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Lifeguards land, 90 saved

By Gazette staff

PHUKET: It will come as little consolation to the families and friends of those who drowned off Phuket's coast in recent weeks, but lifeguards are finally in place on 12 popular beaches.

A spokesman for the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO), Jalernkiat Kaewpetch, said LP Laikhum Co Ltd signed a contract to manage beach safety across Phuket on June 16.

The contract agreement required the firm to station 67 lifeguards on Phuket beaches within 15 days of signing.

It also stipulated lifeguards must be on patrol between 8am and 7pm every day.

LP Laikhum lifeguard team manager Somkid Kreaknorn told the Gazette the 67 lifeguards were now stationed at 22 points on Phuket's beaches, where they have so far rescued 90 swimmers – mostly foreigners – since the 16-million-baht contract was signed.

Unfortunately, the lifeguards were unable to save the life of an Italian man who drowned off Karon Beach after the new lifeguards were assigned there.

Mr Somkid said his trained lifeguards, with jet-skis and first aid equipment, are now patrolling Bang Tao, Kata Yai and Noi, Kamala, Karon, Laem Singh, Mai Khao, Nai Harn, Nai Thon, Nai Yang, Patong and Surin beaches.

A number of new signs and



KARON BEACH, JUNE 18: A yellow flag flies, while, confusingly, a lifeguard sits on duty behind. Photo by James Goyder

flags to warn swimmers of hazardous swimming conditions have also been erected.

But are the precautions working?

At Kata Yai Beach on June 21, hundreds of swimmers and surfers ignored red flags lining the beach indicating unsafe conditions. Only one lifeguard was anywhere to be seen.

On Kata Noi Beach, where no lifeguards were on duty at 3pm, a small number of surfers were in the water.

Tawee Sariya, one of four lifeguards assigned to Surin Beach, said one recalcitrant French tourist ignored the red flags and his pleas not to swim. He entered the heavy surf and consequently had to be rescued – not once but three times – from

pounding two-meter waves and strong currents.

Bemused onlookers were surprised when the French tourist, known only as "Mr Sammy", emerged from the surf and told the Gazette reporter on the scene, "The conditions here are very dangerous, people should not swim."

On Karon Beach on June 18, swimmers were allowed to swim in areas under lifeguard supervision and marked on either side by yellow-red flags.

Confusingly, full yellow flags were also on display in these areas, even though lifeguards were on duty.

There were also people swimming in red-flagged areas of the beach.

At Karon and Kata beaches there are now signs in En-

glish signed by Karon Mayor Thavee Thongcham.

"The monsoon season has started and on certain days the sea can be very dangerous. Whenever the red flag is placed, we urge you not to swim in the sea as there are invisible undercurrents which are almost impossible to detect from the shore.

"Too many accidents occur every year on the Andaman Sea beaches and we cannot assume responsibility for every one," the sign read.

The signs explain, in Thai and English, the red and yellow flag system intended to stop tourists from swimming when conditions are dangerous.

Red flags mean people should not enter the water; yellow flags mean swimming is allowed, but lifeguards are not on duty; while yellow-red flags mark areas patrolled by lifeguards.

Doug Cowmeadow, a tourist from Australia, said last week on Karon Beach, "There are signs, but you could easily get onto the beach without seeing one. We come from Australia so we know what a red flag means, but would someone who is not used to beaches realize its significance?"

Jayne Macdougall (see First Person, page 23) says it is customary in Australia that, "if a swimmer willfully enters the surf ignoring warnings, the police can arrest that individual."

Phuket welcomes US Navy invasion

PHUKET CITY: Phuket's tourism economy has been given a much-needed boost since the arrival of five US Navy ships on June 25 with a complement of over 5,700 sailors and other military personnel.

The five ships are the amphibious assault ship *USS Boxer*, with its crew of 2,982.

The *USS Comstock* dock landing ship, with its fully integrated crew of 857 male and female sailors.

The *USS Gridley* destroyer and its crew of 380.

The *USS Thatch* guided missile destroyer, with its crew of 217.

The 208-meter *USS New Orleans* amphibious transport

vessel and its crew of 1,059.

Unless duty calls, all five vessels will remain in Phuket until June 29 or 30.

The Rotary Club has been busy making preparations for the crews to carry out community relations projects.

USS New Orleans crew were due to take part in activi-

ties at the Barnhem Muang Mai Thai-Swedish Foundation orphanage in Mai Khao and at the Bang Klong Sai School in Phang Nga on June 27.

According to well-informed sources, bar owners in Patong and other parts of the island have also mobilized their own troops to greet the sailors.



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Tah Chat Chai to go hi-tech



The system in action. INSET: the display as seen by the operator.

PHUKET CITY: In a bid to crack down on crime, the province wants to set up an automatic license plate recognition (LPR) system and other high-tech security equipment at the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint.

Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop on June 17 attended a demonstration of the LPR technology put on by representatives from ThaiSecom Pitakkij Co Ltd (Secom) and National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (Nectec), which jointly developed the technology.

At the demonstration Tah Chat Chai Police Superintendent Sakchai Limcharoen told the *Gazette* a recent episode clearly demonstrated the need for better security infrastructure.

"We received a report from Kathu Police that a gang of ladyboys had fled in a BMW after cheating a tourist out of some money in Patong. We stopped the car at the checkpoint and instructed the suspects to get out,

but they rolled up the windows and sped off. We shot at the vehicle and gave chase, but the BMW was too fast and they got away," he said.

Gov Wichai said he wants the license plate recognition cameras and other new security features in place at the checkpoint in time for the Asean summit meetings in Phuket next October. The improvements are also needed because of an expected increase in crime resulting from global economic problems, he said.

As Phuket is an island, the Tah Chat Chai checkpoint should serve as the key choke point in the war against crime, with criminals prevented from crossing to and from the island, he said.

To make this a reality, the province is now negotiating with the provincial police about funding for the technology, which is already in use at Klai Kang Wol Palace in Hua Hin, the Parliament building in Bangkok and in Yala

province.

Under the scheme, four cameras would be set up at the checkpoint: two for cars and larger vehicles, with another pair for motorcycles.

Secom engineer Chatchai Khongmuang said the cameras would be placed in positions where they can automatically record the front and back license plate numbers, along with images of the vehicle and its driver, who would be required to roll down the window.

The data is stored for up to six months on the system hard drive, after which time it can be easily archived for as long as necessary. The technology comes with a one-year guarantee and buyers can also opt for a long-term service contract, he said.

Police are automatically alerted when a vehicle on a police wanted list arrives.

The system will not only allow police to keep tabs on what vehicles are on the island, but will also have the ability to notify the police of any changes in the vehicle's color or appearance since it last passed through – including whether it is being driven by the same driver, the engineer claimed.

In order to get the system working, automatic gates would need to be installed along with a "terrain blocker", a pop-up barrier that can stop any suspicious vehicles – like the BMW full of thieving ladyboys.

Secom also recommends the province buy its Under Vehicle Detect System (UVDS), which uses infrared cameras to detect explosives hidden in vehicles.

The system of four LPR and two UVDS cameras installed at Klai Kang Wol Palace costs 600,000 baht, Mr Chatchai said.

A similar system at Tah Chat Chai would make it faster and easier for police to detect suspects by eliminating the need to laboriously review closed-circuit television footage.

-Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

Milk mess-up lands 16 kids in hospital



The type of milk that caused the poisonings. File photo

PHUKET CITY: Seven Phuket City schools stopped serving UHT milk purchased under the government's "free milk for schoolchildren" program after 48 students at one school fell ill after drinking the milk on June 18.

Sixteen children from Piboonsawaddee School in Phuket City were hospitalized after drinking the milk, while a further 32 students became ill but did not require hospital treatment.

The poisonings followed an incident at the end of February when teachers at Laem Panwa School opened cartons manufactured at the Nong Pho Dairy Co-operative plant in Ratchaburi and found maggots wriggling about inside.

Similar incidents were reported in other provinces and subsequent tests revealed that some of the milk distributed under the project was not up to nutritional content standards.

In the latest milk mess-up, 48 fifth-year primary school students at Piboonsawaddee School came down with stomach aches, nausea and vomiting shortly after drinking Nong Pho milk at 8.30am on June 18.

The 16 most seriously ill children were sent to Vachira Phuket Hospital for treatment; 15 were discharged later that day.

One student was kept overnight for observation and sent home on June 19.

Officers from the Phuket Public Health Office (PPHO) have sent samples of the milk, food and vomit to the new Phuket Medical Science Center in Thalang for analysis.

At the time of writing the results were not yet known.

PPHO chief Dr Pongsawas Ratanasang said initial investigation suggests the cause of the illnesses was spoilage, as the milk smelled bad and had already begun to separate.

Public health officers collected all the UHT milk cartons at the school and will send them back to the plant in Ratchaburi, he said.

"It's up to the plant to solve this problem and find out why the milk was spoiled," he added.

It is possible that the milk spoiled during transport, he said.

Piboonsawaddee School's latest batch of milk was delivered during the school holiday in April. Some cartons had expiry dates of November 2009, while others were due to expire in January 2010.

Phuket City Deputy Mayor Thawatchai Thongmung said seven schools had stopped distributing UHT milk to students until test results are released.

The city will continue to give younger students bags of pasteurized milk under the same program, he said.

-Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

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Phuket has second-highest HIV infection rate in Thailand

By Kamol Pirat

PHUKET CITY: Phuket has the second-highest HIV infection rate in Thailand, the director of Phuket Public Health Office said on May 23.

Dr Pongsawas Ratanasang said Phuket's infection rate was second only to Ranong during the two-year period that ended on May 31, 2009.

The total number of reported HIV infection cases at public and private hospitals in Phuket between May 31, 1989 and May 31 this year is 6,397, with 1,740 deaths, Dr Pongsawas said.

Cases among men have outnumbered cases among women by a factor of 2:1, he added.

Two-thirds of the cases were among people aged between 25 and 39. Within this range, 30-34 year olds accounted for 26.0% of the total, followed by 25-29 year olds (22.2%) and 35-39 year olds (18.2%).

The range 0-4 years accounted for just 2.2% of the total.

By occupation, the largest number of cases were reported among casual laborers, followed by domestic workers, the unemployed, retail vendors, company workers, manual laborers and fishermen,

respectively.

Dr Wiwat Sitomnoch, deputy director of Phuket Public Health Office, said teenagers are at high-risk of contracting HIV/Aids because many fail to use condoms during sex.

Women who sell sex but work in venues without compulsory testing for sexually transmitted diseases are another high-risk group, he said.

"To fight HIV in Phuket, all related agencies have to co-ordinate, especially with regards to educating the public about the disease and how to protect themselves from being infected," he said.

Dr Pongsawas noted that the high official infection is very likely skewed due to demographic factors and the way infection rates are tallied: the number of new cases of infection divided by the official population of the province.

Phuket's official population is around 315,000, but the true figure has been estimated as high as at least double that due to the number of unregistered residents on the island.

The true rate of infection is therefore likely to be lower than the official figure, although many HIV cases go unreported.

Five-star chef gunned down

KATHU: A chef who worked at a five-star resort in Phuket was gunned down in the early hours of June 17.

Kanchai Yoksri, 31, was found dead with two bullet wounds to the chest in front of the police radio monitoring station on Wichit Songkhram Road in Kathu.

Tung Tong Police received a report of the shooting at 1am.

At the scene they found Mr Kanchai's body on the ground near a motorcycle. A plastic bag containing two cans of beer was still hanging from the handlebars.

Police recovered .38 caliber bullet casings nearby.

An initial investigation revealed that the deceased was drinking with friends at the Si Kor intersection on Wichit Songkhram Road earlier that night, about a kilometer from where the shooting took place.

Police are investigating to find possible motives and track down the assailants.



This unusual object was found on Toh Sae Hill in Phuket City and brought to the *Gazette* offices for verification. The discoverer, who wishes to remain anonymous, believes it is a bone from a large animal. Capt Bunyarit Chaisuwan, an archaeologist at the Fine Arts Office in Phuket, said this was possibly correct. "It could be a large animal's bone but I can't say what sort. Any investigation would need to focus on where the object was found and other objects found nearby. If it relates to human activity there should be earthenware and equipment in the area. We've never found evidence of human activity at Toh Sae," he said.

Ferris Bueller's day off course



This 77-foot Phuket-based yacht ran aground in the shallow waters of Maya Bay late last week.

On May 24 the vessel's owner, a team of staff and Jeroen Deknatel of the Waterline yacht consulting company successfully refloated the yacht.

The *Chrysalis-T* was precariously balanced just off the shoreline in the well-known tourist hot-spot in Krabi, where the 2000 Hollywood film *The Beach*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, was filmed.

But the story brings to mind another well-known movie: *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*.

Sources told the *Gazette* that when the yacht grounded, the owner, an English property developer, was not on board.

So who took the yacht – estimated to be worth over US\$2 million – out for a sail? According to the sources, none other than the owner's 21-year-old son and a group of his friends.

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Could Phuket barramundi cod be coming to a dinner table near you?

The flesh of the barramundi cod is exquisitely soft and sweet, with a delicate buttery flavor. Highly prized by East Asian gastronomes, it is now earning a reputation in the kitchens of the West. It is also very rare. Small wonder, then, that it commands prices upwards of 3,000 baht per kilogram. Small wonder, too, that the Department of Fisheries is encouraging farms all over Thailand to raise the fish. Yet so far just one farm has been successful in its efforts to raise the barramundi cod: the Khlong Koh Kui fish farm in Phuket. Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn reports.

The barramundi cod (*Chromileptes altivelis*) is an attractive tropical fish found in waters across Asia and Australia. Also known as the humpback grouper or panther grouper, it's not to be confused with the barramundi (*Lates calcarifer*), a completely different species.

The barramundi, also known as the Asian seabass or giant perch, is covered with large silver scales. Barramundi is a loanword from an aboriginal Australian language meaning "large-scaled river fish". The barramundi cod, on the other hand, is smooth, white and covered in

black spots. What both species have in common is an upturned snout, a feature captured in the Thai name for the barramundi cod, *pla karang na ngorn*, meaning "pouting coral fish".

In Thailand, barramundi cod are found in small numbers in both the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand. They live in coral reefs and coastal lagoons, where they feed on shrimp and small fish. They can grow up to half a meter long and weigh two kilograms.

Researchers at the Coastal Fisheries Research and Development Bureau office in Krabi have succeeded in breeding barra-



A small barramundi cod. Its upturned snout closely resembles that of the larger, scaled barramundi.

mundi cod in tanks. In August 2008, the Phuket Provincial Fisheries Office (PPFO) launched a project to try and farm the fish.

Ten small fish farms across Phuket attempted to raise barramundi cod, with no success at farms in Pa Khlok, Baan Bang Long and Koh Sireh. However, a small fish farm on the Khlong Koh Kui estuary, a mangrove forest area just south of Saphan Hin, has succeeded where the others failed.

Somewhat remarkably, the farm is in the same area where in June 2007 a toxic plume emanating from the nearby landfill entered local waterways and killed millions of farmed fish and other sea creatures.

It was with some misgivings that Supat Luenpan, president of Khlong Koh Kui fish farm, began the project. The farm was already successfully raising grouper, red snapper, sea perch, oys-

ters and mussels. But Mr Supat was unsure whether raising a new fish would be worth the effort.

"At first I didn't want to farm them," he says. "I didn't think there was much economic potential in them. Then I heard a story about an Indonesian company boss on a visit to Phuket. He wanted to eat barramundi cod, but the restaurants didn't have any. So one place had some flown over from Taiwan. They sold for 3,000 baht a kilo."

The fish farm started with an initial batch of 60 young specimens 4-5 inches long. They were bought from the Krabi research office for 100-160 baht each. It was clear from day one that keeping the fish alive in the farm's floating baskets was going to be a challenge.

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Supat Luenpan, president of Khlong Koh Kui fish farm.

"Two of the fish died in transport. Within three months, we'd lost another six or seven. When the hot season began the water got too hot and the fish just started dying. I thought the project was going to be a failure," Mr Supat says.

Mr Supat called the local fisheries office for advice. They told him to test the water's salinity, measure its temperature and adjust the depth of the baskets until the water was cool enough. Lacking sophisticated equipment to make such measurements, Mr Supat and the other farmers had to resort to more primitive methods.

They scooped the water out of the baskets, gave it a simple taste test, and adjusted the depths of the baskets to ensure they were at what they estimated to be the optimal temperature.

"We had to do this every day just to make sure the fish survived," he says.

As strange and primitive as it may seem, it's done the trick.

Ten months after the project began, the farm has 50 adult barramundi cod. They are fed on small fish rather than food pellets, which are more effective as fish food but beyond the means of the Khlong Koh Kui farmers. The fish are now around 18 inches long and ready to sell.

"Nevertheless, we're not selling them yet. We want to keep them alive through all three Thai seasons," Mr Supat says.

"It's been a successful project," he adds. "If over half of them died, we'd consider the project a failure. But we've still got 50."

Why has barramundi cod farming succeeded at Khlong Koh Kui but failed elsewhere? First, the water there has a salinity of 27%, perfect for the fish. Second, the mangrove forest oxygenates the water and means it contains the right amount of sediment for the barramundi cod, which favor a muddy environment.

Despite his initial misgivings, Mr Supat now has high



Mr Supat shows off his stock of barramundi cod at the farm just south of Saphan Hin in Phuket.

hopes for the future of barramundi cod farming in Thailand.

"They farm the barramundi cod in Taiwan, but they can only do it during the hot season. Here in Thailand we can keep them alive all year round," he says.

Plans are afoot to expand the fishery and begin exporting the fish to markets all over East Asia: Taiwan, China, Japan, and Korea will all be targeted. In these markets, the fish should sell for more than 3,000 baht per kilo. In Thailand itself, the fish are expected to sell for 1,200-1,600 baht a kilo.

More research remains to be done and Mr Supat estimates it will be four or five years before the industry will really begin to flourish.

"We just need to figure out the marketing strategy now. This is the first time anyone's farmed barramundi cod in Thailand. We don't know exactly how much we can sell – and at what price. Farming these fish is complicated and difficult, but we're getting a lot of interest from companies

now," he says.

Who would have thought it possible? Before long, high-class menus all over Asia might soon

feature barramundi cod – freshly flown in from a muddy mangrove forest just south of Saphan Hin.

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Ethnic Karens from Ratchaburi conduct a blessing ceremony for Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, who presided over an exhibition on the Thai economy in the province on June 19. Photo by Somchai Khumkun

Six injured in bar brawl

UDON THANI: Five Thai women and one Englishman were injured in a ruckus outside a bar in Udon Thani Town in the early hours of June 20.

At the scene, outside Friendship Bar in the Day-Night Entertainment Complex, known locally as "Soi Farang", police found a large crowd of Westerners and Thai women crowded around. Many tables and chairs had been overturned and smashed. Police also found a broken pool cue.

Englishman Paul Alexander, 44, was taken to Aek Udon Hospital suffering from a stab wound and heavy bruising from being beaten with a blunt instrument. His girlfriend, 21-year-old Udon native Praphaiphon Odarian, was also treated for a stab wound and heavy bruising.

Both are expected to make a full recovery.

The owner of Friendship Bar, 33-year-old Rattika Ronanae, sustained a wound to her jaw. Bar staff Sudjai Singsathon and Seenua Saenphakdee both had busted lips after being punched in the face. A welcomer from the Sailor Moon bar next door also suffered an arm injury.

