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### 'Mr Football'

ESPN STAR Sports presenter John Dykes talks exclusively to the Gazette ahead of the Laguna-ESPN charity event. See page 23.

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## British man killed in Andaman pirate attack

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

SATUN: Three Burmese men were arrested by police on Tuesday, March 24 in Satun province for suspected piracy and the alleged murder of a British man on board a private yacht when it was anchored off a remote island about 75km southwest of the mainland.

On the night of Monday, March 23, British couple Malcolm Stuart Robertson, 64, and his wife Mrs Linda Anne Robertson, 60, were resting below deck in separate compartments of their £3-million, 13.32-meter yacht *Mr Bean*, which was anchored off Dong Island in Satun Province, when they were attacked by pirates, La-Ngu Ampur Police Sergeant, Captain Suppaluk Chatayaporn, told the Gazette.

Mr Robertson is believed to have been killed in the attack and his body thrown overboard. Mrs Robertson was rescued by Satun Police and National Park rangers the following day when they discovered the couple's yacht



Mrs Robertson is helped ashore by Satun Police after a horrific ordeal at sea in which pirates attacked her and her husband on their yacht.

floating about 2km north of Khao Yai Island, Satun Province.

Mrs Robertson is said to have suffered minor injuries after being beaten and tied to the mast of the yacht by the pirates and was taken to La-Ngu Hospital. The semi-retired couple were seasoned sailors and had sailed in the region at least once before. This time, they were sailing to Malaysia after leaving Phuket earlier this month.

According to Phuket City Immigration records, the couple

registered their arrival in Phuket on January 12 and then left the province on March 9. It is not known whether they stayed on their boat or in rented accommodation during their stay in Phuket. However, the couple had stayed at Royal Phuket Marina on a previous visit in 2007.

After leaving Phuket, the couple headed for Phi Phi island and were making their way to Lankawi, Malaysia, where they planned to leave their yacht and

Continued on Page 2

## Canadian condo owner claims false arrest

By Kamol Pirat



PHUKET CITY: A Canadian man who has lived in Phuket for over a decade has been arrested for working illegally in Thailand, a charge he claims stems from a dispute over maintenance fees with one of the co-owners of a condominium complex in which he owns five units.

Phuket Immigration Police, led by Investigations Inspector Suparerk Pankosol, on March 24 arrested 49-year-old Canadian national James "Jimmy" Nixon.

Mr Nixon was earlier this month asked by Immigration officials to present himself for questioning on March 23.

After questioning by Immi-

gration and Labor Department officials, he was escorted by Immigration police to Tah Chat Chai Police Station, where he was formally charged at around 1pm.

Mr Nixon, from Toronto, was detained in a cell for about three hours while his lawyer and police disputed the validity of the condominium Chanote title deed he had brought with him to post police bail. The document was eventually accepted and Mr Nixon was released around 9pm.

Speaking to the Gazette from inside his jail cell, Mr Nixon explained that he started spending winters in Thailand about 20

Continued on Page 2

## Paiboon gets 'yellow card' from EC

By Kamol Pirat



PHUKET CITY: The Election Commission (EC) in Bangkok has 'yellow-carded' Phuket Provincial Administration Organization President Paiboon Upatising and a fellow PPAO member for electoral fraud in Thalang and has recommended that new elections be held to fill both seats.

According to a press release on the EC website, the ruling was handed down during a March 19 meeting of the EC, in which verdicts were reached in a number of electoral fraud cases from around the country.

The EC ruled in favor of a complaint lodged by Thalang District 3 candidate Apinan Wongna, who lost out to rival candidate Sawat Muchawej for the seat.

The press release did not say what evidence was provided by Mr Apinan.

Ruling that both Mr Paiboon and Mr Sawat had been involved in vote-buying, the EC ordered by-elections to fill both seats.

Under the EC rules, candidates given 'yellow cards' can run again in the by-election, while those issued 'red cards' cannot.

Mr Paiboon, who has held the office for almost a year, denied any wrongdoing.

He said that he had always carried out his duties as PPAO president in a fair and transparent manner. "If I had bought

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## EC ruling on Paiboon

Continued from page 1

votes, I would have to get my investment back," he said.

He will be allowed to continue in his duties as normal until the Appeals Court makes its ruling on the case.

"I'm a little disappointed with the EC, but I'm confident that the judicial process will give me justice," he said.

In addition, the commission reached a majority decision to press for criminal charges against Mr Thawee Phanthip, Mr Somsak Torthip, Mrs Lamai Maiso and Miss Siriwan Santisukthirakul for distributing cash to eligible voters.

All four are understood to be canvassers based in tambon Pa Khlok.

The EC ruling did not specify the date of the by-election, which is to be organized by Phuket Election Committee Director Supap Akkam.

Despite the ruling's appearance on the EC website, Mr Supap told the *Gazette* on March 23 that he had yet to receive any official confirmation of the ruling or instructions from the EC, though he said he had received numerous phone calls from reporters about it.

The EC will now forward its findings to the Court of Appeals to render a final decision in the case in accordance with Section 239 of the Constitution.

Former PPAO President Anchalee Vanich Tephabuttra, who lost to Mr Paiboon by more than 20,000 votes in the April 2008 contest, told the *Gazette* she has no intention of running in the by-election because she is currently serving in the national government as deputy secretary to Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva.

However, Mrs Anchalee said that she was reviewing EC law to see if there were any statutes that would require her to run for the seat again.

## Pirate attack

Continued from page 1  
fly back to the UK.

Mrs Robertson told police that on the night of the attack, she and her husband were sleeping in separate compartments down below when she heard a commotion on deck.

There are conflicting reports in British and local media as to whether Mrs Robertson was discovered by the pirates below deck or whether she came up on her own accord. The *Gazette* has been unable to contact Mrs Robertson directly to hear her version of the events.

According to police, Mrs Robertson said she was set upon by the pirates and tied to the yacht's mast. The pirates then sailed the yacht towards the mainland.

On Tuesday March 24, fishermen in the Tarutao Marine National Park area, about 60km from Satun mainland, noticed the *Mr Bean* and suspected something strange was happening aboard the yacht. They reported what they saw to Tarutao National Park rangers, who alerted Satun Police. The rangers and police approached the yacht about 2km north of Khao Yai Island at about 10.30am. At that point, the pirates fled in an inflatable dingy belonging to the yacht.

Police chased down and intercepted the inflatable and arrested the three Burmese nationals in it. Police also discovered in the pirates' possession a bag, binoculars, a large knife, a hammer and two laptops belonging to the British couple.

## Canadian arrested

Continued from page 1

years ago to escape the Canadian climate, and now owns five units at Blue Canyon. He has also been a member of the Blue Canyon Country Club since its inception in 1992.

He told the *Gazette* that he



La-Ngu Police display the three Burmese men suspected of piracy and murder, along with items seized upon their arrest.

The three Burmese arrested claimed to be fishermen who had been working on a trawler named *Vichai 6*. The suspects have been named by police as Mr Ao, 19, Mr Go, 20, and Mr X, 18, who was born and lived on Phi Phi Island, and is the only one of the suspects who has been able to converse with investigators, as he speaks Thai and English, said Captain Suppaluk.

Captain Suppaluk said that Mr X admitted to killing Mr Robertson with the hammer found in the inflatable. However, Mr X claims that the trio did not intend to kill Mr Robertson, only that they wanted to steal the inflatable dingy so they could get to the mainland.

Mr X told police that the three of them had previously escaped from harsh and abusive conditions on board *Vichai 6* and that they had been hiding out on

Koh Dong but had run out of food. When they spotted Mr and Mrs Robertson's yacht anchored near the island, Mr X said they swam out to the yacht with the intention of stealing the inflatable, when they saw that the lights on board had been dimmed.

When the suspects were brought ashore at Pakbara Pier in Satun Province, a crowd of locals attempted to assault the suspects. They were reportedly angry at the negative impact on tourism as a result of media coverage of the attacks.

At the time of this edition going to print, the search for Mr Robertson's body was still underway. However, efforts were hampered by bad weather.

Mrs Robertson was said to be recovering in La-Ngu Hospital and the couple's relatives were on their way to Thailand from the UK to be with Mrs Robertson.

## Man arrested for money-lender murder

TUNG TONG: Tung Tong Police have arrested a man suspected of the fatal stabbing of a 62-year-old moneylender almost two years ago.

Manop Khobwet, 33, was drinking with friends at his house in tambon Maifard in Trang province when police arrived and took him into custody at around 6pm on March 23.

Kajorn "Ko Jorn" Somnam died in his home in May 2007 after being stabbed twice, once in the neck and once in the torso.

A statement released to the press by Tung Tong Police said that Mr Manop told them he had worked for Mr Kajorn as a rubber cutter.

It said that Mr Manop confessed to carrying out the killing in a fit of jealous rage, after he found his wife at Mr Kajorn's house, wearing nothing but a towel.

Mr Manop also confessed to trying to steal a land title deed he had used as collateral to secure a loan from Mr Kajorn, according to the statement.

Mr Kajorn's fourth son told the *Gazette* he believed the murder was about the money Mr Manop owed to his father and not about jealousy.

"I don't believe a love triangle was the motive. Instead I believe he killed my dad because he wanted to get the title deed back to clear his debt," he said.

-Atchaa Khamlo

was not working in Phuket, but had merely been elected by fellow condo owners as their 'juris- tic person' representative at an annual meeting. Serving as a condo owners' representative is an unpaid position and does not constitute work, he maintains.

"I just serve as a safety net to protect the common interests of all the co-owners in our condo estate," he said. There are many foreigners on the island in similar positions, and to his knowledge none have ever been accused of working here illegally for this rea-


son, he said. There are often cases in which 'aliens' are arrested in Thailand for doing work which would not be considered illegal for foreigners without work permits in other countries.

Mr Nixon concedes that Thai labor law as it applies to foreigners is vague about what actually constitutes 'work', but he feels the authorities are selectively enforcing the law in his case at the behest of one of the condo co-owners, who is in arrears on his maintenance fees. Phuket Immigration admit to ar-

resting Mr Nixon, but told the *Gazette* they could not give more details about the case until Lt Col Suparerk returns from a seminar in Bangkok. Today, Mr Nixon spent all morning in a holding room at Phuket Provincial Court. He was finally allowed to leave the court at about 5pm, after he was formally charged for working without a work permit and his lawyer posted court bail.


"Does the local government really want to ask us to keep investing in properties and not allow us to sit on management committees? There is something strange about this," he said.

"If Thai authorities don't want foreign investors, they should just tell us clearly, as opposed to arresting us," he added.



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## Brit gets almost 20 years for ATM scam

PHUKET CITY: Despite confessing to the charges against him, a British man has been sentenced to 18 years and 9 months in prison for ATM fraud.

Mark Hubert Veerasawmy, 45, received the sentence at Phuket Provincial Court several weeks ago, British Honorary Consul Martin Carpenter said.

Mr Veerasawmy was arrested in February last year together with his son Sonny, aged 20 years old.

Phuket City Police arrested the pair after receiving a report that two men were acting suspiciously in front of the Kasikornbank branch on Chanacharoen Road, near the Robinson department store.

When the police came to investigate, they found the pair in possession of 15 ATM withdrawal slips, 10,000 baht in cash and 35 fake ATM cards, Capt Supachai



Mark Hubert Veerasawmy after his arrest in February, 2008. File photo.

Petchkul of Phuket City Police said.

When police searched the men's hotel rooms they found more than 100,000 baht in bundles separated by rubber bands, Capt Supachai added.

The son, still in Phuket Provincial Prison awaiting trial, denies the charges against him.

## Annual English essay awards announced

BANGKOK: A student from Yothinburana School in Bangkok has been named as the national winner of the Fifth Annual Junior IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards for Thailand.

Paphawi Leksakundilok, 16, came top from about 900 entries in the nationwide contest under the theme "Once Upon a Time..."

Pawida Krachai of Phuket Wittayalai School represented Thailand's Southern region at the final of the awards after being selected as the regional winner by the *Phuket Gazette* judging panel.

Also attending the final were regional winners from the North, Central and Northeast.

The contest is jointly organized by *The Nation*, *Nation Junior* and affiliated publications *Citylife Chiang Mai* in the North and *Phuket Gazette* in the South. The event is sponsored by international productivity consultant IMPAC, the Embassy of Ireland, Property Care Services and Kerry Group.

Mr Paphawi, as national champion, was rewarded with a trip together with one parent to Dublin, where they will attend the senior international IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards ceremony, the world's richest literary prize.

"This year's contest received more quality essays – both in terms of written skill and creativity – compared to the past. The national contest was very close between Bangkok and Chiang Mai," said Pana Janviroj, chief operating officer of *The Nation*.

Mr Paphawi was representing the Central region, while Yothin Chinsan from Srikrananwittayakom School,



Alasdair Forbes (right), head of the *Phuket Gazette* judging panel for the Southern Region, congratulates Pawida Krachai of Phuket Wittayalai School. Ms Pawida received 10,000 baht for her story and attended the awards ceremony in Bangkok.

Khon Kaen, and Kanyakrit Vongkiatkajorn of Nakorn Payap International School, Chiang Mai, won the Northeastern and the Northern regions respectively.

The winner in each region received 10,000 baht in cash with a certificate.

Next year's essay theme will be "So near, yet so far".

## New governor unveils plans for Phuket

PHUKET CITY: New Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop presented his plans for Phuket to more than 200 government officers at the Royal Phuket City Hotel on Wednesday March 18.

As Phuket is a tourist destination and a gateway to Thailand, Gov Wichai said he will focus on solving problems related to land, traffic, flooding, entertainment venues, business and drugs.

"Phuket's environment needs to be improved, and we need to stop the destruction of natural resources by construction projects for resorts, hotels and industry. Also the problem of public land encroachment should be solved. I will talk with local leaders about the licensing of resort and hotel construction," he said.

"Besides that, I plan to beautify the route from Phuket International Airport to Phuket City. We'll clean it up and plant more trees, generating lots of benefits without great expenditure," he added.

Gov Wichai also addressed the flooding of Thepkrasattri Road in front of the Boat Lagoon in Koh Kaew, saying he would speak to local leaders to try and find a solution to the chronic problem.

Fixing the lack of water in Kamala, Srisoonthorn and other drought-stricken areas is also on his agenda.

The problem of traffic congestion in Phuket should also be taken seriously, he said.

Gov Wichai singled out the route from Sarasin Bridge to the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint, as well as the Heroines Monument, Tesco-Lotus and Darasamuth School intersections as particularly problematic. One solution might be to ban trucks from certain areas during rush hour, he suggested.

Thick concrete barriers will be placed alongside some roads to prevent vehicles from hitting electricity poles, though he did not specify where or when this would happen.

Entertainment venues such as bars, pubs and clubs should follow regulations strictly, he said.

Identifying drugs as a ma-



Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop (left) and his wife Mrs Thaisika outside the Thai Hua Museum on Krabi Road on March 21.

jor problem, he suggested introducing sniffer dogs at the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint and other key locations in order to intercept narcotic shipments.

Gov Wichai said he intends to talk to the relevant authorities about the longstanding issue of foreign tour companies that don't employ Thai staff.

"Some tours bring their own guides and staff to the island while staying and traveling here. It means we lose benefits that

should rightfully be ours," he said.

Gov Wichai pledged to continue pursuing initiatives of former governor Preecha Ruangjan, including any projects under Royal Patronage and the decades-old dream of building an international conference center on the island.

The speech closed with a promise to personally visit every government department in the province to meet staff and learn about the issues facing the province.

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## THE GRAY AREA



By John 'Caveman' Gray

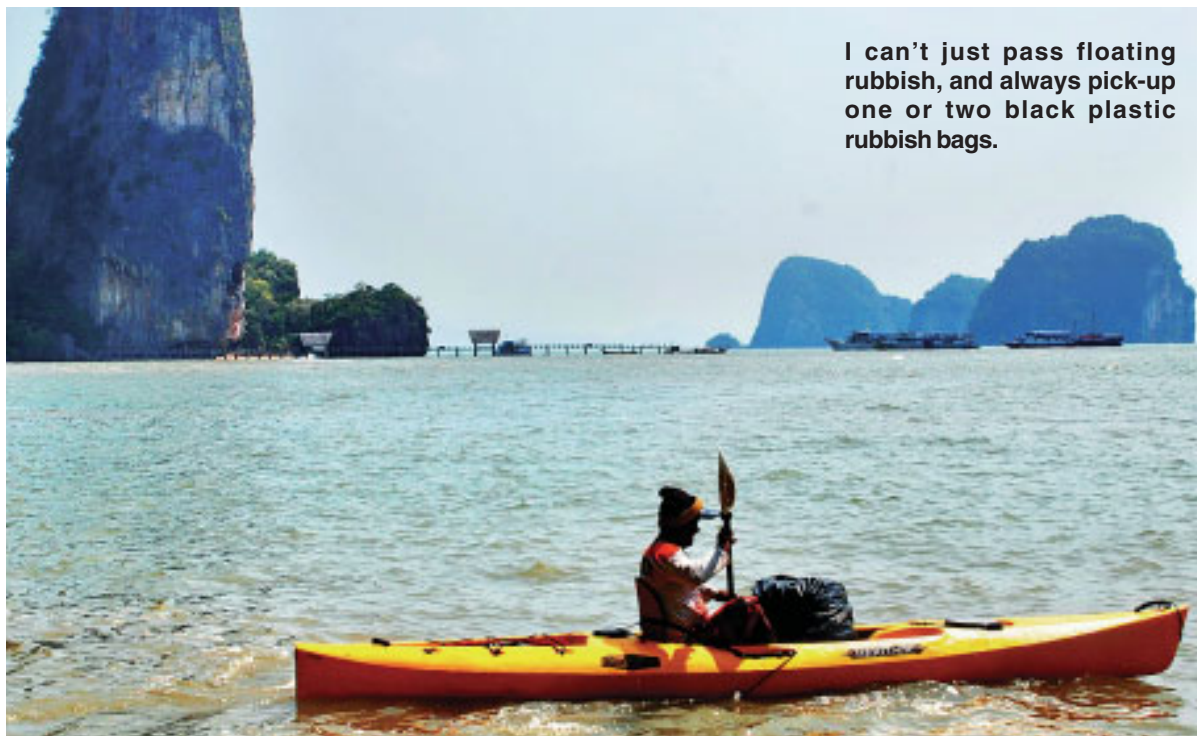
# Clean up the bay

Phuket ports' fishermen and the tourism trade, and we could eliminate Phuket's devastating and embarrassing open cesspool.

I promised my high profile guests I would write about it, but I also questioned whether this effort would do any good. I've walked the coastlines and paddled the waters of Puerto Princesa since 1995 without ever finding even one small piece of rubbish; but Phuket just doesn't seem to grasp this issue.

When a pygmy sperm whale beached and died on a Phuket beach, Dr Sonthaya of the Phuket Marine Biology Center dissected the victim, only to find its stomach was a mass of marine rubbish, including 25 black plastic rubbish bags. This whale had the strength to make it to shore. Most don't. It's a given that all South Thailand's cetaceans – plus many more forms of sea life – are swimming the seas with plenty of man-made 'excess baggage' in their guts.

I paddle the waters of Phang Nga Bay about three days a week. I can't just pass floating rubbish, and always pick-up one



I can't just pass floating rubbish, and always pick-up one or two black plastic rubbish bags.

On a "Khunying" private charter from Cape Panwa to Phang Nga Bay, we came across a two-kilometer wide rubbish slick – one so thick you could walk on it. Caught between Ao Makham, Koh Sireh and the Phi-Phi speed-boat route, the amount of floating rubbish was shocking.

Certainly not as bad as the three 'Great Mid-Pacific Rubbish Slicks' that run from halfway between California and Hawaii almost reaching Japan, Phuket's own 'open sewer in the sea' is far more preventable. Educate the

or two black plastic rubbish bags. Over 20 years, the conservative estimate is about 8,000 bags. It's getting old.

Tarutao is even worse. Sitting at the mouth of the Straits of Malacca, the heavily trafficked international shipping lane is an

open sewer. While Thai rubbish is a contributor, international marine rubbish is overwhelming. Poor Tarutao doesn't stand a chance. Every November, the National Park cleans its beaches with heavy equipment. Within a month, it's back to normal.

All this is preventable with awareness, so I invited my Prince of Songkla students to help me clean the Bay on my 64th birthday. I don't care about birthdays, but the date does point out that I'm not getting any younger, and one day, I won't be pulling rubbish out of Thailand's most beautiful natural spot. The Park was a bit nervous about the clean-up, but we embraced them in a spirit of 'helpfulness' and the Park joined in with the program – besides, how could they turn away 84 students cleaning their own country?

Although the Park's official website claims around 48,000 visitors a year, a survey by Thailand's major tour operators puts the figure somewhere between three and five million. Who knows for certain? One thing is for sure; there are definitely more

visitors than the meager Park staff can handle, so we decided to give them a hand with a smile and spirit of cooperation.

More importantly, we wanted to create an atmosphere of awareness about this serious problem, if only to give Dr Sonthaya some rest. I had expected just my class of 16 students on a one-day effort, but thanks to Dr Rick Kramer's enthusiasm, the number swelled to 84 over a five-day schedule. Complete with TV, radio, print media, and other travel industry professionals, we took 20-25 rubbish collectors each day. The media was vital. They spread the message to the masses. Thanks guys!

High winds prevented collecting floating rubbish. For safety reasons I kept participants in the lee of islands, and we cleaned up beaches. Even with this limitation, we still collected 74 bags of rubbish – a mere drop in the bucket. Media was crucial to the effort, creating awareness of the marine rubbish problem and other forms of man-made pollution with the emphasis on switch-

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In London, Tim worked at one of Gordon Ramsay's restaurants at The Connaught, run by Angela Hartnett. He then spent time in the kitchen at the famed River Cafe. Tim also spent time travelling through Italy, discovering and enjoying dishes from all over the country.

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ing from 2-stroke to 4-stroke outboards engines. Our eventual goal was to develop larger wide-ranging clean-up festivals that enlist every government department, school, scouts and youth program in the Phuket-Phang Nga-Krabi triangle. Clean-up and educate in the morning, then party in the afternoon. If we want the masses to participate, it has to be fun.

Critics may say it's a lofty and grandiose ambition, but that's exactly what happens in my case study in the Philippines, detailed in my environmental activist video, *Taking Back Your Own Environment: The Puerto Princesa Model*. If a Filipino town of 200,000 can become 100% rubbish and crime free, we can certainly employ our far greater resources to do even better. All it takes is commitment. I challenge government officials to answer the call.

Our first stop was the lee directly across from James Bond Island. I expected picnic rubbish on the small sandy beach. What we discovered was a years-old impromptu rubbish dump. We barely scratched the surface because the stratified layers of broken glass bottles were simply too dangerous to risk a complete clean-up.

