so who cares. It's strange – you can genuinely say to someone, "You were certainly on the garlic last night" without causing the least offense, but, "You've got a severe case of botty-breath" may not go down as well, for some inexplicable reason.

In comparison to rather limp-wristed garlic, sator is demonic in its bad-breath inducing abilities. It can reduce people to talk back-to-back rather than face each other – it's powerful stuff. So what is sator? You've seen it all over the place, in markets and at the side of the road – it's that giant, twisty, string-bean-like vegetable that's in season at the moment.

Normally when I attempt to

identify a plant in this column, I give its name in English, followed by the equivalent in Thai in italics. This week's plant leaves us with a bit of a conundrum. The sator is the same in both English and Thai as far as I can make out, but it's a bit difficult to work out which came first. That's why they pay editors huge amounts of money to make italic decisions, I suppose.

The scientific name for the plant is easy: *parkia speciosa*, and in many parts of the world it's known as *petai* or *parkia*. It's sometimes referred to as "twisted cluster bean" or "stink bean". Whoever came up with the last one had his head screwed on straight – it's spot on. As unimaginative as it may be, the sator couldn't really be called anything else.

It's a long, flat bean with bright green seeds the size and shape of plump almonds. The seeds have a rather peculiar smell, to say the least. They are most definitely an acquired taste, but are popular all over southern Thailand and Malaysia. They are usually sold in bunches, still in the pod, or the seeds are sold in plastic bags. They are exported in jars or cans, pickled in brine.

When they're young, the pods are flat because the seeds haven't yet developed, and they hang like a bunch of pale green, almost translucent, slightly twisted ribbons. At this stage you can eat them raw, fried or pickled. If you want to, of course.

Once sator is mature and bears its beans and seeds, they're harvested for cooking. Cooking sator is an art. It's best when combined with other strong-flavored foods such as garlic, chilies and dried shrimp, or added to local dishes such as green curry. Apparently, the seeds are still edible even if they contain worms or bugs.

They aren't the easiest of trees to grow, unfortunately. These things take a lot of patience, as they take years to ma-

ture. They are fairly common in Phuket, but it's not often that you see a young sator tree. It may well be that they simply don't make their intentions clear until later on – the vegetable it produces (technically a fruit, if you want to get anal) can take 10 years to appear for the first time.

In theory, you should be able to germinate the seeds and then plant them to produce a fresh tree. If anyone wants to try this for themselves, please let me know the results in about 10 years' time.

Plant one of these in your garden and you'll need to guard it well. The only reason the examples in the picture have lasted so long is that they're straight out of a third floor apartment. The Thai inhabitants are currently scheming ways of retrieving it.

I actually enjoy the taste of sator, believe it or not. I'm less enthusiastic about the fact that I can still taste it, in a somewhat altered and exaggerated state, over 24 hours later, when the effects are significantly less pleasing.

I was discussing the delights of sator with a house guest from Malaysia recently. The first thing she said about the plant's qualities is that "it makes your pee smell". Additionally, she said, it acts as a kidney cleanser, and filters them out. She also swears that aubergine gets rid of the smell. She didn't explain if these theories were linked.

We may well have found the smelliest plant in town; difficult to imagine why we actually eat the stuff. But as we do, maybe we could add a whole new page to [www.badbreathogram.com](http://www.badbreathogram.com). Sator does, after all, sa-tink. Perhaps every single inhabitant of Phuket should consume this stuff simultaneously. Problem solved – we'd all stink together. Happy munching. Anyone got some extra strong mints?

*Need garden advice?*  
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# Let us spray

**T**his week, let's begin with a chore that's familiar to most of us here in the Land of Smiles: repairing a leaky bathroom sprayer.

Before you start, you are going to need the following items: wire brush, adjustable wrench, roll of silicone tape, silicone windshield sealant, dry rags, new rubber washers (or new hose/sprayer assembly), six rubber bands, a few cotton swabs and a cutter.

The sprayers available here have several drawbacks: the base that mates with the hose is often not flat/true, causing an inaccurate seal with the washer beneath it; the hose may have an inadequate flange (which is where a metal tube flares out like the bell of a trumpet) on the metal piece that mates with the spray head; and, worst of all, the fitting which holds the hose against the bottom of the spray-head is typically made of weak, 'chrome'-plated plastic instead of metal.

Most leaks at the sprayer/hose joint occur because the washer inside has become worn, both from long-term compression and from flexing of the hose in the course of normal use.

Another cause is cracking of the plastic fitting, usually from dropping the sprayer. Fixing the first type of leak requires replac-

ing the washer. The second requires replacing the hose as well.

Before carrying out any plumbing repairs, turn off the house's water supply. Failure to do this will result in an impromptu

shower (and a severe test of your sense of humor). Newer houses, however, may have separate kitchen and bathroom turn-off valves. Older houses have one valve, usually right next to the water meter near the street. After turning off the water, open a bathroom faucet to relieve pressure in the line.

First, unscrew the spray head from the hose's fitting. A word of caution: as mentioned, these fittings are made of plastic and break easily. Even too much grip pressure can crack them, making it necessary to replace the whole hose assembly, since the fittings are installed at the factory before the flange is created and can't come off the hose. Using tools on plastic fittings will almost certainly crack them, and is definitely not advised.

First, dry the fitting, then take half-a-dozen rubber bands and place them, doubled so they fit tightly, over the sprayer and onto the fitting. This will allow a slip-free grip, and help avoid cracking it by gripping too tightly. Turn the sprayer counter-clockwise until it comes off.

Tilt the hose downwards to drain it, then slide the fitting down

away from the end and, *voila*, one can see the tired old rubber washer. A few tricks here will help ensure a water-tight repair the first time, as doing a job twice is quite irritating. First, check the bottom of the sprayer, where it presses against the washer.

If it is rough or uneven, use a flat, fine-tooth file, or a kitchen-knife sharpening stone to lightly file the face of the opening until it is smooth, even and flat before re-assembling everything.

Next, dry the hose-end's flange. Hold the end of the silicone tape against the side of the metal fitting and wrap one turn around it, keeping the tape straight from the roll, but not stretching it. Holding the hose in the left hand, wrap counter-clockwise, coming over the top of the hose towards you. This is important, since if tape is wrapped clockwise, tightening the fitting will loosen it. Then, on the remaining turns, pull on the roll a little harder, stretching the tape slightly. This tape is extremely thin, so don't pull too hard. Wrap in a spiral towards the flange, with the last two or three turns half on the hose and half on the back of the flange. Cut the tape when done, don't pull till it breaks. Try to use no more than five or six turns in total, or else the fitting won't secure onto the sprayer properly.

Next, spread silicone sealant liberally on both sides of the washer, and a little into the threads on the bottom of the sprayer as well (the smell fades



after drying). A useful tip: use cotton swabs as easily disposable spreading tools. Then, holding the hose upright, slowly slide the fitting back up over the flange, rotating it counter-clockwise to slip over the tape without loosening it. Now, gently position the washer in place. Next, grip the fitting firmly, carefully insert the sprayer, and tighten by turning the sprayer in a clockwise direction, making sure the threads start correctly. If the fitting won't snug up to the flange, you've used too much silicone tape and will have to take off the sprayer and remove a turn. Tighten the spray-head until it stops, then torque it only about another eighth of a turn, and that should do it. Don't overtighten!

If also replacing the hose, install the sprayer onto the hose first (following the above steps, as even new parts can leak), as it is easier to do with the hose unattached to the wall, then attach the hose to the water outlet. If the water outlet pipe is metal, it may need to be cleaned with a wire brush before attaching the new hose. Wire-brush the threads thoroughly, getting down in the

bottom of each groove, wipe them clean with a damp rag, dry them, then smear sealant into the threads, or use the silicone tape, wrapping in the direction the fitting will turn when tightening. Tape the flanged metal piece at the hose end as discussed above, coat the washer with sealant, insert, and attach the hose's fitting to the water pipe. If the water pipe is PVC (plastic), just clean the threads with a slightly damp rag, dry, then use the sealant or tape. The hose's fitting that attaches to the water pipe is usually metal, so a wrench can be used to tighten it, but again, don't overdo it as this can distort the washer and cause leakage. Don't over torque; tighten until snug, then just an eighth-turn more. That should do it.