Mrs Rattika told police that Mr Alexander and Miss Praphaiphon had been drinking beer and spirits at a table outside the bar for most of the evening. At midnight, when she tried to close the bar, Mr Alexander became very upset.

He threw a large ceramic ashtray into the bar and began throwing tables and chairs around, Mrs Rattika alleged.

When she and her staff

tried to stop Mr Alexander from damaging the property, they were assaulted, Mrs Rattika claimed. A large crowd then gathered and a free-for-all ensued, she said.

Mrs Rattika said she had no idea how Mr Alexander and Miss Praphaiphon ended up getting stabbed.

Investigating Officer Sitthiphon Tharakulthip from Muang District Police said that police had not been able to find the weapon used in the attack. The situation was very disorderly and confused, so police would have to interview all the witnesses again to get a clear picture of what happened.

All the injured people would be made to give detailed statements about the night's events, he said.

Source: Khao Sod

Smuggler caught red pawed

MAE HONG SON: A man was arrested in possession of eight bear paws in Mae Hong Son's Muang District on June 15.

As he was riding his motorcycle, 43-year-old Phetch Roiphanna was stopped at a Volunteer Defence Corps checkpoint in Tambon Pang Mu.

In the basket of his motorcycle was a plastic bag containing eight bear paws. Four of the paws, from a large bear, were around 40cm in length. The other four, from a smaller animal, were about half that length.

Mr Phetch confessed to buying the paws from Burmese hunters for 600 baht each. He was on the way to sell them in Mae Hong Son when he was arrested.

Weerachai Monkolphon, Head of Tham Pla-Nam Tok Sua National Park, said that if it

was determined that the suspect hunted the animals in Thailand he would face a heavy penalty. However, if officials accepted his story that he bought the paws in Burma he would get off with a fine.

In an unrelated case, a trader was sentenced to two years in prison for smuggling pangolins from Malaysia.

The Rachadaphisek Criminal Court on June 17 found Chusit Niwesanon guilty of trading a protected species without a licence.

In June 2006, customs officers at Don Muang airport found 245 pangolins as well as 64 tortoises in Mr Chusit's baggage. He was intending to sell the animals in Laos. Pangolins are highly prized in China, where they are believed to have health-restoring properties.

Source: Khao Sod

New "Anonymous Clinic" treats gays

BANGKOK: After 18 years of providing medical advice and treatment to female prostitutes, the "Anonymous Clinic" operated by the Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS) is now offering a new service aimed at helping gay men.

For a single 200-baht fee, the clinic checks gay men for several venereal diseases.

TRCS Aids Research Centre chief Prof Dr Praphan Phanaphak, who supervises the project, said the 10,000 patients that visit the clinics are more or less divided equally among the "three sexes": women of all professions, straight men, and gay men.

The rise in the number of HIV/Aids cases among gay men is the main reason for the new service, he added.

At the clinics, located in Bangkok and large cities, the men can have their blood checked for the possible HIV/Aids virus without having to produce identity documents.

Staff at these clinics are educated in sex-related terminology known widely among gay men. It helps patients feel less awkward when explaining their sexual activities, which can possibly lead to the contraction of HIV.

The terms used are explicit, but clear definitions of their sex activities are needed so that doctors and the medical staff can analyse and diagnose each case more easily. Also, a number of staff are also gay.

Apart from HIV/Aids, the most common diseases found among gay men is anal cancer, especially those who are on the receiving end during anal sex.

Anal cancer is caused by human papillomavirus, the same virus responsible for cervical cancer in women. More than 30 variants have been found in gay men who practice sodomy.

Anal cancer is rare. Most cases are reported among gay men, whose chance of contracting it is 40 times higher than that of straight men. Gay men with HIV/Aids face a risk twice greater than gay men without HIV/Aids, or 80 times more than straight men.

Anal cancer is curable if detected in the early stages. People who bleed from their anus and experience pain or mucus from the rectum are advised not to mistake the condition for hemorrhoids, Dr Praphan advised.

Source: Daily Xpress

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Stray bullet kills boy

PETCHABURI: A 13-year-old boy was killed by a stray bullet that fell through the roof as he was having a swimming lesson on June 14.

Yotsiri Thammasatuek was taken to Phra-chomklao Hospital with a bullet wound to the head but later died of his injuries.

The boy's father, Police Senior Sergeant Major Prayun Thammasatuek, said that as he and his wife were sitting reading by the side of the pool at Phetchaburi Provincial Kindergarten, they heard a loud bang from the zinc roof. The swim coach saw Yotsiri was in difficulty so dived in and dragged him out. When they had him out of the pool, they found he had sustained a wound to his head.

Doctors at the hospital told Yotsiri's parents their son had been killed by a bullet.

Earlier that day a complaint had been made

that people were firing guns into the air to celebrate at an ordination at Wat Chomphuphon, about a kilometer from the swimming pool where Yotsiri was killed.

At the temple police found more than 20 cartridge cases of various calibres including 9mm, 11mm, and 5.56 mm of the type fired by M-16 assault rifles.

Investigating Officer Phichetsak Chintep from Phetchaburi Muang District Police said it is possible bullets fired at the ordination could have landed on the roof of the swimming pool.

Police plan to check the bullet that killed Yotsiri against the cartridge cases found at the temple.

Swimming instructor Saichol Wachira-monkol-thon said this was the third time in a year that bullets had landed in the swimming pool. On the first two occasions, no one was hit.

Source: Kom Chad Luek

Queer News

AYUDHAYA: Every family has its own unique customs, but a family in Phak Hai District recently caught national attention when it was found to be keeping the corpse of a long-dead relative in the front room of the family home.

Current guardian of the coffin, 36-year-old Samreng Ying-yong, told reporters the body was that of his great-great uncle Phuangthong Lidkaho, who died almost 70 years ago.

Mr Phuangthong's open coffin is kept in the front room of the hundred-year-old wooden Thai house where he once lived.

Every day after Mr Samreng gets home from his construction job he lights incense sticks in front of the coffin and makes offerings of food and drink. Every night he sleeps in front of the coffin to keep Mr Phuangthong company.

On many nights he hears the sound of footsteps in the house and someone sweeping the floor, Mr Samreng said.

Mr Samreng's granny told him it was just Mr Phuangthong's spirit wandering about.

Mr Phuangthong's older

brother Prasit Lidkaho said Mr Phuangthong was the youngest of seven children. The family were practitioners of traditional medicine, their speciality being the *meed mor* (witchdoctor's magic knife), Mr Prasit explained.

Mr Phuangthong was born without a right hand and missing a number of toes. Despite this handicap by the age of nine he was already a master healer who could treat any illness, Mr Prasit said.

His short career came to a tragic halt when he fell down the front steps of the home and landed on a large mortar.

As he lay dying the child called his family to his side.

In the exact spot where his body still lies, he told them he didn't want to be cremated.

The family must keep his body until they were sure he had been reborn. If they did not, the family would split apart and come to ruin, the dying child said.

That said, the young Mr Phuangthong bade farewell to his relatives, assumed a meditative position and quietly passed away, Mr Prasit said.

"It's strange," Mr Prasit said, "The body didn't rot or smell so we never had to put the lid on the coffin. The body just dried out by itself."

The family would keep watch over the body as long as they lived, he added.

Reports that Mr Phuangthong's spirit can convey winning numbers in lottery draws have yet to be independently verified.

Source: Daily News

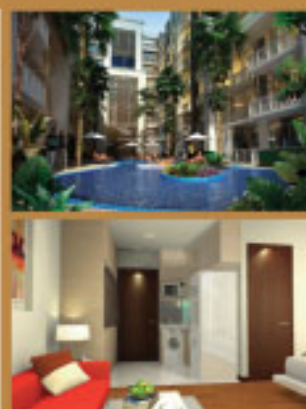


This photo of farmers in Chiang Rai taken by Nation photographer Chaiwat Pumpuang won a Consolation Prize in the recent Photo Journalists Association of Thailand photo competition.



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PROMJAI
DENTAL CLINIC

A day of good deeds



TOP: Lucky nine-year-olds Muntira Boonchen (red top) and Parinya Manmai stand with their pedal-powered prizes during a buffet dinner at the Yorkshire Hotel. Also pictured are (left to right) Deputy Mayor of Patong Chairat Sukaban, Nipada Srisaard, Paul Gibson and Daniel Gibson. RIGHT: Some of the Asia Center Foundation's scholarship program recipients holding gifts donated by The Children of Phuket charity run by Paul Gibson. Photos by Dan Miles



Last month, 50 children from the Asia Center Foundation were treated to a double-bill day of fun that started off with a trip to Surakul Stadium to watch international rugby teams battle it out on the pitch and ended with a big buffet meal at The Yorkshire Hotel in Patong.

The annual international rugby 10s event is organized by the Phuket Vagabonds Rugby Club as a way of raising funds for the Asia Foundation's scholarship program and this year attracted 36 teams from around the world. The teams sponsor the Asia Center Foundation children, providing each of them with 7,500 baht a year towards their education expenses.

Later in the day, the students were treated to a buffet dinner at The Yorkshire Hotel, where each of the children received a gift from The Children of Phuket; a charity created a year ago by Paul Gibson and Chairat Sukaban.

Two children were also lucky enough to ride away on bicycles that they had won that evening. The bikes were donated by expat resident Bill Stahmer.

The organizers hailed the event a "total success" and are already planning more fund-raising events and activities.

The Asia Center Foundation is a registered Christian, Non-Government Organization (NGO) and has been helping disadvantaged youngsters and children-at-risk in Phuket since November 2001. The foundation is run by Thai and foreign board members, including Board Chairman Eam Thavornvongwongse and Director Roelien Muller (RSA). The foundation also employs 15 local Thai staff and receives help from local and international volunteers.

For more information about the Asia Center Foundation visit www.asiacenterfoundation.org. For more information about The Children of Phuket Foundation contact Paul Gibson. Tel: 087-2834680.

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Come on and rescue me



BENEATH THE WAVES

By Diver Dan

Picture the scene. Some one is in trouble in the sea. David Hasselhoff – chest rug and all – comes bounding down the beach, Pammy bounding in tow only to be thwarted by a heroic figure in full scuba gear who saves the day and gets the girl. That's how it is in my dreams, anyway.

During my time as a PADI instructor, I enjoyed teaching the rescue diver course above all else. The course is fantastic and one that many people should consider to improve their abilities as a diver. The open water course is an instructors bread and butter, but the rescue course – like any continued education course – allows you to take a break from the norm. What's more it provides the opportunity to release a little bit of the devil that lurks inside every instructor – but more of that a little later.

The first two PADI courses – the open water and the adven-

ture/advanced open water – teaches the diver to focus primarily on themselves as they become familiar with their equipment, diving techniques, their breathing and surroundings. Their buddy, although important, is a secondary concern. The rescue course teaches divers to think about others – not just their buddy, but everyone involved in the day's diving as well as snorkelers and those just coming along for a day at sea.

Many people sign up for a rescue course just because it will make them a better diver. The additional skills that are practiced ad nauseum, combined with the confidence gained from knowing they can deal with virtually any situation, produces divers that are both comfortable and extremely capable in the water.

As a rescue diver, the chances of leading a real-life rescue operation are slim. In most situations, a rescue diver isn't the most qualified diver on a trip and will be required to assist anyone who holds a Divemaster certification or higher should an emergency arise. Having taken the course, the rescue diver will be a valuable asset should an incident take place.

As a rescue diver, there are times when you will be the most qualified person on-site and will be required to take command of a situation, delegating responsibilities to those around you. This demands the ability to keep a cool



The rescue course teaches divers to start to think about others, not just their buddy, but everyone involved in the day's diving as well as snorkelers and those just coming along for a day at sea. PHOTO by Lia Barratt.

head, as others look to you for guidance and being ready for action at any moment – skills that the course looks to develop.

To enroll on a PADI rescue course, a diver must have their PADI adventure diver certification – or an equivalent certification from another agency – and hold a valid Emergency First Response (EFR) or first aid qualification. If you have neither EFR or first aid, your instructor will also take you through the one-day PADI EFR course.

Like any PADI course, there is some theory, but in the water is where the real learning takes place.

Over three or four days, a diver will learn a wide range of skills both above the surface and below which will be put into practice in a series of scenarios that requires the diver deal with emergency situations and take command of a rescue.

One of the first things I taught on the course is that prevention is better than a cure. In a lot of cases, most rescue or emergency scenarios can be avoided by being aware of those around you. When people are

nervous about something, they often act totally out of character. Someone who is generally quiet and shy is likely to start talking a lot and vice versa.

People fidgeting, constantly adjusting their equipment or asking lots of questions are other signs. As a rescue diver it is important to be able to spot these. If someone has a problem or is appears nervous, the best course of action is to talk to them about it. This provides an opportunity to explain what is wrong, making them feel at ease when the issue is resolved. A single question can prevent a minor issue from becoming a major problem.

Besides anticipating problems, as a rescue diver you will learn a number of techniques including dealing with panicked people both on and below the surface, learning new methods of navigating underwater to search for missing divers, practicing how to transport an unconscious diver from the bottom of the sea back to a boat or the shore and responding to emergencies.

As well as being the most rewarding course, it's probably the most challenging and exhaust-

ing. Any potential rescue diver faces up to four action-packed days constantly in and out of the water rescuing "drowning" victims at a moments notice. Also, many people take this course in the tropics and forget just how much time they will spend in the sun – be prepared to be sunburned and incredibly tired!

I mentioned earlier that the course allows the instructor to release some of the devil within. The rescue course does allow an instructor to be creative and over the top when creating scenarios for their students.

At the beginning of a course, I always took great pleasure in playing the role of the diver from hell, who was brash, arrogant, wouldn't listen to anything anyone said and often pretended to be drunk!

At the start of a course, the majority of students looked like the proverbial rabbit caught in headlights as I wickedly went about my business having a great time playing the fool. By the end of the course, they knew exactly how to deal with my buffoonery and were primed and ready for anything.



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The ladies dazzled in their evening dresses, while the men looked dapper in their lounge suits or naval uniforms as they enjoyed drinks under a temporary marquee adorned with the Cross of St George and the Union Jack.

The six day layover allowed the 540 men and women of the *HMS Bulwark* a chance to relax and sample what Phuket has to offer. During their brief stay, the *HMS Bulwark's* cricket and rugby teams demonstrated their sporting prowess in beating an Island Furniture Cricket League XI and the Phuket Vagabonds respectively demonstrating that Britannia doesn't just rule the waves.



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When Akio Yonago completes his single-handed circumnavigation – granted in a much slower time than Dame Ellen – it would be fitting if he received some recognition for his efforts.

In Dame Ellen's case the term "single-handed" is merely a figure of speech, but for Akio, the term is quite literal, due to an accident in his youth that left him fighting for his life and ultimately cost him his entire left arm. But, like Vice Admiral Lord Nelson, who lost his arm in the Battle of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Akio has never let his disability prevent him from achieving his goals despite

the constant battle he faces. The famously misquoted "I see no ships, only hardships," has never seemed more apt.

Akio Yonago arrived in Phuket earlier this month on board his 11-meter boat *Emu II* amid fears he had been kidnapped by pirates in the Indian Ocean.

As it transpired, it was simply a case of engine failure and the elements conspiring against him.

"After leaving the Seychelles, I had engine trouble and there was no wind so I was stuck and it took me a long time to get anywhere," Akio told the *Gazette*.

Akio's story started 62 years ago in Osaka, Japan. His life at sea began when as a young man he became a commercial fisherman, trawling the world's oceans to supply the demand of Japan's famous fish markets. His career would ultimately cost him his left arm. On

an Arctic cod boat at the age of 23, Akio's "slicker" (raincoat) got caught in a winch and pulled his arm into the mechanism.

Akio's wound became infected which at one point threatened to kill him. In order to save his life, doctors had to repeatedly amputate more and more sections of his arm until there was barely any left. Despite his loss, Akio has never once let his disability prevent him from achieving his goals.

In 1995, Akio bought his first boat, *Emu*, and taught himself how to sail. It seemed, however, that his dreams of sailing around the world might be dashed when he was refused a sailing license by the Japanese government.

No stranger to setbacks or overcoming them, Akio headed to France in 1997 to begin his journey across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans back to Japan. Upon his return, he was awarded the coveted Naomi Uemura adventure prize in recognition of his accomplishments.

Even with this recognition, the Japanese government still refused Akio a license, a decision that was finally overturned when he challenged the ruling in court.

With his license granted, the never-say-die Japanese adventurer began an ill-fated circumnavigation of the globe in 2003 that came to a premature conclusion by virtue of a series of problems.

Refusing to accept the situation once again, Akio left Japan's shores in 2006 to begin the voyage that brought him to Phuket and to the attention of the international media.



Intrepid explorer Akio Yonago (right) with Mr Ryuji Iwasaki, Second Secretary to the Embassy of Japan, after Akio arrived safely in Phuket amid fears that he had been captured by pirates.



Akio Yonago's 11-meter boat *Emu II*

Having visited a number of places along the way, including San Francisco, Spain and South Africa, Akio arrived in the Seychelles earlier in the year and enjoyed some relaxation time.

After recharging his own batteries, he embarked on the next leg of his journey on April 28. It was at this point that fears mounted as Akio lost radio contact.

To the relief of his family back home, the happy-go-lucky

sailor breezed into Phuket on June 8 and now plans to relax on the island while his boat undergoes some repairs before starting the final leg of his journey back to Japan.

"I'm going to be in Phuket for one month while my boat is being repaired. It's my first time here and I like what I've seen so far," he said.

-Dan Ogunshakin and Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod

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EXPAT GALLERY

Stuart Bird

Stuart Bird came to Phuket in 2000 on a holiday, not expecting that he would become a leader in the upscale segment of the island's international hospitality. As GM of the Watermark restaurant at the Boat Lagoon, he developed a sophisticated menu and style of service that set new and higher standards – all for the pleasure of some of the world's most experienced travelers.

During his years directing operations at the Watermark, he pioneered the open kitchen concept with international chefs who presented menus found only in London, Sydney, New York and other major cities with a clientele expecting innovation and commitment to quality.

"When we opened, there were few independent restaurants on Phuket offering the same high standards as the five-star resorts. We intended to serve that market – visitors and residents who have a sense of adventure and enjoy trying something different in a spectacular location."

The Watermark sits at harbor's edge, with large, sleek yachts berthed almost in the restaurant. From the time this upscale bistro opened, it immediately attracted Phuket's most dynamic entrepreneurs, drawn by Stuart's food and beverage promotions.

"My constant thought was

to keep it fresh – both the menu and the promotions."

For many years the Watermark was the social club for high-end events. Promotions included British Comedy Nights and high fashion and art shows. Stuart also hosted the hippest Friday Happy Hour with a selection of trendy cocktails at attractive prices.

But he did not start his career with the intention of bringing Phuket hospitality to new heights. He studied Creative Writing at England's Bath Spa University, with a focus on poetry. Though he grew up in a family who worked in the tourism industry, the young Stuart was more interested in writing words that expressed emotion.

He began his work in restaurants while traveling around Australia as a youth where he worked as a sous-chef in restaurants that were serving what was then called 'modern' cuisine.

"Australia over the past decade has produced some of the most interesting and innovative menus in the world and the wines have improved to match the cuisine. I love cooking so this was an exciting place to learn about making a contemporary menu."