Even so, in an hour we collected 24 bags of rubbish without making a dent. Excuse me for assuming the James Bond rubbish could go back to the mainland by boat, especially thousands of broken beer bottles. National Park boats on their way back to Park Headquarters can haul out rubbish at no extra cost – it's not rocket science. We train guides from the villages around the Bay so they can get jobs working on their own islands, the same as Phuket-based guides. These guys are still 'diamonds in the rough' but they got it right away.

On day two, they validated the concept by suggesting a beach near their village that's carpeted in styrofoam and plastic. When the Rangers showed

**We discovered a years-old impromptu rubbish dump. In an hour we collected 24 bags of rubbish without making a dent.**



**I had expected just my class of 16 students on a one-day effort, but the number swelled to 84 over a five-day schedule.**

up, they were shocked. Khun Jai took plenty of pictures, and his staff were surprised by the mess.

Jai is always telling us he's spread too thin to implement my many suggestions. We understand their under-staffing problem, so we hope to have an even bigger clean-up to start the high season – a great promotion for a clean, environmental Phuket.

We can't ask the under-staffed Park to do it all on their own, and marine rubbish knows no boundaries. I see rubbish in the depths of caves and crevasses so deep and narrow I cannot proceed. The plastic bags from

James Bond Island and water containers from tour boats don't stop at Park boundaries, so all the islands in the Bay are trashed.

We are light years away from the perfection of well organized, corruption-free Puerto Princesa, but so is draconian Singapore. We must use Princesa as our standard and not rest until marine life is protected from marine rubbish. And the same goes for our tourism industry. If we want high-quality tourists to return, we must clean up our house.

In on-board surveys 95% of my guests say they book us because of our environmental com-

mitment. The same folks talk of their disdain for tour companies that make bogus environmental claims. Just saying "Keep the Bay clean" without any actual substance is counterproductive – and I'm so tired of picking up plastic water bottles bearing the logos of companies that make these claims, I might start dumping them at the Phuket Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) office. For decades, the TAT has claimed its role is only one of promotion, and for decades, critics have complained that the TAT must also manage the consequences of its promotional power.

An effective yet inexpensive TAT public education program could solve 75% of the problem. Multi-lingual signage, such as the humorous cartoons we produced at a cost of 3,000 baht each (total cost of 36,000 baht), show tourists how to behave in the Park – not only stopping marine rubbish but being quiet in the caves and *hongs*, and not feeding the monkeys. We produced them not only for our own guests – most speak English anyway – but to donate to other tour companies, and for the National Park to place at every Phang Nga bay entry point.

The new wave of environmentally destructive group tours are not Chinese, but Russian – they have no more sense of environment than the Chinese group tours that trashed Phuket in years past. It isn't their fault – Russia has no history of environmental awareness. Just ask their former satellite states about the destruction that surfaced once the Russians pulled out of Eastern Europe. Whatever the nationality, all that counts is learning the message.

A Phang Nga Bay clean-up highlights the fact that citizens of the planet must all take responsibility for our own home, rather than expect others to do it for us – even when those programs are funded with our taxes. Action really starts with not dropping rubbish in the sea.

Let's start an annual mega-clean up festival, complete with an afternoon festival as a reward. Aside from the waters and coastline of South Thailand, we have about 500 islands and a variety of marine life that needs our help. I challenge our new tourism oriented Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop, the National Parks and the TAT to join with us in cleaning up our most precious resource – our own home.

The Prince of Songkla students certainly got the message. Now we have to take it to the masses.

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## Ministry calls for action against young addicts

BANGKOK: The age of youths at risk of *ya bah* (methamphetamine) addiction dropped to as low as 10 years old, due mainly to a failure in control measures that has made drugs more cheaply available, the Public Health Ministry revealed recently.

Medical Services deputy chief Dr Boonreun Triruenworarat said that *ya bah*, a mixture of methamphetamine and caffeine in tablet form was the drug of choice among youths.

Dr Boonreun blamed the failure on a lack of strict controls and lax punishments for drug dealers as the main cause of the widespread usage and the rising number of new, younger addicts.

The situation was getting worse and more people were getting addicted, especially women and teenagers, because the narcotics were now available online at a cheap price, he said.

Citing past records that showed the age of addicts as being between 18 and 24, he said addicts nowadays were between

13 and 18 years of age.

The youngest addict found is a 10-year-old boy, who was forced by his neighbor to take drugs and became a drug dealer. "If we seriously control the drug trade, the price of the narcotics will rise and become unaffordable for most youths," he said.

Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban has called on relevant agencies to jointly find solutions to control *ya bah* trafficking. Mr Suthep told reporters after a one-hour meeting on the issue with police, army and other agencies, that he had issued policy instructions with regard to drug prevention and suppression. The Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) would be coordinating the operation, he said.

Results of their operations would be evaluated on a monthly basis and after the first six months, all reports would be made public.

Everything would proceed according to law and there would be no killings of suspected drug traffickers, he pledged.

## Crispy critters can give you the jitters

SURATTHANI: A Public Health Ministry spokesman has warned allergy and asthma sufferers to avoid eating fried silkworms, grasshoppers and other insects as they have been found to contain a higher-than-standard level of histamine that could trigger a fatal allergic reaction in some patients.

Dr Supan Srithamma cited a ministry report of 118 people hospitalized with food-poisoning symptoms after eating fried insects from December 24, 2007, to January 7, 2008, in Singburi, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Trang, Songkhla, Surat Thani, Chainat, and Nakhon Ratchasima provinces. Seventy-eight of them had

to be admitted, he added. Fried silkworms from Surat Thani were found to contain 875 milligrams of histamine per kilogram, far above the standard maximum of 50.

A ministry study at a market in Sa Kaew province revealed that vendors are re-using oil to fry various insects over some four-and-a-half hours, possibly causing toxic accumulation, said Dr Khamnuan Ungchusak, spokesman of the Disease Control Department.

As bacterial contamination during storage and transportation could also cause histamine build-up, he urged vendors to store the insects below 4.4 degrees Celsius before frying.



**WALK ON BY:** Forty four contestants in the Miss Thailand Universe 2009 pageant strut their stuff in the lead-up to the event, to be held in Bangkok on March 28.

## Gasohol and cancer linked

BANGKOK: The Environmental Research and Training Center (ERTC) expressed concern on March 20 that gasohol might have been pushing up the level of carbonyl compounds along busy roads. The compounds, which include formaldehyde and acetaldehyde, are known to increase cancer risk. The Thai government has promoted the use of gasohol since 2006, making its selling price significantly lower than diesel oil and benzene. Citing research conducted along 49 roads in Bangkok between 2006 and 2008, researcher Daisy Morknoy said levels of formaldehyde and acetaldehyde on some roads have been much higher than the safe level prescribed by the US Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.

Orapin Wongchumpit, director of the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, said her office would recheck the initial findings and conduct a study in collaboration with the Pollution Control Department.

## More housing for the poor needed: seminar

BANGKOK: Greedy real estate developers and a muddled government is leaving poor families out in the cold, say experts.

The economic downturn has resulted in a 50% drop in home sales in Thailand compared to the peak volume before the 1997 crisis, a recent Bangkok housing seminar was told.

Somchao Tantherdtha, chairman of the Thai Real Estate Association, said the drop was mainly due to tighter loan policies by banks, and home buyers being unable to meet installment payments.

Clear and consistent government policies on housing are vital for economic growth and employment, he told the seminar of more than 300 real estate developers, government officials and academics from around the world.

Professor Pree Buranasiri, a former National Housing Association (NHA) governor, said government support and soft loans were needed so that low-income earners could buy homes more easily.

He attacked the government's lack of coordination, saying there were 28 departments under 14 ministries and six independent

organizations involved in working out the national housing policy.

Mr Pree said that the average size of a Thai home was 32 square meters, dropping to just eight sqm in the case of a low-income family of four.

Somchai Jitsuchon of the Thailand Development Research Institute said that the widening income gap meant more homes for low-income earners were needed as more people migrated to Bangkok to seek work.

He also expressed worries about the mental health of children living in low-cost NHA apartments.

Incumbent NHA governor Suchart Siriyopha brought some good news, telling the seminar that 120,000 homes would be built next year if a 30 billion baht budget is approved.

Dutch analyst Cor Dijkgraaf drew parallels between the US subprime crisis and the collapse of the Thai economy in 1997.

Over-investment in real estate was a big factor in both crises. Developers sank their money into niche-market housing while ignoring low-income earners, he said.

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# Vegetable vendor shot by loan sharks

SURAT THANI: A vegetable seller and her son were seriously injured after being shot in their Muang District home on March 19. Police believe the shooting was connected to a debt that one of the victims owed to a loan shark.

Nantha Wongkul, 52, and her son Natthaphon Wongkul, 35, were shot in the head with a .38 caliber pistol.

Volunteer rescue workers took them to Surat Thani Hospital, where at last report they remained in serious condition.

Mrs Nantha's daughter and grandchild were also at home at the time of the shooting.

They told police that just after 11pm, two men jumped over the fence and ran into the house. One of the men then shot Mr Natthaphon two or three times.

When Mrs Nantha stood up to go to her son, the gunmen shot her as well.

Mrs Nantha's daughter identified the gunmen as loan sharks whom she knew only as "Keng" and "Sae".

Her mother had borrowed 10,000 baht from the men to fund her business selling vegetables, but had been struggling to make repayments due to the poor state of the economy, she told police.

On the day of the incident, Keng and Sae had come to the house to collect the 200 baht daily payment, but Mrs Nantha did not have the money.

Saying that that they are quite sure the debt was the motive for the shooting, police said they are now hunting for the loan sharks.

## Family of murdered Imam calls for compensation

NARATHIWAT: Lawyers representing family members of an Imam who was beaten to death while in Army custody last year filed a civil suit against the Ministry of Defence on March 19, demanding 10 million baht in compensation.

After an inquest, a Narathiwat court last December ruled that 56-year-old Yapa Koseng was tortured and killed by soldiers while being interrogated at an Army base in March last year.

The Cross Cultural Foundation, a leading Thai human rights organization working in the Deep South, expressed hope that the civil law suit against the Ministry would serve as a deterrent for future abuses.

Following the December court ruling, New York-based Human Rights Watch urged the Thai government to indict the soldiers responsible.

No action has yet been taken against individual officers.

## Songs For Life star dies in motorcycle accident

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: A well-known *phleng pheua chiwit* (Songs For Life) singer was killed in a motorcycle accident in Khanom District on March 16.

Around 10am, 40-year-old Decha "De" Chantha-amphon lost control of his Honda Wave motorcycle on a bend in tambon Khanom Village 3, crashing into a roadside berm. He died at the scene.

Police said that Mr Decha was driving from a *khao tom* (rice porridge) restaurant in Bang Phaeng Market to a relative's house when he lost control.

Police believe that he was drunk at the time of the crash.

Mr Decha was the lead singer of the popular Nakhon band. He was well-known among Songs For Life fans in the South as "De Nakhon".

Khanom Police Inspector for Investigations Wachiraphan Keuakaow said that at the time of his death, Mr Decha was under investigation for domestic violence following a claim by his wife that he beat her.

The *phleng pheua chiwit*

genre of music is a form of folk-rock which developed in the 1970s and was originally inspired by left wing political thoughts popular at the time.

The lyrics typically deal with adversities faced by the poor. Fans can often be identified by their distinctive dress style, which often includes a bandana as sported by singer Aed Carabao.



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Photo by Pares Lohasan

Police inspect the wreckage of a pick-up destroyed in an insurgent's bomb attack in Yala province on March 19. All four soldiers in the vehicle were killed.

## Bombs defused in Surat Thani

SURAT THANI: Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva believes the planting of four bombs in Kanchanadit and Muang Districts was politically motivated.

Deputy Inspector Thanan Chuaynoo said that on March 18 police were tipped off that a suspicious bag was hidden behind a cutout campaign picture showing Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva together with former PM Chuan Leekpai, Democrat Party Deputy Chief Adviser Banyat Bantadtan and Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban.

Two PVC pipes filled with powergel dynamite connected to an electric circuit board and a

mobile phone were found in the cloth bag.

A robotic device was used to spray it with high-pressure water and destroy the circuitry.

A second device, comprising two black metal fire-extinguisher cylinders, was found a day earlier next to a high-voltage electricity pole opposite a restaurant on Chanakasem Road, which leads to Surat Thani's Muang District. The road was closed to traffic until the device was retrieved.

A security guard from South Land Rubber first noticed the bombs that morning, but did not realize what they were until after dark, when he saw a blinking

light on the cylinders and called the police.

DPM Suthep Thaugsuban said he was told the device, planted near the Democrat Party office in Kanchadit District, was the work of people planning political turmoil. PM Abhisit said they wanted to discredit his government.

Sompol Wichaidit, chairman of Pheu Thai Party's southern branches, refuted these assertions. He said he suspected the bomb plantings resulted from internal fighting in the Democrat Party.

Noting that the bomb makers were well-trained, police said they would keep up their surveillance around the clock.

## Land encroachers caught

TRANG: Forestry officials in Wang Wiset District on March 19 detained three men for destroying protected forest land.

The men, 38-year-old Samruat Ramsong, 18-year-old Praphan Khumrat and a 17-year-old youth who cannot be named for legal reasons, were handed over to Wang Wiset Police by the forestry officials to be charged. The

officials told police that the men had cleared over six rai in the Pa Sai Pa Kae forest reserve.

Officials confiscated two machetes and a saw from the trio.

The men confessed to clearing the land in order to plant rubber trees. They also admitted to having cleared other patches of national park land in the past.

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# Fishing ban imposed in gulf



The fishing embargo has provoked strong opposition with many fishing boats still being seen in the waters around the islands.

A fishing ban has been imposed in the waters off Prachuap Khiri Khan, Surat Thani and Chumphon provinces. The moratorium, which came into effect in mid February, was issued by the Fish Game Department of Thailand and covers the sea around the islands of Koh Samui, Koh Phangan and Koh Tao.

Department head Somying Piumsombun said that certain methods of fishing were causing damage to marine life.

He said the ban, which is to remain in effect until May 15, should give fish a chance to spawn and reproduce undisturbed. Fishermen in the affected

regions are calling on the government to reverse the order, which they claim is posing a threat to their livelihoods.

The government has responded to the pleas by stating that the ban had been ordered for the good of the fishing industry, as the Gulf of Thailand has been over-fished for many years, resulting in lower fish stocks.

The Fishery Department is particularly concerned with more harmful means of fishing that include bottom trawling. This method is very damaging to the reefs and marine life and the group is looking to have this technique outlawed for another year.

Studies carried out in the

area have suggested that fish stocks could be completely wiped out in the coming decades if procedures are not put in place to arrest the current trend.

If the sea is to recover, marine-protected areas (MPAs) must be established, such as the ones in Koh Similan and Koh Surin. The further tightening of restrictions around the Ang Thong National Marine park and other MPAs is planned.

Violators of the ban risk a fine of between 5,000 and 10,000 baht and/or one year imprisonment. The embargo has provoked strong opposition with many fishing boats still being seen in the waters around the islands.

# Protests block road in Na Thon



## FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND

By Max Rogers

Protests against Anglo supermarket giant Tesco caused three days of havoc in the port town of Na Thon, Koh Samui. Small business owners and local residents set up a blockade in front of the local district office and the Na Thon branch of the supermarket to protest against more branches being opened around the island.

Koh Samui already has two Tesco stores – one mega-store near Chaweng and a smaller 'Express' branch serving Na Thon. A branch has also recently opened on Koh Phangan, while the chain has begun construction on an additional branch in the Lamai area.

Protesters have set out to stop any further plans for expansion of the chain, expressing their concern that it is bad for local businesses and shopkeepers. In February, Surat Thani Governor Pracha Taerat reportedly sent a letter to the managing director of Ek-Chai Distribution System Co Ltd, which operates the Tesco Lotus supermarkets, seeking a halt to the construction of the new branch.

The group has been lobbying since the beginning of last year to have its demands met, holding a series of protests urging the government to refuse building permission. A government official addressed the

group, stating that this issue has been faced by many other provinces around the country that were in a similar position. He urged protesters to try to come to a solution that would benefit the local businesses. A representative from the Consumer Protection Agency told the gathering that if further plans were not stopped, the group would seek to raise the issue at a national level in a bid to stop development on Samui.

The Tesco Lotus group has responded to the group's demands by issuing a statement on their website in which it defends the need for further shops around the island, claiming it provides jobs, generates revenue for the island and is beneficial to tourism. The statement goes on to say that it also offers consumers cheaply priced quality products. Branches of Tesco Lotus currently provides jobs for 500 island residents, the company added, also pointing out that taxes paid to the government exceeded 14 million baht for 2008.

The retail group said that with the opening of the new branch in Lamai, a further 200 jobs would be created and tax revenues of around 10 million baht would be generated. Moreover, the new shop would allow for some 50 local retailers to operate out of the facility.

The Anti-International Hypermarket Association has spearheaded the protests, calling for an immediate ban on the construction or opening of large stores such as Tesco Lotus, Big C and Makro, which all currently operate on the island. Other shops like the popular 7-Eleven chain, which presently has over 50 branches on Koh Samui alone, is also a bone of contention for the group. Following the protests, activists have admitted that the mega corporation is very difficult to go up against legally.

The retail giant has expanded all over the country and many local businesses are suffering but the company seems not to care about the protests, while construction continues.



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# Flavors on the Hill - Onwards, Upwards

**On the  
menu**  
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Sam Wilko  
**Into the Med**

Life, many claim, is an imitation of art. There's a pivotal scene in the 2007 movie *Ratatouille* where the much feared, snooty-nosed restaurant reviewer tastes the rat-chef's signature dish – *ratatouille*.

As soon as his taste buds are caressed by the ambrosial-like harmony of flavors, he's instantly transported back to his childhood and his mother's version of the dish. Last night I had a similarly sublime experience when I sampled Chef Akorn's renderings at Flavors on the Hill, above Patong.

To carry on the theme of art intertwining with life, the Phuket history of Loi Et-born Chef Akorn and his French wife Cathy reads a bit like a picaresque novel. Starting at The Wall – a colorful, cushion-filled venue in what was then a leafy backwater soi in Rawai (should see it now...) – diners appreciated the fresh-from-the-garden herbs, easy culinary innovation and the friendly service; naturally the place flourished.

Moving near to Kamala, the couple opened the poolside Naka Flavors, that attracted a new clientèle – the faithful duly followed as well.

Then they upped sticks and settled in the grounds of the Banthai Beach Resort on Patong's Beach Road for a while before opening Flavors on the Hill some time ago. By any interpretation, they have enjoyed an eventful few years. Flavors on



The Phuket history of Loi Et-born Chef Akorn (above) and his French wife Cathy reads a bit like a picaresque novel.

the Hill is open sided and overlooks the crest of the Patong-Karon Road. Set back a little, the car park acts as a buffer zone between the restaurant and the buzz of traffic laboring up and swishing down the hill.

The design is predominantly wood-based and as rustic as you can get in upwardly mobile Phuket, where a couple of bags of cement and sliding full-length windows seem to be constructors' answer to any aesthetic challenge. This wooden arrangement suits Akorn right down to the ground – the man is happy here; you can sense it.

Maybe I'm already preaching to the converted, but for those who have not yet sampled his dishes I strongly suggest that you do. The reason being is that this guy is simply amazing in the kitchen and can make a humble spud taste like caviar; just imagine what he can do with fresh market material and a free range in his kitchen. And that's exactly what he does in his Flavors on the Hill outlet. His cooking is... well, adjectives fail me – just go along and sample it.

We kick off with a juicy *foie gras* that contrasts nicely with crisp toast slices and grated car-

rot with salad (290 baht) while Carlos Santana twangs away on the in-house stereo. The evening's musical entertainment had started a bit inauspiciously with boy bands desperately trying to sound sincerely sexy so things immediately fall 'N Sync (groan) once the music is sorted out.

The *foie gras* is followed by a luscious beef fillet with three sauces (480 baht) and a tuna fillet with orange butter and potatoes (320 baht) – both main dishes accompanied by that marvelous, incredible, hallucinatory, juicy and unforgettable *ratatouille* of Akorn. Sipping on an Italian Merlot house red (130 baht a glass), we slip into what can only be described as a culinary state of euphoria which to be honest is a physical impossibility if Boyzone and Back Street Boys

are factored in, but definitely achievable with Santana and Earth Wind and Fire, plus a pretty girl serving drinks.

This is top stuff, make no mistake – the man is a master of his art, the restaurant unpretentious and the atmosphere welcoming.

For an evening out in a rustic setting with top-of-the-range cuisine at reasonable rates, you'll have a long search to beat this place. Top of the hill, indeed, and highly recommended.

*Flavors on the Hill – On the Patong-Karon Hill, left-hand side of the road coming out of Patong after Simon Cabaret and before Safari Disco. Tel: 087-2663220 Open 3pm onwards. Closed Sundays.*

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# Riding a mercurial wave

Unlike Bali and the Philippines, Thailand is a part of South East Asia that is not synonymous with surfing and surf culture. When one thinks of water sports in Thailand, it is scuba diving that first springs to mind.

Koh Tao in the Gulf of Thailand and the Similan Islands in the Andaman Sea are Thailand's diving hotspots, attracting thousands of visitors per year. With an abundance of coral reef surrounding Thailand's coastline, you'd be forgiven for thinking that surfing in the Kingdom is practically non-existent.

A small group of Phuket-based surf enthusiasts are trying to change this perception. In 2002, the Phuket Board Riders Club staged the inaugural Thailand Surf Series, in a bid to expose the sport to a wider audience.

Since its inception, the annual competition has grown in size and stature and has attracted increasing numbers of participants year after year.

The 2009 event promises to be bigger and better than ever. Surf apparel giant Quiksilver has



The 2009 Thailand Surf Series promises to be bigger and better than ever, with surf apparel giant Quiksilver agreeing to sponsor the three-pronged surf series event for the next three years.

agreed to sponsor the three-pronged surf series event for the next three years, hoping to bring the sport to the attention of the

public at large.

On a visit to Phuket to help promote the event, the CEO of Quiksilver SE Asia Paul Hutson and Quiksilver's sports marketer and ex-pro surfer Jake Paterson joined Chanin "Joob" Aiyarak, the president of the Phuket Board Riders Club, to talk to the *Gazette* about the 2009 Quiksilver Thailand Surf Series.

**Gazette:** What is the history of the Phuket Board Riders Club?

**Joob:** The club was formed in 2002 by a small group of surfers who hung out on the beach. We decided that we had to do something to promote surfing in Thailand, to let people know that we have good surf in Phuket.

We started out with just 15 members, but our membership has grown each year. In 2008 we totaled 100 – 60% Thai, 40% expat.