Tips: when lifting the sprayer out of the wall bracket, grip the hose beneath the sprayer and lift, then grasp the sprayer for use. Also, try to avoid twisting or bending the sprayer at extreme angles to the hose. This will ensure the longevity of the washer. Happy spraying!

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# "ONCE UPON A TIME"

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**Topic:** "ONCE UPON A TIME"

**Language:** English

**Length:** 800-1,200 words

**Age:** Between 14-18, up to December 1, 2008

**Opening date for submissions:** December 1, 2008

**Closing date for submissions:** January 15, 2009

**Winners announced:** February 20, 2009

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**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: 081-539 9269.

**PERFECT LAND**  
Nearly 2 rai at Bang Tao. Very good location for business. 18 million baht. No agents. Tel: 086-944 2065, 087-689 9679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

**1 RAI LOTS**  
in gated community. Ocean view. East coast, Pa Khlok. Starting at 3.5 million per rai. Royal Coast Company Ltd. Tel: 076-353926, 081-6932 791. Email: eam1008@mac.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](http://www.phuketluxuryland.com)

## PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Cherm-Talay and Surin. 43 rai, 1ngan, 85sq wah. For sale by owner. 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-956-2406. Email: phatsarar@gmail.com

**HOUSE IN RAWAI**  
for sale. Corner unit, 26 sq wah. Price 990,000 baht. Tel: 086-952 9517. Email: condo tel@web.de

**8 BEACHFRONT LOTS**  
for sale. Now only 4 left! Coconut Island (Maphrao). Half rai for 2.75 to 4.4 million baht. 8% fee to brokers Royal Coast company. Contact K. Apple: 076-353926, 081-693 2791. Email: angpaos@mac.com

**Absolute Beach - Front Land**  
at Maikhao Beach  
For sale or long lease. Plot: 1-22 rai  
Contact Khun Suchon: 081-8936355



[www.Phuket-villa-property.com](http://www.Phuket-villa-property.com)  
We've got it... 08 72 72 03 03

**RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA**



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

**LAND IN PHANG NGA**  
for sale. 9.8 rai working fruit farm, 300+ trees, 5 fish ponds, 2 farm houses suitable for fishing park, 5 kms Phang Nga, 45 mins Phuket airport. Chanote title deed 5,800,000 baht Tel: 086-274 0056 English or 085-151 0823 Thai.

**BRAND-NEW HOUSE**  
For sale in Baan Suan Loch Palm. 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Price: 10.5 million baht. Urgent sale! Tel: 087-279 9500.

**DOUBLE VILLA IN KATA**



Panoramic sea views - 5 bedrooms, 466sqm living space, 36sqm pool with Jacuzzi, 4 minutes from Kata Beach. Ready to move into. Only 24 million baht. Email: allservices29@gmail.com

**CHANOTE, 29 RAI**  
at 1.6 million baht per rai. Nice and cheap land 12 minutes from Phuket airport. Located 200m from main road, electricity/ water well/ road access to the land. Good for housing project. Tel: 081-539 9269. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

**KARON LAND**  
sale. Hotel-condos-townhouse, 1 minute to the beach. Price: 7 million baht or trade. Tel: 081-446 0215.

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# Property Gazette

## BIG COLONIAL HOUSE



Anuphas Golf View, built 2005, 600 sqm, 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.

## PATONG BEVERLY HILLS

Luxurious villa for sale, Nanai Rd, close to Patong Beach hillside. Big pool, fantastic sea view, 2km from the beach, 5 bedrooms, 650sqm living space, huge private garden, very large spa house, walled property, fully furnished. No agents. Only 65 million baht. Please contact via by email: allservices29@gmail.com

## SEA VIEW 3.2 RAI

at north end of Bang Sak Beach. Take Thap Tawan beach road to Bang Sak Beach Resort, 6km south of Takuapa. Tel: 081-894 7644.

## LAND FOR SALE

5km to Heroines, 5km to Laguna and beach, chanote, 800 sqm to 3,200 sqm. 2 million baht per 800 sqm. Telephone: 081-087 8093.

## 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.

## RAWAIYA SUITES CONDOMINIUMS



Rawai Beach, 1 and 2 bedrooms 65 sqm 3.96 MB, luxury 2 bedroom 130 sqm 7.5 MB, en suit bathrooms, fully furnished, Ready to move into first quarter 2009, rent out in high season, fully facilities, freehold available, 500 meters to Rawai Beach. Tel: 076-289910, 086-475 9258. Fax: 076-289910. Email: sales@tharadonestate.com For further details, please see our website at www.tharadonestate.com

## 600-800 SQM PLOTS

Land close to Mission Hills available. Prices starting from 995,000 baht per plot. Telephone: 089-224 3153.

## 3.5 MILLION BAHT OFF LIST PRICE

5 mins to Kamala Beach, 4 bed, 5 bath plus 2 car garage. Studio apt above large pool. Western kitchen, furnished, UBC, WiFi. 370 m<sup>2</sup> home on 700 m<sup>2</sup> of land. Quality build inside-out. Tel: 084-850 0568.

## 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: 081-891 5296. Email: hkthomesale18@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at: www.jikkycar.com

## HOUSES, BANGTAO

for sale. 2-3 bedrooms, from 3 million baht to 14 million baht. Tel: 087-268 8752. For further details and photos, please visit our website at www.phukethome.wv

## 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

## 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.

## BIG HOUSE, HONEST PRICE

3 bedrooms, pool, 700 sqm of land. 6.5 million baht or nearest offer. Must sell. Tel: +66-86-683 1964. Email: franklee200@hotmail.com

## STUNNING OFFERS

- 1) 1 rai 3 ngan of land in Kata, 5 mins to beach: total price 22 million baht.
  - 2) Lakeshore land in Land&House Park, 280 sqv: total 8.5 million baht.
  - 3) Lakeshore House in Land & House, 47 sqv, fully furnished: 6.5 million baht.
- Contact John at 089-724 1505. Email: unique\_property@hotmail.com



## Beach Front Land For Sale Khao Lak/Phang Nga

45 Rai chanote title. Ideal for hotel or residential. Adjacent to 18 hole golf course. Near tourist attractions. Paved road access to major highway. 40 mins from Phuket International Airport.

Direct Sale by Owner  
Tel: 086-378 4841  
paradiseland.phangnga@gmail.com

## NEW 3 BED POOL VILLA

at Mission Hills, with new international school and Naiyang Beach less than 10 minutes away. Thai modern style. 9.5 million baht. Tel: 087-893 4636. Email: info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com

## URGENT SALE

Mai Khao, 700 metres to beach. Near West Sands. 2.3 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-633 4994.

## LAND AT PA KHLOK



49 rai, nice flat land. Chanote, 2.5km from Heroines' Monument. 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-180 2143.

## PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB



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

## SALES AND RENTALS

in Chalong, Nai-Harn, and Rawai. Pool houses with 2 bedrooms, 4.8 million baht. Tel: 085-795 5383. For further details, please see our website at www.warmwaterland.com

## LAND OF 80 SQ WAH

for sale in the Land and House Park Project in Chalong. Only 2.6 million baht. Telephone: 086-332 0864.

## 50 RAI OF LAND W/CHANOTE TITLE

Phang Nga, 8kms from town center. 30 rai of powered licenced factory for meat + fish. Walk-in fridge + freezer. 8,000 hardwood trees planted on 20 rai. Genuine sale. Tel: 087-269 4083.

## HILL HOUSE AT KATA

for sale. Sea view, 600sqm for total area. Two-story house with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, parking, pool. Nice location, 5 minutes to Kata Beach. Can adapt for 2 apartments for rent. Please take a look and ask for price ono. Tel: 087-689 9679.