Stuart also worked as a chef on oil rigs which had menus like five-star hotels. When he came to Phuket, he first served as manager

of The Bakery at the Boat Lagoon, before the Watermark opened.

"At the Bakery, we developed menus for yacht catering. By 2002, we expanded and opened a new company, Ocean Catering, which supplied international menus for upscale villa events as well as weddings and large functions such as the Johnny Walker Classic golf tournament."

When Watermark was sold last year, Stuart decided to develop a high-end consultancy to design and put systems in place for new hospitality operations.

"I love working in Southeast Asia as the people have a true service spirit and are naturally interested in learning and pleasing their guests."

Now that he has more time to develop his personal interests, he has also returned to his first love, writing with a focus on social and management issues.

"I'm interested in the cultures of the region and I've seen a lot of dynamic changes in the decade that I've worked here."

When I first arrived, I noticed that new residents were mostly interested in Thai culture. Now Phuket has become so international that visitors have to look hard to find traditional culture. So I'm intrigued by the idea of working in a part of Thailand away from international tourism – in an area that provides more of a sense of what it means to live in Southeast Asia. My mind is open and I'm ready to experience new things," he says.

– 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, ah, 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.

THE 1ST RADISSON PLAZA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AWAITS IN CAPE PANWA



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WINE FOR MY MEN: Mr Bart Duykers (2nd from left), Director of Andaman Wine Club, hosted a grand opening party on the new premises of the Andaman Wine Club in Cherng Talay on June 19. Pictured are (left to right) Mr John Wilde; Mr Bart Duykers; Mrs Woollaston and her husband Mr Philip Woollaston, Chief Executive Officer of Woollaston Estates Ltd.



PROBLEM SOLVER: Mr Satit Wonghngongtaey, (black jacket) Attache to the Prime Minister's Office, traveled to Phuket to attend a meeting with Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop and Phuket Vice Governor Smith Palawatwichai and all relevant departments in Phuket to discuss land community issues.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE: Phuket International Hospital and Emergency Asia conducted emergency and first aid training for more than 350 members of the Immigration and Tourist Volunteer Police recently.



SINGING STARS: Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop and his wife Mrs Thaisika welcomed Red Cross members from Chumphon, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Krabi, Ranong, Phang Nga, Surat Thani and Phuket provinces with a song during a Gala Dinner at held at Tongkah Hall on June 16.



CRICKET CHAMPIONS: Mr Bill Brown (right), chairman of the Phuket Cricket Union, posing with victorious members of the Island Cricket Club who celebrated winning the Island Furniture Cricket League for the second consecutive year. The awards ceremony was held at Peppers in Cherng Talay on June 14. Pictured from the left to right: Mr Sameer Khan, captain of the Island Cricket Club; Mr Rajesh Sahi; Mr Sunil Pandey; Mr Deepak Mehta and Mr Bill Brown.



BOAT PARTY: Aleksandra, Khun Daeng, owner of Boat Bar and Khun Boy, owner of B-Laytong Hotel, Patong, enjoying the celebrations held to mark Boat Bar's 17th anniversary. Photo by Dan Miles.



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Deli Delights

By Stephen Fein

Naughty but nice French tarts

French family bakery fires up at the crack of dawn to offer authentic sweet and savory delights first thing in the morning

If you are on a diet, Au Des Lys French Bakery and Pastry shop might be one of the worst places to visit in Phuket; for those less concerned with their waistlines, it might be one of the best.

It is quite easy to drive right past this authentic French bakery, located in an orange French colonial-style building that looks more like it belongs on the bank of the Mekong River in Vientiane than next to the House and Home hardware store on the busy north-bound Chao Fa West Road.

Run by French couple Bernard and Laetitia Garcia, Au Des Lys opened about a year ago after the couple and their two children had already spent about three years on the island. The Garcias are experienced bakers, having run a bakery in the French Mediterranean town of St Maxime, just north of St Tropez, before moving to Thailand.

Au Des Lys has seating for 32 people, with four tables inside and four more surrounded by gardens outside. It is the perfect place to stock up on authentic pastries or enjoy a snack, proper breakfast or full meal.

In the longstanding tradition of bakers and pastry chefs, Bernard is up well before the crack of dawn manning the ovens. By the 7am opening time, the first batch of piping hot baguettes are just coming out of the oven – warm with an almost creamy texture on the inside wrapped up in a perfect crust.

If you are a fan of garlic bread or submarine sandwiches, this is the place to come for your main ingredient.

Those who buy their baguettes at the Villa Supermarket



in Chalong will already be familiar with Au Des Lys, which is one of its suppliers.

Au Des Lys takes its name from a French play on words that is likely to go over the heads of many island residents. "Lys" is the French term for the "lily" flower. The stylized version of this, the *Fleur-de-lis*, has been a well-known symbol of France for over 700 years. But taken collectively, "Des Lys" is also a homophone of the French word *delice* – you don't need a degree in

French to know that that translates as "delicious".

The breakfast menu has three options, starting with the 120-baht "Breakfast Vitalité", your choice of hot beverage with a slice of brioche or fresh croissant with homemade jam. At the top end there is the 230-baht "Breakfast Au Des Lys", including a fried egg, fresh ham or fried bacon, home-made yoghurt, fruit tonique cocktail, fresh orange juice and choice of hot drink.

There is also a wide selec-

tion of sandwiches (180 to 260 baht), fruit tarts (50 to 80 baht), bread and croissants (plain 34 baht), brioche (32 baht) as well as chocolate-coffee éclairs (75 baht) to name just a few.

For full meals there are daily blackboard specials, which one day last week comprised an antipasto platter of *coppa salami parma* with homemade plain yoghurt and fresh fruit, all for 150 baht. For your proud Thai companion who stubbornly refuses to take part, there are also daily blackboard specials on Thai staples, such as *tom yam goong* (220 baht) and *gaeng kheaw waan* (90 baht).

As befitting a sit-down French bakery, there is an extensive selection of hot and cold beverages including espresso, cappuccino and latte (all 60 baht), fruit juices (55 baht) and smoothies (75 baht). Au Des Lys is also one of the very few places in Phuket to stock the quintessential French soft drink Orangina (75 baht). Small bottles of Singha (50 baht) and Heineken (70 baht) are also on the menu, making Au Des Lys the perfect place to seek refuge when the wife is next door shop-



ping for home décor items.

There can be little doubt that Au Des Lys is going to be a big hit with workers and visitors at the newly opened Software Park, which is just a short walk away on the same side of the road.

Another strong point is the ample parking at the bakery, one of the few businesses along the north stretch of Chao Fa West Road that can make that claim since the road was widened a few years ago.

You can pop in, pick up your morning baguette (45 baht) and be back on the road in under five minutes.

A small restaurant is now under construction on the same property, behind the bakery, and will be open in a few months time. It will be run by friends of the Garcias and will serve – you guessed it – French cuisine.

With its six friendly staff, Au Des Lys is child-friendly and well worth checking out.

Au Des Lys is open daily from 7am to 7pm. Tel: 086-470-1853. Email: FrenchBakeryPastery@yahoo.com



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Blocked ports, stalled email

KHUN WOODY'S COMPUTER

A few weeks ago, TT&T made a big change to its network. As a consequence, many people in Phuket discovered they could no longer send emails.

The nature of the change is a bit obscure but if you can't get your mail out over a TT&T connection, there are steps you can take to get your mail connection working again.

Over the years, TOT and TT&T have both blocked their customers' outbound email without advance warning or recourse. Email hiccups in Phuket aren't all that unusual.

I wrote a roundup of problems and solutions in the *Phuket Gazette* about two years ago. When an email sits in your outbox refusing to go out, the problem lies with the company that handles your email – the company that controls the right-hand part of your email address (the

khunwoody.com part of woody@khunwoody.com).

Sometimes email companies unilaterally decide that they won't accept incoming mail from Asia or specific Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in Thailand such as TOT, TT&T or CAT. They stop accepting incoming mail from Asia because they get a spate of spam and your account gets blocked.

After all, good customers never travel to Asia, right? If that happens to you, the only recourse is to contact the company that handles your email and yell really loudly.

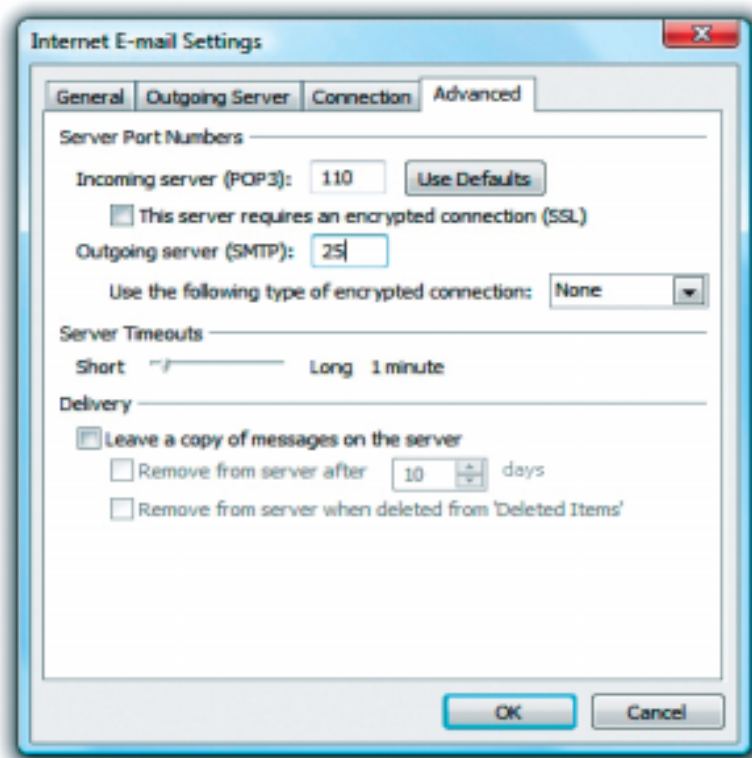
The next problem's different – it's entirely the ISPs' fault. When you send mail from your PC using any of the common email programs that run on your computer – Outlook, Outlook Express, Windows Mail, Windows Live Mail, Thunderbird, Eudora – your computer connects to a particular kind of computer on the internet called an SMTP server.

SMTP servers deliver the mail using the internet's mail-handling routines. Most people use the SMTP server that's owned by the company that controls their email – the SMTP Server I use for woody@khunwoody.com is called smtp.khunwoody.com.

When I pay to renew the khunwoody.com name every year, part of the amount I pay is used to care and feed smtp.khunwoody.com.

Here's where it starts to get complicated. When computers communicate over the internet, the steps they go through are similar in some ways to the steps you take when you telephone someone at a large company. If you're trying to call somebody at Starbucks in Bangkok you need the Starbucks phone number – 02 613 7277 but you also need the person's extension – 1212, lets say.

Computers communicate in a similar fashion. You need the telephone number – in the case



EMPTY OUTBOX : If the SMTP port number is 25 and your mail won't go out, it's possible that your email has run afoul of an ISP blocking port 25.

of my outbound email computer, my SMTP server – but you also need the extension. In the computer world, the extension is known as a "port". Therein lies the rub.

You may not realize it, but when you surf the web, you usually use port 80. There's nothing magical about 80, it's just the port number – the telephone extension number if you will – that almost all computers use for web access.

Similarly when you send mail out to an SMTP server, you usually use port 25. Nothing magical. It's just that historically, SMTP servers have watched for incoming mail on port 25.

When your PC sends mail, the communication takes place via your internet connection. If you send mail from a laptop at home, you use your home internet connection and if you take the laptop to an internet café, you use the café's internet connection.

Last month, TT&T started blocking all email in Phuket sent to port 25 anywhere in the world. That's called "blocking port 25".

Many people who had no problem at all sending email suddenly woke up one morning and the mail wouldn't go out. No warning, no explanation. The TT&T tech support people didn't have a clue.

TT&T isn't the only culprit. I've heard that TOT has at times used the same scorched-earth approach. Other ISPs all over the world, including Telefonica, Vodafone, BritTel and many others, block port 25 at various times for various reasons.

It's a naive, draconian way to reduce outgoing spam because the SMTP servers favored by spammers frequently use port 25. Apparently somebody at TT&T decided they would reduce spam traffic over the TT&T network by shutting down all communication destined for port 25.

Blocking port 25 doesn't reduce the amount of spam you receive, it just cuts down the amount of spam originating from TT&T accounts. At the same time, it blocks legitimate outbound email for anybody whose SMTP

server is set to listen to the most common port for outbound email.

If your mail isn't going out, check the SMTP server port (see screenshot on this page). In Outlook 2003, for example, click Tools, Email Accounts. Click the account with the stalled mail and choose Properties or Change. Then click More Settings and bring up the Advanced tab.

If the SMTP port number is 25 and your mail won't go out, it's possible – I would say probable – that your email has run afoul of an ISP blocking port 25.

You can run an additional check on port 25 at www.canyouseeme.org. Also, if your PC is portable, head to an internet café that doesn't use the same ISP and see if your mail suddenly starts going out (We use TT&T at Sandwich Shoppe Patong and Chalong, but CAT at the shop in Laguna).

To solve the problem quickly, try changing the SMTP setting to 587. Many email companies now accept outbound mail on port 587 and/or on port 25.

If that doesn't work, you should contact the company that provides your email account. Send them a message that says something like, "My ISP has started blocking port 25. Is there a different SMTP port that I can use?", and they'll undoubtedly respond with a new port number. Follow the instructions they send and you should be able to send mail immediately.

If you really need to get your mail out urgently and you're using TT&T, you can cheat and use TT&T's SMTP server. I hate to recommend this as you would be using something akin to what's called an "open relay" in the computer biz – open relays are bad.

To use TT&T's SMTP server, change your SMTP server to smtp.tttmaxnet.com and change the port to 587.

Of course, the minute you move to a different ISP you have to change the SMTP server back to your original settings.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

Coral Seekers Junior Survivor



Calling all challengers aged 6-18. Looking for a new experience during the holidays this year? On July 7, this action-packed day includes professional supervision, all water and soft drinks, fresh fruits, a delicious lunch and a souvenir bandanna. Experience a thrilling speedboat ride to our desert island where tribes battle to be crowned Tribe of Champions. You'll have the chance to use the island's many activities, including volleyball and kayaking, before jumping back on your speedboat to whizz back to Phuket.

Only 2,850 baht per Survivor. This event can also be booked privately for other dates – perfect for birthday parties. From 8am to 5pm at Desert Island in the Andaman Sea. For further information contact Stuart Clark. T: 081-956 9961. E: info@coralseekers.com. W: www.coralseekers.com.

June 24-30. Phuket International Fashion Week & Music Festival

Phuket is set to host its first ever international fashion week from June 24 to June 30 at Jungceylon Shopping Complex. More than 100 top models and celebrities will showcase the latest collections from some of the world's best designers. Phuket International Fashion Week and Jungceylon will also play host to 27 of Thailand's top musicians who will perform seven concerts over seven amazing nights. All of the fashion shows are free and concert tickets start at just 300 baht. Tickets are available from Jungceylon or www.thaiticketmajor.com. Be a part of the event of the year! From 6pm to 10pm. For further information contact Mr Trisorn. T: 080-993 3331. E: info@phuketfashionweek.com. W: www.phuketfashionweek.com.

June 25. How to Help Your Toddler be Independent in the Home

Welcome to a free mini-Montessori Seminar and Open House at the Rawai Progressive International School from 9am to noon. Learn practical tips for setting up a child-friendly environment to increase your toddler's independence. Arrival / sign in from 9am to 9.30am. Speaker: Kathy Russell from 9.30am to 10.30am. School tours available until noon. Location: 14/1 M.5 Viset Road, Rawai. For bookings and further information contact Rawai Progressive International School. T: 076-288923. E: admin@montessori-thailand.com. W: www.montessori-thailand.com.

June 28. A Mid-Summer Feast

Les Anges restaurant presents a Mid-Summer Feast on Sunday, June 28, from noon to 5pm. Take a break from Wimbledon and the rain and join us for a sumptuous mid-summer buffet, starting off with summer cocktails, including Pimm's and Bucks Fizz, and a selection of terrines. Also on the menu are poached salmon, crunchy summer salads, glazed honey hams and of course, the desserts. Only 999 baht nett, including a half bottle of sparkling wine or wine per person. Reserve your table now. For further information contact Peter. T: 081-968 0738 or 076-360803. E: peterw@royalphuketmarina.com. W: www.lesangesphuket.com.

June 28. FREE Computer Clinic – Chalong

From 10am to noon at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. Is your computer driving you NUTS? Can't get a decent Internet connection? Worried about the latest viruses? Wondering what to do about your pirate software? 3G phones? High Def TV? Hey, you aren't alone. Join "For Dummies" author and Windows gadfly Woody Leonhard in our ongoing FREE Sunday morning Computer Clinics, which rotate among the three Sandwich Shoppe locations on the island. Bring your questions. Bring your computer. Bring your worry beads. And don't forget your sense of humor. Let's see if we can figure out an answer to your problems. Computer novices most welcome. Co-sponsored by the Phuket Gazette. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

July 5. FREE Computer Clinic – Patong

From 10am to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Patong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: www.KhunWoody.com.

July 7. Asarnha Bucha Day

This full-moon day of the eighth lunar month commemorates the Buddha's first sermon to his first five disciples after attaining Enlightenment more than 2,500 years ago. Evening candlelit processions are staged in all Thai Buddhist temples.

July 8. Buddhist Lent Day (Khao Pansa)

Occurs one day after the full-moon day of the eighth lunar month (Asarnha Bucha). Khao Pansa marks the beginning of the annual three-month Rain Retreat during which Buddhist monks customarily stay at a particular temple to study and meditate. The monks are not allowed to stay overnight at any other location during this period. A candle festival is held annually on this day. Sculpted beeswax candles, generally depicting mythological creatures, are carried in a ceremonial parade in each province before being presented to local temples.

July 12. Phuket Surf Lifesaving Carnival 2009

The Phuket Lifeguard Club, a non-profit organization established in 2003, invites you to join Phuket's second-ever Surf Lifesaving Carnival at Loma Park, Patong Beach on July 12 from 8:30am to 5pm. The carnival consists of 80 events for under 18s to over 50s and is open to local and international competitors with a variety of swimming, rescue and sprint events. The emphasis is on having a great time and being part of a great sporting event. The event is being sponsored by Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort. For further information contact Jayne MacDougall. T: 089-645 2576.

E: jayne.macdougall@lemeridien.com.

W: phuketlifeguard.com.

July 12. FREE Computer Clinic – Laguna

From 10am to noon at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com.

W: www.KhunWoody.com.

July 14. French National Day at Royal Phawadee Village

Celebrate French National Day with friends and family from 6:30pm to 11:30pm at Royal Phawadee Village, Patong Beach on Tuesday, July 14. Our one-star Michelin chef Mr Yvon Blandin of Mae Nam Restaurant and Chef Lugsanawan Panpwan of La Boucherie restaurant will be making authentic French cuisine for what will be a thoroughly enjoyable and unforgettable celebration. To join this exciting event, please book before July 10. For further information contact Claude de Crissey. T: 076-344614, 076-345576 or 081-893 6677.

E: claudede@crisseyco.com.

W: www.royal-phawadee-village.com.