**Gazette:** Thailand's not known for its surf culture. Why did Quiksilver – a brand synonymous with surfing – decide to get involved in Thailand?

**Paul:** For core surfers, I think that Thailand has always been on the map as a surf destination. From our point of view, there's great potential here.

From a local surf community point of view, we'd like to assist in the development of surfing in Thailand and promote some of the issues that are important to us as a company, namely keeping the beaches and the water in pristine condition so we as surfers can enjoy them for many years to come.

**Gazette:** Do you believe that surf tourists from hotspots like Australia and the US are likely to choose Phuket over, say, Bali or the Philippines?

**Jake:** It's a tough question, and it all depends on what people want from their holidays. Phuket

is a great place to holiday with the family and to be given the chance to combine it with some good waves is brilliant.

That's where Phuket will find its market.

**Gazette:** What are the tangible benefits that will be felt by the local community through Quiksilver's association with the Thailand Surf Series?

**Paul:** We'd like to get a message across about environmental awareness. It's true we're a business, but it's not just about taking. We're starting with a three-year sponsorship of the series and then as we go forward we'd like to start projects with the schools and the beach community about keeping the beaches clean.

I think it starts with supplying rubbish bins so rubbish doesn't end up in the ocean. It has to start at a young age through the schools and with the help of the local government. We've met with them quite a bit and they're very supportive of our initiative.

**Gazette:** What are you looking forward to most about working alongside Quiksilver?

**Joob:** It's a great opportunity for local surfing and we're glad to have Quiksilver on board. It's a big competition and Quiksilver can help us with advertising, supply us with equipment and keep the locals surfing.

**Gazette:** Finally, what format will the surf series take and how will it help put Phuket on the surfing map?

**Jake:** Three events, with four categories: long boards, open men's, juniors and women and it's open to everyone.

It's going to be a great time for people to get together, with big wrap up parties, and it will show the world that Phuket has some great waves and lifestyle.

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## EXPAT GALLERY

## Blair Speers

Blair Speers is probably one of Phuket's most successful entrepreneurs. His HotelTravel.com covers, he says, 95 per cent of the world's destinations.

"We are a pioneer in multi-lingual online content. We have dozens of native speakers in eight languages working on our site. While Thailand is our largest destination, growth really took off when we went global and began to target Asian Languages," Blair says.

HotelTravel.com currently has over 50,000 hotels in its inventory and adds more by the day. "The site's service and selection makes it one of the world's leading online providers of hospitality," Blair says, adding that, "We have developed a technology that enables our customers to choose from hundreds of wholesalers and tens of thousands of hotels.

"We are in constant contact with our supply chains, advising them to update the inventory on a real time basis. This includes the latest special rates, niche market opportunities, and the best deals on the Internet. Hotels need to look at new distribution channels like HotelTravel.com, and marketing directors need to 'step up their game' in the current economic environment."

Blair's inherited work ethic drives him to make HotelTravel

the top online travel agency in the world.

"I always wanted to have my own business and have it make an impact on a global level," he says.

Such ambition comes from family values instilled while growing up in Edmonton, Canada. Blair received his first computer at age eight, and spent two years programming on a pre-Internet Bulletin Board System. He used his neighbor's computer lab to develop and create applications for data communications.

When not on the computer, Blair became a championship wrestler in Canada in the 48-52 kilogram class. He traveled around the globe and eventually was invited to compete in the world wrestling championships.

During college, he decided to get a degree in education with a focus on athletics. He suddenly realized early in his educational career that he would not be able to reach his ambition on a global level, so in 1994 he flew to Thailand to visit a relative in Phuket and discover his life's calling.

Blair spent the next four years running his own English language schools, primarily for the expatriate Korean community. He worked seven days a week at his popular House of Harmonious Learning school, which be-

came a feeder school for what is now the British International School.

By late 1998, he was back at his computer creating programs for a local online hotel booking company. Then a local entrepreneur, Stephen Baxter, offered to set Blair up with a group of investors who could fund his own online start-up.

"Stephen is my mentor. After I pitched my ideas to his investor, they showed a lot of interest. I had other offers but decided to self fund HotelTravel.com in partnership with Stephen.

HotelTravel received its first bookings in mid-2000 and over the next two years worked primarily with wholesalers in Asia. At the end of 2002, its bookings surged after tapping into the Japanese market using their native language. By 2006, the company had a global presence selling hotel rooms in every major destination in the world – in eight key languages: Chinese, Korean, Japanese, French, German, Italian, Spanish and English.

"There's an enormous, ongoing learning curve to harness new technology that can adapt to new market conditions. Holiday behavior is very much affected by the global economy. We can see the trends very quickly by both geographic region and by language. We are currently incorporated in 11 countries, managing almost 300 staff with a rapidly expanding site of over 500,000 web pages," Blair concluded.

– Bruce Stanley



BY PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

## ABOUT EXPAT GALLERY

The individuals profiled in the *Gazette's* 'Expat Gallery' series have been chosen on the basis of their contributions to Phuket, and, as foreigners, for having made those contributions in successful partnerships with Thais. For many, the contributions have entailed significant investment, often at a time (mid-80s to mid-90s) when the rules of business were, ahh, not entirely clear. Some of our subjects are not business people at all, but have added real value to Phuket as English teachers, journalists, artists, engineers, fund raisers, etc. But all have one thing in common: if there were a *Who's Who in Phuket*, they'd be in it.



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**KIWI CAMELOT:** Mr John Kidd, General Manager of Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa, welcomed former New Zealand prime minister the Rt Hon James B. Bolger, during his stay as Chairman of the World Agricultural Forum 2009 Asia Roundtable meeting on March 7. Pictured: Mr John Kidd (left); Ms Saisamon Sithipluk, Assistant Front Office Manager, Hilton Arcadia (2nd from left); Mrs Joan Bolger (4th from left); Rt Hon James B. Bolger (5th from left); Mr Shafar Jamaludin, Director of Sales and Marketing, Hilton Arcadia (sixth from left). Also pictured is the secretary of the former PM.



**STAR POWER:** Korean superstar Lee Min Ji is welcomed by the management team at the Millenium Resort at Patong Beach. The singer and actress is in Phuket to promote her latest album and movie, which are due for release in the Kingdom shortly. Pictured in the photo from right to left: Mr Peter D. Gibbons, General Manager, Millenium Resort; Ms Lee Min Ji, Ms Patasa Sathacharoen, Marketing Communications Manager, Millenium.



**SAVING THE SEA:** The Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) organized a training course for Phuket College students from March 9-20. The aim of the course was to educate students about natural resources, the sea and coastal shore habitats, in a bid to help their protection in the future.




**TEE IT UP:** Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort held its ninth annual golf tournament at the Phuket Country Club on Saturday, March 21. Following the sporting activities, guests and participants returned to the resort for a grand dinner party which included a variety of musical entertainment acts.



**I LIKE THE WAY YOU MOVE:** The four-day Dance Festival 2009 held its grand opening at Jungceylon on March 18. The festival had a truly international flavor, featuring artists such as Touch from Italy, Tango from Argentina and The Last Silver Crane from Israel. Jungceylon joined up with SF Cinema City and Phuket Government University to organize the festival.



**PAWS FOR THOUGHT:** The Phuket Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) organized a 'Community Day' at Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa on March 22, to help raise money in support of the society's long-term objective of reducing the number of stray dogs and cats on Phuket. Attendees were entertained by a magic show, live DJs and bouncy castles. They also participated in six-a-side, lifesize 'foosball' matches.



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# Viva Phukana



**T**he fashionable Phukana pub, opposite the I-Pavilion Phuket Hotel on Maeluan Road, opened its doors to the public back on January 16 of this year.

Despite having been open for just a short period of time, the new venue – which blends classical colonial design with modern music – has proven to be a huge hit among Phuket's young and trendy socialites. Phukana is separated into two areas. Inside,

punters are entertained by live bands and DJs, playing a mixture of indie-pop, acoustic jazz, easy listening and English language classics. Outside, the pub provides customers with an area to chill out, relax and unwind.

As well as staging performances by some of Thailand's best-known artists, Phukana offers its clientèle the opportunity to have a go themselves, hosting an 'open mic' night every Wednesday in a bid to unearth

Phuket's best up and coming talent.

The bar offers a good selection of cocktails, whiskeys, beers and wines, as well as some tasty bar snacks – the Phukana chicken wings and roti tuna salad are popular favorites among its customers.

Phukana is open from 6.30pm to 1am, Tuesday through Sunday (closed Mondays), with live acts taking the stage every night from 8.30pm until closing.



## Important News

### HALF THE GALLERY HALF THE PRICE

At the end of March we are closing half of our twin shop gallery due to the expiration of the rental contract in Phuket City. The result is a lack of showroom space and for that reason we are selling our masterpieces of art at just 50% of the price.

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# Vote Earth with your light switch

By Nick Davies

**M**ore than one billion people around the globe will be turning off their lights for an hour this Saturday in support of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and its global initiative to tackle climate change. The Earth Hour 2009 campaign will unite people in 1,000 cities around the world through an hour of darkness in what is being hailed as the largest climate event in history.

The organizers are calling this year's Earth Hour the world's first global election between Earth and global warming with people of all ages, nationalities, race and background voting with their light switches. "Switching off our lights is a vote for Earth, leaving them on is a vote for global warming."

The WWF say this is the chance for the people of the world to make their voice heard and is urging the world to "Vote Earth" and reach the target of 1 billion votes. Those votes will be presented to world leaders at the Global Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen 2009, which has been organized to determine



The official logo and poster campaign for Earth Hour 2009 – 8.30 to 9.30pm local time on March 28.

official government policies to take action against global warming and will replace the Kyoto Protocol which has been in place since 1997.

Earth Hour began in Sydney in 2007 when 2.2 million homes and businesses switched off their lights for one hour. By 2008, the message had grown into a global sustainability movement, with 50

million people switching off their lights. Global landmarks such as the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, Rome's Colosseum, the Sydney Opera House and the Coca Cola billboard in Times Square all stood in darkness for Earth Hour last year.

Over 74 countries and territories have pledged to 'vote Earth' during Earth Hour 2009 by

simply switching off lights for one hour on Saturday, March 28, from 8.30 to 9.30pm local time.

A number of resorts in Phuket have pledged to add their Earth votes on Saturday.

The 470-room Le Méridien Phuket Beach Resort will be shutting down non-essential lighting in its buildings and unoccupied guest rooms while encouraging guests to switch off non-essential lights in their rooms.

Guests dining at its restaurants on that evening will also be requested to enjoy their dinner by candlelight.

All Six Senses-branded properties and spas worldwide will be turning off their lights. In Phuket, Six Senses guests can join group meditation classes, educational discussions or enjoy spa treatments in the soft glow of locally produced candles.

The Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket will be turning off exterior signage lighting, dimming or turning off non-essential interior lighting, using candlelight in appropriate public areas, such as restaurants and bars and will be staging an Energy Saving Cocktail event lit up by candlelight and burning torches at poolside. Guests will also be encouraged to support Earth Hour with other energy-saving measures for one full hour further. For more information, images and corporate tools to help promote the event visit [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org).

## Ten ways for businesses to support Earth Hour

1. Hold a contest among employees with a prize for the best ideas for reducing waste and cutting energy consumption in daily operations.
2. Ask your business partners, suppliers and industry peers to support Earth Hour. Hang banners and posters so that your support is visible.
3. Turn your website "black" during the week leading up to Earth Hour; make all white backgrounds black and all black text white. (Google did this in 2008). Make a link to the Earth Hour home page.
4. Hold a company-wide event or celebration for employees the week preceding Earth Hour and serve "green-themed" refreshments. Host an Earth Hour "lights out" party for your staff, customers and vendors on the night of the event. Be sure to turn out at 8:30 pm local time.
5. Schedule a meeting or send an email to employees explaining why the company is supporting Earth Hour and urge them to "turn out" at home.
6. Create an Earth Hour section on the company intranet where employees can post ideas for celebrating Earth Hour and photos following up the event.
7. Hold employee contests with awards going to the staff member who recruits the most people to sign a pledge to say they will participate or who comes up with the most creative promotional idea for Earth Hour.
8. Ask the company cafeteria to hold a special candlelight lunch the week of Earth Hour, featuring dishes prepared using organic and sustainable products to remind employees about the event.
9. Create special TV, radio and newspaper ads to showcase your company's participation in Earth Hour and to urge others to join.
10. Issue a press release and contact news media and radio stations and tell them what your company is doing to support Earth Hour and why.

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Welcome to the fifth in a series of Tai Chi Timeouts. Each timeout takes you through a single, easy-to-follow *Tai Chi-Chi Gung* exercise.

One of the aims of *Tai Chi* is to develop the intrinsic energy (*Chi*) within the body through slow, rhythmical breathing exercises known as *Chi Gung*.

These ancient martial art exercises naturally relieve tension from stress, as well as aches and

# Tai Chi Timeout

pains from stiff limbs. Perform them whenever you wish to unwind and loosen up, but they are particularly beneficial in the early morning when the *Chi* is especially clean and light, relaxing and energizing the mind and body for the start of a new day. In this simple and easy exercise, inhale

through the nostrils with slow, even, steady breaths while you raise both hands to head height.

While raising the hands, place particular emphasis on relaxing the neck and shoulder muscles, as well as keeping the arms and hands relaxed and free of tension. Once your hands have

reached your forehead, slowly pivot them outwards and begin to trace an arc along either side of the body while you begin to slowly exhale through the nostrils.

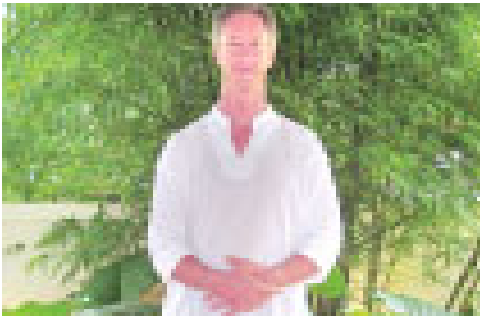
Maintain a slow, even exhalation until your hands reach waist level. At that point, begin the cycle again by slowly inhal-

ing while you raise your hands back towards the forehead.

Before beginning, release the tension in the neck and shoulders by slowly rolling the shoulders forward and backward. Next, roll your head in a circle, keeping your neck loose, first to the right and then to the left.

Once you've completed five of these rotations, place your hands over your center (*Tan Tien*) and relax into a comfortable, forward-facing posture.

## Sequence



**Step 1:** Place your feet shoulder-width apart, knees slightly bent, with your hips tucked gently underneath the spine (back straight). Relax your shoulders and hold your head up, but keep your neck relaxed. Place your hands over your *Tan Tien* and breathe calmly through your nose.



**Step 2:** Begin the exercise by slowly inhaling through the nostrils, relaxing your abdomen and slowly raising your hands toward your head.



**Step 3:** Continue to inhale while allowing your hands to rise without engaging the shoulder and neck muscles.



**Step 4:** When your hands are level with your forehead, slowly pivot them outwards and begin to exhale through the nostrils, allowing your abdomen to slowly contract.



**Step 5:** Continue to exhale while tracing an arc with your hands, releasing any tension in your neck and shoulders.



**Step 6:** Continue to exhale while maintaining a sense of calm and relaxation.



**Step 7:** When your hands reach waist level, slowly turn them over and repeat the cycle, inhaling and raising your hands toward your head once again. Allow the abdomen to relax and slowly expand as you begin to inhale. Continue this exercise for fifteen minutes to begin a calm, relaxed morning.



**Step 8:** To complete the exercise, cross your hands over your *Tan Tien* and gather the *Chi* within.

*Rick Attix has been practicing Tai Chi for over twenty years with masters from China, Malaysia and the US. Rick holds regular Tai Chi classes at his Kamala garden residence. Starting on April 16th, after Songkran festival, classes will be held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9am. All levels are welcome. Please refer to his website for further information: [www.taichiphuket.com](http://www.taichiphuket.com). T: 081-728-9980, E: [serenethai@yahoo.com](mailto:serenethai@yahoo.com).*

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island



## Phuket Oilfield Classic Golf Tournament 2009

A golfing event for oil and gas executives and supporting companies to raise funds for Phuket Sunshine Village. This new fixture will be held at Loch Palm and Red Mountain golf courses from April 2-5. Play takes place from 9am to 2pm. For further information contact Mark Cameron.

**T: 081-7882843.**

**E: mark@phuketoilfieldclassic.com**

**W: www.phuketoilfieldclassic.com**

### March 28-29. ESPN STAR Sports Presenters at Laguna Phuket

Meet ESPN STAR Sports Presenters at Laguna Phuket's Charity Golf Tournament and Dinner on Saturday, March 28 and Football Fun Day at British International School on Sunday, March 29.

- Golf team entry from 28,000 baht, inclusive of dinner
- Charity Dinner at Sheraton Grande Laguna 2,500 baht per person, inclusive of wine and beer

- Football Fun Day at British International School

From 8am to 11pm at Laguna Phuket. For further information contact Walaiporn Pattamavichitvong. T: 076-270991. E: golf@lagunaphuket.com. W: www.lagunaphuket.com/espn.

### March 29. Phuket Yacht Club Dinghy Sailing Regatta & Club BBQ

This event is an open regatta. Boats that regularly take part include Trimarans, Hobie 16s, Nacra, 59ER, Tasars, Topaz Omega, Topaz Race, Topaz Uno, Lasers, Byte and Optimists. Come and join in the fun. Bring your own boat or come and crew. PYC is located in one of the safest and most picturesque bays in Phuket. The club is open every Sunday and some Saturdays, offering recreational sailing, club racing, supervised boat rentals

and free use of kayaks. Memberships available only 3,000 baht a year plus a one-time 500-baht joining fee. From 8am to 4.30pm at Ao Yon, Cape Panwa, Phuket. For further information contact Katy Gooch. T: 085-215 9185. E: phuketyachtclub@gmail.com W: www.phuketyachtclub.info.

### March 29. FREE Mac and PC Clinic - Laguna

From 10am to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna. Is your computer driving you NUTS? Looking for a decent Internet connection? Need to get a new computer, or fix the one you have now? Join "For Dummies" author Woody Leonhard at his weekly Computer Clinic: help, news, tips, explanations and more, all in plain English, and absolutely free. Computer

novices most welcome. Bring your questions. Bring your computer. Bring your lucky rabbit's foot. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 089-1960940. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

**April 6. Chakri Memorial Day**  
Chakri Day commemorates the origins of the Chakri dynasty, founded by Rama I, who established Bangkok as the nation's capital. HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the ninth monarch of the Chakri dynasty.

### April 13-15. Songkran Festival

Songkran (Thai New Year), also known as the Water Festival. Held during the driest months in Thailand, Songkran is celebrated by Thais throughout the country by pouring traditionally only a little, but these days a lot of water on other people to wish them good luck for the New Year.

### Apr 30-May 1. Symposium: SWIMMING POOL Management & Design

First ever independent information event conducted for swimming pool owners and all professionals involved in pool design, construction, supply and maintenance in Thailand. Fourteen European and local experts will speak on:

- Why damage to pools occurs, and how to prevent it.
- For owners: how to cut down running costs.
- For designers: how to help owners save costs and add more value to the pool set-up.
- How to provide the "luxury of privacy". This is what owners want!

Pool suppliers and engineering companies will promote ways to utilize state-of-the-art technologies.

40 newcomer pool companies are seeking dealers in Thailand! Starts from 9am to 9pm at Bangkok, Miracle Grand Convention Center. For further information contact Khun Amornrat. T: 082-5627494. E: poolasia@waterdoctor.co.th. W: www.poolasia.com.

### May 1. National Labor Day - Public Holiday

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

### May 5. Coronation Day - Public Holiday

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

### May 8. Visakha Bucha Day - Public Holiday

Visakha Bucha Day is observed on the day of the full moon during the 6th lunar month, which usually falls in either May or early June. It is a day to commemorate three important incidents: the birth, the enlightenment and the passing away of the Buddha. Miraculously, these events fell in the same month and on the same date in the Buddhist era.

### May 11. Royal Ploughing Ceremony Day - Public Holiday

The annual Royal Ploughing Ceremony usually takes place in May every year at Sanam Luang, near the Grand Palace in

Bangkok. The ceremony has been performed since ancient times and is designed to give an auspicious beginning to the new planting season, amid hopes and wishes for an abundant harvest.

### May 29 - Jun 29. The Second "Absolutely Aesthetics" Art Exhibition

The second "Absolutely Aesthetics" will feature mixed techniques on board and vinyl tiles by talented young Thai artist, Kritsana Chaikitwattana.

This series presents the contrasting beauty between classic and failed sculpture and poses the question "What is the true value behind them?"

Kritsana has participated in several exhibitions in Thailand, as well as in Korea in 2003, Spain in 2005 and Taiwan in 2006.

His exhibition at D Gallery runs from May 29 through to June 30. Exhibition hours are: Tuesday-Saturday: 11am to 7pm; Sundays: noon to 6pm. At D Gallery, Royal Phuket Marina, Phuket. For further information contact D Gallery. T: 076-360867 E: info@dgallery.co.th W: www.dgallery.co.th.

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## ON THE MOVE

**Mr Sahapoom Dokkaew** has been appointed Assistant Executive Director/Project Manager of Djinnah Santi Luxury Villa Development. Mr Sahapoom will be responsible for the scheduling of project construction and management processes in order to meet target completion dates as well as supervising all professional sections of the project team. He previously worked with Indochine Resort & Villas as assistant to executive director.



**Police Captain Rassarin "Mon" Teerapattanakul** has been appointed as the Sub-Inspector at Phuket Immigration Office. Capt Rassarin will be responsible for all visa extension applications and related matters. Capt Rassarin has served with Phuket Immigration for three years. Her last position was as a vessel inspector. She is a graduate from Rajabhat University from the Faculty of Management Sciences.



**Mr Julian Thevenot** has been appointed Executive Pastry Chef at Indigo Pearl, Nai Yang. His culinary career began at the age of 15 and he has worked in numerous three-star Michelin restaurants including 'Le Buheriesel' in Strasbourg, and the 'Petit Nice' in Marseilles. In 2005, he moved to Asia where he worked in various high-end establishments. Before joining Indigo Pearl, he was Consultant Executive Pastry Chef at Caprice Holdings in Singapore.



# Light at the end of the tunnel?



## MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

The global crisis shows just how lacking in substance many institutions are in reality. Other institutions were effectively preyed upon by politicians, the Lloyds Banking Group previously known as Lloyds TSB is a prime example of this.

This was a bank that was in relatively good shape and it looked as though it would be able to ride out the credit crisis.

Lloyds TSB was estab-

lished following the merger of Lloyds, a long established UK Bank, and the Trustee Savings Bank, once a quasi-government bank. At that time, the government was not in a political corner and the merger went smoothly.