## COCONUT ISLAND LAND



for sale. 4.5 rai. Chanote, hillside panoramic sea view, close to beach. 14 million baht. Please call K. Bouddha Tel: 089-290 0484.

## 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

## 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.

## COMMERCIAL RAWAI

88 sq wah, 32 meters frontage on busy Sai Yuan Rd. 4.9 million baht. Good investment. Tel: 085-794 2675.

## MAI KHAO HOUSE

for sale. One-story single house, 3 bedrooms with built-in furniture, big dining room and kitchen, large garden with big trees, area 305 sq wah. Only 5.5 million baht. Tel: 089-697 0928.

## Your Total Property Solutions



### Kamala Beach Estate

Location : Kamala  
Type : Apartment  
Area : 78 Sq.m.  
Br/Bth : 3 Brs, 3 Bths  
Price : THB 14 M  
Remark : Apartment with views across Kamala Bay



### Royal Phuket Marina

Location : Koh Kaew  
Type : Condominium  
Area : 154 Sq.m.  
Br/Bth : 2 Brs, 2 Bths  
Price : THB 19.5 M  
Remark : Newly built, elegant, offering sea views.



### Thai Tradition House in Rawai

Location : Rawai  
Type : Single House  
Area : 1,400 Sq.m.  
Br/Bth : 3 Brs, 3 Bths  
Price : THB 14.5 M  
Remark : modern-rendition of a central-Thai "cluster house"

## Buy-Sell-Rent Properties

- Condominium in Blue Canyon Home 1  
Thalang, Phuket  
254 Sq.m. 3 Bedrooms 3 Bathrooms  
Up on the hills and stunning sea view.  
Price THB 17 M
- Land at Bean Don  
Thalang, Phuket  
170 Sq.w.  
A good piece of land for sale located in Laguna area.  
Price THB 3.5 M
- Sea View Land at Por Bay  
Por Bay, Phuket  
4.4 Rai  
Panoramic sea view land.  
Price THB 8 M per Rai

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# Property Gazette

## 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

## QUICK SALE

5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms at 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-894 2009.

## PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Duplex renovation project directly on 15th fairway for sale. Reduced 'fire sale' price. See website, then call or mail for further details. Tel: 081-894 1994. Email: tom.fekete@gmail.com Visit <http://www.fairway15.com>

## SALE/RENT, KAMALA

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

## QUICK SALE

Only 5.1 million baht, near Laguna. Thai-style home. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, living room. Tel: 087-893 8590.

## LAND MUST SELL



190 metres of beach frontage, 7 rai (can split) with view of Yacht Haven Marina, secure title. Road access, electricity, water, ready to build. Best investment. For sale at only 35 million baht or best offer. Must sell. Tel: 081-343 0777.

## COMMERCIAL RAWAI

88 sq wah, 32 meters frontage on busy Sai Yuan Rd. 4.9 million baht. Good investment. Telephone: 085-794 2675.

## 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 Nai Yang. 36 million baht. Tel: 081-893 6630. Fax: 076-241408. Email: baan sorada@hotmail.com

## YOUR DREAM BY THE SEA

Fully managed by boutique hotel (SLH). Idyllic beachfront location, 2 BR colonial style villas. Flexible live-in and rent-out and financing options. Only 38 villas, of which over 50% sold. From 10.8 million baht, fully furnished. Telephone: 087-386 3388. Email: shanya.arman@gmail.com

## CONDO FOR SALE/RENT



at Phuket Asialand, Surin Beach. Sale: 7.9 million baht. Rent: 30,000 baht per month with 100,000 baht deposit. Tel: 081-477 2152. Email: info@methaya.com

## 8 BEACHFRONT LOTS

for sale. Now only 4 left! Coconut Island (Maphrao), half rai for 2.75 to 4.4 million baht. 8% fee to brokers Royal Coast Company. Contact K. Apple. Tel: 076-353926 or 081-693 2791. Or simply email to: ang paos@mac.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: jihshand@gmail.com

## CHALONG SEA VIEW

2-story twin house, 36 sq wah, 3 bedrooms with airconditioning, garden, sea view and mountain view. Only 3.5 million baht. Tel: 089-697 0928.

## 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

## 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

## CHEAPEST SHOPHOUSE

in Phuket Town. Great location and ample parking. Selling below market price. Yaowarat Rd, same road as Timber Hut Pub. 5m x 60m long = 62 sq wah. Not to be found elsewhere. Will let it go at 5.5 million baht. Tel: 076-612730, 089-726 0446. Email: oldphu ketshophouse@gmail.com

## URGENT SALE

Best deal in Phuket  
- 3 bedroom home  
- Lock up garage  
- Full half rai  
3.9 million baht, some vendor finance. Tel: 081-892 4804.

## TWOVILLAS RESALE

Private pool villa, fully furnished, 1-4 bedrooms. Location: Nai Harn/Bangtao. Price starts at 6.5 million baht. Tel: 076-289900, 081-970-0742. Fax: 076-613114. Email: sales@twovillas.com

## Beautiful House

1. 540sqm land plot and nearly 330sqm indoor area, located 3 mins from Heroines' Monument.
2. 5 bedrooms and 5 bathrooms, all with hot water.
3. Separate living, European kitchen and dining areas.
4. 4.5x12m swimming pool with turbo jet (partially indoors).
5. Timber sala with waterfall wall feature.
6. Fully built-in furniture in all rooms.
7. 8 aircon units, 3 ceiling fans, landscape lighting and sprinkler system for garden.
8. 1 Jacuzzi and 1 bathtub.
9. Indoor carport with automatic gate.
10. Water tank and pressure tank for water supply.
11. 3-phase electricity, tel. True TV, ADSL.
12. Good quality of finishing materials after refurbishment to new condition.

Price = 12.8 million baht. Call (081) 895-7310.

## NEW HOUSE RAWAI



Large 2 bedroom, 3 bathroom. Fully furnished, solar hot water, 4 aircons, phone, ADSL, cable. Price 8.4 million baht/offer. Tel: 084-424 7688. Contact Tom.

## PATONG TOWER 63 SQM

Renovated, freehold, 2 rooms, terrace, nice view, pool, 200 meters to beach. Furnished, TV, WiFi, 2 aircons. 4.7 million baht. Tel: 086-976 0809.

## GOLFVIEW ROOM + GOLF MEMBERSHIP

5th floor Golf View Condo. One bedroom. 58 square meters. Includes golf club membership. Tel: 089-488 0955. Email: together@myway.com

## FREEHOLD PATONG

New condo, private road, security and good potential for profit. Tel: 083-391 8720.

## THE TREES RESELL

2 ground floors, 2 bedrooms, pool, garden. 17.5 million baht. Phuket Villa Property. Tel: 087-2720303.

## MODERN POOL VILLA

near BIS. Ground floor, 3 bedrooms. 14.5 million baht. Phuket Villa Property. Tel: 087-2720303.

## 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.

## BEACH RD BUILDING



(opp Savoey Restaurant). For sale 34 million baht contact Mr Ravin. Tel: 081-893 4080. Email: everking@loxinfo.th

## HOUSE WITH LARGE GARDEN

3-bedroom, 2-bathroom, house on small development with 24hr security and swimming pool. Only 5 mins from Heroines Monument. Fully furnished with solid teak furniture throughout and with all appliances, curtains and blinds. Full security and fly screens, 3 aircons, 5 ceiling fans. True TV/ Cable TV, phone, ADSL. Walk-in condition with great potential for extension and/or private pool. Now 4 million baht. Tel: 085-782 3273.

## LAND IN PHANG NGA

for sale. 9.8 rai working fruit farm, 300+ trees, 5 fish ponds, 2 farm houses suitable for fishing park, 5 kms Phang Nga, 45 mins Phuket airport. Chanote title deed 5,800,000 baht Tel: 086-274 0056 English or 085-151 0823 Thai.