July 16. Boathouse Writer's Night with S. Tsow

S. Tsow washed up on the sunny shores of Thailand in 1986. While his main occupation was teaching English at Thammasat University, he contributed humor and travel articles to the *Bangkok Post* and *The Nation*, resulting in collections published in two books, *Thai Lite 1* and *Thai Lite 2*. Tsow has also been writing for the *Phuket Gazette* for well over a decade, and is now approaching his 200th Tsowndings column for the newspaper. "Somebody must tell this guy it's time to quit," critics have grumbled, but Tsow, now a senile 71, responds by turning off his hearing aid and croaking, "I'll keep inflicting literary atrocities upon the public till they pry the keyboard from my cold, dead hands." From 7pm to 9pm at Mom Tri's Boathouse. For further information contact Lisa Sol. T: 076-330015. E: pr@boathousephuket.com.

W: www.boathousephuket.com.

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ON THE MOVE

Mr Andreas Kohn has been appointed as the new Director of Marketing for Courtyard by Marriott Phuket at Kamala Beach, Patong Beach and Surin Beach as well as the Courtyard by Marriott Hua Hin at Cha-am Beach. Andreas joined Marriott in November 1996 and has held several positions, including director of sales and marketing for the Marriott Munich. Prior to his current position he was with the Marriott Global Sales team as director of account sales for central Europe.



Ms Nura Arbu was recently promoted to the position of Guest Service Manager at the Allamanda Laguna Phuket. Ms Nura is a native of Yala province and has worked at the Allamanda for the past one and a half years. Before her promotion, Ms Nura held the position of Guest Service Agent. Her new duties will include operating the front office in a manner in keeping with Allamanda Laguna Phuket standards as well as co-ordinating with other departments within the resort.



Mr Thanawan Tongsu-khote has been appointed as the new Chief of Phuket Provincial Employment. In his new role, Mr Thanawan will be responsible for helping local graduates and the unemployed find work as well as dealing with foreign employment opportunities and work permit applications. Originally from Bangkok, Mr Thanawan's previous position was Labor Minister-Counselor at the Royal Thai Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he worked for over three years.



Profit from the future

Investment funds that delve into the futures market are rapidly becoming a more common investment practice. Just about everything in the investment world has a "cash" price and a "future" price.

This includes stockmarket indexes, bond prices, currencies, soft commodities like wheat, hard commodities such as gold and energy, like natural gas or oil – to list just a few.

Many participants in the futures markets are not there simply to make a trading profit. Airlines, for example, routinely use futures markets to "hedge" future fuel costs. Large food companies and others in the agriculture industry need to set future prices in case of floods or droughts for example.

The entry to these markets by fund managers and proprietary traders, for example, does not cause problems. In fact in any market, the more participants there are, the greater depth a market has, making it easier to trade. It is in thinly traded markets that suffer a lack of liquidity that participants encounter the most structural problems.

Even with shares in, say, General Electric, an investor may

not like the price obtained on sale but at least there is a published open price.

In the case of a small company listed on a stockmarket in times of market or individual company stress, it may be difficult, if not impossible to sell the holding. After all, transactions require counter parties to be concluded.

Funds that invest in futures are only as good as their managers. With that in mind, there is a strong trend towards emotionless trading by computers. Traders, being human, have egos and emotions and leaving this unchecked can lead to trading losses. Computers do not have these potential liabilities and just continue trading in line with their trading program.

Many of these approaches tend to be trend followers, where the computer analyzes price movements and follows prices upwards or downwards. When a medium or longer-term trend takes hold, this can lead to substantial gains. In addition, when computer-driven systems are on the wrong side of a trade, they simply terminate their involvement. Such is the advantage of emotionless trading.

One of the great advantages of the futures market is

that profits can be made as easily from falling markets as from rising ones. This is not, however, quite as simple when a fund is trying to short individual shares for example.

An interesting feature of futures markets – something also relevant to all currency trading – is that just because an economy is in a slump – even one as bad as we are experiencing at the moment – nothing changes. It is business as usual. This is worthwhile for any investor to consider. Why just invest in "things" that do well in good years? Surely it is only common sense to include areas that carry on regardless.

What funds eventually offer investors is choice and diversification. Another whole group of funds are known as "index trackers" and, as the name would suggest, they offer the ability for investors to "track" an index. For example, an investor may wish to track an index like the Standard & Poors (S & P) 500.

It may be possible to replicate said index by buying all 500 shares in the index in the quantities required, but it would be time consuming and would require substantial amounts of capital. In addition, there are frequent changes to the composition of the index and that would require more activity.

Pension fund managers, for example, have noted that fund managers were usually unable to match the performance of a major index such as the S&P 500 or the FTSE100 for example. Sta-



The futures division of the New York Stock Exchange.

tistically, fund managers only managed to match or outperform these indexes, one year out of four, or even five.

This underlined the need for a new approach and led to the introduction of index trackers. A basic index tracker can be as simple as an exact reconstruction of an index, mirroring its performance. This is called full replication. Another index tracker can give partial replication of an index, but will introduce a bias of "out performance" in good times and the reverse in falling markets.

While investors can still buy and sell this fund at their local branch, it is also possible to use it as an exchange traded fund (ETF). What started globally as index trackers has now developed into something new and interesting.

ETFs can be bought and sold like any individual share. In theory, one could buy and sell an ETF several times in one day; exit and entry costs are near zero. World-

wide, ETFs are now very popular with the biggest range of choice being available in America.

As ETFs are passive funds, there is no active management taking place inside the fund except where necessary to balance components of an index.

They not only cover indexes, but a whole variety of investment choices. Fund managers may even use ETFs inside an active fund as an easy way to cover certain areas.

Most funds, particularly those that invest in stockmarkets, issue quarterly reports that show all interested parties the holdings of the fund at the end of that period. Any investor looking at this report will no doubt be very impressed with the quality of the shares held. All the winners of the preceding quarter will likely be there.

Welcome to the wonderful world of window dressing!

It is very common and not illegal, for fund managers noting the impending end of yet another quarter, to sell poorer performing shares and to buy the winners of the current quarter. This is called "window dressing". In common with most advertising, it is there to present something in its best light.

Richard G. Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service, and has over 25 years of experience in this field. He can be reached at: 076-381997 or 081-081 4611. Or email imm@loxinfo.co.th. Web: www.global-portfolios.com.



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By Richard Watson

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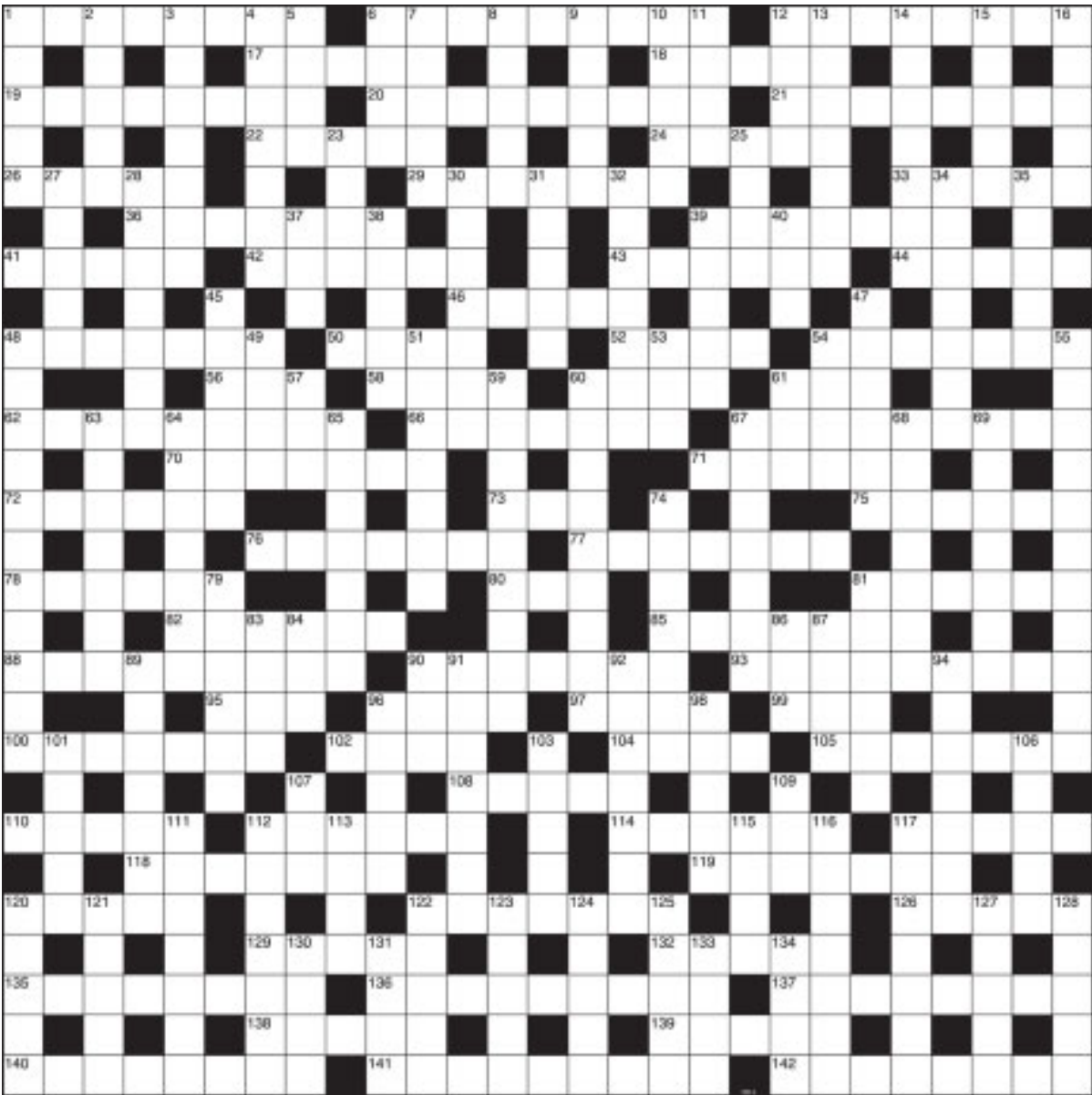


Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid are lots of places in Thailand. The words may read vertically, horizontally or diagonally. They may also read right-to-left or down-to-up. Score: 15 or more, good; 20 or more, very good; 25 or more, excellent.

Solution on the next page.

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



The BIG Crossword

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- Across
1. Ransacks

6. Occurrence

12. Gleefully chuckles

17. Steed

18. Vietnamese city

19. Profitable

20. Purgatives

21. Agreeable

22. Drilling insect

24. Metal alloy

26. Shop clearances

29. Perfumed bags

33. Desert springs

36. Stowage space

39. Lobe jewellery

41. Converses

42. Cut in two

43. Cheesy white sauce

44. Lucifer

46. Conclude (3,2)

48. Primped

50. Oven

52. Mexican food shell

54. Clambered (up)

56. Rooster's mate

58. Immense time spans

60. Record perform

61. Logger's tool

62. Halfway across

66. Songs

67. Major celebrities

70. Picnic baskets

71. International charity club

72. Topped with

73. Blabber

75. Threefold

76. Implore

77. Travel cheats,

78. Attack suddenly

80. Facial twitch

81. Actor,... Beatty

82. Dogged

85. Fallen idol (3-4)

88. Roughening agents

90. Delude

93. Greeting gesture

95. ...& lass

96. Beer ingredient

97. June 6, 1944 (1-3)

99. Obscured

100. Of clay

102. Heave

104. Biblical first man

105. Renege

108. Sweeping aid

110. Beauty parlour

112. Muse

114. Habitual user

117. Make ends meet

118. Train system

119. Small motorbike

120. Kisses lightly

122. Commercials

126. Academy Award

129. Dispatches

132. Tropical fruit

135. Retaliation

136. Alienated

137. Unruly (of hair)

138. Flying fowls

139. Mature

140. Warrants

141. Pushchairs

142. Multi-partner

2. Customary

3. Hates

4. Edible leafstalk

5. Single-handed

6. Tiny island

7. Comes towards

8. Singer,... Hayes

9. Expel from home-

10. Royal board game

11. Sunrise direction

12. Manage

13. Mountaineer, Sir

14. Motivations

15. Escapes (of gas)

16. Overfills

23. Cloth scraps

25. Panache

27. Loathe

28. Regards highly

30. Aerial

31. Takes note of

32. Lured

34. Opposed to

35. Wipe out

37. Point gun

38. Spooky

39. Construct (building)

40. Light beam

45. Iran's capital

47. Prevent

48. Red seedy fruit

49. Judge

51. Shellfish

53. Idiot

54. Long story

55. Shrewdness

57. Snooze

59. Least

60. Cooked outdoors

61. Movie filming area

63. Dowdier

64. Craves

65. Childhood disease

67. Addictively yummy

68. Damascus natives

69. Canadian province

74. Capital of Iraq

79. Summoned (taxi)

81. Joined in matrimony

83. Tennis ace,... Lendl

84. Preceded

86. Rubbish!

87. Writer,... Blyton

89. Book's drawings

90. Disfigure

91. Rude (3-4)

92. Unrelenting

94. Radiators

96. Soiled

98. Enclosed areas

101. Conscious

103. Overeat

106. Tripoli is there

107. Captured soldier

109. Non-com (1,1,1)

111. Beastlier

112. Feathers

113. German WWII fas-

115. Holy statue

116. Large Canadian city

117. Rocks science

120. Trimmed (nails)

121. Sleeveless coats

122. Financial holding

123. Aug/Sept star sign

124. Of the kidneys

125. Daub

127. Hooded snake

128. Red (complexion)

130. Pub drinks

131. Minus

133. States further

134. Rapid swallow
- Down
1. Swells,... up

su | do | ku

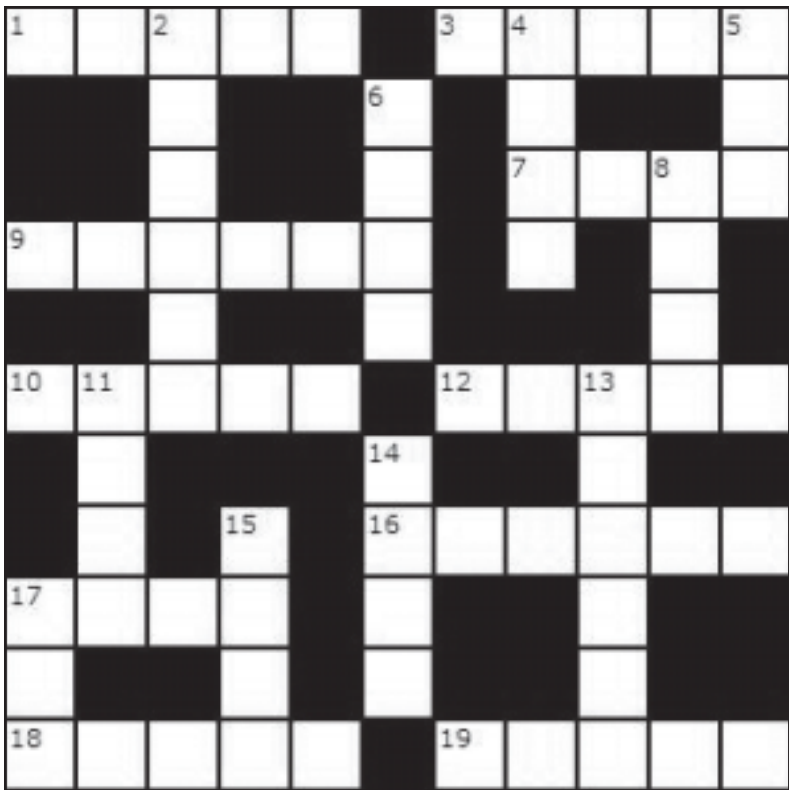
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Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

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

Solution on next page



Quick Crossword

Across

1. Normal
3. Walker
7. Birthday...
9. Smells bad
10. Apple or pear drink
12. Fury
16. Happenings
17. Water
18. Every 24 hours
19. The Pyramids' home

Down

2. Mean
4. Scratch
5. Color
6. Hurry
8. Food
11. Country
13. Softly
14. Coral...
15. For trains
17. Help

Solution below

Get your brain in gear with the MONSTER QUIZ

1. What was the name of inn in *Treasure Island*?
2. Famous escape artist Erich Weiss was better known as whom?
3. Who sailed the *Nina*, *Pinta* and *Santa Maria*?
4. Which historical leader died in St Helena?
5. Who wrote the classic *Gone with the Wind*?
6. A ring a ring a roses refers to what?
7. Whose nose grew whenever he told a lie?
8. Who has won the most Oscars in history?
9. What would a Scotsman do with a spurtle?
10. Which award has the words for valour on it?
11. If you had pogonophobia what would you be afraid of?
12. Who would 'take silk' as part of their job?
13. Who won an Oscar for his part in the *African Queen*?
14. Who sang the theme song to the movie *9 to 5*?
15. What in business terms is the IMF?
16. Ringo Star narrates which children's TV series?
17. Which country grows the most fruit year on year?
18. Which computer company is owned by Bill Gates?
19. What would you do with a maris piper?
20. In *Casablanca* what is the name of the nightclub?

Answers below



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Puzzle Solutions

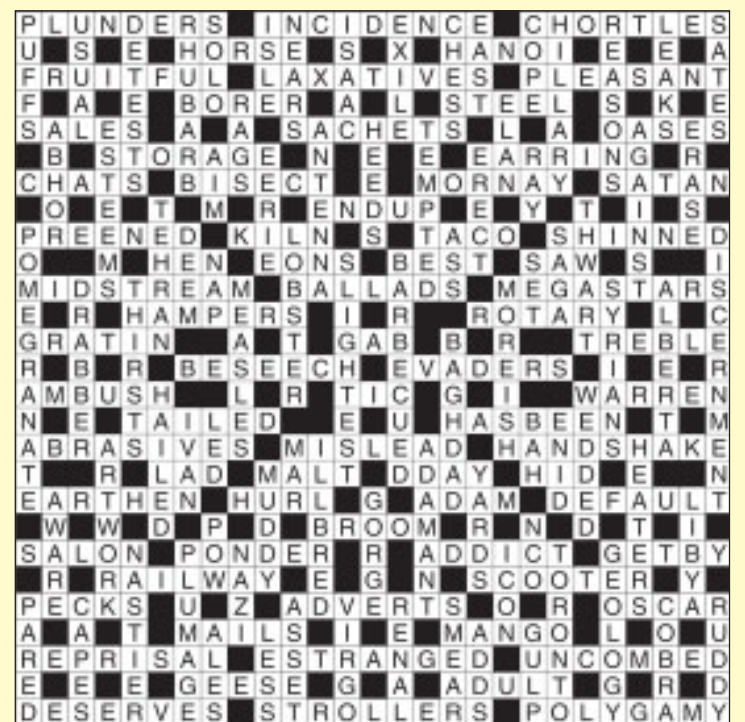
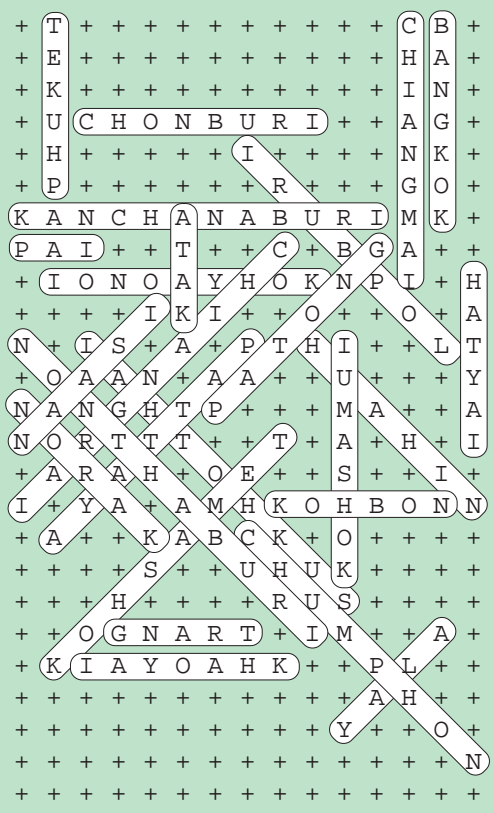
Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



Monster Quiz Answers

1. Admiral Benbow; 2. Harry Houdini; 3. Christopher Columbus 4. Napoleon Bonaparte; 5. Margaret Mitchell; 6. The Black Death; 7. Pinocchio; 8. Walt Disney; 9. Eat porridge (it's a spoon); 10. Victoria Cross; 11. Beards; 12. Barrister; 13. Humphrey Bogart; 14. Dolly Parton; 15. International Monetary Fund; 16. Thomas the tank engine; 17. China; 18. Microsoft ; 19. Eat it - it's a potato; 20. Rick's.