In 2008, they were asked to rescue Halifax/Bank of Scotland (HBOS). Lloyds was only too aware of how long their competitors had been in business. The Bank of Scotland was formed in 1695, only a year after the creation of the Bank of England. No doubt a lot of patriotic statements were made to the then Lloyds TSB. Lloyds TSB did not carry out their normally protracted due diligence. This was an emergency situation, HBOS was going to collapse and be taken over by the British government.

Now, losses in Lloyds Banking Group – as the combined entity is now known – have forced the Gordon Brown gov-

ernment to control the bank. The CEO of Lloyds Banking Group states that 80% of their losses were caused by HBOS and without the merger they would have been able to continue independently. The moral of the story: beware of politicians bearing gifts and spouting patriotism.

A similar situation exists in the US with the Bank of America takeover of Merrill Lynch and Wells Fargo's takeover of ailing Wachovia. Politicians in the UK are still trying to divert attention away from the facts. The recent announcement that Hedge Funds will be more closely regulated is a prime example. Certainly, Hedge Funds can be regulated more, but the benefits are doubtful. It was not Hedge Funds that lent money like drunken sailors.

The credit crunch was created by short-term greed. It had its origins in America, spread to the balance of the Anglo Saxon world and now the fallout is being felt by the rest. People wanted to have a higher standard of living than they could actually afford. This is nothing new, but the old stigma about hire purchase and debt had disappeared.

Having spent years lending money for financial institutions, collecting it and even acting as a bank advances inspector, I am aware of how closely banks can regulate bad debt.

The credit crunch is actually quite simple; banks chose to ignore some of the risks in their lending policy that they would normally have rejected. They took on this extra risk for one reason

only; they intended to bundle loans together and sell them at a good market price.

For them to raise the highest prices for this debt, it was necessary to have a very high investment-grade credit rating. Considering that the entities paying the credit rating agencies were the banks, it was simply the old story of, 'whoever pays the piper calls the tune'.

With the credit rating agencies applying the rubber stamp, the banks were in a serious new market. However, this was an extremely sophisticated 'scam', so complex that most bank CEOs and CFOs did not actually understand what they were dealing with. This, to a great extent, also applied to the credit-rating agencies. Warren Buffett, the legendary investor, put it this way: "Beware of geeks carrying formulas".

Alan Greenspan, former Chairman of the US Federal Reserve, admitted that he never believed that banks would act against their own interests. Greenspan was right but he didn't think the matter through. The best interests of a bank became the best interests of the executives who collected huge bonuses for usually opaque, but highly profitable parts of the bank's business.

The whole culture of banking had moved from bonuses being a 13th cheque, to one where millions of pounds or dollars could be awarded to a small number of insiders.

The actual true owners of any bank are its shareholders and they were truly defrauded in many

cases. Another phenomena that has accompanied the rise in strange financial products has been the move from science and mathematics to finance by academics.

Previously, top graduates in the first two disciplines went on to have predictable careers. For the past 20 years a substantial percentage have moved to finance and banking. Research shows that money was the prime factor. The majority, it appears, would have preferred to stay in their original professions.

In an unprecedented interview with the media for the benefit of the public, the Chairman of the US Federal Reserve Ben Bernanke stated that the US economy will end its recession in late 2009, albeit with a few caveats. Recovery will start during 2010 and a few green shoots of economic upturn can be seen already. Certainly, it's not all bad news. Paul Donovan, Senior International Economist at UBS, said a year ago, "We will not be spiraling downwards forever".

In a public phone-in interview with CNBC, Warren Buffett pointed out that many banks were enjoying a pleasant position this year. The reason: cost of funds for banks are very low and they can lend with high margins.

An internal memo from Citigroup sent by its CEO Vikram Pandit was 'leaked' to the media. It revealed that he had stated that business was good in January and February. Bank of America, Barclays and others have concurred.

There is that small problem of what to do with all that 'toxic stuff' on the balance sheet. From a banker's perspective, if they can ruin their own shareholders, why worry about taxpayers?

Richard G Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service and has over 25 years experience in this field. He can be reached at Tel: 076-381997, Mobile: 081-0814611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th Website: www.global-portfolios.com

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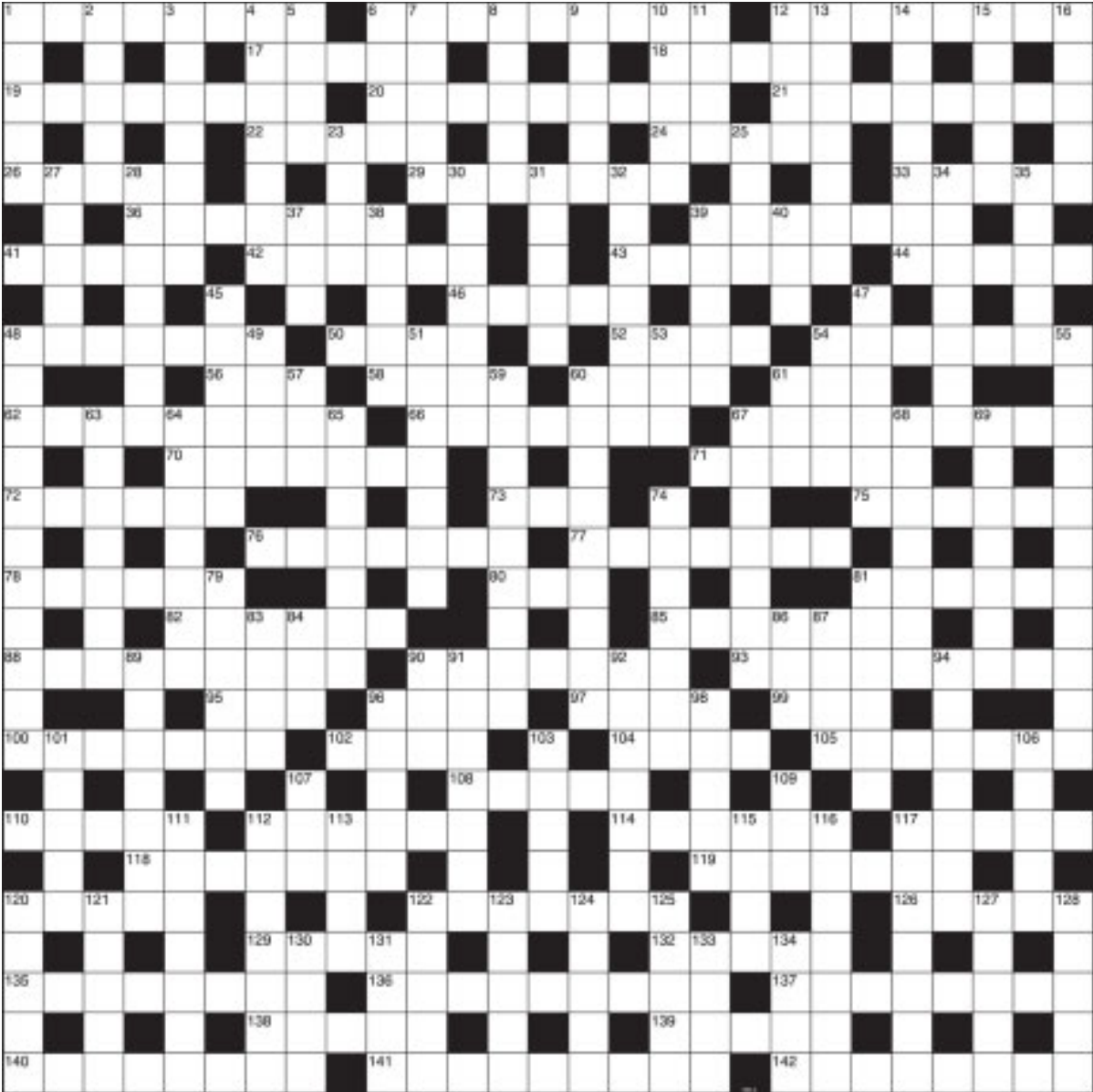
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PUZZLES

Spot the Difference

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



The BIG Crossword

© Lovatts Publications Pty Ltd

- Across
1. Tied

6. Proprietors

12. Changed (hairdo)

17. ...mortis

18. Lady

19. Police vehicle (5,3)

20. Praised

21. Flight attendants

22. French river

24. Wood-turning machine

26. Precious fur

29. Thickest

33. Airwaves media

36. Silly

39. City roads

41. Clips

42. Idle talker

43. Detected

44. Archfiend

46. Early Peruvians

48. Easy to read

50. Author unknown

52. Wild goat

54. Ill-used (3-4)

56. Blunder, faux...

58. Designer,... St Laurent

60. Anchor (boat)

61. Steal from

62. Masks

66. Glimpsing

67. Romantic (dinner)

70. Canvas shoe

71. Dish of melted cheese

72. Baby-minding centre

73. Junior Scout

75. Restaurant

76. The C of CD

77. Income cheats, tax...

78. Commands

80. Volcanic particles

81. More feeble

82. Landmark,... Tower

85. Entourage

88. Sat astride

90. La Paz is there

93. Omission

95. Bushranger,... Kelly

96. Lingerie trim

97. Brink

99. Remote

100. Hankered

102. Conceal

104. Yes

105. Leasehold

108. In vain, to no...

110. Cowboy show

112. Defame

114. Hoity-toity (2-2-2)

117. Desexes

118. Impaired

119. Timeless

120. Minimum

122. Shriek

126. Stretchy material

129. Female title

132. Yellow-brown pigment

135. Of Middle Ages

136. Pliable

137. Approaching

138. Table lights

139. Tense incident

140. Senseless

141. Cull (applicants)

142. Most luxurious

5. Dreadful

6. Mortgage, home...

7. Curved over

8. Folksinger, Bob...

9. Greek fruit

10. Resided

11. Cleaning agent, caustic...

12. Skin eruption

13. Came in

14. Foils

15. Attracted

16. Dance club

23. Pubs

25. Adds (up)

27. Cowgirl,... Oakley

28. Drifting (into coma)

30. Car motors

31. Cheeky

32. Recording period

34. Normally (2,1,4)

35. Potato variety

37. Writer,... Fleming

38. Black timber

39. Derisive smile

40. Tyrannosaurus...

45. Mountainous

47. Pacify

48. Laughably

49. Relieve

51. Binge

53. Swamp

54. Garden pool

55. Basic facts of the matter (5-6)

57. Aegean or Caspian

59. Pageant

60. Get into mischief

61. Sprinted

63. Slim

64. Escorted (to seat)

65. Scudded (of clouds)

67. Amounts to (5,2)

68. Confederacies

69. Lustfully looking

74. Artillery fire

79. Actor,... Poitier

81. Ran smoothly

83. Escaped

84. Wined and dined

86. Artificial conception (1,1,1)

87. Orderly

89. Inflatable mattresses (3,4)

90. Rotten

91. Marine

92. Peaceful

94. Angrily

96. Fuming

98. Perfume,... toilette (3,2)

101. Call up

103. Rubbish

106. Fragrant timber

107. Practical joke

109. Lyrical verse

111. Porridge ingredient

112. Animals that suckle young

113. Heavy metal

115. Irritate

116. Weapons cache

117. Rides quickly

120. Citrus fruit

121. Confuse

122. Break into pieces

123. Head of state

124. Electronic message (1-4)

125. Detains

127. Serious offence

128. Acute anxiety

130. Sadly

131. Current units

133. Sure-fire thing

134. Frisk
- Down
1. Exams

2. Hand digit

3. Inexhaustible

4. Scratching out

5. Dreadful

6. Mortgage, home...

7. Curved over

8. Folksinger, Bob...

9. Greek fruit

10. Resided

11. Cleaning agent, caustic...

12. Skin eruption

13. Came in

14. Foils

15. Attracted

16. Dance club

23. Pubs

25. Adds (up)

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124. Electronic message (1-4)

125. Detains

127. Serious offence

128. Acute anxiety

130. Sadly

131. Current units

133. Sure-fire thing

134. Frisk

Solution on next page

su | do | ku

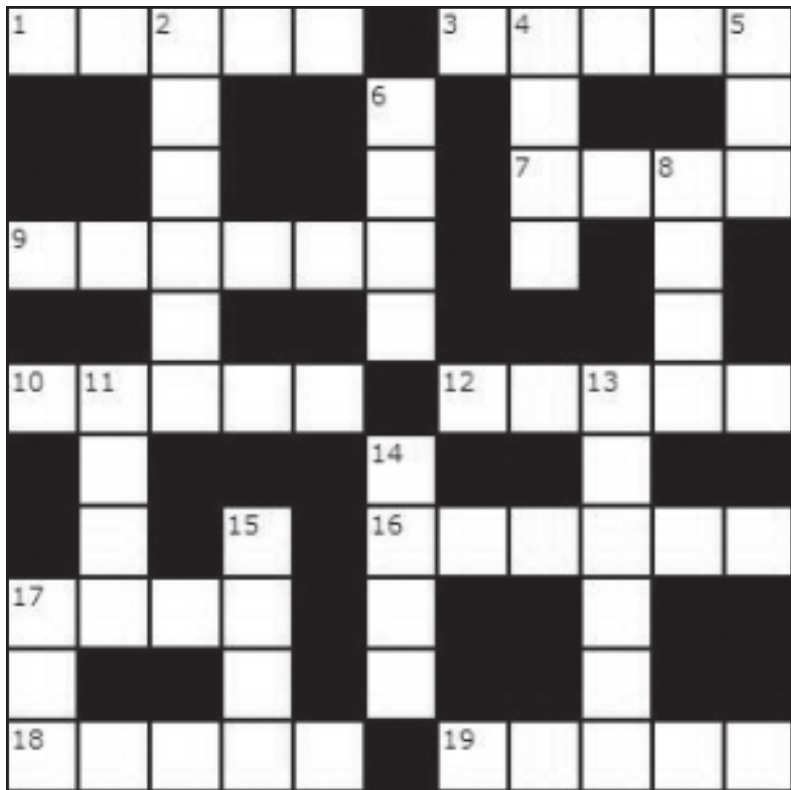
© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

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.





## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Rebel
3. Wet
7. Sport channel
9. Food
10. Country
12. Compass point
16. Seafood
17. ...and Eve
18. All
19. Possibly

### Down

2. Sullen
4. Unlock
5. Metal
6. Alcohol
8. Kick
11. Happy
13. Messy
14. Affection
15. Song
17. Insect

*Solution below*

## Get your brain in gear with the MONSTER QUIZ

1. Which sauce is named after a state in Mexico?
2. What capital city means Bay of Smoke in the local language?
3. In Japanese what word means "they who serve"?
4. What is the name of Irvine Welsh's sequel to *Trainspotting*?
5. Which is Australia's largest Island?
6. Which order of monks are famous for their silence?
7. Operation Urgent Fury was the US invasion of where?
8. Between 1962 and 1986, what was Glienicke bridge used for?
9. Spitsbergen belongs to which country?
10. In "Sex in the City", what was Carrie's family name?
11. In which book would you find 'J. Thaddeus Toad'?
12. What was the name of Inspector Morse's assistant?
13. Where did the My Lai massacre take place?
14. What was Charles Lindberg's plane called?
15. Which sport features in the NATO phonetic alphabet?
16. Who starred in the movie *Liar Liar*?
17. Which African country has exactly the same name as its capital city?
18. Whose law states that every action has an equal and opposite reaction?
19. What is the name of Punch and Judy's Dog?
20. What is the correct name for larceny from a consecrated building?

*Answers below*



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# Puzzle Solutions

### Solution to this week's Quick crossword



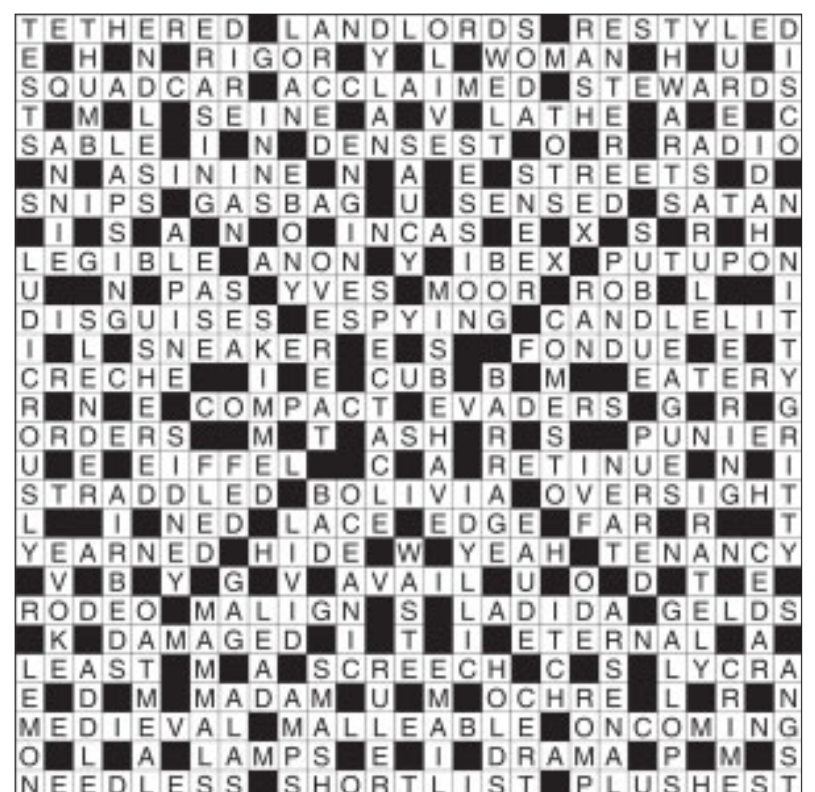
### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Tabasco; 2. Reykjavik; 3. Samurai; 4. *Porno*; 5. Tasmania; 6. Trappist; 7. Grenada; 8. Spy exchanges; 9. Norway; 10. Bradshaw; 11. *Wind in the Willows*; 12. Lewis; 13. Viet Nam; 14. The Spirit of St. Louis; 15. Golf; 16. Jim Carey; 17. Djibouti; 18. Newton's law of motion; 19. Toby; 20. Sacrilege.

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword



### Solution to this week's Cartoon Puzzle





# Asia's face of football

By Dan Ogunshakin

An ever-present face on Singapore-based ESPN Star Sports, John Dykes has fashioned a highly successful career fronting the network's football coverage.

As well as anchoring all live games, John also hosts *Football Up Close*, *First Edition* and the pugilistic pundit show *Football Focus*, in which his prodigious powers of equanimity are routinely tested by the opinionated and combative panel of experts.

During a recent visit to Phuket, John sat down with me to talk exclusively about an upcoming ESPN Star Sports charity at Laguna, as well as all matters football, including how he manages to prevent Steve McMahon from throttling Shebby Singh, on the weekly *Football Focus* show.

On meeting John, one thing becomes immediately apparent: here is a man who loves the game of football.

His obvious passion for 'the beautiful game', combined with an extensive knowledge and insight into the sport – rare attributes for someone who has never played professionally – has seen this gifted presenter ascend to the top of his profession.

Born in Essex, England in 1964, John's appetite for Asia was whetted early on in life when he accompanied his father on a posting to Hong Kong.

Back home, John enrolled in an English literature degree course but says it was a largely unrewarding experience.

College did, however, mark his baptism into the world of broadcast media when he signed up to work for the university radio station.

Leaving university after one year, John headed back to Hong Kong, where he landed a job with the *South China Morning Post* as a sports writer before branching out into entertainment and feature writing. John's work soon attracted the attention of a local English language TV station, which offered him a slot on a program as a film critic.

Before long, he was hosting the show.

John's love of sports, however, soon saw him abandon the world of entertainment to work as a freelancer for Rupert Murdoch's Star Sports.

The 1997 merger between Star Sports and ESPN Asia entailed a relocation to Singapore, where John had the opportunity to present a number of memorable events, including the 2000 and 2001 Champions League finals.

It was ESPN Star Sports' purchase of the Asian TV rights to the English Premier League that finally cemented John Dykes

position as Asia's 'face of football'.

The arrival of 'Mr Premier League' on the island was to finalize preparations for the forthcoming ESPN Star Sports charity weekend, which will be held at Laguna Phuket Golf Club and the British International School on March 28-29.

For the past two years, Laguna and ESPN STAR have joined forces to raise money to help underprivileged people around Phuket and its neighboring provinces.

The inaugural event in 2007 raised funds for the Life Home Project and last year, John and the team returned to Phuket and helped Laguna raise 750,000 baht for the Baan Klongsai school in Phang Nga.

Prior to the event, the school was in desperate need of repair. Over 100 school children were crammed into three small classrooms that flooded regularly.

The roof and walls were rotten and infested with termites, while all the children and teachers were forced to share just a single toilet. The children had few audio-visual materials and most of the school's computers were broken.

A year on, and the children of Baan Klongsai school now have a facility where they can be educated safely, with the hope of a brighter future.

How did John feel about being able to give so much back?

"Tremendous. I work out of a little green virtual studio in Singapore and you have two or three cameras pointing at you on a Saturday night when everyone is at home watching football.

"It's great, but you're very conscious that there's a world out there watching and it needs quantifying sometimes. When we go out and visit Asian countries, people say, 'oh we know you'.

"Maybe they don't know your name but they'll point and say ESPN Star Sports, that's very rewarding," he says.

"If you then get beyond that, 'ooh they know me', to, 'what positive spin can we put onto that fact that there's a visibility to who we are and what we do', it takes us to what we've been doing for the last couple of years here at Laguna. It's a tremendous initiative.

"It's fantastic because there's a clear connection. You feel that they say that I met the guy from the TV and we've got a new roof. Its exciting and positive in a way that's practical and works," John adds.

With so many destinations in close proximity to ESPN STAR's Singapore base, what made the team decide on Phuket ahead of others?

"One of the fascinating things about Phuket, is that there's this incredible community around



John Dykes



In 2008 John and the ESPN STAR Sports team returned to Phuket and helped Laguna raise 750,000 baht for the Baan Klongsai school in Phang Nga.

Asia of people who, for one reason or another, we've crossed paths with for sometime.

"Whether it's people who worked as presenters or pundits or people who've played football at the Hong Kong Football Club, there's a corporate community that works with us in terms of sponsoring our programs or knows us from the work we do around the region.

"It just so happens that Phuket is a tremendous melting pot of all those people. The fact that they cross the divide to the local community makes it as good a place as you can find," he concludes.

  
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**The Phuket Gazette**

- Since 1994 -

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## It's time to take the Alien Employment Act out of the twilight zone

The recent arrest of Canadian condominium owner James Nixon on charges of working in Thailand without a work permit once again highlights the need to revise the language in the Alien Employment Act to more accurately define what does – and does not – constitute work.

Under the current Act, the word 'work' is broadly defined to cover any mental or physical exertion that results in 'benefits' to another person, regardless of whether or not the accrued 'benefits' are financial in nature – or even whether the foreigner who performed the so-called 'work' received remuneration for it.