## BEACH HOUSE KATA

Only 1 min to beach, 3 floors. A bargain at 3.3 million baht. Owner moving. Tel: 084-840 5834.

## BOAT LAGOON

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

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA



1, 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms, bathroom, aircon, ADSL, cable TV. 24,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

**3 BEDROOM HOUSE**  
fully furnished, aircon, ADSL, near Heroines Monument. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-277 8461. Email: brunuiv@hotmail.com

**NEW VILLA FOR RENT OR SALE**  
610sqm, 4 bedrooms, swimming pool and garden, 1,000sqm. The villa is located next to Loch Palm Golf Course. Rent weekly: 130,000 baht; monthly, 300,000 baht. Or for sale at US\$ 1.35 million. House agents welcome. Please contact Mr Tuan. Tel: 089-652 3148. Email: pratuan@solicitorhai.com

**SINGLE HOUSE**  
for rent. Thalang monument, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Tel: 081-537 0033.

**5 BED HOUSE W/ POOL**  
Large, 5-bedroom house in private gardens. All bedrooms en-suite. Ten minutes to beach, and ten minutes to airport. Tel: 081-196 5212. Email: jim@jimmarsh.net

**LUXURY POOL VILLA**  
3 bedrooms, 5 min to Boat Lagoon & BIS. 70,000 baht per month. simon@worral.info

### HOUSE IN KATHU



2 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircon, cable TV and TV set. Just bring your bag. 13,000 baht per month. Contact Khun Wannee. Tel: 089-288 9936. Email: wan\_nee123@hotmail.com

**KAMALA BEACHFRONT VILLAS**  
Fully furnished to a high standard. Western kitchen. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge and dining areas. Large balcony overlooking swimming pool and landscaped garden. Stunning sea views, only meters from the beach. Privately gated, parking and storage. UBC and ADSL. Includes daily cleaning and washing, pool & gardening service. Daily rental 8,000 baht. Contact Khun Suchada. Tel: 084-8436 837. Email: suchada\_villas@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuket-island-homes.com>

**PATONG APARTMENT**  
300 meters to the beach, clean, modern, comfortable. Aircon, TV, fridge, big bed, pool, parking. Tel: 081-082 5707. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuket-accommodation.info>

### RAWAI HOUSE / FLAT

for rent. Fully furnished, swimming pool, ADSL. Direct from owner. For further details, please see our website at [www.ferienthailand.com](http://www.ferienthailand.com)

### POOL VILLA - NAIHARN



Beautiful contemporary pool villa close to Naiharn Beach available for long term rental. 3 bedrooms, living room, 4 bathrooms, maid/storage room, modern high quality furniture, well-equipped kitchen, LCD TV, Satellite TV, Internet WiFi, private pool, maid/garden/pool service. 60,000 baht / month excluding electricity. Available from January 2009. Christmas time negotiable. Tel: 081-811 5304. Email: janne@rayadivers.com

**STYLISH HOUSE RAWAI**  
2 bedrooms, A/C, ADSL, cable TV, gallery, large living and dining area, terrace, car park + garden. Price: 21,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-388639, 083-106 2680.

**ROOMS / CONDO FOR RENT**  
I have rooms from 18,000 baht per month. Call me (Maria) or email for details. Tel: 084-845 0003. Email: m@bayproject.com

**1 BEDROOM APARTMENT KATA**  
New building includes elevator, pool, restaurant, gym and parking. Walking distance to beach, shopping and nightlife. For rent or sale. Tel: 085-783 1890.

**BARGAIN, CHALONG**  
2 bedroomed, single story villa with full aircon and garden in Land & House Park estate. 16,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-004 6328. Email: gogg siehere@hotmail.com

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

### RAWAI BEACH POOL HOME STAY



Private bedroom, bathroom, aircon, ADSL, Wi-Fi, cable TV. 3,500 baht weekly. 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.

**FOR RENT PATONG BEACH**  
Condotel 56 sqm, nice apartment, 7 floors 1 bedroom, kitchen, living, aircon, TV, cable, ADSL. Tel: 081-891 3740.

**KAMALA BUNGALOWS**  
First class furnishings, gated private estate. ADSL, True, plasma TV. Long term only. Tel: 081-811 1067.

**HOUSES FOR RENT**  
Rawai, Nai-Harn and Chalong: 2 beds, shared pool in quiet estate. Call Nico, Tel: 085-795 5383. For further details, please see our website at [www.warmwaterland.com](http://www.warmwaterland.com)

### LAGUNA TOWNHOME

Long-term only, on golf course, 4 beds / baths, includes privilege card. 85,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-873 6151. Email: stuartr@lagunaphuket.com

### VILLA IN KAMALA



1 bed, 1 bath, clean & quiet, aircon, cable TV, wifi, full furnished 9,000 baht/month 6 months contract. Tel: 081-826 7287.

**KATHU FAMILY HOUSE**  
For rent or sale. Tel: 089-646 9278, 081-956 5650. Email: info@kathu-property.com For full details, photos and a map, visit the website at [www.kathu-property.com](http://www.kathu-property.com)

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

**KATA LUXURY APARTMENTS**  
New, fully furnished, 1 or 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, full aircon. Large Western teak kitchen and bath, 130sqm, large seaview terrace, pool, parking. Weekly, monthly and long-term rates available. Serviced also available. Tel: 089-592 6890. Email: north8west98@yahoo.com

### NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins from Rawai and Nai Harn beaches. 162sqm. 2 bedrooms with private bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. 3 aircons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage collection service. Please contact K. Nui. Tel: 087-383-0936.

### 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 Website: [www.phuket-on-tour.blogspot.com](http://www.phuket-on-tour.blogspot.com)

**BANGTAO HOUSE**  
for rent. 2 bedrooms, 20,000 baht. Tel: 087-268 8752. Email: phuketmat@yahoo.com. For further details, please visit our website at: [www.phukethome.ws](http://www.phukethome.ws)

**LUXURY POOL VILLA**  
Fully-furnished. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, dining, living, kitchen, 2 car parks, garden, Internet and TV. Located near Laguna, 12 mins to western beaches (Layan, Naithom, Naiyang). Price: 80,000 baht per month, including house, pool and garden maintenance. Tel: 081-606 2827. Email: nij017@hotmail.com

**CHALONG NEW HOME**  
2 bedroom home with telephone, UBC and aircon for rent. Tel: 089-652 1473. Or send an email to: anandaestates@yahoo.com

**PATONG TOWER**  
1 bed nice condo on beach road. Tel: 084-847 3304. For further details, please see our website at [www.selectphuket.com](http://www.selectphuket.com)

**CHALONG TOWNHOUSE**  
Furnished, 2 bedrooms. Cable TV, aircon, telephone. 9,000 baht/month, utilities extra. Tel: 087-281 4535.

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# Boats & Marine



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**Crew Placement & Services**

**Yacht Agency**

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Email: [marine@asia-marine.net](mailto:marine@asia-marine.net)  
[www.asia-marine.net](http://www.asia-marine.net)

**LODESTAR DINGHY**  
3.4 metres with Yamaha 15 hp outboard. Price 48,000 baht. Tel: 081-543 0980.

**SPORT FISHING BOAT**  
6 meter custom built center console Mariner 115hp, very low hours usage. Great boat to share with friend. 550,000 baht ono. Tel: 084-849 2804.