Hidden Words SOLUTION



Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

A steep decline and fall



Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

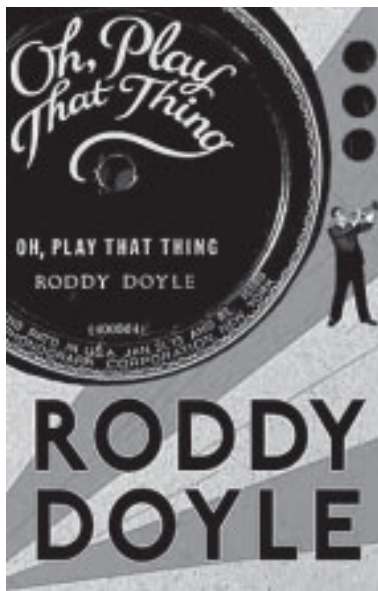
John Updike, who died in January this year, was still battling novels out of the park age 77. The New Yorker recently published eight pages of poems he had written on the subject of his battle against cancer.

Roddy Doyle, at the age of 51, has followed a predictable and alas more common trajectory. First came the comic trilogy of his youth – *The Commitments*, *The Snapper* and *The Van* – describing the antics of a working class family in Dublin. These were three slender novels crackling with jokes and pratfalls. Then came his mature masterpiece, *Paddy Clark, Ha Ha Ha*, which

won the Booker Prize. This was followed by a tale of wife beating, *The Woman Who Walked Into Doors* which, though inferior to its predecessor, still pulsed with the life of Dublin's streets. His sixth novel, *A Star Called Henry*, was unreadable – a fat combination of magic realism and historical fiction about the Irish uprising of 1916 – and I tossed it aside, despairing of the decline and fall of a fine writer.

Even though *Oh Play That Thing* (Vintage, New York, 2004, 376pp) is a sequel to that disaster, hope springs eternal. Only to be dashed. The sequel is just as bad: another fat plotless tale peopled by grotesque caricatures who speak an odd form of dialect of never more than three sentences. Descriptions too are in a similar monotonous staccato beat.

The book starts with the hero of the previous novel, Henry Smart, 23 years old, arriving at New York's Ellis Island in 1924. He's on the run for the murders he committed for the Irish cause in 1916. He's thrown immediately into the cauldron of immigrant



ambition – Jewish, Irish, Italian, Polish – on the Lower East Side, walking around with advertising shoulder boards while peddling moonshine whiskey on the side. Doyle does pull off some gritty glamor in his description of the scrappy kids of the teeming streets: "Hunger was hunger. Fear was fear. These kids were fighting for their place on the couple of streets that were the world; growing up, grabbing the

chance, shoving up to the big guys, the Yiddish Gomorra or the Italian gangs, or the Polish or the Irish, terrified behind the strut, praying behind their sneers. Street kids measured everything. A kid here could earn a buck for poisoning a horse or a nickel for sharpening hairpins, to be stuck into the scabs who kept their mothers and sisters out of the sweatshops. They could steal anything – a pickle, a shirt, a Buick – and find a taker while they were still running."

Henry Smart runs afoul of the gangster bigwigs of the time and flees to an idyllic farming village, is hunted down and flees again to Chicago where he takes up work in the infamous stockyards: "the air around us wet with slaughter, a stink that caught in the throat and tongue, rich and sometimes sickening; nearer into the big howl, the cries, of river of that day's pigs and cattle, the drovers among them, on horseback – there was money in this business – to the packing house, six days a week, seven o'clock till seven, and sometimes, when the trains came fat and full, it

was dark at both ends of the working day."

In Chicago, he meets up with Louis Armstrong and again there is some fine description of jazz playing. He is adopted by Armstrong as his white companion and bodyguard and follows him back to Broadway in New York.

But all the while the plot is crumbling all around this shambling enterprise, with wild coincidences and desperate lurches into the future. And suddenly we're fast-forwarding into the Depression of the 1930s and with Henry and his reunited Irish bride and children riding the rails with hobos. In 1946, Henry winds up alone and nearly dead of thirst in the desert in Utah's Monument Valley. There he's rescued by Henry Fonda who's making *My Darling Clementine* with director John Ford who's Irish and interested in Henry's Smart's story.

At the end, Doyle lists the hundreds of books he read for this hodgepodge of a novel. That's right: write about what you don't know.

Horoscopes



Isla Star

CANCER (June 22-July 23): Cancerians could feel as though progress is at a standstill, but subtle forces are at work behind the scenes. As the month of July begins, you will receive reassuring news concerning a financial problem. Even if you haven't been planning relocation, a tempting offer comes out of the blue early next week. Those with a birthday this week will have brighter energy in the year ahead. Number five is lucky this weekend.

LEO (July 24-August 22): Being the underdog is not your style and many Leos will have to make this clear during the coming days. Tuesday is a good day to clarify your position calmly, but firmly. In the realm of romance, an earth sign is ready for an honest relationship, but another fire sign is being economical with the truth. Money matters begin to improve in July, but investments are best left on the back burner.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Turning over a new leaf could be on many Virgoans' agendas this week. The stars suggest that a fresh perspective on love will help those who are single. If you are already spoken for, your partner's hints about spending more quality time together get louder – try finding a new hobby that you can enjoy together. Money flows more quickly towards you than anticipated at the end of June.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): As June starts, many Librans will realize that they are dissatisfied with certain areas of their lives. Where work is concerned, you will have opportunity to expand your interests later this month, but only if you maintain a positive outlook. If your heart's not in a certain romantic relationship, the person concerned would appreciate your honesty this weekend. Wear the color ruby red to encourage a more sparkling mood.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Those Scorpios who are skilled at showing others what they want to see are forecast to receive a taste of their own medicine this week. Another water sign could convince you to join them in a business project that is not the ticket to success they would have you believe. Your romantic interest in Aries has been noted – expect an interesting development to take place very soon. Number nine is lucky on Monday.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Many Sagittarians will be glad that they had some extra time off last week. The last few days of June have some surprises in store – most of them pleasant. You can avoid a negative development by not making business decisions hastily on Monday and Tuesday, when a persistent Pisces is determined to put pressure on. Good news from family overseas is forecast

to give reason for celebration this weekend.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Moving on to pastures new may provide the motivation you've been seeking. Many of those born under the sign of Capricorn could finally admit to themselves that life is not as satisfying as it should be. Auspicious astral conditions during the first part of July will support your endeavors to find fulfillment. A Leo friend has some useful advice this weekend, but Sagittarius doesn't have your best interests at heart.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Aquarians are set to reach a creative peak at the end of June. As one idea goes off the boil, another soon catches fire. Your main problem will come from others' inability to keep up with you. The best signs to work with are other air signs and some earth signs. A business liaison with Cancer is forecast to dissolve before it really gets off the ground. Your lucky number this weekend is four.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): Pisceans discover that an earth sign colleague is on the same wavelength after all. This breakthrough should allow a project to finally become reality and the first half of July is predicted to be a busy time. Romance also needs your attention – if you want a new relationship to succeed, more input is re-

quired. A minor windfall this week is cause for celebration. Wear the color apricot to encourage confidence.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): After a difficult time in June, there is now more fun ahead for Arians. Although life will not be one long banana boat ride in July, boredom certainly won't be a problem. Your more carefree attitude attracts new friends and the path of true love is easier to find. Those who are single could fall hook, line and sinker for a lonely Libran this weekend. The number eight can bring good luck on Tuesday.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Taureans who missed an opportunity by a cat's whisker in the middle of June receive welcome news this week. Chances of fi-

nancial gain are red hot during the first part of July, but you will need to stay on the ball. Before the pace picks up, enjoy some quality relaxation this weekend at an impromptu party. Romance with Aries is well-starred, but Capricorn expects to have too much control. Number five is lucky.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): You receive clear signs that a business deal you had been counting on could be shady. Geminis are advised to back down gracefully and concentrate on working with those whose integrity can be counted on. Romance is affected by a partner's outside interests this weekend – compromise is the only answer. Those who are single appreciate a friend's matchmaking on Sunday. The number six can bring good fortune on Tuesday.



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The Phuket Gazette

- Since 1994 -

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Ignorance is bliss

With lifeguards now stationed at Phuket's most popular tourist beaches, along with signs and flags warning of the dangerous surf and undercurrents, it is hoped there will be a significant drop in the number of drownings. However, it would be unwise to hold one's breath, knowing that many will choose to simply ignore the signs and the advice of the lifeguards on duty.

Although the English-language warning signs at the beaches have been installed for the benefit of the island's tourists, it is mostly these visitors who choose to ignore them. According to the company charged with putting the lifeguards on the beaches, more than 90 people were pulled from the surf within the first 10 days of operations, most of them foreigners. One Italian holidaymaker was not so lucky.

Few of those who got into difficulties in the water can honestly claim they weren't aware of the dangers. They would either have seen the warning signs or the red flags prominently positioned along the beach, and some would even have been approached and warned by the lifeguards on duty not to go in the sea.

Being sucked under the surf is a humbling experience, especially if one is warned not to go in before hand. Those who have been saved owe a lot to the people who risked their own lives to save them.

Of course, there's no denying that the prospect of swimming at beautiful beaches is what attracts most tourists in the first place, but the blame for refusing to heed good, local advice rests only with those who choose to ignore it.

We see a similar kind of ignorance on the roads in the form of topless, shoeless and helmetless cavaliers on motorized steeds who believe they are invincible simply because they are on holiday.

However, when foreigners are injured or killed on the roads, it is often down to complacency brought about by the fact they see everyone else getting away with dangerous behavior. Most Westerners grow up with a sense of safety awareness that is instilled by a constant barrage of reminders of the dangers we face on a daily basis.

But even the most safety conscious are prone to conveniently forgetting everything they've learned once they set foot in Thailand; forgetting for the sake of having a good time. But when it comes to safety, local and Western reasoning is as different as the two cultures. In the minds of superstitious locals, the act of putting on protective gear, such as a life jacket or a crash helmet is tantamount to tempting fate, whereas the safety-conscious would rather be prepared for any eventuality; "better safe than sorry", as they say.

Let's hope that the appearance of lifeguards is the beginning of a new trend in general safety awareness at the beaches and on the roads. But let's not hold our breath.

- The Editor



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.

Seeing Red

As a visiting Kiwi yachting, I have enjoyed reading the *Phuket Gazette* every week and enjoy Patrick Campbell's Nature & Nurture articles, having been a keen gardener in my land life. In his "Seeing Red" article [*Gazette*, June 20], he talks about Oleander Trees and wonders why they are not more widely grown in Phuket. As Oleanders are one of the most poisonous plants on earth, it is probably just as well that they are not widely grown here, and plantings should not be encouraged. The sap is the most poisonous, but all parts are poisonous, and ingesting a single leaf could be fatal for a small child. I remember some years ago in New Zealand when a whole family nearly died when they used the wood as firewood to heat their house. The smoke given off was so toxic that it nearly killed them. Luckily, that's not likely to happen in this climate.

Janine Ganley
Napier, New Zealand

Double pricing is fair enough to me

The double pricing policy used in Thailand is obviously something people feel very strongly about. To me it's quite logical. Phuket is part of a developing country and a large part of its income comes from tourism. The national parks are some of Thailand's best natural resources, so why wouldn't the Thais try to make a bit of money from them?

Farangs need to look at this the other way round. You're not being charged more than Thai people. Thai people are being

charged less because generally speaking they have less money than westerners. The prices are fairly proportioned given the two different incomes. Nobody has a problem when kids and old people are charged less for the very same reason.

Once you have stopped worrying about what other people are paying, you need to ask yourself whether this is good value for money. As far as I'm concerned a couple of pounds to spend a day in a beautiful national park is fantastic value for money. If your argument is that you live and work here, then maybe you have a point, but on the other hand, nobody asked you to leave your country and come and live in a country where the economy is much worse. As far as Thai people are concerned, you are still a *farang* who has the potential to be very wealthy by Thai standards, so why should you pay less than any other *farang*?

WOOHOO
Thai Visa / Gazette
Phuket Forum

Blow my whistle

I was nursing a hangover the other day and as I pulled into a petrol station to top my bike up, my fragile state of mind was assaulted by the piercing shrill of one of the attendants blasting away on his whistle. Why, oh why do petrol station attendants need whistles? People know where they have to go to get petrol – the pump is a bit of a giveaway.

I understand the need for the police to have them when directing traffic – although it's still irritating – or for lifeguards to have them at the beach, but petrol

station attendants or supermarket staff? What's worse is when you get a few members of staff all blasting away at the same time, the noise is truly unbearable.

Please Esso, Shell or whoever, take your whistles away from your staff and save our poor damaged ears.

James Slater
Bang Tao

Be good to them

I read the *Gazette* every week and noticed in the last couple of issues or so a some articles about the children from the Phuket Has Been Good To Us Foundation. I recently had the pleasure of meeting the kids from the foundation and I can honestly say what a delight it was to meet such nice, polite and well-behaved kids, who had seemingly permanent mile-wide smiles stretched across their faces.

These kids have so little and many have lost so much at such a young age, but they are clearly determined to get the most they can out of life and the foundation seems to be doing a great job. I think back to the kids that are living in England who are rude, aggressive and are growing increasingly loutish and it saddens me. These are children who have everything handed to them on a plate and don't appreciate anything, whereas the kids here deserve to be given that opportunity.

It costs 10,000 baht to sponsor a foundation child for a year, which for me is a decent enough chunk, but it's something I'm considering doing in the future.

Mark Smallman
Surin

The Phuket Gazette

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Editor: Parichat Utintu

Managing Editor: Nick Davies

Editorial Team:

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Publisher: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

Contact us

Advertising Sales: adsales@phuketgazette.net

Classified Advertising: classads@phuketgazette.net

Website Services: koy@phuketgazette.net

Gazette Guide inquiries: guide@phuketgazette.net

Events Sponsorships: jib@phuketgazette.net

Telephone: 076-236555 (10 lines) **Fax:** 076-213971

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Lifesaving needs to be taken seriously



FIRST PERSON

Jayne Macdougall was one of the founders of Phuket Lifeguards Club in 2003. She was also co-organizer of the first Surf Lifesaving Carnival in Phuket in 2008, now an annual event. Jayne currently works at Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort as a director of Risk Management and Loss Prevention. She also assists with the Nipper Carnival project to train children to be water confident and know basic safety as well as have an interest in a variety of safety issues.

The slogan "Safety First" is popular in Thailand and it would be good if the Phuket authorities would heed this message and take the simple steps required to properly manage the island's public beaches.

The problem is not simply down to a lack of funding, but a lack of will to protect visitors from their own ignorance of the dangers of the sea. The solution to the high rate of drowning is clear, yet seems beyond the understanding of the provincial government or the tourism industry and its peak bodies.

Every visitor drowning has a ripple effect in that visitor's home country. Every fatality on the beach in Phuket is witnessed by other visitors and re-told at home. Accidental deaths in tourist destinations are the worst kind of publicity possible and negate the positive image Phuket is paying millions of baht each year to project to the world.

Phuket is a tourist destination that attracts visitors from all over the world, whether it be for business meetings or rest and relaxation, but everyone arrives here with the expectation of a safe and incident-free visit.

To complement all the as-

sets of Phuket, we desperately need to provide a system of water safety that showcases Phuket not only as a destination with beautiful beaches, but as a safe place to swim and somewhere that embraces water safety and beach management to international standards. This is essential to continue to attract both local and overseas tourists and to avoid preventable injury and loss of life through failing to provide a safe, patrolled beach environment.

What do we need to do to bring Phuket up to standard?

Firstly, all signs on beaches must be clear with information about the following: swimming zones – preferably ones that prohibit motorized watercraft; flag systems that clearly indicate the water safety conditions and whether the area is patrolled by lifeguards or not, specific hazards for that area, for example currents or rips, jellyfish or stingers, reef areas and motorized boats ramps, and information regarding prohibitions, whether it be times to control or prohibit animal access, alcohol, boating or fishing.

Secondly, Phuket needs to have skilled lifeguards on beaches, not merely people in a uniform who sit in a tower. These people must be trained to

a minimum standard, be physically fit, able to swim to the equivalent of a bronze medallion level, able to use rescue techniques to an internationally recognized level and must know how to "manage a beach".

The lifeguard must know how to watch his or her patrol area and how to recognize tired swimmers or those in difficulty as well as being proficient in first aid for a multitude of scenarios – marine stings, cuts and abrasions, heatstroke, fractures and dislocations, heart attack and seizure – not to mention being skilled at a variety of water rescue techniques and CPR.

Lifeguards should also collect statistics about incidents, giving insight into the types and numbers of incidents to allow better preparation and training. Lifeguards must also be able to train annually so they are familiar with the latest techniques.

The third area is equipment. Phuket lifeguards need to have equipment to carry out their job. Any lifeguard requires a tower, a flag system, whistle or a bell, rescue equipment, Ambu-bag, pocket masks, gloves, access to oxygen, a stretcher/backboard, first aid supplies and vinegar.

Phuket now has a good sys-

tem of responding to emergency calls and claims to be able to reach an accident in 10 minutes, but for the person who is unconscious and not breathing, that is too long.

A properly trained lifeguard can improve the chance of survival for a victim.

Of course, not every rescue is a success. Some situations will have a tragic ending regardless of the skill, training and action of a lifeguard, but if all the pieces are in place we give the beach goer the best possible chance of survival and sometimes that is all we can do.

Phuket needs to give every swimmer this opportunity. It needs to take responsibility for the people who come to use our beaches and their wellbeing, not just look for tourist dollars.

Finally, Phuket's local government needs to take responsibility for beach safety.

Contracting a company to provide a rescue service on the beach is a good start, but each community must also ensure that structures, signs in poor condition, damaged bridges or other access are safe and free of hazards and that beaches are cleaned of dangerous items such as broken glass and syringes.

Garbage bins must be provided so that waste materials are disposed of properly.