With such an expansive definition, one is limited only by the imagination in the number of ways that a foreigner could conceivably be charged with violating the Act.

Consider if you will a person who jumps into the sea and successfully saves the life of a drowning child. Such an undertaking would certainly entail a great deal of physical and mental exertion on that person's part – and doing so would bring the maximum possible benefit to the person saved: the gift of life.

As bizarre as it may seem, the Labor Ministry could reasonably argue that the hero or heroine in such a case should be arrested for breaking the law, at least given its current wording.

While such a scenario is of course extreme, a quick search of the *Gazette's* Issues & Answers archives reveals the extent to which Labor Department officers can and do advise foreigners of the need to obtain a work permit for a variety of quite marginal tasks.

One of the numerous examples came from a reader who, in July last year, was advised by the Phuket Employment Office that he would need a permit to help his Thai wife prepare the coconut pudding she sells from a motorbike side-cart.

While current statutes of labor law are correctly intended to reserve most jobs for Thai people capable of doing them, the unnecessarily broad definition of what constitutes work in the current form of the Act creates too much scope for people to abuse the law in order to settle personal scores or engage in extortion.

There are of course two sides to every story, but the *Gazette* will follow with interest the case of Mr Nixon, who was imprisoned for serving on a condo owner's management board while thousands of other foreigners on the island are doing real work for real pay – under the table, but still in full view of the authorities.

– The Editor

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## Letters

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

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

### Lost camera

My friend and I came to Phuket for a short holiday. When it was time to leave, the receptionist arranged a hotel taxi to take us to the airport. On the way to the airport my friend took several pictures with his camera.

Once we got to the airport and got our stuff unloaded, we noticed that his camera was still in the hotel taxi. I instantly called the hotel and told them what had happened. The receptionist didn't understand what I was saying so I asked to speak with an English-speaking member of staff.

I ended up leaving several messages requesting a call back and sent them several emails, but no action was taken by the hotel.

I worked hard on contacting them because another friend was visiting Phuket one week after us and could have gone to the hotel to pick up the camera.

I was ready to give up on the camera until I remembered somebody telling me about the tourist police and how they can help with "problem" situations. I googled the tourist police of Phuket and came across the website: www.phuket-tourist-police-volunteers.com.

I contacted Mr Vijay Kumar (Vinnie) and Mr Vince Stone by email. Vinnie and Vince told me that they would start looking into my case. After only one day Vinnie informed me that he had visited the hotel and that he had the camera in his possession. Vinnie went as far as to deliver the camera to the other hotel where my friend was staying.

At first I thought it would be impossible to get our camera

back, but the tourist police really made it happen.

Thank you Vinnie and Vince, we really appreciate your work. We will visit Phuket again because we know that if we have any problems we can always visit the Phuket tourist police.

Nicklas,  
Finland

### Annoying hawkers

While walking in the Patong or Karon shopping areas, it annoys me to see how the shopkeepers are almost rude to the tourists walking past. They try to guess where you come from and then try to speak the corresponding language. The things they say and the way they say them is just so maddening.

Tourists who come all the way to Thailand do not want comments in their own language or listen to someone trying to imitate it.

The shopkeepers actually chase away their potential customers by doing so. Tourists want to take their time looking at different things, not to be followed like a thief or have someone practically glued to you while making silly remarks.

Wake up shopkeepers, if you want our business!

Art Champagne,  
Phuket

### Pattaya not Phuket?

Following the decision to hold the ASEAN meeting in Pattaya rather than Phuket, you can safely say that the ASEAN attendees will have a wild and WET meeting.

Pattaya during *Songkran* is the worst place to be in all of Thailand. *Songkran* in Pattaya

lasts for over a week, non-stop water, day and night!

I lived near the Royal Cliff Beach Resort, where the ASEAN meetings are being held.

Thappraya Road, the route to the Royal Cliff Beach Resort, is lined on both sides by hooligans throwing water, not just from buckets, but from water trucks using hoses the size used by the fire department.

Any sensible person avoids Pattaya during this time.

Additionally, the last thing we need is to turn beautiful Phuket into another Pattaya by adding a convention facility.

People come to Phuket because they want to avoid the very things that make Pattaya a "second class" destination.

Tommy,  
Patong

### Billionaires

I am sure some people are very proud that a 'bevy' of billionaires have chosen Phuket as the place to build their mansions.

In reality, these people do nothing for the area's economy.

Living in a gated community, I am sure they rarely see Thais except for their housekeepers and gardeners.

They bring little business to the average Thai.

Yet it is impossible to ignore their wealth and the prestige they bring. Everyone wants to cater to them and hopes to benefit from it.

I believe it is the multitude of common visitors that actually go to the markets, attempt to speak Thai, and buy *khao pad gung* who are more valuable than the high-flying money men.

But I know we all 'kowtow' to money.

Mark Robison,  
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.



# Sunshine Village offers ray of hope for children



## FIRST PERSON

57-year-old Sunshine Village Director Nattisa Taebanpakoon graduated with a major in English language from Thaksin University in Songkhla, formally known as the College of Songkhla Education. After completing her studies, she began her teaching career at Protpittayapayat School, Ladkrabang in Bangkok where she worked for two years. In 1966 she moved to Phuket where she taught at Satreephuket School for 24 years. In March 2007, Nattisa joined the Phuket Sunshine Village Foundation as director and continued to operate in this role when the Phuket Sunshine Village opened its doors in June 2007.

After the 2004 tsunami, about 10 children came to stay at Sunshine Village after they had lost their parents or because their parents could no longer afford to look after them. Since our inception, we have had children come to the village from a number of different organizations, including the Child Watch Association. We have also independently sought out and provided refuge for children who come from slums or drug-ridden areas.

Although I love children, I have never actually had a family of my own. Without the responsibility of raising a family, I am able to devote my time and energy to the children at the village, who I have been taking care of since March 2, 2007, just before it opened its doors in June of that year.

There are currently 33 boys and 47 girls living in nine different houses with their step-mums and dads. Because of the relationship we have, I am very close to the children, probably

closer than their real parents.

At Sunshine Village we teach the older children to help take care of the younger ones. Many of the children find this difficult to begin with because the younger children in their house are not their real brothers and sisters. After time, as they grow accustomed to life here, the younger ones begin to look upon the older children as their real family and vice-versa.

It is often very hard for them when they first start living here especially the younger ones. They don't listen to their caretakers or step-parents, which is understandable, given the situation that they are in. Most of the children are happy and lively but some, especially when they are young, suffer personality and behavioral problems. Some are perpetually gloomy or are constantly angry, which is again understandable.

I, together with the house step-mums, have to talk with them and it is my responsibility as director to ensure that the step-mums are taking good care of them. If a child is having real prob-

lems, we sometimes ask psychologists to talk with them, which is always helpful. If a child's problems are too severe or could possibly bring harm to others within the village, we will ask him or her to leave, but this would only ever happen as an absolutely last resort.

The village staff always keep an eye on children who are being naughty or too loud. However, I feel that it is important to know that with these children, it is usually better to be too loud than too quiet.

If a child has a serious problem or is sick, I will always try to resolve the problem on my own first, before asking the board for help. As director, I am required to report to the village board monthly.

The village board, in turn, has to coordinate with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security to ensure that records remain up-to-date in accordance with Thai regulations.

We provide many activities for the children both inside and outside the village.



IN GOOD HANDS: Director Nattisa with the youngest orphan

Volunteers come in to teach them English or Chinese and they can also study Buddhism, mathematics and go to camps.

At Sunshine Village, we teach the children aged between two and six years old in our own nursery. We have two primary teachers and a babysitter to help care for them. Children living outside the village often come here to study.

When the children turn seven they start going to the Ban Koh Sireh School, which is just five minutes away from the village. They are walked to school and picked up every day by at least two village step-mums.

The village also supports the students with their education after they finish high school by helping them with their college exams. Three of the staff workers at the village completed *Mathayom* three (grade nine) and studied for a further six months of vocational training at the Srisurat Protection and Occupational Development Center. The staff who started out as residents at the Village are proud to work here and because of what they achieved, they are the perfect role models for the children who they now look af-

ter.

We are always accepting mums and dads to help look after the children, the pre-requisite being that they love kids and have the time to devote to the village.

They must be single or have no responsibilities to their own families. Sadly, we are unable to offer much in terms of salary to our staff. However, we are never short of volunteers.

There are plans to extend our facilities and programs if we have more than 120 children at the village, although money is always an issue. Expenses for food, electricity and water total around 400,000 baht per year, so we have to teach the children to save water.

I did consider retiring but instantly changed my mind when I thought about the children. It is a very challenging job and sometimes I want to give up, but I love these children, so it's hard for me to see them disappointed.

I enjoy working here and plan to do so until I am not strong enough to do the job anymore. When I do retire I know someone good will replace me and that the children of the Sunshine Village will remain in good hands.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

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## More on preschool licensing

In an update to our Issues & Answers section in the March 14 issue the director of a childcare center has given us this reply:

I read with interest the Issues & Answers section in the March 14 issue of the *Gazette* regarding licenses and legislation for international nurseries and preschools.

Mother and Child, International Childcare Center (Rawai) is actually licensed as an International Childcare Center.

We have the certificate from the government, who came to size the classrooms and check the health and safety standards. We also carry liability insurance and have held this license for three years.

The response given could mislead people into believing that

we don't care and 'just open', because our customers see us as nursery (as this is the name used in western countries). I wholeheartedly agree with all the checks that should be completed and would urge any parent to ask to see the License of the preschool, nursery or childcare center before allowing their child to attend. As for Walter Goossens' statement regarding different scandals relating to teachers in the past, the staff that we employ are qualified, have references and we trust them implicitly.

I thank you for putting this right, and help keep our children safe

Nan Chaisook,  
Director,  
Mother and Child  
International Childcare  
Center (Rawai).



# The beautiful game?

Just last night, following a lengthy session drinking Sangsom and Chang, I had a harrowing premonition regarding the state of football in the future. As a haze descended upon me I felt myself transported to a TV studio in 2050....

"Welcome to a review of the 2012/2013 FA Viagra Barclays Nike McDonalds Microsoft Sony Super Premier Elite League," the perma-tanned presenter declared, flashing white teeth that even a Hollywood actor would be embarrassed to own. "Which of course replaced the bog-standard Barclays Super Super Super Super Premier League with just a week of the season remaining," he added, gesturing to a small weaselly character sitting close.

"That's right," said Lord Greenback, a representative of the Football Association. "We at the FA felt we needed to market the competition to a wider audience. The Super Super Super

Super Premier League was good – far more exciting than the (yawn) Premier Elite Superdooper League, but we felt that 99% of the global market share just wasn't enough. We were aiming to attract a key demographic – the lost tribes of Papua New Guinea – huge football fans, big disposable income," he added.

"Of course we all remember BSkyB, the BBC, ITV, Setanta, ESPN Star Sports, Supersport and Fox Sports all signing the first one trillion pound contract for 'exclusive' rights to show Premier League matches to the world. How has it impacted on the 'beautiful game'?", the host questioned, pausing briefly to check his appearance in the mirror.

"Well now the TV networks have the power to schedule matches whenever they want. The result? 24-hour football – it's brilliant. One match now takes place every two hours continu-

ously around the clock, every day, providing fans across the globe prime-time football," the FA representative said, visualizing the mountain of money piled up at the ivory tower called Soho Square FA Headquarters, now the world's biggest building and actually made from ivory.

"Weren't the clubs initially outraged by the constant scheduling times," quizzed the host.

"Surprised? Maybe. Outraged? Hardly. If there's one thing football clubs like, it's the opportunity to play football.

"Plus with so many games being played a week they were having packed stadia day in day out, earning them bags of cash, which clearly is what football's about," Greenback retorted.

Shocked by what he was hearing, the presenter countered, "But surely the quality of play suffered as a result. The players were exhausted.

"At the start of the second

half of the Chelsea - Aston Villa match the entire Villa team fell asleep on their feet as they waited to kick off," he added.

"I think you'll find that was a unique meditation technique planned by the coach. Besides, that's why we brought Viagra in as a sponsor to give the players a lift, although it was a tad embarrassing when it was mistakenly added to the half time isotonic drinks," Greenback stated.

"Yes, John Terry was like a rock at the back all season," agreed the anchor somewhat wistfully.

Nodding in agreement with the host, Greenback continued, "There was, however, a simple solution. Clubs needed more players to cope with the demand and I was instrumental – at a price of course – in persuading clubs to increase their first team squads to 100 players. This did have side effects as there weren't enough players in the UK to meet the demand, and therefore, to pay the player's wages, prices were raised to ensure only the elite of the elite could attend – as it should be –

football's a rich man's game."

"Then I had the incredible idea of rounding up the richest people from the 20 richest countries in the world and have them bid for a club, earning a fortune for me and the FA, and making the game truly global," he added.

"The entire world clamored to see Man USA take on Arsenal Samurais at the Fort Knox Stadium in front of half a million fans," Greenback continued to eulogize.

"Everyone remembers the famous gold kit worn by Man USA – albeit with disastrous consequences. It was made from solid gold and they were unable to move, and once the Samurais scored from the kick off USA were unable to restart the match," he added, becoming a blur as my hangover kicked in and the inevitable threat of vomiting brought me back to the real world. Lying on my bed in a cold sweat I realized that I had been dreaming; after all, football's not a game overloaded with money, driven by sponsorship and commercialism is it...?

-Dan Ogunshakin

## Horoscopes

Isla Star

## Fun is on the agenda for birthday Arians



**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Most Arians should be feeling as fresh as a daisy and ready to embrace what the month of April will bring.

Your astute way of doing business is set to guarantee unexpected success, and the week ahead will provide hints of what is to come. Those who are celebrating a birthday during the coming days can look forward to a year filled with more fun than the one just passed.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): This week, Taureans prove that they're nobody's fool when it comes to doing business. Someone born under an air sign is likely to try and pull the wool over your eyes, but it should be easy to spot this situation before it's too late. A lighthearted romance is forecast to take you by surprise during early April.

Those already in a relationship could learn of a problem that

has been preoccupying their partner.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): A colleague who can't think outside a very small box is trying your patience and confrontation is forecast early next week. Geminis are advised to keep their cool and avoid causing the person in question to lose face. If you are feeling jaded, try something completely different this weekend – a Cancerian friend has some interesting ways of letting off steam. Wearing the color coffee can help to perk you up.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Those Cancerians who are ready to climb to the top of a mountain will be able to see beyond the hills that are preventing others from making progress.

Taurus is a good choice for a business partner, but working with Sagittarius will lead to conflict. If you have been feeling like

a fool hopelessly in love, events this week could show that a relationship is possible after all.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Those born under the sign of Leo who are as keen as mustard concerning a new business project could be dismayed at others' apparent lack of enthusiasm. The reasons for this will become clear during the week ahead and you may need to return to the drawing board. Astral support is due to improve during the second half of April. Be on guard for a playful Piscean friend's trick next Wednesday.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): A foolish mistake could turn out to be expensive for Virgoans midweek. Your distraction is probably due to romantic problems, but there are signs that these are about to be ironed out.

Money matters are well-starred, with an end of the month bonus predicted. There is strong focus on home affairs during the first half of April, with relocation a strong possibility. The number five can bring good luck this weekend.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Librans have ample opportunity to show that they're nobody's fool next week. A tricky colleague could try to get ahead of you, but turning the tables will present no problems. Your savings receive a boost from an unexpected source at the end of this month, and there will be less drain on your resources during April. Aries is starting to find you attractive. Wearing the color scarlet can encourage brighter energy.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Scorpions could be tempted to splash out on unnecessary luxuries this weekend, but you should keep something on one side for rainy days ahead.

The stars suggest that financial juggling will keep you occupied for much of April. Early next week you have the perfect opportunity to pay back a water sign friend for a trick they played on you recently. The number nine can bring some modest luck on Wednesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Those born under the sign of Sagittarius who have been waiting patiently for a better job opportunity should receive a positive sign this week. The astrological atmosphere will support your efforts to climb the career ladder during April. Your sensible attitude to romance helps a relationship to flourish – listening to friends' contradictory advice is not recommended. Wear the color jet black to encourage strong focus on what is really important.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): The month of April is forecast to be smooth sailing for Capricorns who have struggled with financial problems since the start of the year. However, burning the candle at both ends could begin to take its toll. Allowing yourself a short break will help to rekindle the energy you still need.

A romantic relationship could be jeopardized by a fire sign's interference this weekend. The number eight can bring good fortune on Monday.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Aquarians should remember that they have the right to relax as much as anyone else. Pressure at work could come towards the middle of the week, but you should not allow others to take advantage of your good nature.

A romantic interlude in February that you thought would lead to nothing more is forecast to be reignited. Thursday is the best day to discuss money matters that have got out of hand.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Your ability to swim alongside bigger fish is put to the test this week.

Pisceans who can prove they have what it takes to succeed in business are about to receive a golden opportunity. However, this may cause holiday plans to be put on hold and a partner will need to be placated. Be on the alert for a playful fire sign early next week to avoid being made a fool.



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# Good karma

Hybrids and plug-ins are apparently all the rage. Many such vehicles were exhibited at January's Detroit auto show. One car that was more or less ignored by the world's media deserves greater exposure; the fascinating Fisker Karma.



## BEHIND THE WHEEL

By Jeff Heselwood

With the introduction of the Fisker Karma, the world's first luxury plug-in hybrid, Fisker Automotive, a "green" American car company, is poised to change the landscape of the automotive industry. In the past, Fisker said that being eco-conscious often meant sacrificing something for the greater good of the planet. However, with the Karma, luxury automobile consumers will have the ability to buy an environmentally-friendly vehicle without making a sacrifice as the car still delivers the superior style and luxury they desire.

Over the past 18 years in car design, Henrik Fisker has left his thumb print on some of the most highly regarded automobiles.

His creations range from the BMW Z8 and the Aston Martin DB9 and V8 Vantage, to his most recent creations, the Tramonto and Latigo CS, designed under the Fisker Coachbuild nameplate. With the launch of Fisker Automotive, Fisker was inspired to keep the excitement in car design alive. This time, a new element was considered in the overall design, delivering a beautiful car that makes environmental sense. The concept was created between two independent companies that wanted to make a difference not only to the automotive industry, but also to the environment. Fisker Coachbuild and Quantum Technologies announced this joint venture in September 2007. Fisker Coachbuild provides the exclusive design services while Quantum Technologies – a publicly traded company – provides the latest

technological advancements. In the Karma, a driver is able to select between two modes of driving. The first mode is stealth drive, the quiet economy mode for optimal relaxed and efficient driving. By flipping the second paddle behind the steering wheel, the car will switch to sport drive, accessing the full power of the vehicle. Regenerative brakes are featured to capture braking energy, while a low center of gravity provides optimal sport vehicle driving dynamics.

Performance figures indicate the different extremes of the two alternatives. In stealth mode, 100 km/h is reached in 7.5 seconds, with a maximum of a shade over 150 km/h. In sport, the sprint time is reduced to 5.8 seconds and top speed upped to 200 km/h. Statistics show that the majority of pollution from automobiles occurs on consumers' daily commute to and from work or dropping the kids off at school.

Currently, more than 60% of Americans and Europeans are driving less than 80 kilometers on their daily commute. If this 60% of commuters would drive a plug-in hybrid like the Karma, it would see the fastest possible reduction both in oil consumption and emissions without sacrificing daily driving habits. Additionally, plug-in hybrids have the potential to augment the planning of cleaner electrical power plants, ultimately producing a dramatic effect on society and future generations.

The Karma's configuration consists of a small gasoline engine that turns the generator, charging the lithium-ion battery pack that powers the electric motor and drives the rear wheels. The design allows owners to drive the car emission-free for up to 80km a day provided the car is charged every evening.

It is conceivable that if Karma owners follow this daily routine, they will only need to refuel the car around once a year.

This will cut down on pollution and global warming, and con-

sumers' gasoline budgets.

Fisker will also offer partly self-contained climate control, as buyers will have the option to purchase a full-length solar roof that will help charge the car and provide cooling for the interior cabin while the vehicle is parked. Ad-

ditionally, Fisker Automotive will offer customers the option of purchasing a set of solar panels for their roofs or garages where they can generate electricity during the day to charge the car overnight – all cost and emission free.

Initial production is antici-

pated to be 15,000 vehicles annually, with pricing to start at US\$87,900. For more information go to [www.fiskerautomotive.com](http://www.fiskerautomotive.com)

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



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## Island Cricket Club dominates first half of IFCL season



At the halfway stage in the season, the Island Cricket Club occupies pole position, with four wins out of four.

The Island Furniture Cricket League has reached its midway point, and last year's champions, the Island Cricket Club, look on course for another first place finish.

The league climaxes with a play-off between the top two sides to decide the overall champions.

As it stands, the Island Cricket Club is in pole position, with four wins out of four. Indian teams currently occupy both of the top two spots, with the Phuket Cricket Army in second place.

While both the Island Cricket Club and the Phuket Cricket Army are renowned for their disciplined training regimen and serious approach to games, it is perhaps no coincidence that the other three teams in the league are more heralded for their dedication to drinking prowess and capacity for quaffing. The pick

of them, the aptly named Liquid Lounge Lizards, remarkably made it all the way to the final last year and do, on occasion, find time in their hectic drinking schedule to produce some fairly decent cricket.

This year they have lost to both the Phuket Cricket Army and the Island Cricket Club, but have won their other two matches against the Patong Cricket Club and the Village Cricket Team, who bring up the rear, with Patong ahead courtesy of their sole victory over the Village Cricket Team.

The Village Cricket Team have yet to win a game this season but do enjoy an unrivaled reputation for reveling in the 'sense of occasion' as much as the cricket, which saw them pick up the 'Spirit of the Game' award last year.

The season's notable performers on the pitch, thus far in-

clude Sameer Kahn, who took four wickets for just 20 runs in the season opener between the Island Cricket Club and the Liquid Lounge Lizards, and Russell Loughland of the Lizards, who put on a batting masterclass against the Patong Cricket Club, scoring 103 not out smashing 14 fours and two sixes in the process.

Also worthy of mention are Ismail Bhatti of the Island Cricket Club for having taken eight wickets for just 17 runs in 7.1 overs, and the explosive Vikram Singh from the Phuket Cricket Army, who has belted 174 runs in just three innings.

Matches take place every Sunday morning at the Cherng Talay School in Laguna. Spectators are welcome and any prospective players should email mark@thevillage-coconutisland.com.

-Mark Whetton

## Phuket rugby 10s attracts global entry



Local team the Phuket Vagabonds will face tough opposition from teams coming from all over the world.

The Overgaard Phuket International Rugby 10s, which will take place at the end of May, has once again attracted entries from all over the world, with teams coming from as far afield as South Africa, the UK, Bahrain, China and Australia.