**FLYBRIDGE BOAT**  
for sale. Brand new 36 foot fiberglass boat. Perfect diving, sightseeing or fishing vessel. Email: [tony@steppaboats.com](mailto:tony@steppaboats.com)

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Brand new Cobalt 262 for sale. Top of the line bowrider with full options. Candied red graphics, fully transferable warranty. Lying Phuket, VAT paid, ready for the high season! Tel: 084-442 5460. Email: [phuket@starshipyachts.com](mailto:phuket@starshipyachts.com) see our website at <http://starshipyachts.com>

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Phuket to anywhere custom day or fishing trips. Very flexible and affordable. Unbeatable prices. Max 8-10 pax. Tel: 084-849 2804. Email: [tuatara.thai@gmail.com](mailto:tuatara.thai@gmail.com) see <http://www.tuatara-thai.com>

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VISION GLOBAL TRADING offers:

A) 1 x 6.6 meter: retails for US\$ 40,000. Sale price: US\$ 25,000; and  
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Boats are Navy Blue Navurania Italy Hypalon construction and come with:

- 200L built-in fuel tank
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These CE compliant boats are brand new, direct from our factory, and will be on display at PIMEX, Phuket's boat show, 4-7 December 2008. Contact Tel: +61-2-47313388, +61-2-4147-49042. Fax +61-2-4731-3399. Email: [alison.ward@visionagi.com](mailto:alison.ward@visionagi.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.marine.visionagi.com](http://www.marine.visionagi.com)

**TWO MILLION BAHT**  
Fiberglass speedboat, pair of 250hp Suzuki 4-stroke outboards. Used 150 hours. Tel: 076-203010.

**FREE BEER SAILING**  
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### URGENT SALE

36' wood/fiberglass speedboat in good condition with two 200hp Yamaha engines. Boat is equipped for long distance trips with 800 L fuel tank. Good boat for day trip divers (wooden trailer included in sale). For quick sale; make an offer. Tel: 076-398368, 087-053 0090. Or Fax 076-398365. Email: [blue2997@gmail.com](mailto:blue2997@gmail.com)

**5.5-M CATAMARAN**  
Huge dinghy, sailing equipment available. 80,000 baht. Tel: 087-461 8089.

### SPEEDBOAT 85 HP FOR SALE

Fiberglass speedboat, 85hp, with trailer. 330,000 baht. Telephone: 087-975 7672 or send email to [eric.jehannin@neuf.fr](mailto:eric.jehannin@neuf.fr)

**BRAND-NEW BOAT**  
Brand-new flybridge boat. Fiberglass. Offers. Email: [jgkg24@hotmail.com](mailto:jgkg24@hotmail.com)

### 12 FOOT SEARAY JET BOAT

Very fast 90 hp jet boat. Lots of fun. Low hours. Comes with trailer. Call Joseph for details Tel: 089-874 4635. Email: [kirkasia@hotmail.com](mailto:kirkasia@hotmail.com)

### BAYLINER 225 BOWRIDER

2006 Mercruiser 5.0l mpi v8 petrol & alpha 1 stern drive. Thai registered, many extras. 1,350,000 baht. Tel: 081-271 3447. Email: [abannock@gmail.com](mailto:abannock@gmail.com)

### 32FT CATAMARAN

4 double cabins, 32sqm sail area, 9 HP Honda. 490,000 baht. Tel: +6-87-461 8089.

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Excellent condition. New winch, 6.4 meters. Only 26,000 baht. Contact Dorn. Tel: 089-474 1520.

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4m Chalamark built, 1 year old, 40hp Yamaha, optional center console, 8-person life raft (needs inspection), kayaks, BCDs, regs, etc. Tel: 086-952 0772.

### WOODWORK, REPAINT & REPAIR

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. Tel: 076-243089, 081-968-3118. Fax: 076-242742. Email: [info@procarpentering.com](mailto:info@procarpentering.com) Website [www.procarpentering.com](http://www.procarpentering.com)

### MORGAN 38.4 FT

Newly-renovated 38-foot Morgan yacht from 1984. Very beautiful and well maintained. First to see will buy. Price: \$69,000. Tel: 089-520 8503. Email: [nips63@yahoo.com](mailto:nips63@yahoo.com)

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Wooden hull, equipped for diving. Yamaha 2x200hp. Tel: 080-080 9912.

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**Saga 40 (1988) \$96,000 USD**

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Brokerage Office:  
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket  
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman  
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 01 968 1437  
tel/fax: 076 238 729  
email: [brokerage@leemarine.com](mailto:brokerage@leemarine.com)

Yacht Haven Marina Office:  
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket  
Contact: Jim Poulsen  
Mobile: 081 881 3237  
tel/fax: 076 206 260  
email: [yacht@leemarine.com](mailto:yacht@leemarine.com)

Pattaya Office:  
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach  
Contact: Mark Heath  
Mobile: 081 7879 408  
tel: 038 235 061 fax: 038 235 062  
Email: [mark@leemarine.com](mailto:mark@leemarine.com)



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# "Boats & Marine"

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# Island Job Mart

## MULVANA, DE ANGELI & ASSOCIATES LTD

A legal and investment consulting firm, founded in 2000, practicing principally in the areas of mergers & acquisitions, investment transactions and real estate acquisitions and development, seeks new staff with good to excellent English communication skills, a personal dedication to professional excellence, efficiency and timeliness, and the following qualifications:

### Phuket Branch Position:

Receptionist/Administrator: 3-5 years of administrative experience, good personality and service-minded, interpersonal skills, good computer literacy and ready to start immediately.

We value our staff and offer competitive salaries, bonuses and benefits, including health insurance, annual firm retreats and provident fund.

Persons interested in the above position should send a letter or email to the firm together with current resume or curriculum vitae and a recent photograph.

### Please send all inquiries to:

Khun Kanjana Sirivoranan, Office Manager,  
Mulvana, de Angeli & Associates Ltd  
Suite 1205, M. Thai Tower, 12th Floor  
All Seasons Place, 87 Wireless Road  
Lumpini, Pathumwan,  
Bangkok 10330, Thailand

Or email: [personnel@mulvanadeangeli.com](mailto:personnel@mulvanadeangeli.com)  
**NO TELEPHONE INQUIRIES PLEASE.**

## WE ARE THE ONLY ONE ARE YOU THE ONE?

**At The Palm Beach Club,  
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We are only looking for exceptional individuals to join our team !

The Palm Beach Club has openings for passionate, open minded, talented, resourceful professionals with flair & style who stand out from the crowd. So if you have the dedication and an attention to detail that makes a difference, we're waiting to hear from you.

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**ENGINEERING** – Engineering Supervisor, Technician

**SPA** – Spa Manager, Receptionist, Therapists, Fitness Instructor

**FOOD & BEVERAGE** – Food & Beverage Manager, Restaurant Supervisors, FB Attendant, Bar Supervisor, Bartender

**SALES & MARKETING** – Sales Manager, Sales / PR Coordinator

**KITCHEN** – Executive Sous Chef, Chef de Partie, Commis, Cook Helper, Steward

**HUMAN RESOURCES** – HR Coordinator, Chief Security

**FINANCE** – Cost Controller, Account Payable, Account Receivable, General Cashier, Income Audit, Storekeeper/Receiving.

If you think **YOU ARE THE ONE!** send us an email with your updated resume in English and your best picture to: [recruit@thepalmbeachclub.com](mailto:recruit@thepalmbeachclub.com)



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## Cape Panwa Hotel & SPA Phuket, Thailand



The Cape Panwa Hotel and Spa embodies tropical luxury in one of the world's most desirable destinations. Tucked away in a quiet corner of southeast Phuket, the hotel is renowned for its excellent service, stylish rooms and exclusive beach. **We are inviting applicants for the following positions:**

### FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER

The candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- At least 3 years' experience in similar position
- Team leader
- Service-minded
- Dynamic and outgoing personality
- Good command of English

Please send your resume with a recent photo or apply in person to Personnel Department.  
27 Moo 8, Sakdidej Road, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-391123 Fax: 076-391177  
E-mail: [gm@capepanwa.com](mailto:gm@capepanwa.com) [www.capepanwa.com](http://www.capepanwa.com)  
Only short listed candidates will be contacted

### SWEDISH / NORDIC

travel consultant. We are an expanding travel agency located in Phuket City. We are looking for a Swedish/Nordic travel consultant, 25 + . Computer/Internet knowledge is essential, as is a past in the travel industry. Pedantic organizational skills and a really good knowledge of Thailand are much desired. Please apply by email. Tel: 076-246427, 081-787 9454. Fax 076-246180. Email: [andersp@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:andersp@loxinfo.co.th)

### MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

Dive company requires full or part-time experienced MA in European accounting. Role includes general accounting tasks, month-end accounts and annual budget. Must have good Excel skills. Salary negotiable. Immediate start . Tel: 076-340318. Email: [diego@dive-the-world.com](mailto:diego@dive-the-world.com)

### PHUKET VILLA PROPERTY

in Kathu needs a marketing team. Good conditions. Contact Marc. Tel: 087-2723 0303.

### INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ADVISORS WANTED

Mature and motivated individuals with finance and/or strong sales skills for Phuket and Thailand businesses. Please send resume to Marine: [careers@pp-intl.com](mailto:careers@pp-intl.com)

### PHARMACIST

Female Pharmacist wanted for new concept store opening soon. Salary: 40,000 baht per month. Must be friendly and speak good English. Tel: 085-619 7492. Email: [farangmart@gmail.com](mailto:farangmart@gmail.com)

### LEADING REAL ESTATE AGENT

is looking for Office Assistant that can take care of general administration and secretarial duties. Basic computer skills and a good command of written and spoken English are the main requirements. Tel: 081-787 1108. Please send your CV by email to : [info@tropical-homes.net](mailto:info@tropical-homes.net) or

### AUTOMATION SALE

Salary range: 40,000 to 75,000 baht. Experience an asset. Must have technical knowledge, and be skilled and able to read electrical drawings. Thai national, own car. Send CV to: [info@elec-pro.com](mailto:info@elec-pro.com)

### RESTAURANT STAFF NEEDED

European/Thai restaurant looking for cook, cook's helper, bartender, waiter, waitress. Please call for more information. Tel: 085-336 0231.

**Marketing Company** seeks Thai nationals, male or female, for the following positions:

### Sales Staff

- Strong command of spoken English
- Previous sales experience
- Personality and smart presence

### Receptionist & Office Administrator

- Good command of spoken and written English
- Pleasant personality and people skills

Good salary package for the right candidates.  
Please send your resume and photo to:  
[enquiry@thai-infocenter.com](mailto:enquiry@thai-infocenter.com)

### A NEW LUXURY HOTEL

located in Kata Beach area, is scheduled to open mid 2009.

We are seeking qualified persons to join our team for the following positions.

- Human Resources Manager
- Financial Comptroller
- Food and Beverage Manager
- Front Office Manager
- Chief Engineer

Interested candidates, please send your application and CV to [somyot@u-success.co.th](mailto:somyot@u-success.co.th)

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# Island Job Mart

**SOUTHERN MEDIA**  
MARKETING SERVICES

Looking for a

## Creative Designer

Candidates must have the ability to consistently deliver strategic advertising and marketing design solutions across all print and digital mediums.

### Qualifications

- University degree in a design related field
- 5 years relevant experience in an advertising agency
- Mastery of Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign
- Knowledge of Flash and 3D Max

### Skills

- Excellent English skills
- Able to fully understand and take client design briefs
- Knowledgeable about standards for design and print
- Freehand drawing skills
- Highly motivated and energetic
- Excellent communication skills
- Must possess a car and driving licence

If you feel that you have the necessary skills and would like to join in our success, please email us your resume with links to your best work and expected salary.

371/5-6 Yaowarat Road, Talad Yai, Muang, Phuket 83000  
076 236 637 - jobs@southern-media.net - southern-media.net

We are a leading international service property firm, committed to providing innovative solutions for clients across a broad range of services and locations. We are looking for the following people to grow with us. Come Be the Best among the Best.

## Customer Service Officer x 3 Receptionist x 2 Telesales x 6 Telesales Manager X 1

### Job Responsibilities:

- Making outbound calls to existing customers/prospects to cross-sell travel/properties
- Fixed appointment with Business Development Managers
- Provide prospects with product information
- Provide top-notch customer service
- Achieve monthly sales targets

### Job Requirements:

- Good spoken English is a must
- Preferably some experience in call centre / telesales / customer service
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Full training provided

Salary: High basic + commission + incentives with benefits

**68 Bangla Rd, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150**

Interested candidates please call **076-342941, 0817 471 221**  
or email your resume to **ian@nsre-thailand.com**

**RJM**

## RJM CONSULTING GROUP

### Dalaaburi Development

65/21 Thepkasatri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200.

RJM is a leading M&E Design and Engineering company with offices throughout the region. We are looking for an intelligent, dynamic and highly motivated Thai national to join our expanding operations in Phuket.

### M&E OPERATIONS MANAGER

#### JOB DESCRIPTION:

- Responsible for managing the day-to-day projects of RJM.
- To supervise site and co-ordinate installation of works.
- To find and recruit suitable engineers and tradesman to increase the company's capacity.
- To work with our team to provide detailed pricing of projects.
- To organize approvals of designs to government regulations.
- To ensure projects are executed and completed efficiently to schedules.
- To work closely with clients to build and maintain relationships.

#### REQUIRED:

- Diploma/Bachelor's degree in either Mechanical or Electrical Engineering.
- Good spoken and written English.
- Knowledge of Autocad and Microsoft Project an advantage.
- Self-motivated and keen to learn.

**We will offer an excellent salary to the most qualified applicant!!!**

Interested candidates may submit their CV with covering letter through the above address or email to: **cps@online.com.kh**

## ONLINE JOB APPLICATION

HOTEL - ACCETING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B

[www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm](http://www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm)

**Absolute**  
Absolute Sales Corporation Ltd.

**A growing travel club is seeking for more staff to join our Phuket and Samui branch.**

### HR/Admin Assistant

- Thai nationality, male
- strong command of English, written and spoken
- good computer literacy
- Minimum 1 year experience in HR field
- know ledge visa and work permit application, plus tax and sss
- no military service obligation
- flexible working hours
- previous work in holiday ownership business/ office secretarial work is a plus

### Reservation Officer

- Thai nationality, male or female
- fluent command of English, written and spoken
- good computer literacy
- flexible working hours
- previous work in holiday ownership business/ office secretarial work is a plus

### Senior Accountant

- Thai national, male or female
- Bachelor's degree
- At least 5 years experience in general accounting, knowledge of taxes in property business
- Good computer literacy

Good salary package awaits the right candidates.  
Please submit your resume to the given e-mail address or call for more information

HR Dpt. +66(76) 341427 Fax: +66(76) 341425  
Email: [hr@ClubAbsolute.com](mailto:hr@ClubAbsolute.com)  
Website: [www.clubabsolute.com](http://www.clubabsolute.com)

**SIX SENSES  
HIDEAWAY**  
YAO NOI

## We are looking for motivated hosts

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Six Senses Hideaway Yao Noi is located on the island of Yao Noi, situated midway between Phuket and Krabi, among the awe-inspiring limestone pinnacles of Phang Nga. For these positions you will live and work on Koh Yao Noi, 45 minutes away from Phuket.

Attractive remuneration, fringe benefits including a guaranteed minimum service charge of Baht 10,000, five working days per week and career opportunities are offered to the successful candidates.