In countries like Australia, where there are extensive networks of both voluntary and professional lifeguards, they have the experience of dealing with a highly skilled group of men and women, trained to a minimum standard.

After years of relying on lifeguards, Australia has now incorporated some duties along with the rights and responsibilities of lifeguards into the law to ensure the safety of swimmers.

Australian lifeguards are responsible for the safety of swimmers in a patrolled zone and when a swimmer willfully enters the surf ignoring warnings, the police can be summoned to the scene and may arrest an individual.

Community links and two-way communication remain an important part of safety and it is often easy to criticize, particularly after things go wrong. We as a community need to assist with this task by becoming involved and demanding change. Many people have shared their opinions about what needs to be done and it is clearly an opportune time for local authorities to take positive action.

Issues & ANSWERS

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

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The do's and don'ts of giving blood

Can I donate blood if I am drunk? How many beers could I have before doing so? Can I eat before I give blood? What else do I need to know?

Kevin Bryant
Phuket City

Miss Saowapark Wisutsiri, employee of Vachira Phuket Hospital replies:

No, you can't give blood if you are drunk. Giving blood is a serious commitment and please ensure the following before you donate blood:

You must be aged between 17 and 55 and weigh more than 50kg. Get at least six hours sleep the night before and eat a main meal that contains iron, but

avoids high cholesterol foods before donating.

Drink three to four glasses of water, juice or milk beforehand. Don't have caffeine, don't drink alcohol at least 24 hours before donating and do not smoke one hour before and one hour after donating blood.

While you are donating the blood, please ensure that you wear comfortable, loose clothing that can be lifted above the elbow.

Choose the arm where the vein is most prominent and don't choose an area of skin that is bruised or has a rash. If you have any allergies please inform the person who will withdraw the blood.

Make sure you are relaxed and don't chew gum or have

candy while donating the blood. Squeeze the ball you will be given continuously and if you start to shake or feel dizzy or numb please tell the officer taking the blood immediately.

After you have finished, do not get up too fast. Lay down for a short period until you feel OK and then go and get something to eat and drink.

After donating blood, make sure you drink plenty of water for the next couple of days and avoid doing strenuous exercise or using a sauna.

Do not lift anything heavy with the arm you donated blood from for 24 hours and if you feel dizzy or faint, sit down and put your head between your knees or lie down and elevate your feet above head height until you

begin to feel normal.

If you are bleeding from your arm, do not panic. Press your fingers or your hand on your arm and elevate it for about three to five minutes.

If after doing this the blood does not stop, come back and see a doctor or nurse.

If your job involves climbing or working with machinery you should take a day off before returning to work.

Eat plenty of food that is iron-rich and take an iron tablet once a day.

For more information please contact the Blood Transfusion Medical Section, Vachira Phuket Hospital, 353 Yaowarat Road, Tambon Taladyai, Ampur Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-361234 #1285.

Goetz claims silver medal in Malaysia

British International School student Bianca Goetz produced a lifetime best to take a silver medal in 800m freestyle at the 33rd Southeast Asian Age Group Championships in Kuala Lumpur, continuing the fine form she has demonstrated so far in 2009.

Following her second place finish in the 13-14 years old category, Goetz now has high hopes of representing Singapore at the sixth Asian Age Group Championships to be held in Tokyo, later this year.

Goetz was selected to represent her country in Malaysia by virtue of the three medals she secured during the Singapore Age Group Championships staged in March, where she took two silvers and a bronze in the 400 meter, 800m and 200m freestyle respectively.

In her first event at the championships, nerves appeared to get the better of Goetz and she was unable to improve on the 400m freestyle time that she set earlier this year, finishing in sixth place.

Day two brought an improved performance from Phuket's sole representative and, although Goetz again finished in sixth place, the BIS student managed to set yet another lifetime best of 2:12:26 in the 200m freestyle.

The 800m on the third day of competition provided Goetz with her best chance of success and she responded with a virtuoso performance, breaking her personal best and claiming the silver medal in an impressive 9:21:51.

With the medal in the bag, Goetz's focus now returns to training as she prepares for the Asian Championships in August.

In Tokyo she will go head-to-head with swimmers from Asia's powerhouse nations Japan, China and South Korea in the hunt for further silverware.

New classes announced for the 2009 Phuket King's Cup Regatta

Following the announcement of the 23rd Phuket King's Cup Regatta dates earlier this month, organizers have outlined plans to introduce a number of new classes and develop the current class structure further in response to demand and changes in Asia's fleet of yachts.

The 23rd Phuket King's Cup Regatta will take place from November 28 to December 5.

After contacting a number of yacht clubs and Optimist sailors in Thailand, event organizers plan to introduce an Optimist class to the King's Cup Regatta in 2009.

A surge of grass roots sailing around Thailand in recent years has seen an increase in the amount of juniors taking up Optimist sailing. In response to this, organizers are hoping to add a competitive class in which junior sailors can hone their skills further.

Following the announcement, organizers report the feed-

back has been positive.

While Phuket is home to two active sailing clubs with a number of youth sailors.

Thai and expat junior sailors from Koh Samui and Hua Hin are tipped to compete in the new class. With the support of the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand, the Royal Thai Navy, and initial feedback from yacht clubs around the country, organizers expect a high turnout in the Optimist class.

In addition to the Optimist class, regatta organizers are working towards having a fleet of Hobies return to Phuket's waters. Discussions are currently underway with a number of Phuket hotels and the official Thailand Hobie representatives, Bluewater Sports, about hosting an inter-hotel Hobie competition.

"Over the past few years, we have taken a more 'professional' approach to running the regatta on the water. We have established an infrastructure



Island Fling at the 2008 Phuket King's Cup Regatta. Photo Guy Nowell

which will allow us to incorporate 'class championships' into the event where an individual class or association could join the regatta and hold their national - or world-championships at the same time," said Simon James, Race Management Director.

Another new addition planned is the 'Modern Classic class', which organizers hope will encourage older yachts to rejoin the regatta.

Meanwhile, changes are planned for the Bareboat class which may see the addition of a number of new divisions. With the large number of one-design, near one-design and same manufacturer-boats, the event planners are considering having a variety of divisions within the class, while at the same time removing the Sunsail One-Design class and making it a division in the Bareboat class.

Valiant Vagabonds narrowly defeated by HMS Bulwark



Action from the match between the Vagabonds and HMS Bulwark XV that took place at the British International school.

Two unanswered tries were enough to secure victory for a powerful side from the British naval vessel *HMS Bulwark* against the Phuket Vagabonds in a bruising 15-a-side encounter at the British International School (BIS).

Despite an unfamiliar line-up, the Vagabonds showed tremendous resilience in the face of relentless pressure from the British side, but a number of errors deep in the visitors' territory ensured they never truly threatened the scorers.

It was the navy side who started stronger, showing no side effects from two nights ashore in Phuket as they subjected the Vagabonds' defense to wave after wave of attack.

It was always going to be a tough task for a Vagabonds side containing a mixture of veterans and youngsters, including a strong BIS presence, against a physically imposing navy side. It was to their credit that they made it a competitive encounter.

With some old heads marshaling the defense, the Vagabonds' back line held strong until *HMS Bulwark's* full back, who was a constant threat throughout, found time and space to score the opening try, breaking through a couple of despairing Vagabond tackles on his way to the line. The resulting conversion was missed leaving the score 5-0. *HMS Bulwark* continued to press and the early stages of the game were played almost exclusively in the Vagabonds' half.

The British XV used their greater physical strength and speed to good effect against the relatively inexperienced Vagabonds side and the second try came when the visitors' dominant pack finally forced the ball over the line following a series of mauls. This time the kicker made no mistake, adding the extras to give *HMS Bulwark* a

well-deserved 12-0 lead.

To their credit, the Vagabonds started to come back into the match and enjoyed a little possession as the visitors' passing became more erratic as half time loomed.

The Vagabonds started the second period brightly, enjoying some quality possession inside *HMS Bulwark's* 22, but were thwarted when some crucial passes went astray.

HMS Bulwark rallied and laid siege to the Vagabonds' goal line in the closing stages, desperate to add a final try. They were continually frustrated in their efforts by a resolute Vagabonds rearguard, boosted by a cameo appearance from center Barry Daniels, and the home side were able to keep the score to just 12-0.

HMS Bulwark fly half Ben Wadham was pleased with the way his side played.

"Most of the boys have been out in Patong the last couple of nights but I don't think it affected our performance. The pitch here is great, much better than we had expected. We haven't played for a while but we have a couple of players who have represented the navy at rugby," he said.

The game also marked the final appearance of BIS teacher and Vagabonds veteran Barry Daniels, who is leaving Phuket after eight years.

"I played my first rugby match in my first ever week here so it is fitting that I got to play in my final rugby match in my last week here. It was good to get a run out myself but seeing some of the kids that I have coached playing today was the best bit," he said.

-James Goyder

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Mick Healey's *Minx* flirts with success in race six of ACYC series



Roger Kingdom's *Moto Inzi* dominated from start to finish to secure line honors and overall victory in the class.

Mick Healey's *Minx*, Roger Kingdom's *Moto Inzi* and Roger Harris' *Simone* took the honors in their respective classes in the latest round of racing in the Ray Marine ACYC Race Series.

The two previous regattas were hampered by poor winds, but bright, sunny skies with winds blowing 15 to 20 knots greeted both competitors and spectators and provided champagne conditions for race six, putting both sailors and spectators in the mood for some quality sailing action.

Some modifications to course four provided an exhilarating route for the eight-member fleet that saw some high-speed sailing and healthy competition around the markers. This, somewhat unfortunately, prompted an early finish and the sailors who competed in the regatta had to remain on the water while waiting for the beers to get cold onshore.

The highlight of the day's racing was the duel between Healey's *Minx* and Peter Wood's *Windstar* in the Racing class. In the previous round of racing, *Minx* suffered the ignominy of finishing last behind *Windstar* and *Nereida* and those on board were determined to make amends.

The two boats matched each other almost every step of the way as they navigated the around-the-island course, until the aptly named *Minx* lived up to her name in the home straight.

The young filly spread her skirts and showing just a little too much of her bottom side powered through at the finish to secure first place ahead of *Wind-*

star, with *Nereida* trailing back a distant third.

In the Cruising class, Roger Harris' *Simone* jumped into an early lead but was soon overtaken by *Awatea*, whose lightweight crew gave her a decisive advantage.

Although it was Roger Diggelman's *Awatea* that crossed the line first to take line honors, the win was awarded to *Simone* courtesy of the handicap system. Any thoughts of sore and blistered fingers were soon banished following some hard-earned gin and tonics.

The Multihulls class proved to be a fast but one-sided affair as Roger Kingdom's *Moto Inzi* dominated from start to finish to secure line honors and overall victory in the class.

After her sensational gravity-defying acrobatics in a previous race, *Happy Feet* managed to remain upright long enough to take second, while *Cerberus* came third in her maiden ACYC race of 2009 to wrap up round six.

Patong preparation the key to easy Navy victory



Captain Lennox Simon, one of a strong West Indian contingent in the visitors' line up, did the most damage, taking three wickets for just 18 runs.

Another convincing display by the men of *HMS Bulwark* saw the visiting side ease to victory with three wickets in hand against a Phuket cricket XI at Cherng Talay School.

The home side failed to bat for their full allocation of overs and, despite some heroic performances in the field, were unable to prevent the Navy side from scoring the required runs.

Following an earlier victory in the rugby, *HMS Bulwark*'s sporting schedule in Phuket then saw its cricket team take on a side representing the Island Furniture Cricket League in a 35-over match.

The Phuket XI went into bat first but struggled against an excellent *HMS Bulwark* bowling attack.

Captain Lennox Simon, one of a strong West Indian contingent in the visitors' line

up, did the most damage in an impressive spell of bowling, taking three wickets for just 18 runs.

Kevin Quilty and Sameer Khan were the only batsmen to emerge with any credit, amassing 17 runs apiece.

Quilty's performance was all the more impressive given he required 17 stitches after being hit on the forehead by a vicious short-pitched delivery at one stage during his innings.

Faced with bowlers who could swing the ball, a rarity in Phuket, the local batsmen struggled and were eventually bowled out for 109 after just 22 overs.

Even with a number of nights out in Phuket already under their belt, the *HMS Bulwark* XI found the home side's modest score an easy total to chase.

Joshi Naresh gave the hosts a glimmer of hope by taking three extraordinary catches in a determined display in the field.

The first came off his own bowling when the batsmen hit

the ball back with interest straight towards his shins and he somehow managed to stoop to take a clean catch.

The second and third were equally impressive as he managed to athletically dive and take two low catches at mid off, the ball seemingly destined for the ground.

Despite some economical bowling from the impressive Sameer Khan who conceded a mere 12 runs from his five overs, *HMS Bulwark* were able to surpass the Phuket total with three wickets remaining.

For triumphant captain Lennox Simon, some serious preparation was the key to *HMS Bulwark*'s victory.

"I was out in Patong last night and the night before that and the night before that and I shall be going out tonight as well. I think, if anything, it has improved my game. We play on the flight deck on the ship whenever we get the chance," he said.

-James Goyder

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"Incubatees" incubated: ICT future looks bright

Software Park opens with a vision to build a new economy and ICT industry on the island

The future seems bright for the new tenants and "incubatees" at the newly opened Software Park Phuket situated on Chao Fa West Road.

The park and business-incubation center is expected to usher in a new dawn in Phuket's ICT capabilities. Aimed at expanding beyond reliance on the tourism and hospitality industries, the park hopes to create new jobs in Phuket's software market.

"For Dummies" author and *Phuket Gazette* columnist Woody Leonhard believes the opening is good for the island.

"Software Park Phuket represents a tremendous step forward for the software industry in Phuket and a strong vote of confidence in Phuket's ability to attract high-tech business," he said.

"More than simply providing a location for software companies to hang out a shingle, the park should become a gathering point for people with high-tech experience doing business in Phuket. That kind of real-world know-how is in precious short supply everywhere in Thailand," he added.

Director Kongkiat Kespechara said that the soft opening (not a pun) last Saturday intended to demonstrate the readiness of the park's facilities and its business-incubation center.

The first phase of development cost about 25 million baht. The park has 1,250 square meters of floor space in a three-story building, with seven tenants – four Phuket-based software firms and three foreign entrepreneurs.

One new tenant, trader Ed Golding of the Phuket Investor a financial services company, said that the speed and stability of internet connectivity at the park

is unparalleled in Phuket.

Blue D.Zine, an IT solutions company run by Masaya Mikami is another tenant already set-up on the ground floor.

"The rental space is already fully occupied and we have five or six companies on our waiting list to rent space," Mr Kongkiat said. "We are offering around 50- to 100-sqm to each tenant."

Software Park Phuket eventually plans to occupy 10 rai (1.6 hectares) with three main buildings: one housing rental space, the incubation center and a research and development center.

The park is owned and operated by a private firm called Blue Lagoon (Thailand), a subsidiary of Phuket property firm Anuphas Group run by Phuket Senator Phummasak Hongyok, who has extensive undeveloped land holdings in Wichit.

Phase one of development began last year.

The second phase is about to begin at a cost of a further Bt1.2 billion, funded through a bank loan, an increase in the park's registered capital and a joint-venture investment. Phase two will involve the construction of a new five-story building, providing 2,500 square meters of rental space, a 43-unit serviced apartment block and a 400-seat meeting hall.

"Some of these services are expected to be available by April next year, including the meeting hall and the rental space," Mr Kongkiat said.

The park's business-incubation center, run by former Software Industry Promotion Agency (Sipa) Phuket Office chief Dr Rattana Wetprasit, offers facilities and services including business consultancy, marketing ser-



PROPERTY POWER: (Left) Software Park Phuket phase one is now open for business and (right) wind turbines that power streetlights are one of the business-incubation center's bright ideas.



vices and business matching for new enterprises.

Mr Kongkiat said that financial support from the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Science Park Office in Hat Yai aided the development of the business-incubation center.

Speaking at the opening, Mr Kongkiat added that he hoped to harness the skills of young companies inducted as "incubatees".

"We have to think about what industry we want here in 10- or 20-years. Every year we have 300 to 400 graduates in Phuket who cannot find jobs in the ICT sector who have to move elsewhere.

"Our vision is to build a new economy and ICT industry here on Phuket. We need a union of graduates who can mature into successful businessmen and women," he said.

Mr Kongkiat expanded by saying the business-incubation center not only rented space and provided facilities for start-up businesses, but also created a platform for generating new ideas and business strategies.

He added that a number of Phuket professors and business professionals had already signed up to conduct training sessions and workshops, both for the incubatees known as "Involve" clients and "Outvolve" clients – businesses around Phuket who seek assistance but are not incubated at the center.

Pipat Nganwiwatthaworn from Phuket E Marketing, one of the new incubatees, said the faculties and guidance offered by the center would help his small company reach a wider audience.

Fellow incubatee Ritiwan Sato, a Phuket-based web-devel-

oper, said the center was helping his four-man team register their company and design marketing and financial strategies for their proposed business.

Another subtle achievement of the business-incubation are the small wind turbines lining the lake behind the park that were unveiled at the opening.

Designed and built by Krisada Kaewkaen and his son, the small wind turbines generate enough power to illuminate streetlights over the Software Park's car park.

In October this year, Software Park Phuket will be joined by Software Park Thailand in hosting the Regional Software Park Forum 2009. About 400 guests from the Asia-Pacific and Oceania region are expected to attend.

- Gazette Staff

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Using third parties for transactions

In recent times a further safeguard for consumers was implemented in Thailand through the enactment of the Escrow Act BE 2551.

Generally, escrow can be described as an arrangement between three parties, namely a seller, a buyer and an escrow agent, whereby the agent must be a neutral third party with no connection to either the seller or the buyer.

An escrow agent can be authorized to hold funds and important documents, such as title deeds or other legal documentation that are to be distributed and released subject to certain terms and conditions, following instruction from the seller and the buyer.

Typically, such escrow services are performed in relation to property transactions and are primarily designed to protect the buyer's interests until title transfer. However, it also needs to be understood that such escrow arrangement may also protect the best interests of the seller or the agent.

Nevertheless, property developers may argue that such escrow arrangements may cause additional problems when attempting to secure project financing – something that is often arranged through collection of deposit payments made by the buyer. This becomes more of an issue in days of economical downturn, where banks are extremely reluctant to provide the funds required for payment of construction expenses.

Ultimately, developers would surely benefit from a widely accepted escrow system as it helps to strengthen buyers' confidence in the Thai property market.

It also needs to be understood that a well and clearly drafted escrow agreement may significantly ease and simplify a transaction. It allows the parties to authorize an escrow agent to conduct certain practices relating to a transaction, such as the release of funds or documents on behalf of each interested party.

With this in place, both parties can act simulta-

neously as previously agreed. This allows both interested groups to have the peace of mind and the assurance that neither party will act without the other party doing same.

An agent who intends to offer escrow services in Thailand is required by law to obtain a license from the relevant government body. Furthermore, an escrow agent must be a financial institution or other juristic person as described in the relevant regulations. Unfortunately, there is uncertainty as to what conditions the aforementioned license can be obtained under.

As a result, it remains to be seen to what extent such escrow arrangements will become a widely used vehicle to secure consumer protection in Thailand. This may also be the reason why off-shore escrow services, subject to other legal jurisdiction providing clear escrow laws, are still of high interest to property buyers.