The venue of this year's event has been switched from grassless Karon Stadium to the lush and imposing Sarakul Stadium in Phuket Town.

Organizers have announced that 25% of the entry fees will be donated to an orphan scholarship fund, run in conjunction with the Asia Center Foundation ([www.asiacenter.ac](http://www.asiacenter.ac)). The event, which last year managed to raise

an impressive 700,000 baht, will also hold a number of fundraising activities throughout the course of the weekend.

The tournament itself will be split into two sections: the main section and the 'Coffin Dodgers' competition for veteran teams. In the main draw, defending champions the Kukri Badgers from the UK will be back to fend off pretenders to their throne, while in the Coffin Dodgers vets tournament, the Philippine Volcanos are returning to defend their crown.

Matches will begin on May 28 with the finals being contested on Sunday May 31. For more information about the event you can visit [www.phuketrugby10s.com](http://www.phuketrugby10s.com).

-Pat Cotter

## New Phunaka course brings golf to south of Phuket



The driving range at the Jon Morrow designed Phunaka Golf Course in Chalong – the first course to open in the south of Phuket.

The golfing paradise of Phuket welcomed a new addition following the soft opening of Phunaka Golf Course on March 20. The new venture is located in Soi Naka, near the Sri Supa Ram temple in Chalong and is the brainchild of owner and long-time golf enthusiast Suwat Wangliat. Designed by Jon Morrow –

the architect of the acclaimed Red Mountain course in Kathu – Phunaka is a floodlit nine-hole course that has been described as 'tropics meets Scottish links'. The course will also feature a driving range as well as a gym and entertainment zone.

Phunaka is the first course to open in the south of the island, and it is hoped that this, together with the nine-hole layout and the availability of night golf will, prove an attractive proposition for tourists, beginners and seniors who prefer the cooler evening temperatures to play a short round.

The facility also features a golf academy which has no fewer than three teaching professionals on hand to provide lessons and teaching clinics for players of all levels and all ages.

## Phuket aims for world record with 24-hour football tournament

An ambitious and potentially record-breaking 24-hour football tournament is set to take place in Phuket next month.

The Phuket International Midnight Beach Soccer 2009, scheduled to last for a grueling 24 hours over the Songkran Festival, was the brainchild of the recently departed governor of Phuket, Dr Preecha Ruangjan. The five-a-side football tournament will take place on April 11-

12 on the beaches of Patong, Kamala and Karon, which played host to a stop on the Womens' Volleyball World Tour last year.

It is hoped that over 120 teams, comprising both Thais and foreigners, will take part in the event. The tournament, which kicks off at 8am on April 11 and runs non-stop until 8am the following day, will be ratified by the Football Association of Thailand.

Representatives from the Guinness Book of Records have



The tournament is the brainchild of former Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan.

been invited, and it is hoped that the event will set a new world record. Anyone interested in entering a team should contact the Department of Tourism and Sport on 076-217054.

-James Goyder

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## Design

## Layan

# A country house with condominium convenience



The layout is centered around a main courtyard area, which serves to link the green lawn area with the other parts of the house.

For many, the concept of a 'condominium' carries with it connotations of a fast-moving, urban lifestyle in which convenience and accessibility to business, shopping and entertainment facilities takes priority over space and tranquility.

In this respect, opting to live in a condominium often entails having to make a compromise of sorts.

Wouldn't it be nice, however, if you could have the best of both worlds – all of the contemporary urban lifestyle benefits that condo living provides, while still able to enjoy that feeling of

separation and relaxation you get from kicking back with a few friends, enjoying a cold beer at a barbecue in your back garden.

Such was the task facing the designers of Tanode Villas 2, an exclusive property development at Layan beach in Phuket. Conceived as a mini-community, Tanode Villas 2 features houses designed in a condominium style.

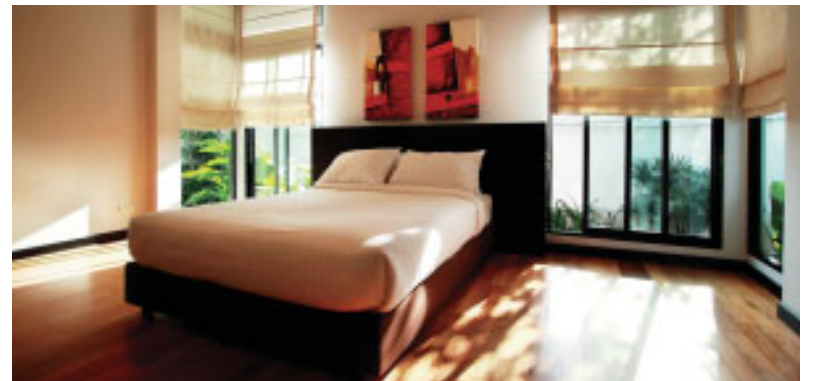
The basic layout of the house is centered around a main courtyard, which serves to link the green lawn area with the function rooms and then on to the other parts of the house – the living room, dining area, kitchen, four bedrooms and the outdoor

swimming pool.

The house itself is set in a spacious plot of land, which provides a considerable green area, as well as affording great views and the privacy from your neighbors that a condominium could not provide.

The location of the windows and doors are an important feature of this house, maximizing the benefits of wind ventilation, while the high glass window frames allow the natural light to flood in – both effective energy-saving measures during the daytime.

The link between the inner and outer areas of the house has the effect of incorporating the



Furnished in white and beige tones, the decoration is minimalist, in keeping with the designer's slogan "simple but smart".

green lawn as an an integral and functional part of the property.

Elegantly furnished in white and beige tones, the style of deco-

ration is decidedly minimalist, in keeping with the designer's slogan for the property: "simple but smart".

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# Chic antique

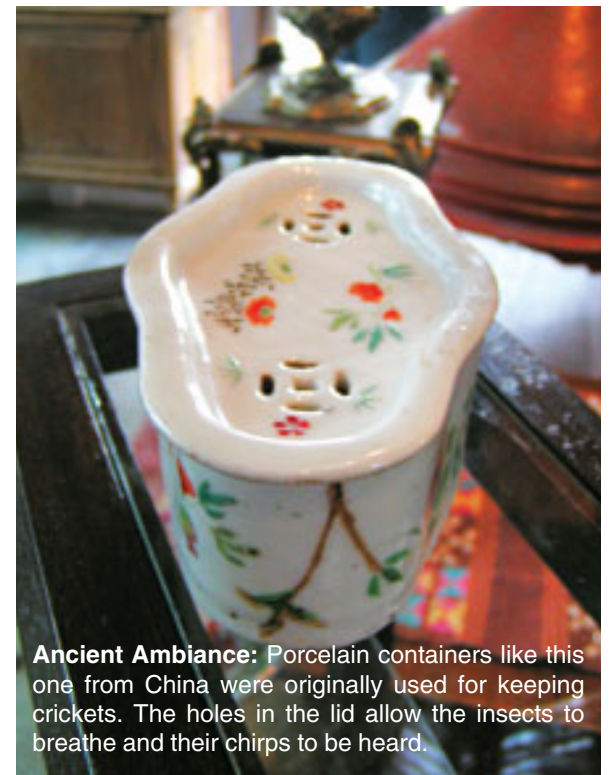
For some, modern and minimalist might be all the rage, but so often it takes a touch of antiquity to add the missing ingredients of warmth and personality to your interior decoration. Treasure Trove in Cherng Talay, run by Ms Daeng, stocks many interesting pieces that can add that finishing touch to your interior design.



Ms Daeng is an expert in mixing and matching old household items to create unique living environments. Tel: 089-8668070.



**Two in One:** This old brass cooking pot has been converted into a flower pot and rests on a spindle originally used to keep silk thread.



**Ancient Ambiance:** Porcelain containers like this one from China were originally used for keeping crickets. The holes in the lid allow the insects to breathe and their chirps to be heard.



The compartments in this decorative betlenut box make it a highly versatile piece of ornamental furniture.



**Any Old Iron:** Old irons make perfect book ends.



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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.

laGuna  
PROPERTY





# Flowers of Fortune

All Thais fervently believe in luck or since they are essentially optimists by nature, in good luck. This is why they 'make merit' by offering gifts to images of Buddha, or to their local *wat* [temple]; why they are avid buyers of lottery tickets – including dodgy 'black market' ones; why they play cards for a few baht and risk a criminal record even in the privacy of their own homes.

There are lucky colors for particular days, crazes involving lucky charms, and oh yes, lucky plants.

If there are fewer sacred trees than in India, there are revered trees in Thailand as well –

varieties mostly too big for the average garden, but which can be found in the ample grounds of temples: for example, the nosegay frangipani – sometimes known as the temple tree; the orange blossoming asoka [*saraca indica* or *sok*] which is sacred to both Hindus and Buddhists because the prophet was born beneath its shade; the bo or bodhi tree [*figus religiosa* or *thon po*] under whose ample branches Buddha is reputed to have achieved enlightenment; and the ironwood [*hopea odorata* or *thakian thawng*] which, in rural Thailand, is believed to be inhabited by a female ghost that can bring good luck.

There are others here in Phuket, but they are mostly beyond the ken of the domestic gardener. But lucky plants? A different story.

When I was planning the new garden, I was told in no uncertain terms that I must have plants that would bring us good fortune.

Only today, I was again reminded of this imperative. Waiting at the interminable traffic lights near Central Festival, I purchased my usual lucky garland from a Thai lady who both makes

and sells them to passing motorists; as usual, my Thai passenger *wai'ed* before draping it over the driving mirror.

These *leis* perform a double function: one, they give off an alluring fragrance for a few days that helps mask the traffic fumes; two, some of the flowers are considered to be harbingers of good fortune – the pair of champaca at each end, the jasmine blooms [*sampac*], and even the white Indian milkweed buds [*calatropis gigantea*], the beads in the necklace as it were, which are included in the garland because they last and last.

This last named lactiferous shrub, which also has attractive light

green leaves, grows on waste lots around the island and will, freely watered, take readily from cuttings. So my '*dok Rak*' in the garden came free of charge.

That it is regarded as lucky by some Thais is probably more due to its medicinal qualities – the milk is used in the treatment of ringworm – than any sacred associations.

This raises an interesting point about so-called lucky plants: most of them have healing properties, and are therefore lucky in a health-giving, restorative sense. This is not to deny their presence in religious myths.

Though the figure is smaller in Buddhist iconography, there are at least fifty plants, shrubs and trees associated in Asia with Hindu deities.

I digress... to return to my lucky garland. The second component consisted of tubular jasmine flowers.

Varieties of sweet smelling jasmines were always going to be part of my gardening plans: the star jasmine [*multiflorum*], the Arabian jasmine or jessamine [*sambac*], the chinese box or orange jasmine [*murraya paniculata*] and the unscented dwarf cultivar [*parkeri*]. All are

evergreen, all are reasonably hardy, all of them are now established in shady areas of my borders between taller shrubs. And some of them are considered propitious as well.

The final element in my *lei*, the pair of champak flowers [*michelia champaca*], was a plant I was very familiar with from my earliest days in Phuket. Years before, my Thai neighbor in Chalong had planted these shrubs all along the street – one for each house – in a gesture promoting both friendship and good karma with all the new homeowners.

The champak, a tropical evergreen from the magnolia family, is both fragrant and lucky. Its blooms, both cream and apricot colored, are so intensely perfumed that their oil is used to make incense. Indeed, it is the key ingredient in 'Joy', one of the world's most exclusive fragrances.

In Asia, the shrub is held sacred both by Hindus – its flowers form one the darts of love – and by Buddhists who link it to Maitreya, the eighth Buddha. So naturally I had to have a specimen champak in a grassy position where it could, with luck, grow into a medium-sized tree.

Even more strongly scented, in fact cloyingly so, is the infrequently produced flower of the corn plant [*dracaena fragrans*], another shrub considered to be propitious by many Thais.

It is often grown in containers with its stems interwoven like a basket. Mine came in a pot, but unhappy there, is now in the main garden. It keeps company with two variegated versions which came as bare canes.

They have now produced rosettes of that familiar sword-shaped foliage from the leaf scars. So far no flowers.

Two other lucky plants are flourishing in containers at the front of my house.

One, a mistletoe fig [*figus deltoidea*], which is often sold at local open-air markets, has a mass of round dark-green leaves and fruits that resemble tiny figs. Outside the garden, it may be seen growing in the forks of large trees.



Bohdi tree



Lucky garland



Champak PHOTO by Forest &amp; Kim Starr



Mistletoe fig



septee parlan

My Thai friend says it brings luck in relation to money. Locals believe the same of another pot plant which has large, leathery dark green leaves and an aversion to sun. Mine has ribbon tied around its base – so much is it a symbol of good fortune in the household.

It doesn't turn heads and I do not yet know its botanical title, but its Thai name is the giveaway '*septee pan larn*' which roughly translates as 'wealthy to the tune of a thousand million'.

Maybe it's time I had a flutter on the black lottery....

*Dr Patrick Campbell taught English Literature at a London University, and as Visiting Professor at the Universities of British Columbia and Colorado.*

*He led the first MA in Performing Arts in the UK. Author of five academic books and numerous published articles, he recently completed a novel. He lives in Saiyuan, Phuket.*



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# The enigma of property development costs

In recent days one of the most frequently asked questions I have heard from people overseas and locally has been "are build costs seeing big reductions, given the current slow-down?" While it is a very straightforward question, in reality it is much more complex, without necessarily having a 'yes' or 'no' answer.

Firstly, it is important to differentiate between build costs and development costs. Added to that – whether you are building a single home or 100 of them – are 'hard' and 'soft' costs.

Hard costs for the most part relate to the actual costs of labor and materials.

Soft costs incorporate such things as contractor's overheads, consultants, architects, legal procedures and so on.

The consensus among contractors and quantity surveyors on the island is that hard build costs have come down by 10-12%. The much anticipated price reductions for commodities such as steel and concrete are not, however, materializing on the scale that many people believe they should be.

One of the bigger variable overheads is contractor's profit, and while there is no sign of significant movement in this area, there is certainly some degree of flexibility.

One of the consequences of the current economic crisis has been the suspension of ongoing projects, with many builders seeing delays or in many cases defaults on projects. Looking at the scale of the island's construction companies, there is not enough financial depth for them to cover these non-payments.

Therefore, effective risk management has

now become paramount as a means to remain solvent. The knock-on effect is that risk is being 'priced in', thus preventing a significant reduction in overheads.

Notwithstanding, while demand is down in every sector, there is still building going on – much of it the top-end villa type product funded by cashed up Thai companies with access to strong balance sheets and debt.

For larger residential and commercial developments, consulting fees can add significantly



## PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

Managing Director of Phuket-based hotel & residential property consulting firm C9 Hotelworks. Bill has more than 20 years' experience in the region and has played an active role in some of the island's biggest developments.  
[www.c9hotelworks.com](http://www.c9hotelworks.com)



One of the consequences of the current economic crisis has been the suspension of ongoing projects, with many builders seeing delays or in many cases defaults on projects. File photo.

to the overall cost.

For the likes of architects, project managers, quantity surveyors, civil engineers and landscapers, the contraction of supply will signal the survival of the fittest over the coming few years. Many of these are saddled with large fixed costs and continue to carry staff and other overheads from the boom years.

We will now see many of them exploring all manner of opportunities to keep revenue streams coming in.

Other soft costs for projects for sale are mainly those related to selling – commissions, sales and marketing.

There appears to be a trend emerging in which agents are now looking to compensate for the dearth of available buyers by upping their commission rates

from 3% to 4-5% and even reaching double digits in some cases, where the seller is desperate to free up capital.

Legal services inevitably but necessarily bloat the bottom line, as these are required for sales and purchase agreements, registration of titles or leases and a host of other matters pertaining to the transactions.

Legal fees are a bit like medical costs: they never seem to go down. A few of the larger firms I have spoken to have managed to buck the current trend and now see new work coming in as the current situation continues.

Which leads us back to where we began. Yes, there have been some decreases in the cost of construction materials and yes, many professional consultants do have a certain amount of pricing

flexibility that was not present in the past. That said, in a macro market such as Phuket, the best and the brightest have and will continue to remain in demand. Ultimately, if you want the best, you will most likely pay a premium.

Over the longer term, it is doubtful whether there will be significantly lower build costs, due to market size and the sheer amount of work currently underway. This situation is likely to continue until there is some sort of recovery in the next few years.

For those wanting to see lower build costs, the best option is to focus on the front end of a build by returning to intelligent design and employing a good, professional team, ensuring quality engineering and preventing cost blow-outs at the end of the project.

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# Property Gazette

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4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 3 mins to airport, 5 mins to Nai Yang Beach, constant sea breeze. Very cheap, houses like this usually 19 million baht. Great opportunity, price only 7 million baht. Tel: 086-076 0141.

### BEAUTIFUL THAI HOUSE



Direct from owner, no agency fee. Teak wood floors, walls, stairs, etc. Upstairs living area, bedroom, shower/WC. Downstairs kitchen, WC, bar area. Easy to extend 2/3 bedroom. New building plot 10 x 7m. Great investment, peaceful location, Kathu, 5 mins to Patong. Farang Leasehold of 30 years + 30 years. Priced to sell, 4.9 million baht. Contact Peter. Tel: 086-268 8701. Email: f430spiderf1@hotmail.com

### LAND FOR SALE PATONG BEACH

Hill side land at the north end of Patong Beach. 1,440 sqm with existing 3-bedroom house. Own water supply, electricity, and access road. Perfect for development. Very natural and quiet location, only 2 mins to beach and town. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-891 3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

### 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: 081-538 7050.

### HOUSE & FURNITURE FOR SALE

Single house, 60sqm. 2 floors, 3 bedrooms and 3 toilets. In Chaiyapruke Village at Land & House, Chalong. Good location and entrance from By-Pass road. Built 2 years ago. Tel: 084-627 7001.

### 2 RAWAI POOL VILLA



sale/lease. Land, company, pool villa with 7 bedrooms. 350 meter from beach, finance available. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### 80 RAI FOR SALE, CHANOTE

Located at Natai Beach. 15 minutes drive from Sarasin Bridge. Price 1.6 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

### 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

### SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Tel: 087-88306112.

### HOUSE IN ANUPHAS FOR SALE



60sq.wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen. 3.7 million baht. For more details, please call 081-691 2526.

### VILLA + LAND



for sale. Quick sale near Heroines monument, 12.9 million baht + clear land 2.5 million baht. Tel: 084-690 7057.

### 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 on. Tel: 087-689-9679.

### 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: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

### HOUSE, KATHU

for sale. Fully furnished to a high standard. Ready to move in. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maid's room, pool room, swimming pool. Location at Anuphas Golf Ville, Kathu. Price 8.9 million baht. Tel: 081-273 3975, 081-854 0061.

### PHANG NHA LAND

21 rai of beachfront land, 10 minutes from Phuket bridge. Ideal for resort project. 15 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-396 3784. Email: oligi10@hotmail.com

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# Property Gazette

## 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: 087-270 9093,  
081-868 7676.

## 2 STOREY VILLA, LAYAN BEACH

Hardwood floors, 3 bathrooms. Wet bar, small plunge pool with waterfall. Private tropical garden. 6.7 million baht. Call for more info. Tel: 086-267 0157. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

## BEAUTIFUL LAND

for sale in Ao Nang. Close to beach with Chanote. 4.5 rai for 22 million baht (minimum purchase: 2 rai). Also available: 22 rai for 70 million baht (minimum purchase: 5 rai). Tel: 084-762 5293.

## PHANG NHA LAND

21 rai of beachfront land, 10 minutes from Phuket bridge. Ideal for resort project. 15 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-396 3784. Email: oligi10@hotmail.com

## BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



9.5 rai, beachfront. 5 minutes to Phuket airport. Asking price: 120 million baht. Chanote. Must see. No agents. Please contact via by email: allservices29@gmail.com

## FREEHOLD CONDO RAWAI



27sqm or 54sqm. 2 studio apartments, 200 meters from the pier. Price 480,000 baht. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

## 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

## PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Chermg-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

## NEAR LAYAN HILLS ESTATE

Half rai to 2 rais. 4 million baht per rai for quick sale! Chanote title, road and utilities. Ready to build house. Tel: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

## UNFINISHED HOUSE WITH POOL

on almost half a rai. Owner's run out of cash to finish building. Magnificent sea views over Kata. Original asking price, 17 million baht, now dropped to 12.8 million baht ono. Urgent sale. Call Kay 081-737 0552. Only serious buyers with cash to spend. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## SINGLE HOUSE RAWAI

300m from the beach. New 200sqm, 2-storey house and guesthouse on 460sqm land with wonderful view. 3-4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, big living room and terraces. Easy to convert into two apartments. Furnished. Quick sale, reduced to only 5.5 million baht. Call David on 083-1814418.

## SALE OR RENT VILLA



Below market price (THB). Normally the villa can lease 300,000 to 350,000 monthly. But sacrificed due to poor global economy. It is the most expensive and most beautiful villa next to Loch Palm Golf Club. We would like to lease minimum 3 years with following conditions. First year annualy 2.0m excluding managment, utilities, any extra costs garden, swimming pool inc. 2nd year 2.5m and last 3rd year 3.0m. Must pay in advance each year. No other deposit required. Or sale 45m. Tel: 086-885 6885. For details, please email me your interests at queenmarines@gmail.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 from Phang Nga, 45 mins to Phuket airport. Chanote title. Deed 5,800,000 baht Tel: 086-274 0056 English or 087-895 3099 Thai.

## EXCEPTIONALLY SPECIAL

210sqm apartment in Aspasia, Kata. One of the best - this one is a MUST SEE! Amazing sea views, direct access from the apartment to the beach. Five-star development. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms. This apartment has just too many fantastic features to describe! The owners are devastated to have to sell. Original price 21 million baht, now the asking price is a steal at 15.9 million baht. No offers. Only serious enquiries, no time wasters. Call Kay 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## 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.

## HOUSE IN ANUPHUS GOLF VILLE

Private estate, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms with pool. Maid's room. Price 8.5 million baht. Tel: 081-273 3975, 081-854 0061.

## TOWN HOUSE IN PHUKET TOWN

140sqm, 2 floors. Very good location, 5 mins Big C and Central. Ready in October 2009. Resale 600,000 baht. Tel: 080-071 9098.

## PATONG TOWER 63 SQM

Renovated, freehold, 2 rooms, terrace, nice view, pool, 200 meters to beach. Furnished, TV, WiFi, 2 aircons. 4.6 million baht. Tel: 02-392 9327, 086-976 0809.