Please send your resume with a recent photo to: [hrma-yao noi@sixsenses.com](mailto:hrma-yao noi@sixsenses.com)  
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

Six Senses Hideaway Yao Noi  
56 Moo 5, Tambol Koh Yao Noi, Amphur Koh Yao, Phang Nga 82160  
Tel: 66 (076) 418500-29 Ext.1702  
Fax: 66 (076) 418522

### EXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER

British family in Singapore requires Thai housekeeper. Must take care of house, laundry, pets, cooking and some childcare. Must have Mor Sam education or above and speak, read and write some English. References required. Please tel: +65-9643 2084. Email: [singaporefamily@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:singaporefamily@yahoo.com.sg)

### THAI EURO FOOD

Chef needed for Thai-Euro food restaurant in Patong. 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-827 8442. Email: [wojid.kowbengt@hotmail.com](mailto:wojid.kowbengt@hotmail.com)

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Real estate and adventure company. Sales + marketing experience, English and computer skills. Send resume to Email: [klasseds@yahoo.com](mailto:klasseds@yahoo.com)

### CHEF WANTED

Chef needed for new restaurant in Karon. Must have experience cooking Farang food. Please contact for more information at Tel: 089-590 3923. Email: [logbass@hotmail.com](mailto:logbass@hotmail.com)

### NEW TOP COCKTAIL

Lounge bar on Surin beach is looking for experienced bar-men and waitresses. Must speak English. Good salary. Please contact Khun Thomas. Tel: 086-475 9408.

## Employment Wanted

### EUROPEAN RESTAURANT

European restaurant in Patong is looking for staffs:

- Cook
- Cook helper
- Bartender
- Waiter / waitress

Tel: 085-336 0231. Email: [zsuzsau@hotmail.com](mailto:zsuzsau@hotmail.com)

### 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](mailto:patty.bamert@gmx.net)

### 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: 085-1569084. Email: [richard19@hotmail.fr](mailto:richard19@hotmail.fr)

### PAINTER/ECORATOR

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](mailto:bobhammond@hotmail.co.uk)

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# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

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for sale. equipment only. New paint and chromium. Tel: 086-120 3660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

### GLASS FRONTED DISPLAY

fridge: 6,000 baht. X trainer exercise machine: 6,000 baht. Callaway Golf Clubs and bag, used once: 12,000 baht. Tel: 087-271 1280.

### ELECTRONICS SALE

DVD Players, Recorders, Titles, Home Theatre sets, etc. Email for details. Tel: 089-908 7350. Or email: wagner\_fin@hotmail.com

### AUSSIE BAR OWNERS

10-year-old original car number plates for sale. Good for decoration. Offers welcome. Tel: 087-382 6997.

### STATUE FOR SALE



Beautiful bronze statue of Bacchus, signed by the artist. Price: 120,000 baht o.n.o. Size: 1.60m high, 65 cm deep, 85 cm wide. Tel: 087-888 4769.

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2 fishtanks for sale: 300 liter with lights, pump, fish, plants. 150 liters with pumps, fish and plants. Very beautiful! Will sell cheap to good hands! Call to make an offer! Tel: 089-867 0424. Email: alikedive@hotmail.com

### 3 PIECE SUITE

3 seater sofa, 2 arm chairs, Italian suede leather, removable cushions. Aquamarine color. Original cost: 280,000 baht. Will sell for 20,000. Tel: 076-279346, 081-597 9744. Fax: 076-279 346. Email: peterb@jinet.net

### 35 SUN CHAIRS

for sale. Adjustable teak chairs, 1-2 years old, need a varnish. New: 12,000 baht; now: 1,500 baht each. Contact Khun Poo. Tel: 081-091 3724.

### FOR SALE

New aircon: 35,000 BTU, 3 massage beds, all furniture and equipment for massage/salon. Contact Khun Zai. Tel: 083-635 6239.

### CHILD CAR SEAT

Used child's car seat in very good condition. European safety standards. Suits child 9-18kg. 2,000 baht. Email: supanova999@yahoo.com

### LG 42" PLASMA TV

Excellent condition, complete with wall brackets. Price: 24,950 baht. Tel: 086-943-3056.

### BIKE JACKET AND FULL FACE

- Leather road bike jacket with body armor: 5,000 baht.  
- Nolan full face Syncrotech helmet: 5,000 baht.

Second hand but good condition. Tel: 081-895 4480. E-mail for pic: mat@pcphuket.com

### GAS GRIDDLE

Cost 20,000 baht, will accept 13,000 baht. Double 3-liter french fries machine. Will accept 10,000 baht. Both new. Located in Rawai. Telephone: 089-473 1351.

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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: patongman123@hotmail.com

### BABY / TODDLER STUFF

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: 076-282-795, 081-787 9454. Fax: 076-246180. Email: andersp@loxinfo.co.th

### SIZE 41 WOMENS' SHOES, HOT!

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

### GERMAN BOOKS - CHEAP!

Many German books... David Baldacci, John Grisham, Patricia Shaw, Joy Fielding and many more. Only 10 to 50 baht per book. Come and visit me in Kamala! Call me at Tel: 089-867 0424. Email: alikedive@hotmail.com

### EXPAT LEAVING SALE

Quality teakwood furniture. Display/Book case, Desk, Side/display table, Sun-lounger with fabric cushion, pair bedside tables w/ drawers, 6 drawer chest, telephone cabinet. Tel: 087-274 7648. Email: deb spatterson@gmail.com

### PHIL & TED'S SPORT STROLLER

Phil & Ted's Sport Stroller with Doubles Kit & Travel Bag. Bought while on a 2 week holiday in the UK, not used since. Will post anywhere in Thailand. As new. 27,500 baht. Tel: 042-347499, 085-459 6003. Or email: mark\_leathersich@hotmail.com

### 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.

### FURNITURE ELECTRONIC SALE

Moving sale. All beautiful and contemporary. For info call after October 20. Contact Ben. Tel: 087-897 5175.

### ARTICLES FOR SALE

1. Crafted wood antique vase.
  2. Glass food display cabinet. Brand new: 7,000 baht.
  3. Painting of Louisiana street scene. Best for restaurant, pub, bar.
- Tel: 081-294 5441.

## Articles Wanted

### WANTED:

Metal detector with operator to look for lost property at Kamala Beach. Please contact Kat. Tel: 087-504 4232.

### WANTED: BOAT TRAILER

Twin axle boat trailer needed for a 9m centre console boat. Wood or steel. Must be in good condition. Tel: 081-081 5952. Email: messagejohn@hotmail.com

### RECUMBENT EXERCISE BIKE

Want to buy a recumbent exercise bike in good condition. Can collect if the right bike found. Tel: 081-892 7948. Email: jypenman@phuket.ksc.co.th

### PLAYSTATION 3 WANTED

Phuket resident wants to buy Playstation 3. Please contact me if you have one available. Tel: 084-855 7803. Or email: shellycider@yahoo.com

## Bulletins

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

Is holding meetings in English at the following places in Phuket:

- Mission Hospital Phuket City On Wed and Sun 7 pm
- Bangkok Phuket Hospital Phuket City On Fri 7 pm
- Patong Hospital Patong On Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun at 7 pm
- Chalong Health Clinic near Chalong Circle Tues 1 PM For Phuket info (English) call 081-9564031, 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: 086-9440460 Sue, 082-2765958 Nor
- Krabi Group Call: 084-4463133 for details

For info on other Thailand AA meetings inquire @ 02-2318330 (for Thai language press 3) www.aathailand.org or e-mail info@aathailand.org

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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: 087-417 8860) or Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948). Or email: info@phuketiwic.com

### TO MISS SUPALAK YAKLINOM

Eddie post, David in Patong, please call Thamapol in USA because he misses you very much. Cannot sleep until I hear your voice. Tel: 562 310 3492.

### LOOKING FOR BOAT PARTNER

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

### PHONE LINES: SOI GLUM YUNG

Do you want a phone line on Soi Glum Yung in Chalong? We want to get as many people together as possible to apply for more phone lines for this area. Tel: 086-683 1964. Please email for more details. Email: franklee200@hotmail.com

### LADIES SOCIAL TENNIS

Anyone interested in getting a group of Ladies, 40+, together to enjoy social Tennis? Tel: 089-469 8100. Or email: didee51@yahoo.com.au

## Agents for Classified Advertising

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Chao Fa East Rd (next to Siam Commercial Bank)

Tel: 076-282254

#### Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe

Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chao Fa East Rd

Tel: 076-282403

#### K.L. Mart

Patak Rd, Chalong

Tel: 076-280400/3

Fax: 076-280403

#### Earth Language School

Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-232398/9

Fax: 076-232398

#### Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

Fax: 076-211230

#### Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

Fax: 076-344523

#### 41 Minimart

Srisoonthorn Rd, Cherng Talay

Tel/Fax: 076-324312

#### Deli Supermarket

Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

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Fax: 076-344314

#### Property Information Center [PIC]

2nd Fl, Central Festival (in front of Siam Commercial Bank)

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### RESTAURANT KATA

Popular German restaurant for sale incl. 2 guestrooms. Tel: 086-120 3660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

### RESTAURANT RAWAI

with 6 apartments, aircon, fridge, TV, DVD, company + 1 work permit. 1.9 million baht. Contact Lars. Tel: 087-095 7527.