In regard to escrow property agreements, it is important to mention that the licensed escrow agent shall inform the relevant land department of any agreements, at which point the responsible land department official records that this specific immovable property is subject to escrow.

Once recorded, virtually no registration of ownership transfer to any person other than the one designated under the escrow agreement can be made, subject to notification through the escrow agents.

Furthermore, no other action, for example a lease or mortgage, can be registered against such land, unless the escrow agreement allows it or the escrow agent gives its consent.

This article is written by International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd., a Phuket based law firm. In case of enquiries, please contact Michael Greth, Consultant, by email (michael@ilo-phuket.com) or phone (+66-(0) 76-222 191-5).



Typically, escrow services are performed in relation to property transactions and are primarily designed to protect the buyer's interests until title transfer. It also needs to be understood that such escrow arrangement may also protect the best interests of the seller or the agent.



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Note: The above details including all pictures are indicative information only. The final details are subject to change(s) made by the developer without giving prior notice to the customer.



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Phuket property market worst hit at “high end”

More than 10 residential projects with a combined market value of nearly 10 billion baht remain “on hold” in Phuket, because demand from both domestic and foreign buyers – especially for luxury homes – has fallen to less than half of last year’s level.

Wanwipa Horbut, deputy managing director of luxury property developer Surin Hill Development, said demand for luxury homes in Phuket had continued to fall since the onset of the global economic crisis last year.

Both domestic and foreign buyers have fled the market, leaving the company unable to sell its most recent condominium project, Baan Thai Layan.

The company values the development at about one billion baht.

“We launched this project with a focus on buyers interested in investing in Phuket. When the global recession hit last year, most investors delayed or suspended their plans. As a result we cannot sell our project,” she said.

Surin Hill Development is trying to find new distribution channels to sell the condominium units completed so far, and is revising plans for a third phase of

the development to meet changes in demand from home-buyers.

Wanwipa said although the company had “missed its target”, it was continuing with construction as planned.

Fourteen units have been completed in the first phase and construction is continuing on 16 units in the second phase.

Pisarn Tangkasombat, president of the Arayaburi Group which owns hotels and resorts and develops residential projects on Koh Samui, in Phuket and in Krabi, said domestic and foreign demand for residences in Phuket was continuing to fall against figures from last year.

“Some Thai investors are interested in buying our residential projects, but the banks reject their loan applications. This is the main problem for local investors,” he said.

Mr Pisarn said a friend of his who planned to launch a residential project in Phuket worth nearly one billion baht suspended his development when he saw diminishing demand for homes on the island.

“We cannot say how many property projects have been suspended in Phuket, but we know of more than 10,” he said.

Phanom Kanjanathiemthao, managing director of Knight



KATA, PHUKET: Going “over the hill” is set to get a little easier shortly with improvements to the road over Kata Hill due for completion by August 25.

The 2-km stretch of Patak Road from outside Mom Tri’s Villa Grand Cru housing project to Baan Kata School is being expanded from two lanes to three.

The project, funded by Karon Municipality to the tune of 30,420,000 baht, began in May last year and is being carried out by Nuttaphong Tractor Co Ltd.

A Karon Municipality spokesperson said the improvements would ease congestion and improve road safety over the busy hill.

Kata Hill is a notorious accident blackspot and increasingly congested during rush hours.

Frank Charter (Thailand), said foreign investors continued to delay their investments in projects in Thailand, especially in Phuket, where mainly luxury residences carried high prices.

A survey conducted by the

Real Estate Information Center earlier this year found there were 139 residential projects in Phuket offering a total of 12,334 units.

Only about half of these have been sold.

Phuket’s main residential

market has focused excessively on upper-income earners, the center says.

Most home prices range from five million to 12 million baht, quite high for Thailand outside of Bangkok.

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Is Phuket ready for fractional ownership?



PROPERTY WATCH

Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks (c9hotelworks.com), a Phuket-based hotel and property consulting firm. His BLOG (thephuketinsider.com) is The Source for all Hotel and Real Estate News within Greater Phuket.

With property transactions in the broader market flat, and forecast to remain so into the foreseeable future, one of the emerging trends we are seeing is the conversion of pure residential projects into alternative investment vehicles. Condominium and apartment projects are branding and looking to sell under an ongoing yield

or lifestyle strategy. Now developers are introducing fractional – or shared – ownership schemes with lower pricing points to entice buyers off the fence.

Timeshare or vacation ownership has been selling on the island for most of this decade at Laguna Holiday Club, Royal Resort and Marriott Vacation Club. More recent entrants are Absolute, David Lloyd and a handful of other developers operating independently. Thai law is well equipped to deal with these operations. Even omnibus legislation such as the Consumer Protection Act covers relevant conditions such as cooling off periods and complaint administration.

With the downturn in tourism the next new wave of fractional products look to be hotel residences, with the Royal Phuket Yacht Club – now owned by the Purnavarna Group – selling residences at increments of 1/18th share in a unit. The LaTour Signature Group, which recently took over Indochine Villa Santi, operates this way extensively in North America and is eyeing further expansion of these products.

Fractional ownership in most developed countries can be divided into two distinct categories. In the first, the buyer pur-

chases a portion of a deeded property and receives a title or deed. The transaction is therefore regulated under property law. In the second, the buyer purchases a specific time usage of a property and no title is provided.

Most timeshares fall into the latter category, with regulatory laws falling under consumer and civil administration. With holiday club or points-based systems, which are becoming more popular, you can transfer your usage into other vehicles such as airline tickets, rental cars and cruises.

What is being marketed in Phuket by many as deeded co-ownership falls into a very gray area and is hard to regulate under prevailing property law. In the West most timeshare uses undivided interest, condominium, co-op or trust vehicles as entities.

One of the most interesting developments in timeshare recently has been the considerable amount of litigation in the US and Australia. Brokers were found not to be selling property, but rather securities – which most were not licensed to do. Successful suits resulted in a rather serious structural revamp in those markets, to the detriment of the entire industry.

Providing a clean legal



PIECE OF THE PIE: Developers are introducing fractional ownership schemes with lower pricing points to entice buyers off the fence.

framework for both purchaser and developer remains a challenge in Thailand given the ambiguity of the law for fractional ownership at present. There are international hotel companies such as Ritz Carlton that operate residential clubs. These require developers to actually split mixed-use components, including land titles, and ensure no property that is sold to fractional buyers has any liens or securitization.

There is much apprehension when a long-term residential property is attached to a somewhat volatile asset like a hotel. In a downturn if bankruptcy or insolvency takes place then considerable risk is taken by interval purchasers.

Internationally when hotel brands operate fractions, management agreements are scrutinized to determine what guarantees are made if you purchase a fraction in a branded property and then in a few years the operator is changed. Additionally, as properties age, what are the consequences when the asset is no longer able to viably operate as a hotel? How can investors exit what is not traditional real estate?

Unfortunately there are more

questions then answers in the current Thai landscape. But with real estate a major industry here we have seen ancillary laws such as the revised Condominium Juristic Act become more sophisticated over the past few years. Most likely, fractionals will move more into the limelight of the Thai property market over the next few years, with developers needing to see improved cash flows. Lower investment thresholds are possible, thus widening the potential market, and a volume approach can be taken to revenue generation.

For the most part developers try to do the right thing. But for potential buyers of fractionals it's important to look closely at all of the aspects of the transaction along with the carrying cost. Consultation with an experienced legal advisor is always recommended. A resale market for fractionals without historical performance figures to rely on introduces additional unknowns.

Phuket's property market is diversifying. This is simply a sign that Phuket is conforming to the greater global development cycle. As for fractionals – they are going to be with us for the long term.

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Properties For Sale

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Rawai, Nai Harn, Chalong, Panwa. All sizes and prices. Contact Khun Nong. Tel: 083-390 4176. For further details, please see our website at www.warmwaterland.com

PATONG TOWER 63 SQM

renovated freehold. 2 room, terrace, nice view, pool, beach 200m, furnished, TV, WiFi, 2 aircons. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 086-976 0809.

RAWAI HOUSE

Partly furnished, 2 bedrooms, 1 aircon, living room, bathroom, kitchen. Very convenient, peaceful location, 2 minute drive to the beach. Chanote. 1.1 million baht. Tel: 087-008 5970. Email: swaminito@hotmail.com

LAND IN CAPE YAMU

Price 20 million baht. 2 rai, 3 ngan, 60 sq wah (4,640 sqm). Close to million-dollar developments the Yamu, The Bay and Baan Yamu. Perfect location for unique commercial plaza. Forecasted return of investment: 15% per year. Tel: 087-887 1162. Email: dohemi@gmail.com

VILLAS CLOSE TO BIS



Pool villas with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and swimming pool. Close to British International School. From 13 million baht. Please Contact: K. Prasong 081-3969307 (Thai), K. Hua 089-7492186 (Eng).

FAIRWAY VIEW CONDO
in Kathu. 56sqm, foreign freehold, fully furnished. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-891 3740.

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

THE ROYAL PLACE

4th floor unit with 2 balconies. Approx area: 42sqm. Fully furnished, ready to move in. Email: info@allaboutwebanddesign.com

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.

PERMSUP VILLAGE



Cherng Talay area. House for sale or long-term rent. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 231sq wah, garden. Must see. Contact Thip. Tel: 089-105 5086.

ROYAL PLACE CONDO

New 37sqm one bedroom condo for sale at Royal Place, near the Tesco Lotus intersection on the Bypass Road. Comes fully furnished including all electrical appliances. Ready to move in August. Complex has pool, gym, restaurant etc. 1.85 million baht. Tel: 083-982 3768. Email: drbeamshaw@gmail.com

UNIQUELY DESIGNED POOL VILLA

Functionable, 2 bed, 2 bath, kitchen and living room. Just 10 minutes to beach. Only 6.9 million baht. Tel: 076-289900, 081-970 0743. Fax: 076-613114. Email: eve@twovillas.com

BARGAIN

2 rai, teak villa guest bungalow. Pool, sala, tropical gardens. 16 million baht. Contact james. Tel: 081-082 6495. Email: albertjames1940@hotmail.com

80SQM CONDO

for sale at Allamanda Laguna. 80sqm, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Golf view. 5.5 million baht. Tel: 081-821 3205. Email: banana siripun@yahoo.com

300SQM RAWAI BEACH

1.2 million baht. 300sqm Soi Naya, Nai Ham Beach, 2.1 million baht. 400sqm, 2.5 million baht. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: alex@sai-nam-naya.com

SALE OR RENT VILLA



Below market price (THB). Normally the villa can lease 300,000 to 350,000 monthly. Must sacrifice 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 the following conditions. First year 2m excluding management, utilities, any extra costs, garden and swimming pool. 2nd year 2.5m and last 3rd year 3m. Must pay in advance each year.

No other deposit required. For sale 45m.
For details, please email me your interests at

info@queenmarines.com

NEW TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



In the project "The Indy", opposite Boat Lagoon, Koh Kaew. Townhouse is at the corner and adjacent to the project's public garden. 2 floors, 6.5 meters wide, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, western kitchen. Land: 33.4sq wah. For rent: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-472 9118.

LAYAN LAND

for sale. 11 rai, flat land. Price 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-813 1447.

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

PRIVATE SALE OF HALF RAI

in Ao Makham. Land is located opposite Port of Phuket and next to Bel Air Cape Panwa Resort. Price 4.2 million. Tel: 081-891 5932, 089-035 6702.

HOUSE & FURNITURE FOR SALE

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

CHEAP LAND

900sqm, Cherng Talay. 3 million baht. Tel: 086-161 1136 (Thai), 086-047 2463 (Eng). Email: jimi_change@hotmail.co.uk

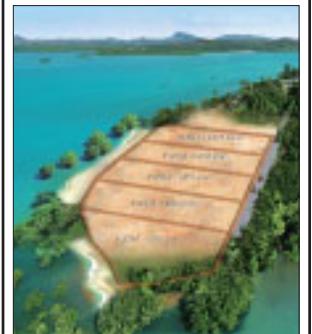
SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Email: costello@exemail.com.au

TOWNHOUSE IN KATHU

for sale. 2 storey, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Call for more information. Tel: 076-322211, 089-288 8519, 087-885 1567.

LAND NEAR YACHT HAVEN



for sale. Area: 511 square wah, 38,000 baht per square wah. Contact Mr Tachin Tel: 081-7871811, Miss Kob Tel: 081-2733303.

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

390sqw, nice flat land, quiet area, chanote. In Pasak Soi 5 near Laguna Home. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118, 086-709 2933.

30 RAI IN TOWN

Long lease. Near Dowrning School in Phuket Town. Tel: 081-6912526.

NEW BRAND CONDO

Mid Town, Royal Place Project. Studio condo, fully furnished, reasonable price. Tel: 086-4769612.

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.

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Email: info@queenmarines.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

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 087-277 0978 or koyangle99@hotmail.com

PATONG HILL CONDO

As new. Luxury one bedroom condo, city and sea view, fully furnished with pool. 6.5 million baht. Ready to live in. Tel: 085-478 6645. Email: graemeste@gmail.com

PATONG BEACH CONDO

Fully furnished, freehold, 28 sqm. Quiet location, 5 minutes to beach, very good condo, many extras. Price 1.2 million baht. Tel: 084-309 0024. Email: gly53@yahoo.com

LAND IN PHANG NGA

for sale. 9.8 rai working fruit farm, 300+ trees, 5 fish ponds, 2 farm houses suitable for fishing park, 5 kms Phang Nga, 45 mins Phuket airport. Chanote title deed 4,700,000 baht Tel: 086-274 0056 English or 087-895 3099 Thai.

CHALONG NEW HOME

3 Bedrooms with private pool. Unfurnished, aircon, Western kitchen. For sale: 7million baht. Posh 081-989 5487. Email: naphatch2009@hotmail.com

NEW CONDO



for sale. At Royal Place Project, opposite Tesco Lotus. 45sqm at corner, swimming pool view, fully furnished. Price 2.8 million baht. Tel: 081-691 2526.

PHUKET RESORT FOR SALE

Rated 4-star, perfect business potential. 95 million baht. Email: admin@thaisunshinedevelopments.com

SEAVIEW LAND

10.5 rai with Chanote title and good road. 800 meters to the beach. 8 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-729 8365. Email: sudaves2002@yahoo.com

BEAUTIFUL POOL HOUSE

800sqm land, 350sqm living space. 12.5x4.5sqm stunning pool, modern family house with landscaped gardens. 12.9 million baht. Tel: 085-212 1794. Email: lan@evocation.net

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312 sqm. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Fully furnished, 24-hour protection. 5 minutes to Chalong Bay, 10 minutes to Nai Ham Beach, 20 minutes to Patong Beach and 15 minutes to Phuket Town. Price: sale: 7 million baht. Rent: 65,000 baht per month. Pls contact Khun Sam (English/Thai). Tel: 085-110 6449. Email: vipeurasian@yahoo.co.th For further details, please see our website at www.ipdproperty.com

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Phuket Country Golf Club (Kathu). 1 rai+ (407sq wah or 1628sqm) and 0.5 rai (200sq wah or 800sqm). Chanote title, next to club house. Flat land, ready to build on, no hassle with water or electricity. Rare opportunity. These convenient (small) pieces of land at the golf course are seldom available for sale. Half rai at 8 million baht including golf club membership (land transfer charges shared equally with buyer). 1 rai+ includes golf club membership (land transfer charges shared equally with buyer) for 15 million baht. Reduced for quick sale. Contact owner directly. Khun Orachon +66 (0)81-9587083 or +66 (0)81-9587083. Email: jps@loxinfo.co.th

TOWNHOUSE IN PHUKET TOWN

for sale. 2 floors, 110 sqm. Very good location, 5 minute from Central and Big C. Price 2,935,000 baht. Payment plan. Tel: 080-071 9098.

PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Cherrng-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

LOCH PALM POOL VILLA



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

KATA SEAVIEW, 50% FINANCE

5.5 million baht with 50% finance. Includes furniture. See Web link below for details. Tel: 087-041 8821. Email: maurick1@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at <http://oceanviewkata.shutterfly.com>

SUPER CONDO SALE PATONG

R.O.I. 6 condos, 50 sqm, furnished, great location, package deal. 16.5 million baht. Call Real Pro Co Ltd. Tel: 076-345238. Frank: 084-078 2753. Email: info.realpro@gmail.com

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

NEW 3 BED POOL VILLA

at Mission Hills, near the new int'l school. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 10 x 4m swimming pool. Located in secure and quiet area, 7 mins to airport and Nai Yang Beach. 9.5 million baht. Tel: 087-893 4636. Email: info@phuketbedandbreakfast.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

TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



opposite Boat Lagoon. 24sq wah, 3 beds, 2 baths. Email: info@allaboutwebanddesign.com

LEELAVADEE POOL VILLA



Chao Fa East Road, Chalong. Modern Thai house, total area: 524sqm with swimming pool, terrace, tropical garden, covered carport and home security. 3 bedrooms, Western and Thai kitchen, living and dining rooms, and 4 bathrooms within air-conditioned surroundings. Tel: 087-689 9679, 089-772 7012. Email: a.tu2.corazon@gmail.com

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3 bedroom, 2 bathroom house on small development with 24-hour security and swimming pool. Only 5 mins from Heroines' Monument. Fully furnished with solid teak furniture throughout and all appliances, curtains and blinds. Full security and fly screens, 3 aircon, 5 ceiling fans. True TV/ cable TV, phone, ADSL. Walk-in condition with great potential for extension and/or private pool. Now 3.6 million baht ono. Tel: 085-782 3273.

KOH YAO YAI

Cheap land, good investment. 2.8 rai, Chanote title, water, electricity. Price: 900,000 baht. Tel: 081-892 8208.

LAND IN CHERNG TALAY

for sale. 800sqm. Close to villas, with Chanote. 3.2 million baht. Must see. Please contact Bobby. Tel: 084-053 7690.

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Property Gazette

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

3-STOREY APARTMENT



for sale. 70sq wah, 14 rooms, motorbike park. Four years old with Chanote title. Currently fully rented out. Good return. Asking price: 9 million baht. Tel: 087-270 9093.

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

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

HURRY! 25% OFF LUXURY PATONG APARTMENT



Effective Freehold 2 bedroom, boulevard style, furnished apartment with management and private parking. Only 3 years old up for sale.



Just reduced for quick sale this lovely hillside, seaview apartment presents with seaviews to the front and mountains to the rear. 240 sqm with 2 large bedrooms both with ensuite. Two person Jacuzzi, sitting room overlooking the swimming pool and sea, large well-fitted Euro-style kitchen and cool living area. The apartment is provided with a hot water storage tank and back up generator to complement the main supplies. Access to superb fitted spa & gymnasium with just 5 other units in the development.

Must be seen to be appreciated. Email: ian@phuket-estate.com or Tel: 0874178187 to view. Was 16.9m now 12.7 m Baht
Rental also possible - 70k/month (Long Term Only)

KOH YAO YAI FOR SALE

Land for sale near Ao Klong Son area. 5,033 rai (8,052.8sqkm), 2 access points, title deed, 5 minutes to the beach. 950,000 baht per rai. By The Owner. Tel: 076-289122, 084-848 7474. Fax: 076-289121. Email: kasina_navamachiti@yahoo.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 083-181 4418.