## KAMALA BEACH LAND

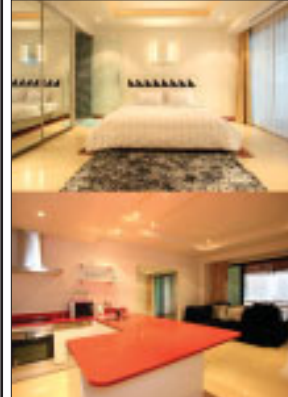
with mountain view. 4 plots on private estate near beach. Price 1.9 to 6 million baht. Tel: 082-421 9169.

## 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.

## CONDO FOR SALE/RENT



at Phuket Asia Land, Surin Beach. Sale: 6.5 million baht. Rent: 30,000 baht per month with 100,000 baht deposit. Tel: 089-474 0461. Email: info@methaya.com

## URGENT SALE

of very nice and comfortable freehold apartment in The Sands on Nai Ham Beach. One minute walk to the beach and yacht club. This is a large two bedroom ground floor apartment with a small but nice garden. It comes fully furnished, ready to walk into with nothing to buy. Original selling price 8.6 million baht, now 6.4 million baht for urgent sale. Call Kay 081-737 0552. Only serious buyers with cash to spend please. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## NICE 2-STOREY 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: hkthome sale18@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.jikkycar.com

## RAWAI TOWN HOME

100m from beach, 3 bedrooms, furnished, 230sqm. Communal pool. 2.8 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

## CHALONG HOUSE

for sale. 4 bedrooms, air-condition, big garden. Must see. Price 4.5 million ono. Tel: 081-747 5293.

## NEW HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT



In Srisuchart Grandville 3, not far from Tesco Lotus. 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, 1 car park and little garden. Very nice house contact to come see at 087-2770978 or koyangle99@hotmail.com

## PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



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

## SPECIAL POOL VILLA/BUSINESS

in Patong. Luxurious three bedroom with spectacular sea views. 12% rental return is easily achieved as the area and the property are very popular. This is a must see villa. Original price 29 million baht, reduced to 20 million baht for urgent sale. No offers below. Call Kay 081-737 0662. Only serious buyers with cash to spend. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## ELEGANT VILLA

Shady hillside. Big pool and lush garden. Top quality. Freehold, Secure, Nice! 25% off. Tel: 076-388236, 089-727 5407. Email: cosmocampbell@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at: www.villa-sale-phuket.com

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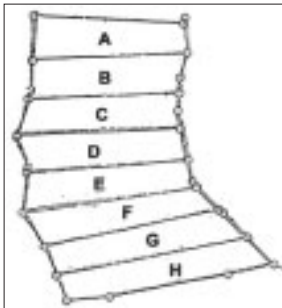
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# Property Gazette

## VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



same as Soi Villas Solitude, Na-Kok, Chalong. 8 rai land for sale, Chanote title. Can buy separate. Price 7 million baht per rai. Contact to see. Tel: 087-689 9679.

## LAND FOR SALE: PATONG BEACH

Plot of 590 sqm in the hills at the north end of Patong Beach. Good water supply, access road, underground utility, very natural and quiet location, part of a small development consisting of 3 houses with a common swimming pool. Can include house design and construction. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-891 3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

## DETACHED HOUSE

for sale in small private estate "Ploenchon 3" Paklok, house no. 15/5. An Erawana development. 7.5kms east of Heroine's Monument. Great value as many additional features, extras and part furnished. Tel: 081-892 7984 (Eng), 087-282 9260 (Thai) Email for detailed information and price. Email: jypenman@phuket.ksc.co.th

## VILLA URGENT SALE

4 beds, 6 baths, private pool (4x12) with jacuzzi, security system, solar hot water, sala and landscape garden on a 1,606sqm land. More than 400sqm of living area. Special price at 18 million baht. Email: nisaya19@yahoo.com

## LOCH PALM POOL VILLA



600sqm land, 230sqm living space, garden, 4 bedrooms, golf course view, on main road. Ready in 3 months. Partly custom made, fully furnished. Price all in, only 14 million baht. Email: allservices29@gmail.com

## PANORAMIC SEA VIEW



Karon land for sale. 15 rai. Chanote title. Hillside, panoramic sea view, quiet area. Very good location for business. 15 million baht per rai. No agents. Please contact by email: allservices29@gmail.com

## BEAUTIFUL SEAVIEW

90sq wah at Ao Por, overlooking Por bay and Jumeriah private island. Price 4.5 million baht. Tel: 086-204 7573.

## 6000SQM OF LAND

for sale. Center of Switzerland, 10m to river "Aare". 85km from Zurich Airport, 42km to Bern, highway no.1. For more details. Please email me your interests at pressefoto@bluemail.ch

## INEXPENSIVE LOTS

Chanote title lots, 700,000 to 1,200,000 baht. Near Mission Hills Golf Course. Tel: 086-942 1930.

## THE ROYAL PLACE PHUKET

1 bedroom condo for sale. 2.1mil baht, near tesco & central. Ready in May, fully furnished, modern-styled, very classy. All new fully equipt - just move in. On site swimming pool with bar, gym, sauna, salon, restaurant, mini mart all free to use. Also has key card access, 24hr security. A great location, safe area. Great for rental or for free hold investment. Please call for more info. Tel: 087-894 3715, 082-286 7873. Email: bennylovely@windowslive.com

## COZY HOUSE SALE, CHANOTE



100sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, dining room, western kitchen, fully furnished with western facilities. 2 living rooms, one large with built in furniture and nice carp fish pond. 4 air-conditions, garden with teak, alarm, automatic gate, Land and Houses. Price 9.5 million baht. Tel: 089-474 1404. Email: lyaraya@yahoo.com

## CHALONG BUNGALOW

3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Many extras and amenities. Price 3.5 million baht. Tel: 086-4759242, 081-8942073 (Thai).

## 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.

## CHALONG: NICE 2 BED HOUSE



Spacious, furnished 2 bedroom (both w/ aircon) 2 bath end townhouse. Great location near Chalong Circle. Must see. 2 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 076-398233, 089-746 5688. Email: ken.devitt@btopenworld.com

## SERVICE OFFICES

for sale with long lease. Total 400sqm, fully furnished, ready to move in. Best sea views in Patong, 500m from beach. Tel: 076-293061, 087-015 9206. Email: david@freedomleisuregroup.com

## NEW 3 BED POOL VILLA

at Mission Hills golf course. Luxury finishing. Buy it at 9.5 million baht, or rent it long term for 40,000 baht a month. Tel: 087-893 4636. Email: info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com

## HOUSE IN LAND & HOUSES

for sale. Chaipruek house, 3 bedrooms, aircon, furniture, 60 sq wah. Tel: 084-627 7001.

## DUPLEX 120SQM PATONG

Sale of residence with swimming pool. 4,500,000 baht. Tel: 076-296312, 087-270 0224. Fax: 076-296312. Email: bialaspatrik@yahoo.com

## HOUSE IN RAWAI

Best villas 1x600sqm and 1x220sqm. New in quality development near beach. Great investment, 1 million baht down 5 years finance, no interest, best deal ever. Must see, free pick up. Tel: 085-783 1890.

## KATA BEACH

2 apartments, 140sqm, fully decorated, Jacuzzi. Normal price 9.5 million, now 4.4 million for this month only. Owner going home. Tel: 085-783 1890.

## 15 MILLION BAHT



Patong, sea view, 60sqm 2-storey house. 2 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, air-con, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 15 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093.

## NEW HOME AND LAND

for sale in Rawai. 197sqm, 2 storeys, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Many extras. 39/35 Soi Mali. Quick sale price 6.9 million baht. Tel: 081-270 6310.

## COMPACT POOL VILLAS NAI HARN

2 bed with living, kitchen, garden, built-in furn, A/C. Price 7.15 MB. Tel: 076-289900, 081-970 0743. Email: natcha@twovillas.com

## LAND AT PA KHLOK

1 rai, 18sq wah, Nor Sor 3 Kor, Tha-Rue - Pa Khlok - Muang Mai Road. Near Mission Hill. Price 3.5 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118.

## NEW CONDO FOR SALE

At Royal Place Project, opposite Tesco Lotus. 42sqm at corner, swimming pool view, fully furnished, will be completed in April, 2009. Tel: 089-469 1813.

## NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



for sale or 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

## CHALONG FAMILY HOME

Near TOT. 180sqm, 2 bedrooms, no furniture. 2 years old. 2.4 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

## PATONG, HASIP PEE ROAD

2 storey, 2 bedrooms, office and shop. 180sqm. Near hospital. 5.5 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

## 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

## NAIHARN CONDO

1.65 million baht, 40sqm, quiet 5-unit complex, built to European standards. Swimming pool, panoramic mountain view, 5 minutes from the beach, wireless internet. Tel: 086-596 9601.

## 12.5 RAI

in rural Nai Harn, connected to busy direct access route. This land has a licence to build 49% freehold. It has a river running through it, and connects to an elephant park. The original price was 8 million baht per rai. Now price to sell at 5.5 million baht per rai. NO OFFERS BELOW. Final price. Call Kay 081-737 0662. Only serious buyers with cash to spend. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## KATA BEACH

2 apartments, 140sqm, fully decorated, Jacuzzi. Normal price 9.5 million, now 4.4 million for this month only. Owner going home. Tel: 085-783 1890.

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### CHALONG BUNGALOW



3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, modern kitchen, ADSL, landscape garden, common pool, car port. Quiet, secure area. Price 16,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-537 1515, 089-922 2800. Email: meen443\_40@hotmail.com

### LUXURY PENTHOUSE

at Patong Beach. 3 double bedrooms and maid's room. Tel: 089-972 3861. See website at www.kiwibrian.com

### RAWAI HOUSE

Fully furnished, pool. Long or short - term rent. See website at www.ferienthailand.com

### THAI VILLA AND POOL

In Nai Harn, 1km to beach. very quiet location, stunning view, 2 bedrooms, ensuite Jacuzzi, open-plan lounge, diner, European kitchen, private garden with parking. Long term: 37,500 baht per month. Tel: 081-270 5126. Email: mervyn.crocker@yahoo.com

### OVERLOOKING SURIN BEACH

Apartment for rent, fully furnished. Long - term: 22,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-889 1717.

### HOUSE NEAR BIS

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished. Price 17,000 baht per month. Contact more details. Tel: 087-888 4770, 081-536 5657.

### KARON CLIFF SEA VIEW

Sea view bungalow with beach access. Or email: info@karoncliff.com Tel: 087-256 5089.

### PENTHOUSE STUDIO

overlooking Patong Beach. Long or short term let. Tel: 089-972 3861. See top tool bar to the right at www.kiwibrian.com

### LUXURY VILLA MAIKAO

2 rai land, 4 bedrooms, furnished, pool. Safe and quiet area. Available March - July. Price 50,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-719 7015. Email: earfieviet@voila.fr

### LAGUNA 30 YEARS RENTAL

1 bedroom bungalow, garden, fully furnished for long term lease (30 years). 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-088 0398, 087-893 4636. Email: info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com

### NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins from Rawai and Nai Harn beaches. 162sqm. 2 bed rooms 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.

### KATA LUXURY APARTMENTS

New, fully furnished, 1 or 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, full aircon. Large Western style 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

### B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-692 3163.

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

Near Dowrung School. Long lease. Tel: 081-691 2526.

### LUXURY APARTMENT, KAMALA



120sqm, 2 bedrooms, living room, fully furnished marble-fitted kitchen. 4 air-conditions, cable TV and many options. Terrace, Jacuzzi, 2 pools, landscaped garden. Short or long term rent. 39,500-49,500 baht per month. Tel: 087-888 4769, 082-166 1680 (Thai).

### SEAVIEW APARTMENT

in Patong Tower for rent or sale. 65sqm. Long-term rent 35,000 baht per month. Sale: 10 million baht. Contact Davide. Tel: 080-692 6114. Email: solino@hotmail.it

### FOR RENT ON HILLSIDE

Small, new house with seaview. 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, quiet area, secure, garden, parking, pool, air-conditioning, ADSL, cable TV. Minimum 3 months at 18,000 baht per month. Email: katahouse@live.co.uk



List your rental for FREE on [WWW.RENTALS-PHUKET.COM](http://WWW.RENTALS-PHUKET.COM)

### NEW HOUSE FOR RENT, THALANG



Close to Laguna. Fully furnished, 2 bed, 2 bath, hot water, washing machine, ADSL. 10 mins to Bang Tao Beach and Layan Beach. Mountain view. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-874 2960. Email: wawa.phuket@gmail.com

### RAWAI CONDO

for rent. Fully furnished, ADSL, pool. Price 16,500 baht per month. Please contact more details. Tel: 081-606 7410.

### CHEAP TEMP SUBLET CHALONG

4 bedroom, 3 bathroom house. Furnished. Available for cheap TEMPORARY sublet, from August 1 to Oct 10, 2009. Chalongs beachfront. Use of next door resort facilities is possible. HUGE swimming pool. Only 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-476 5223. Email: fordplatypus@hotmail.com

### GREAT POOL VILLA, RAWAI

Newly built, great decor, salt water pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, steam shower. Near beach, free transport, fully serviced, top security. Price 49,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### HOUSE IN KATHU

Furnished 2 bedroom, nice quiet area, long-term rent 9,000 baht/month. Tel: 086-940 2227. Email: paulstrong23@hotmail.com

### PATONG TOWER CONDO

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 NEW HOME

Good value 2 bedroom town home with telephone line, cable TV and aircon. Tel: 089-652 1473. Email: anandaestates@yahoo.com

### CASTLE FOR RENT, RAWAI

600sqm, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, new top-end luxury decor, flatscreen TV, very big pool, tropical gardens fully serviced, beautiful estate. Limousine, butler house. Rent 88,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### BOAT LAGOON VILLA

for rent with pool, 2-4 bedrooms, high standards, fully furnished, internet. Tel: 081-891 5546. Email: yamoo555@yahoo.com

### NEW CONDO

Sale or long-term rent. LCD TV, pool, new. Tel: 081-084 6527. Email: tj\_biggie@hotmail.com

### GOOD OPPORTUNITY! BE QUICK!

Apartment on Andaman Hill, Patong Beach. 3 floors, 200sqm, 4 rooms, seaview, fully furnished. Rent ONLY 14,000 baht!! Also furniture + 2 motorbikes 125cc, worth 420,000 baht. Sale only 145,000 baht!! Tel: 084-848 4229. Email: asiaubin@hotmail.com

### COMMERCIAL BUILDING

5 blocks at Chaofa East for rent. 280 sqm. 35,000 baht per month. Contact Khun Chen. Tel: 081-326 9495, 081-968 8345.

### HOUSE, SPLASH POOL



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, dishwasher, washing machine, hot/cold water. Cable, internet, 100sqm. Price 14,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-569 3768. Email: sjon48@hotmail.com

### PATONG CONDO FOR RENT

1 bedroom apt not studio. Brand new, great views, swimming pool, gym, 800m to beach. Long-term - 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-069 0938. Email: NNORTHWO@HOTMAIL.COM

### PHUKET TOWN HOTEL

20 years let. 270 rooms. Fully furnished rooftop restaurant, second-floor discotheque (with licence). Market area, good nightlife. Business still active. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

### KATA MOUNTAIN VIEW HOUSE

Fully furnished, 1 bedroom home with bathroom, kitchen, aircon, terrace and ADSL. 9,000 baht per month. Contact more details. Tel: 081-606 2827. Email: nij017@hotmail.com

**Baan Suan Pana CHALONG PHUKET**

Phase I houses for long-term rent. Very private with mountain view, 2 bedrooms, living room, bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished, Sat TV, ADSL, UBC.

Contact: 089-7243669  
Email: info@baansuanpana.com [www.baanpana.com](http://www.baanpana.com)

### 3 BED POOL VILLA - NEAR BIS



59,000 baht per month long-term. High quality, fully furnished on compound of six. WiFi, cable TV, security, maintenance and gym. Tel: 084-783 9054. Email: oggyowen@yahoo.com

### 2 BED HOUSE KATHU

Modern, furnished, a/c in 2 rooms, kitchen, hot water. 6 months: 40,000 baht. One year: 70,000 baht. Tel: 042-245045, 080-751 2813. Email: ampm\_net@hotmail.com

### GUESTHOUSE 750,000 BAHT

Patong junction Nanai/Bangzaan next to 7Eleven. 6 room beauty salon at bottom, separate entrance to room. Selling due to increase in family size. 3.5 years of lease left, 30,000 baht monthly rent. Contact Mats. Tel: 081-7872573 or Tabs. Tel: 085-7952101.

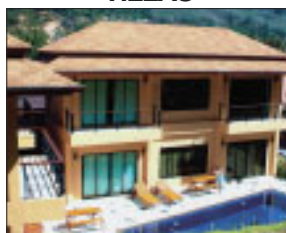
### NEW 3 BED POOL VILLA

at Mission Hills golf course. Luxury finishing. Buy it at 9.5 million baht, or rent it long term for 40,000 baht a month. Tel: 087-893 4636. Email: info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com

### KAMALA BEACH

Very nice apartments and houses for rent, 2 to 4 bedrooms. Price 15,000-20,000 baht per month. Tel: 082-421 9169.

### LUXURY KAMALA VILLAS



3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Full service includes daily cleaning and washing. 5mins to Kamala Beach. One year contract. Price 50,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8436837. Email: suchada\_villas@hotmail.com

### RENT RAWAI CONDO

Newly furnished, sea view, TV, aircon, walking distance to shops and beach. Rent 6,500 baht per month. Tel: 087-3894628.

### KATA HILL HOUSE

Fullyfurnished, 2 storey, sea view balcony. 1 bedroom, bath, living room, kitchen, aircon, ADSL and cable TV. Long term: 16,000 baht per month. Short term: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-606 2827. Email: nij017@hotmail.com

### LONG TERM PATONG

2 bedroom house, air-condition, serviced, neat and clean. Off-road car parking, small garden. Quiet, central location. Price 24,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-900 8445.

### RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA



1, 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms, bathroom, aircon, ADSL, cable TV. 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### KAMALA BEACH HOUSE

for rent, 2 bedroom. Price 20,000 baht monthly or for sale 3.9 million baht. Tel: 086-277 3381.

### STUDIO, SURIN

Gym, pool, wireless internet. 5 mins to beach. Price 10,000 baht. Contact John. Tel: 084-847 8736.

### 3 BEDROOM HOUSE

At Land & House Park near Chalongs. Residential area, clubhouse with pool, gym, and restaurant. Security, fully furnished, 34" TV, fridge, Western kitchen. 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-244580, 081-846 9981. Email: ursaeabi@gmx.net

### 2 STYLISH POOL VILLAS

Layan, Koktanode. For long-term through the owner: Furnished 3- & 4-bedroom villas. From 62,000 baht per month ++. No agents. For further details Tel: 076-305813, 087-386 3388. Email: shanya.arman@gmail.com Please see our website at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/22419624@N08/sets/>







THAILAND'S LEADING BROKERAGE & NEW YACHT DEALERSHIP

Please visit our website for more listings

▶ Pershing 43 (2003)

- MAN 630-IP diesel engines
- 6.5 Kva generator
- Hydraulic passarelle
- Tropical Air-conditioning throughout
- Dinghy and outboard engine
- Sunpads fore and aft
- LCD TV and DVD in saloon

279,000 Euro

► Gary Mull 47 (1982)



► Jeonnam Sun Betscy 34.2 (2003)



► Sunquest 53 respo



► **Sunseeker Superhawk 48 (2003)**



**The *Gazette Online* is always on top in Google!**



# Island Job Mart

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**  
A major humanitarian organisation seeks to appoint a  
**Short term replacement for PROJECT - ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT**  
Based in Phuket, Finnish Red Cross office

**Specific duties and responsibilities**

- Assist with correspondence, document translations and meetings when needed
- Assist in collecting bookkeeping materials, preparing vouchers and translating receipts
- Book flights and arrange transport, visas and accommodation for delegates, staff and visitors as required
- Assist in looking after delegates' accommodation and residence related needs.
- Assist delegates in preparing necessary procurement documents and keeping the records and procurement files
- Assist in managing the funds and financial assets of the office
- Perform other work related duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the supervisor.

**Requirements**

- Degree or Diploma in a relevant field
- At least 2 years of experience in an administrative function
- Excellent command of both written and spoken Thai and English
- Strong computer skills (MS WORD and EXCEL)
- Red Cross experience and/or NGO experience is preferable
- Ability to work from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 till 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Candidates are requested to send a covering letter and Curriculum Vitae in MS WORD format to: [th02@finrc.fi](mailto:th02@finrc.fi). **Closing date: 31 March 2009.** Interview will be held after Songkran.

## British International School, Phuket

### Marketing and Communications Executives

- Male/Female, age 25-35 yrs, Bachelor degree
- Background in PR or marketing based in Phuket
- Good English and computer skills
- Outgoing personalities must be able to travel from time to time
- Strong organizational skills and willing to help with all aspects of Marketing, including routine office duties.

Please send a short letter of application, Curriculum Vitae, recent photograph and e-mail/fax and telephone contacts of referees to: British International School, Phuket



59 Moo 2, Thepkasatri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200  
Tel: 076 238711-20 # 2103, 2206, 1111  
Fax: 076 238711-20 # 1130  
E-mail: [patcharakomt@bcis.ac.th](mailto:patcharakomt@bcis.ac.th) or [sirirats@bcis.ac.th](mailto:sirirats@bcis.ac.th)

**wine connection**

We are now accepting applications and resumé for a new up coming restaurant.

**Executive Chef**  
**Restaurant Manager**

**Qualifications;**

- Thai / Foreigner are welcome
- Experienced 5 years plus
- Based in Phuket
- Good command of English
- Good management skills
- Salary is negotiable

Please send resumé to Wine Connection (Phuket)  
19/54-57 Moo.8 Chaofa Rd., T.Chalong, A.Muang, Phuket  
Tel: 076-282411-12 Fax: 076-282414.  
Email: [hmmgr@wineconnection.co.th](mailto:hmmgr@wineconnection.co.th)

## RJM CONSULTING GROUP Co., Ltd.

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 an intelligent, dynamic and highly motivated Thai national to join our expanding operations in Phuket.

### M&E PROCUREMENT OFFICER

#### JOB DESCRIPTION:

- Responsible for managing the day-to-day procurement for our projects.
- Request quotation from supplies and negotiate for best offer.
- Execute all steps in procurement process and logistics procedures for items.
- Compare quotes, prepare bid analysis and propose for approval
- Issue PO, monitor delivery, check invoice and send to Finance for payment
- Coordinate and resolve with field offices on logistics issues.
- Organize the related report such as, PR tracking report, weekly report, finance relating reports, and consolidate field reports.
- Participate in professional training activities as needed and/or requested
- To work with our team to provide detailed pricing of projects.
- Ensure procurements are executed and completed efficiently to schedules.
- To work closely with clients to build and maintain relationships.