### SHOPHOUSE WITH RESTAURANT

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### BEAUTY SALON NANAI

with equip for lease. 3 years, 4 months contract. 300,000 baht, w/ rent at 8,000 baht / month. Tel: 086-948 8593.

### PATONG - 80M FROM THE BEACH

500sqm on Soi Post Office. Restaurant-Club-Retail space. 12-year lease, 90,000 baht per month plus 2 million baht key money. Tel: 084-664 4050. Email: aadams007@yahoo.com

### GUESTHOUSE

Baan San Rd, 6 room guesthouse with beauty salon bottom floor. Separate entrance to room, 4 years contract left. Selling due to getting bigger family. Asking 1,000,000 baht. Tel: 081-787 2573, 085-795 2101. Email: machawst@hotmail.com

### NANAI GUESTHOUSE

4 years, 5 rooms with A/C, furnished, fridge, DVD. High traffic, great Location. Partner problems. Price 999,000 baht. Tel: 087-173 1773, 089-474 6670. Email: seabluephuket@hotmail.com Please visit our website at <http://seabluephuket.com/>

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in Cherrngtalay. Good location on the main road. Tel: 081-897 6984.

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### BUSINESS IN PHUKET TOWN

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### BUSINESS IN PARADISE



Shrimp farm with 3 houses: main house, guesthouse and bungalow on 25 rai. Great business opportunity. Good yearly income. 15 million baht. Tel: 081-895 4136. Email: jrp@loxinfo.co.th

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for lease. On Nai Harn/ Rawai Road. Well established venue. 30 covers, 8 years lease. 12,000 baht per month. Built 2 years ago. All fixtures & fittings. All stock. Tel: 087-275 4867. Email: thaichips@yahoo.co.uk

### SHOP IN PATONG

for rent. Best location. Soi Foodland, 50sqm. All branches. Contact Khun Peter. Tel: 081-892 8526.

### GAME FISHING BUSINESS

Game fishing business, boat and company for sale. Tel: 086-124 7528. Email: buchwa@yahoo.com.au. For further details, please see our website at: <http://www.phuket-fishing.com>

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for rent. With beauty / massage equipment for sale. Aircon 35,000 BTU, 2 years guaranteed. 25,000 baht a month. Tel: 083-635 6239. Email: t\_rememb@hotmail.com

### RESTAURANT

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### BAR FOR SALE

Fully equipped & stocked. Solid turnover & expat customer base. 3-year lease, low rent, no key money, great opportunity. Tel: 084-064 6590.

### GUESTHOUSE PATONG

for rent. 10 rooms, furnished, 2 minutes to Patong Beach. Call K. Pam. Tel: 089-866 9615.

### ELEGANT SHOPHOUSE

Bargain: 4-story shophouse with Chanote. Fully-equipped restaurant on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors. Fully furnished apartment on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors. Value: 6.7 million baht. Now priced at only 5.5 million baht. Have to move out. Tel: 081-891 5602.

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### PATONG GUESTHOUSE

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### TURNKEY BUSINESS

Travel agency in Phuket City with TAT license and website. Great location with huge potential. Includes 100 sqm bar/rest, at present sub let. Also extra 3 floors over 4 buildings for commercial or residential use Tel: 089-618 6894 for more details.

### RESTAURANT, KATHU

for sale. 250,000 baht; rent 120,000 baht. On Kathu main road. Thai food. Tel: 081-719-3928 (Thai), 085-098 4239 (English).

### VERY NICE RESTAURANT

for sale 2.5 million baht. All new materials. 6 year lease, renewable. 40 seats + 16 on terrace next to pool. Tel: 084-445 2831.

### ICE CREAM SHOP FOR SALE

Fully operating, located in Bzenter in Rawai. Good Value for Money. Tel: 084-104 0741. Email: mauro@touringasiaonline.com

### KAMALA BAR

for sale. Good location on beach road. Fully stocked and includes 1 motorbike. Only 850,000 baht. 5-year lease. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-843 4569.

### RESTAURANT-BAR IN KATA FOR SALE

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## PRE-CHRISTMAS YOGA WORKSHOP

Thanks to everyone who has joined me throughout the year bringing your great energy and making every class enjoyable. This last MATWORK Class Series in 2008 will be a consolidation and celebration! We'll focus on practices that help us stay positive and healthy. And, as requested, we'll also focus on target areas like legs, abs and buns ;) Please come along; all levels considered in practice. December 8, 9, 10, 11. Beams of light, Roxanne. Tel: 089-027 6970. Email: roxanne@asiapacificleisure.com Website http://www.yogaphuket.com

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## Personals

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2004 model. Good condition, 2.8L turbo diesel, automatic, 4WD, leather interior, and CD stereo. Full insurance, 490,000 baht. Tel: 076-260468. Or email: ops@theestategroup.com

### RANGE ROVER '04



Blue/blue, excellent condition, includes license plate #9 (value 220,000 baht), o.n.o 43,002km. Price: 3.9 million baht ono. Tel: 089-866 2121.

### TOYOTA SPORTRIDER

Late 2005 model, perfect condition, automatic, loaded. 510,000 baht. Tel: 087-270 2841. Or send an email to: piratespizza@gmail.com

### 2005 ISUZU D-MAX CAB

automatic, all power options. Only 27,000 km. 465,000 baht. Tel: 081-693 6386.

### TOYOTA FORTUNER

2007, auto 4x4, full insurance, 3.0cc diesel, airbag, ABS. Rental for long term (6 months): 40,000 baht per month, or 12 months: 35,000 per month. Tel: 089-591 9998. Or send email to: chonmapoom\_k@yahoo.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.

### VIGO 4WD 4X4 2005

G, manual, complete & top condition, extras, service book. Price: 560,000 baht. Tel: 087-294 5737.

### 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.

### '02 FORD RANGER 2.5 4DR 4WD

Near-showroom condition. 185,000 kms. Carryboy and Sony CD/MP3. 310,000 baht. Tel: 086-949 9255. Email: mikdevhot@hotmail.com

### ISUZU D-MAX 2004

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### FORTUNER 2006 AUTO

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## Motorbikes

### HARLEY DAVIDSON SPORSTER

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### HONDA SHADOW



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### MOTORBIKES



Honda x4. 1300cc, 37,000km, good condition. Insurance and new tax. 250,000 baht. Tel: 085-619 0100.

### 2007 RED HONDA PHANTOM

Garaged from new and in brand new condition Tel: 086-757 1362. Or Email: peteroconnor1980@hotmail.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

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### ATV 4X4 FOR SALE

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### HONDA SHADOW 400

American classic, 1999, excellent condition, nice bike. 135,000 baht. Tel: 085-384 8494.

### HONDA MAGNA 250

V-Twin, custom pipes, black chopper. 58,000 baht. Tel: 081-187 7637.

### HONDA PHANTOM, 3 YEARS OLD

13,500km. Price: 55,000 baht. Phone (Eng): 087-893 0589. Phone (Thai): 086-9483052.

### 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.

### HARLEY DAVIDSON

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### SUZUKI GSX-R 600

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- Pedals: Shimano Dura Ace 7800 Pedals.

Tel: 086-945 0370. Or mail: harald20@hotmail.com

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