#### REQUIRED:

- Bachelor's degree in related field and/ or related training course
- Minimum 4 years work experience in procurement and logistics
- Minimum 3 years relevant work experience with NGOs
- Ability of planning, organizing, as well as problem solving
- Able to work under pressure, details oriented and administration tasks
- Strong computer skills such as MS office
- Good communication in both Thai and English
- Good communication of English written and oral
- Knowledge of import and export in Thailand 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 thru the above address or email to: [cps@online.com.kh](mailto:cps@online.com.kh) or [construction@cpscambodia.com](mailto:construction@cpscambodia.com)

## ISLAND CURTAINS & JUST SOFAS

Manufactures of custom made curtains/blinds & sofas require a **VERSATILE SECRETARY**. The Position has been filled. Thanks to all, who have applied.

#### Require JUNIOR ACCOUNTANT

- ▶ Command of English and computer skills
- ▶ Recent graduate encouraged to apply
- ▶ Attractive salary to right person

Apply with resumé to [islandcurtains@yahoo.com](mailto:islandcurtains@yahoo.com)

## Project Coordinator

### Job Description

- Coordinating with donors and clients, both local & overseas

### Qualifications

- Male / Female
- 25 - 30 years old
- Bachelor's Degree in any field.
- At least 3 years experience
- Very good English skills
- Computer skills, knowledge of websites an advantage.

### Contact address

Life Home Project Foundation, PO box no. 105, Talad yai, Phuket 83000. Tel: 076-614060 or 089-729 3410.  
Email: [joojes88@yahoo.com](mailto:joojes88@yahoo.com)

## Great financial opportunity in Phuket for the right person!

Seeking a "real" salesperson on a freelance basis for marketing company. High income guaranteed for Thai or Foreign national, with superior sales skills, self-confident, open minded and hard-working. High standard of English required.

Please forward your CV and a photo to: [enquiry@thai-infocenter.com](mailto:enquiry@thai-infocenter.com) for an interview.

### OFFICE ASSISTANT

Following skills required: some English, basic computer, MS Office, internet, basic accounting, knowledge. Female, single, age 22-30. Reliable, healthy, hard working own vehicle. Tel: 076-273379. Email: [info@octopusasia.com](mailto:info@octopusasia.com)

### RECEPTIONIST

Night time work. Looking for English speaking male. Tel: 087-627 9312.

### COOK, STAFF NEEDED

Chalong restaurant needs a cook and all new staff. Call Jeff. Tel: 081-476 0380.

### RECEPTIONIST & MARKETING

Staff wanted at Phuket Spa, Chalong. Urgent! Tel: 076-282704, 085-567 8929. Fax: 076-282703. Or send email: [natali1800@hotmail.com](mailto:natali1800@hotmail.com)

### SECRETARY WANTED

Travel agency looking for Thai female secretary to do book keeping, VAT paperwork, license renewal etc. English not necessary but helpful. Tel: 076-330967, 081-970 6503. Fax: 076-330990. Email: [dive@siamdivers.com](mailto:dive@siamdivers.com)

### LOOKING FOR ENGLISH TEACHER

for Italian lady. Please contact Anna for more information. Tel: 081-432 6587.

### SKIPPER WANTED

I am searching for a captain to transfer a 50 foot motor yacht in the middle of May from Phuket to Manado (Indonesia). Tel: 089-472 7137. Email: [info@proline-real-estate.com](mailto:info@proline-real-estate.com)

### URGENTLY NEEDED!

Nice villa at Surin beach. Looking for chef and assistant chef who has experience and good attitude to work as a team. Please submit your CV to [laemsingh@135degrees.com](mailto:laemsingh@135degrees.com)

### ASSISTANT MANAGER

Requirements: experience of working in real estate or construction field, knowledge of written and spoken English. Tel: 084-190 9491. Email: [office@tr-d.ru](mailto:office@tr-d.ru)

### SEEKING STAFF

We are now seeking staff for Office Administration. Must have good office experience with excellent written and spoken English. Microsoft Office skills are also needed. Please send CV to Irish Times Pub at Jungceylon, Patong. Tel: 076-366085. Email: [irishtimesphuket@gmail.com](mailto:irishtimesphuket@gmail.com)

### SALES EXECUTIVE

Salary + commission + bonus. Tel: 089-235 0969. Email: [jobs@lfr-asia.com](mailto:jobs@lfr-asia.com) Please visit <http://www.lfr-asia.com/jobs.html> for more details.

### PART-TIME BOOKKEEPER

required for small business in Karon. Must be able to input data to software program and produce annual P&L and balance sheet. Tel: 084-842 0340.

### DREAM SALES OPPORTUNITY!\$

Earn US\$1,000 a week living in paradise! Holiday Ownership Company seeks new and experienced reps. Tel: 083-396 1918. Email: [info@stoneymonday.com](mailto:info@stoneymonday.com)

**Looking for a job?**  
**Looking for a better candidate?**  
**Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [www.PhuketGazette.Net](http://www.PhuketGazette.Net)!**



# Island Job Mart

## 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 south-east Phuket, the hotel is renowned for its excellent service, stylish rooms and exclusive beach.

We are inviting applicants for the following positions:

### Front Office Manager Front Office Supervisor

The candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- At least 2 years' experience in similar position
- 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



### Career Opportunity

VS Asia Co., Ltd. was established in Phuket 10 years ago. We are a professional printing technology and post-production company for customer, in Europe and Asia, that co-operate with a business partner company with headquarter in Europe.

We are expanding our production department and looking for active colleagues to work as a "Text-Editor". Interested candidate must be a fast learner, self-motivated, creative, keen to learn new thing & have IT skills and also a team player.

### Text & Content Editor

#### Job Description:

- Knowledge of German language
- Text and content checking/correcting
- Combination of text and figure in double page
- Work with text editor software: QuarkXpress, Indesign or illustrator
- Art or imagination of design
- Cooperate with retouch and other department

#### Qualifications:

- Male/Female, Thai or German Nationality
- Good German Language skill in writing + reading
- Any Vocational, Diploma or higher education related field of study
- Good knowledge of Computer (Windows or Macintosh) and Internet
- Experiences of text editor would be advantaged
- High responsibility and punctuality
- Able to work in team or independently, and as a shift working

#### Salary & Welfare:

- Salary, Bonus, Social Security Insurance, Tax, Food, etc.

Interested applicants should submit your resume stating qualifications, previous work experience and position applied for along with a recent photograph to:

**VS Asia Co., Ltd. (Human Resource Department)**  
42 Moo 3, Palai 2, Chaofa Rd, Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130  
Tel. (00)66-76-380600  
Fax. (00)66-76-380605  
Email: [as@vsdma.com](mailto:as@vsdma.com)

### BOAT YARD MANAGER

Yacht Haven Marina is presently planning a new haul out facility with travel lift able to handle 20 to 25 boats. We are looking for a yard manager with the following: marine engineering qualifications/or strong technical experience in this field, previous boat yard experience, strong communication skills & good command of written & spoken English. Computer literate, proven managerial skills with ability to create & implement systems and a sound all-round knowledge of boats & the industry. This is a full time position. Tel: 076-206704. Fax: 076-206706. Email: [zara@yacht-haven-phuket.com](mailto:zara@yacht-haven-phuket.com) [www.yacht-haven-phuket.com](http://www.yacht-haven-phuket.com)

### TEACHERS WANTED IN PHUKET

Satree Phuket School is seeking full time native English speakers to teach English, arts, health, mathematics, young guide and hoteling to 11-18 year old students. To begin in May. Salary begins at 30,000 baht. 4 weeks paid holiday, government health plan. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's Degree or above, plus TEFL or CELTA certificate, or equivalent. Be prepared to present all original certificates at interview. Tel: 084-666 3557. Please email CV with covering letter to [ep@satreephuket.ac.th](mailto:ep@satreephuket.ac.th) or [toptip4736@yahoo.com](mailto:toptip4736@yahoo.com)

### ADVERTISING COMPANY

seeks Thai national female for office assistant position. Requirements: excellent knowledge of spoken and written English, advanced computer skills. Tel: 084-844 1469. Email: [thai.rusmedia@gmail.com](mailto:thai.rusmedia@gmail.com)

### CIVIL ENGINEER NEEDED

Must have good English communication skills and a Bachelor's degree. 3-5 years experience in related field. Please contact for further details. Tel: 087-716 2700. Or send email: [thai.rusmedia@gmail.com](mailto:thai.rusmedia@gmail.com)



The all-suite, 5-star boutique resort & spa, located on Surin Hill, overlooking Surin Beach and the Andaman Sea, is currently inviting energetic applicants for the following available positions:

#### ■ HUMAN RESOURCES

- Human Resources Manager
- Human Resources Coordinator

#### ■ FOOD & BEVERAGE

- Restaurant Manager
- Food & Beverage Service Attendant

#### ■ FRONT OFFICE

- Resort Host

#### ■ HOUSEKEEPING

- Room Attendant

Attractive salary, fringe benefits and career opportunities are offered to the successful candidates.

Please send your resume with a recent photo or apply in person by March 31, 2009 to:

### Human Resources Department

125 Moo 3, Surin Beach, Srisoonthorn Road,  
Cherng Talay, Thalang, Phuket 83110 Thailand  
Tel: (076) 271 271 Fax: (076) 271 270  
Email: [hr@ayarahilltops.com](mailto:hr@ayarahilltops.com)  
[www.ayarahilltops.com](http://www.ayarahilltops.com)



### Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa, Mai Khao Beach



If you enjoy being the best, delivering the highest of standards and are a technical expert in your area then you may want to come and be part of the Anantara Story... We are looking for the following professionals to join us.

#### Villa Operations

- Villa Manager
- Telephone Operator (Female) x 3
- Villa Host x 4
- Gift Shop Supervisor
- Gift Shop Attendant
- Yacht Hostess

#### Food & Beverage

- Restaurant Manager
- F&B Hostess

#### Housekeeping

- Villa Administrator

We enjoy a 5 day work week (average 45 hours per week) and free transport to and from Phuket Town,

As part of our recruitment process you will be assessed on your level of English - this is a key skill for all of our team.

Please submit your CV with covering letter stating the position you are applying to email address [recruit\\_phuket@anantara.com](mailto:recruit_phuket@anantara.com)

**Good luck with your application!**

### SALES MANAGER & SALES EXECUTIVE

- \* 25-40 yrs. University graduate
- \* Active & pleasant personality
- \* Speak, read & write English advantage
- \* Experience in Sales or Marketing

Interested in working with leading tourist magazine, attractive salary, commission & bonus

Asean Journals Co., Ltd. Email to [ajapply@yahoo.com](mailto:ajapply@yahoo.com)  
Tel 076-203 365 or 02 332 4600

### Employment Wanted

#### PROFESSIONAL SINGER

seeking work with a live band or a hotel. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-2887528. Or send to email: [lynturner70@yahoo.com](mailto:lynturner70@yahoo.com)

#### NANNY TO WORK ABROAD

Thai lady, 34 years old do house work. 10 years now in Australia. Prefer go Europe, Canada, USA or Phuket. Available from March. Email: [cindy\\_siam@hotmail.com](mailto:cindy_siam@hotmail.com)

#### CHILDRENSITTER 23

Nice girl, German + English speaking. Full or part time Patong. Please contact for more details. Tel: 083-639 9137.

#### EXPERIENCED TEACHER

New kindergarten looking for Thai teachers. English necessary. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-385795, 085-470 4800. Email: [jgearyreilly@hotmail.com](mailto:jgearyreilly@hotmail.com)

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPERT

18 yrs successful track record in International Trade, Import/Export, Strategic Global Sourcing and Supply Chain Management. MBA from top US Institute. Fluent Chinese and English, conversational Thai. Targeting employment with a strong company in Phuket. U.S. Citizen. Please contact for further details. Tel: 087-898 4516, 089-813 4456. Email: [chilly.han@gmail.com](mailto:chilly.han@gmail.com)

#### PROGRAMMER LOOKING FOR JOB

Experienced Danish programmer located in Phuket is looking for work on short/long term projects. Keywords: PHP, Zend Framework, Java (+JSP/servlets), MySQL, JavaScript, (D)HTML, AJAX, MVC, Linux server administration and object orientation. Tel: 085-073 9994. Email: [jan.faroe@gmail.com](mailto:jan.faroe@gmail.com)

**RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH** speaking lady seeks position in Phuket, age 27. Experience in marketing/advertising, tourism and hotel business. Please contact Irina for further details at tel: 080-601 7792. Email: [4milonga@gmail.com](mailto:4milonga@gmail.com)



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### LOW CAST LEATHER



sofa for sale. Sale at low price: 28,000 baht from 65,000 baht. Sofa by ultra lounge. Tel: 081-577 3009. Email: sofaultra lounge@hotmail.com

**NEW JACUZZI FOR SALE**  
New Jacuzzi in good condition. Price: 60,000 baht. Ready for sale. Call K. Canonica 087-2702021. Email: mayday 1978@hotmail.com

**AQUARIUM 500 LITER**  
Very nice, very cheap! Tel: 081-080 8831 or for a photo send email to jstuder@loxinfo.co.th

**GYM EQUIPMENT**  
for sale. Good condition. Tel: 086-120 3660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

### MINI PUMP, READY TO USE

Mini pump for sale. Easy business. Ready to use. Guaranteed for one year. Comes with insurance and license. Tel: 076-293082. Email: michelleproust@yahoo.com.sg

**EXPAT LEAVING SALE**  
Full house of cane furniture, fridges, bed suite, BBQ, stove, wash/dryer, curtains, dining, tools. Much more. Contact 086-947 7233. Email: marknsue@loxinfo.co.th

### STUDY DESK / WALL UNIT

Centre piece study / desk wall unit. L: 2.43m, H: 2.30m, W: 6.20m. Solid wood, demountable. 45,000 baht ono. Contact for photo and details. Tel: 086-947 7233. Email: marknsue@loxinfo.co.th

### KITCHEN BENCHES

Modern kit. 6 pieces. Corner 3 + centre breakfast + 3 drawers and 2 doors. Excellent condition, 16 months old. 45,000 baht o.n.o. Contact for photos and details. Tel: 086-947 7233. Email: marknsue@loxinfo.co.th

### WOODWORK MACHINES

All machinery to make kitchens. Tel: 084-847 3304. See website at www.selectphuket/thai.com

### MOVING SALE

Honda Airblade, price 42,000 baht ono. 37 inch Sony Bravia, price 22,000 baht. Hot plate, fryer, mattress. Tel: 089-730 7390.

### BRAND NEW HAIER EQUIPMENT

Air-condition, two 9000BTU, price 11,000 baht each and one 12000BTU, price 15,000 baht. 3 Haier minibars, price 3,500 baht each. 5 Sharp electric water heaters, 3500w, price 2,500 baht each. Electrolux espresso machine, price 7,000 baht. 6 wooden doors, price 2,000 baht each. Tel: 085-336 0231.

### ITALIAN KITCHEN SALE

Original Italian kitchen wood nuts. For photos contact K. Pat. Tel: 089-5309124.

### WASHING MACHINE

Electrolux EWF 579 cold fill. Paid 14,000 baht; will accept 6,000 baht. Tel: 089-867 1428. Email: david@liddell.com

### EXCLUSIVE FURNITURE SALE

2 beds with mattresses, price: 30,000 baht each. Italian designed leather sofa, price: 25,000 baht. Granite sofa table, price: 7,500 baht. Dining table set, price: 13,000 baht. LCD Samsung 46 inch, DVD, surround system, TV bench, price: 60,000 baht. Tel: 083-523 1188.

### MACHINE BICYCLE

New 250 CC sale 10,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-294 5441.

### SONY PLAY STATION 3

games. 12 titles. Excellent condition, great price. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-279 6700.

### OUT OF BUSINESS SALE!

2ea 9,000 BTU A/Cs. Swimpool pump filter, 22 boxes of stone decor, black granite, cushions, glow sticks, ice bins, glass sinks, urinals. Security cameras, fire ext, Yamaha 18ch mixer, lighted signs, and more! Tel: 083-590 7871. Email: info@thaijobseeker.com

### NEW RESTAURANT FRIDGE

Must see. Quick sale price 10,000 baht. Tel: 081-8081804. Email: ttpitstop1@hotmail.com

### ESPRESSO COFFEE FOR SALE

Top quality espresso roast, whole bean, 100% Pure Highland Arabica Coffee from Chiang Mai. Only 400 baht per kilo. Only 75 kilos available at this price. Hurry, call now! Tel: 081-091 4335. Email: ray\_vallancourt@yahoo.com

### CHILDREN'S BED

like new. 3,800 baht. Before 7,000 baht at Super Cheap. Airport area. Tel: 085-795 9160.

### SAMSUNG SYSTEM

Home cinema, entertainment 5.1 sound, Blue Ray DVD, Subwoofer, HDML, USB, 5x surround speaker. Price negotiable. Tel: 082-274 9860.

### 6 RATTAN CHAIRS

with plate glass table top, price 9,000 baht. Epson 925 printer, price 3,000 baht. BBQ with gas bottle, price 12,000 baht. Fagor washing machine, good condition, price 4,000 baht. Patong area. Tel: 089-972 2861.

### AQUA SCOOTER

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### WINE COOLER SANDEN BRAND

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### GYM FOR SALE

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Chalong Health Clinic (near Chalong Circle)  
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Sunrise Beach - Samui  
Thurs 5:30 AM (Nov-Apr only)  
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(additional Krabai meetings on request by contacting 084-4631033)  
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2002. 7 seater SUV for sale. Only 1 owner. 275,000 baht. Call for more details. Tel: 086-276 2666.

### TOYOTA HILUX VIGO

4x4 3L diesel. Automatic, good condition. 40,000km, black colour, leather seats, service record. 650,000 baht. Tel: 084-625 4712.

### UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Range Rover 2003. 4.5 litres, 101,065km, well maintained, Grey. Grey/green interior. Only 2.9 million baht. Contact Khun Chandra. Tel: 081-909 9707.

### NISSAN FRONTIER

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### ISUZU 4X4 370,000 BAHT

2 door pick-up, 2004. Auto, blue, good condition. Call for more information. Tel: 089-594 4017.

### ISUZU DOUBLE CAB, 4-DOOR

1996, white, 1500cc diesel, 180,000km. Good condition. Price: 195,000 baht. Call for more details. Tel: 084-057 7505. Email: thanque4@gmail.com

### 2005 TOYOTA VIGO

4-door. 2WD, manual, extras. Service history, clean. Price: 500,000 baht. Kamala area, expat owner. For more information please contact. Tel: 087-891 3734.

### MITSU G-WAGON 2004

4x4, 2.8 L, 7 seats (leather), automatic, full options, excellent condition, for sale by owner. 81,000 km, insured. 580,000 baht ono. Email or call the number below for further details. Tel: 086-947 7233. Email: mark nsue@loxinfo.co.th

### MAZDA TRIBUTE V6



2005, 45,000km, very good condition, many extras. Price 595,000 baht ono. Tel: 086-277 2691.

### SUZUKI RANGER 4X4

Good condition, red, only 95,000 baht!! Tel: 086-271 6214. Email: Rachelwides@gmail.com

### VIGO E 4X4, 2007

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### WHITE SUZUKI CARIBBEAN

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### HONDA CRV

Silver, 2002, automatic 4x4. First-class insurance, good condition. Tel: 084-057 7505.

### SUZUKI JEEP

Caribbean, white, good condition. Price only 130,000 baht. Tel: 081-891 5474.

### VIGO HILUX G 3.0L BLACK

2007. Automatic, 4X4, less than 21,000 km. Full service history, Carryboy sport lid, full options, leather seats, rear parking indicator. Excellent condition! Price: 800,000 baht ono. Tel: 086-120 3766. Email: scubamar67@yahoo.com

## Motorbikes

### HONDA SHADOW SALE

Aero 750cc. As new, shaft drive, registration book. Tel: 076-486624, 086-281 9311.

### STUNNING HARLEY DAVIDSON



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### HARLEY DAVIDSON

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- HD 1999 Fatboy 1340cc. Custom paint, PM accessories, bike book sale. Price: 950,000 baht. Tel: 081-691 9346. Email: sumon@riderthailand.com

### UNIQUE YAMAHA

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### HONDA/STEED/ PHANTOM/AIRBLAD

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### JRD 125CC

Year 2007, low kms, green book, good condition. 2 bikes, price 20,000 baht. 1 bike, price 12,000 baht. Tel: 084-842 0340.

### HONDA PHANTOM

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### 2008 AUTOMATIC BIKES

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## Rentals

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Honda Jazz and Toyota Vios with insurance. 16,000 baht per month. Discounts for long term. Tel: 081-537 7137. Email: sunisadia@hotmail.com

### MINIBUS AND CAR FOR RENT



Minibus, Vios, Jazz, City for rent. We're offering low-season prices. Contact for more details. Tel: 081-538 8567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

### CAR FOR RENT

Toyota Vios, automatic, full insurance, long term. Tel: 081-555 7421, 086-359 2873. Fax: 076-288943. Email: domecellaphuket@hotmail.com

### CAR FOR RENT

2008 red Chevrolet Captiva. 28,000 baht/month. 7 seats, tiptronic/automatic 2.4 L. Tel: 087-897 0943, 089-667 1844. Fax: 076-288943. Email: domecellaphuket@hotmail.com

### TOYOTA HILLUX

for rent. 4WD, first class insurance. 6 months rental only, price 10,000 per month. Tel: 086-076 0141.

### TOYOTA FORTUNER FOR RENT

25,000 baht/month. 1st class insurance. As new, black, low mileage. Call Steve. Tel: 081-781 7250. Email: harveynolanhn@hotmail.com

### A1 CAR RENTALS



Fully insured. 12,000 to 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-831 4703. Email: a1carrent@myway.com

### TOYOTA YARIS FOR RENT

Automatic. 1,000 baht per day and 16,000 baht per month, long term 14,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-180 2143.

### P.M.P. CAR RENT

New cars for rent - Toyota Vios, Yaris, Fortuner, Wish and Honda Jazz. Tel: 087-264 6808, 083-174 3880.

### CAR RENTAL

Automatic cars with insurance: Toyota Vios and Honda Jazz for 16,000 baht a month. Tel: 081-537 7137. Email: khunapp@hotmail.com

### ISUZU-MU-7: WANT TO RENT

We want to rent an Isuzu-MU-7. We speak Thai and English. Tel: 084-893 9813. Email: bojan 7333@hotmail.com

## Van

### COMMUTER AND PICK UP

for sale. Toyota Commuter, Sept 2006, only 12,000 kms. Showroom condition, options. 900,000 baht. Also an Isuzu pick-up: 1996, 2500cc. 100,000 baht. Tel: 081-584 8502. Email: info@philkade.com

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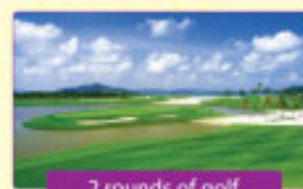
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