SHOPHOUSE - CHALONG

12 months old, 3-storey, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1 km south of Circle. Full kitchen, 1 aircon, hot water, all-glass front door, office furniture, beds, very clean. Valued at 3.7 million, you pay 3.6 million baht including additions. Bargain! Tel: 086-476 2093, 085-785 1597.

74 SQM CONDO, PHUKET TOWN

2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 3 aircon units. Price: 1.9 million baht. Tel: 081-416 4595. Email: arunrat65@hotmail.com

480SQM, RAWAI BEACH

300 m from the beach. 1.85 million baht. Can be split. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: alex@sai-nam-naya.com

PATONG STUDIO

2.3million baht. New decor, pool. 3 min walk to Jungceylon, 5 min to beach. Tel: 081-087 9639.

LAND AT SAI YUAN



168sq wah, Chanote, flat land. Contact Riam. Tel: 081-979 0122. Email: riam.niyom@gmail.com

KHAO LAK HOUSE

Beautiful new private house: 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 5 additional rooms, 4 aircons, 1 out house. Quiet area, only 4 mins to beach. 6 million baht. Tel: 084-849 8699. Email: ursulaspd@gmx.net

QUICK SALE

Thai-style home. Only 5.1 million baht. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Near to Laguna. Tel: 087-893 8590.

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

BANG TAO APARTMENTS FOR SALE

2 luxury apartments for sale. Both 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, with 2 pools and gym. One is a penthouse (3 years old) with private roof garden the other is a ground floor with private garden (brand new). Both less than 200m to Bang tao beach. Tel: 084-630 2416. Please email for further details. Email: jonhassall@aol.com

RARE OPPORTUNITY

Choice 1,100 sqm plot located in Cape Panwa with arguably one of the finest panoramic sea views on the island. The hard works done: cleared and leveled, concrete access road, building permit previously issued. Buy and build! Tel: +971-50-293 2183. Email: email2bill@gmail.com

MAI KHAO OCEAN MTN VIEW

One rai lots (in red) with chanote title. Dramatic, unrestricted ocean views to the west and north; stunning mountain views to Phang Nga; and eastern views of Phang Nga bay. Concrete road, water, electricity. Upper limit of property is 80 meters. 15 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-996 9177. Email: doc@russbo.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketrealestate.us

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB



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

FREEHOLD CONDO RAWAI



27sqm or 54sqm. 2 studio apartments, 200 meters from the pier. Price 580, 000 baht. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

POOLSIDE APARTMENT

One and two bedroom poolside apartments for sale or long-term lease. Located in the hills at the north end of Patong Beach. Very quiet and natural setting. You would never know you were in Patong Beach, yet only 5 mins to beach and town center. This is a very special project, consisting of only 3 apartments, under cover secure parking and swimming pool. Now under construction: 80% completed. Now is the time to buy and have a say in the finishing details. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-891 3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

LUX 4 BED/RM VILLA W/POOL

Quiet tranquil location yet ideal for beaches, schools and shopping. Daily or monthly rental available. Ask for full details. Tel: 076-378361, 081-6764849. Fax: 081-772 2300. Email: william.amonoo@gmail.com

2-STOREY HOUSE IN PATONG



sea view, 2-storey house, 60sqw. 2 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, air-con, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 17 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093.

SALE BY OWNER!!



only 7.5 million baht. Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool, sala, full Western kitchen, auto gate alarm, 500m to beach. Free hold. Contact for more details. Tel: 081-691 3029. Email: kris_silanachai@yahoo.com

PHUKET INTER VILLA



97/29. 2 storey, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. In Phuket Inter Villas near Chalongs circle, Viset rd. Price 2.5 million baht. Contact Nui. Tel: 081-606 2095.

1/2 RAI SOI NAYA NAI HARN BEACH

5 million baht. Can be split. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: alex@sai-nam-naya.com

1.9 MB. GOLF-VIEW FREEHOLD

58sqm, 1 bed, 5th floor at Phuket Country Club Golf Course. Tel: 089-488 0955. Email: together@myway.com

LAND FOR SALE, PATONG BEACH

Beautiful 590sqm land plot, in the hills at the north end of Patong Beach. Very quiet, natural setting; you would never know you were in Patong, yet only 2 minutes to the beach and town center. Comes with wide concrete access road, very good water supply, and underground utility. Contact Andy. Tel: 081-891 3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

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Property Gazette

Properties For Rent

KAMALA BEACH VILLAGE

Long-term rental. 100sqm, two double bedrooms, fully furnished modern apt. Communal pool, restaurant, gym and bar. Only 50 meters from Kamala Beach. 30,000 baht per month! Tel: +44-127-987 7745, +44-797 7208868. Fax: +44-127 9817499. Email: paul.stewart@sas-group.co.uk

50K BAHT FOR 4 MONTHS

2 bedroom, furnished townhouse near mountains. WiFi, aircon, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, cable TV, balcony. Move straight in. Tel: 076-296391, 086-942 0957. Email: jdean@loxinfo.co.th

HOUSE IN CHALONG

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

3 BDRM HOUSE FOR RENT

near Heroines' Monument. Furnished, ADSL, cable TV, A/C. 12,000 per month. Tel: 086-277-8461. Email: brunuiv@hotmail.com

BEAUTIFUL HOME IN KAMALA

Furnished, roomy 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom house in quiet Kamala neighborhood. Available immediately. Short walk to beach, outside tsunami zone. A/C (3 units), hot water, full kitchen, storage room, garden, car port. 25,000 per month or 20,000 per month with one year lease. Tel: 086-941 8593. Email: pagon_28@hotmail.com

NICE HOUSE

for rent. Just 5 minute walk to Nai Harn beach. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, swimming pool and a big sala. For long-term rent at 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-397 1835.

LARGE LUXURY HOUSE

for rent 5 minutes to Rawai-Nai Harn. 6 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, big garden, large swimming pool, big sala. Long-term rent, 60,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-397 1835.

BUNGALOW FOR RENT RAWAI

Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 4 aircon, nice living area. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-606 4279.

3 BEDROOM HOUSE

for rent. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathroom house in Rawai/Nai Harn for rent. Large pool, 2 car parking spaces, cable TV, alarm system. 5 min to beach. Tel: 087-882 9604. Email: artlpmj@yahoo.com

HOUSE IN RAWAI

for rent. Fully furnished, private, pool, ADSL, 3 bathroom, 3 bedroom. Tel: 081-606 7410.

PATONG SERVICED APTS

Quality serviced apartments in Patong. Maid, gym, large pool, mountain views. 100 sqm, 2 bedroom units. 25,000 baht a month. Tel: 087-077 8454. Email: solitude001@aol.com

3 BEDROOM POOL VILLARAWAI

Fully furnished, aircon, kitchen, big garden with private pool incl cleaning lady. Low season bargain 45,000 baht per month without broker. Rent or sale. Tel: 085-783 1890.

4 BEDROOM VILLA RAWAI

Beautifully furnished, fully airconditioned, immense living area, 2 kitchens, big garden with 10x4 pool. For rent or sale. Tel: 085-783 1890.

THE GREENHOUSE BUNGALOWS

Chalong. New, 2 bedroom bungalows, fully furnished, close to all facilities, cool and quiet. 12,000 baht per month. ADSL. Contact John. Tel: 081-979 1976.

LAND LONG LEASE

30 rai, flat land, nice location on main road. Phuket City near Downroong School. Tel: 081-691 2526.

PATONG OCEANVIEW

Located above Patong Beach this 3 bed, 3 bath house with modern kitchen is PRICED LOW for long-term rental. Private pool, ADSL, UBC, cable TV and WHAT A VIEW! Can move in July 1st. Tel: 087-882 1963. Email: benlee53@hotmail.com

HOUSE FOR RENT IN CHALONG

2 bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, laundry room, fully furnished, aircon in every room, carpark, swimming pool (shared), tropical garden. High speed internet and UBC satellite TV included. 20,000 baht per month, minimum 3 months. Tel: 081-968-2855. Email: cathy-khattipanya@hotmail.com

RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA



1, 2, 3 or 4 bedroom, bathroom, ADSL, 500 baht per day. Monthly low rate. Tel: 086-940 8914. Or email: rawai1@yahoo.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedroom, 2 toilet, living room, kitchen, garden, car park, wireless internet. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-051 1955, 080-521 9888. Email: sornin_s@yahoo.com

850,000 BAHT PER YEAR



Rawai Beach. Bar, pizzeria and guesthouse. 700sqm, 9 bed, 9 bath. Contact. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

400,000 BAHT PER YEAR



Rawai Beach. New pool guest-house. 5 bed, 5 bath, lease rent, ADSL. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

BUSINESS RAWAI BEACH



4 pool apartments to lease or rent. 120,000 baht per year each. Tel: 086-940 8914. Or email: rawai1@yahoo.com

BAR PIZZERIA RAWAI BEACH



200sqm, garden, pool, rent / lease: 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.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.

B.L. APARTMENT FOR RENT

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.

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

STYLISH HOUSE FOR 25,000 BAHT



Cherng Talay area. New and stylish 3 bedroom modern house. Fully furnished, 2 bathrooms with a full set lounge, 37" LCD TV, 5 air-cons, beautiful Western kitchen with oven & washing machine. Full set dining area. Gutter system with water saving tank, high pressure. Electric gate with private car park and a nice landscaped garden, 24-hour security. Clubhouse with shared swimming pool, tennis court and basketball court. Only at 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-823 4627.

PALAI GREEN

for rent. Fully furnished, 1-3 bedrooms, aircon, hot shower, free cable TV, ADSL internet. Start from 9,000 baht per month. Near Chalong Bay. Please call: 081-892 4311 (Eng speaking).

Baan Suan Pana CHALONG PHUKET

Special offer

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.baansuanpana.com

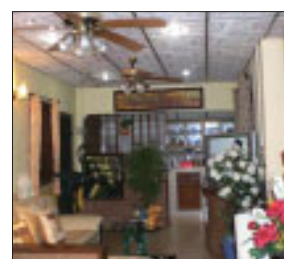
PATONG TOWER CONDO

1 bed, seaview on beach road. For further details Tel: 084-847 3304., please see our website at http://www.selectphuket.com

HOUSE IN KATHU

for rent. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, swimming pool, fully furnished. 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-908 4873.

HOUSE IN KATHU



2 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircon, cable TV and TV set. Just bring your bag. 12,000 baht per month. Contact Khun Wannee. Tel: 089-288 9936. Email: wannee123@hotmail.com

CHALONG NEW HOME

Value 2 bedroom town home with telephone, cable TV and aircon. Tel: 089-652 1473. Contact more details. Email: anandaestates@yahoo.com

HOUSE IN CHERNG TALAY

Pasak soi 3. Fully furnished, 15,000 baht per month short- or long-term. Tel: 086-690 2119. Email: ruangruk27@hotmail.com

TWO BEDROOM HOUSE FOR RENT

Quiet, furnished, 2 bedrooms with ensuite. Air conditioned, satellite TV, 500m from Nai Yang Beach, 2km from airport. 14,000baht/mth. Tel: 089-667 1844, 081-837 5774. Email: slarti@onthenet.com.au

HOUSE + BIG GARDEN, BANG TAO

3 single houses for rent in a very quiet area in Bang tao (Laguna) at the edge of the forest. Very private. From 2 to 3 bedrooms, rent from 12,000 to 15,000 baht per month. Please contact more details. Tel: 081-090 9642. Email: jeorge@dellapietra.ch

PATONG CONDO

Brand new 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom apts for private rent. Gym, undercover parking, swimming pools. Long-term rent 20,000-28,000 per mth neg. Contact more details. Tel: 085-069 0938. Email: nnorthwo@hotmail.com

APT KATA BEACH

10,000 baht per month, fully furnished with kitchen. Tel: 076-284065, 086-5958512 or 081-970 4638. Email: nalumana2000@yahoo.com

22,000 BAHT PER MONTH

2 bedroom penthouse 5 minutes to Bang tao+Surin Beaches. Fully furnished, exclusive development, only 12 units. Shared swimming pool and sun lounge. Available from July 1, 2009 on month to month basis. Contact Don. Tel: 081-894 3839. Email: paddypower99@yahoo.com

KATA MOUNTAIN VIEW HOUSE

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maid's room, European kitchen, living room, dining room, carpark, terrace, ADSL and cable TV. 5 mins to Kata Beach. Price: 21,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-606 2827. Email: nij017@hotmail.com

STUDIO CONDO IN PHUKET TOWN

Fully furnished, kitchen, aircon, pool. 5 minutes to Central. 6,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-719 7015.

SEAVIEW OFFICES FOR LEASE

The only sea view office in Patong is now available for long-term lease! 400sqm, fully furnished and ready to move in. 400 meters to the beach, 200 meters from Jungceylon. Full resort facilities, 24-hr security. Tel: 087-015 9206, 087-891 5614. Please contact more details. At email: david@ yourphuket.com

LAGUNA TOWNHOME 2

3 bedrm contemporary villa with spectacular golf course view, lap pool and mature garden. 60,000 per month - negotiable. Contact Amber. Tel: 089-200 1681. Email: aabsxx88@truemail.co.th

RENT HOUSE NEAR BEACH

Long-term, fully furnished, safe, quiet, large terrace front, seaview. 1 bedroom, kitchen, hot and cold shower, WC, nice place. Sandy beach just 50 feet away, safe swimming all year. 10 minutes to town. Tel: 081-079 2592. Email: jarbau19@hotmail.com

BEAUTIFUL VILLA RAWAI

3 bedrooms, aircon, fully furnished, big garden, private pool. For rent or sale. Please contact more information. Tel: 085-783 1890.

Boats & Marine

OWN 100% 5.5M OR 3 X 1/4 SHARE 1.65M



Luxury 2008 Gulfcraft. Replacement cost: 6.8m baht. A perfect 40 footer for private & charter use. Safe long-range touring. Thai Marine Reg. & TAT Lic. 3 crew + 17 guests. 40 knots max (2 x 300 hp Suzuki). Large living space with lot of shade & full clears. The best Garmin Navionics. Fully loaded for entertaining. A must see!! Contact Ross. Tel: 084-744 2240. Email: ross@funboatcruises.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.funboatcruises.com>

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Twin 85 hp engines. Rebuilt, fast, cover, canopy, trailer, GPS. Price reduced from 395,000 baht to 235,000 baht. This week boat must go! This is a BARGAIN! Tel: 085-785 1597. Email: kcoyle@pinn.net

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Brand new 36 foot flybridge boat for sale. Contact more details at email : jkgk24@hotmail.com

POWER CATAMARAN

Brand new, 36 feet long. All fiberglass composite construction. Forward cabin. Email: jkgk24@hotmail.com

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BOAT FOR SALE



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ONAN GENSETS

2 units in good working condition. 7.2kVA, 220V: 90,000 baht. 11kVA, 220V: 150,000 baht. Tel: 081-536 8188. Contact more details at. Email: tom.fekete@gmail.com

SPORTS CRUISER

Mustang 2800. 4 berth, a/c, dvd, surround sound system, fridge, shower etc. Immaculate finish. 3.1 million baht. Will consider P/X for RIB. Tel: 084-778 5652.

DEEP V FIBER SPEED BOAT

Private speedboat in very good condition for fishing and diving. Also built for private tours. For sale at 1,200,000 baht. For more information, please contact Mr Roman. Tel: 076-485610, 087-881 0031. Fax: 076-485145. website at <http://www.similan.net>

WANTED

Small dingy, about 3 or 4 meters, suitable for 3.5hp outboard motor for inshore pleasure. Tel: 076-388569, 085-794 6514. Email: hparkin@hotmail.com

WELLCRAFT SCARAB 31

2 x 250 hp Mercs, 390 hours, fully serviced. Speeds to 60 knots, bow cabin, portable toilet, GPS, VHF, Sunbrella, all new interior, red and white. Come and see! Offers invited around 1.8 million baht. Tel: 083-646 7282, 083-636 9327. Or sent to email par.emanuel@xwipers.com

LUXURY MOTOR YACHT

75 ft Technomarine (Italy). Caterpillar engines, 2 x 1,250hp. 680 hours each. Asking US\$ 1,280,000. Berthed Hong Kong. Exceptional opportunity. For details. Tel: 076-200730, 084-839 4868. Send email to: luxuryyacht75@gmail.com

2009 NEW 11.9 METER YACHT

2X225 hp Honda 4-strokes. Price 3.9 million baht exVAT. LOA: 11.9m. Beam: 3.6m. Material: fiberglass. Max speed 45 knots. Cabin: living space, kitchen with microwave oven, bedroom (king size bed) with 38" flatscreen TV, toilet, shower and small generator. Excludes 50 mile rathyoan radar. Agent welcome. We will also build your fiberglass sports yacht to your specifications. Tel: 086-885 6885. Email: phuketyachtsales@gmail.com

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60-70 ft. Owners: please send offer details. Tel: 084-199 3353. Email: kaewkram_5@hotmail.com

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4 double cabins, 32sqm sail area, 9 HP Honda. 490,000 baht. Tel: 087-461 8089.

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HOBIE CAT 14 FOR SALE

with launching trolley & spares, good condition. Price 65,000 baht. Phuket town. Please Contact more details. Tel: 076-224596.

DAY DIVE BOAT

for sale or rent. Nissan 450hp, 25kw, 21m. Generator: Bauer compressor or cert 45 pax. Pay over 3 years. Price 3.5 million baht. Contact more details. Email: colona@loxinfo.co.th

DAY DIVE BOAT

for sale or rent. Nissan 450hp, 25kw, 21m. Generator: Bauer compressor or cert 45 pax. Pay over 3 years. Price 3.5 million baht. Email: colona@loxinfo.co.th

1997 BAYLINER 28 CABIN BOAT

28 feet. 300 hp V8 with only 300 hours. Sleeps 4. Perfect for fishing and sleeping overnight. Only 1,500,000 baht! Tel: 089-932 5175. Email: wojdkowbengt@hotmail.com

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Yamaha 2 hp outboard wanted. Please contact by email or at the mobile number above. Tel: 081-894- 1530. Or sent email to: andrew@lee marine.net

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Feel-free kayak. 18,000 baht. Call or mail for details. Tel: 089-000 0200. Email: tonygbr@hotmail.com

HOBIE 16

Very good condition. Price 150,000 baht. Tel: 089-470 8926. Email: eanfievat@voila.fr

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23 foot cabin boat, 260 hp. Perfect day and overnight boat! Sleeps 3 in cabin. Top condition! Only 1,500,000 baht! Tel: 089-932 5175. Or email: wojdkowbengt@hotmail.com

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DOUBLE 'SIT-ON' CANOE

Feel Free double 'sit-on' canoe with paddles. Hardly used. 20,000 baht. Call or mail for further details. Tel: 089-000 0200. Email: tonygbr@hotmail.com

30FT MOTOR YACHT

Beautiful Sea Ray Sundancer. Fully loaded. 300 hours. 2.3 million baht. Immediately available Tel: 076-317538, 085-111 1455. Please sent email to: uwed@avia-star.com

74 FT BOAT FOR SALE

5 cabins, 6 bathroom, air conditioned, long-range. Finance available. For more details call. Tel: 080-522 4089. Contact more details. Email: michael@scuba-quest.de

32FT CATAMARAN

4 double cabins, 32sqm sail area, 9 HP Honda. 490,000 baht. Tel: 087-461 8089.

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AGENCY+

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Required Qualifications

- At least 5 years experienced in property business, if having experiences in property resale or leasing, or real estate marketing will be advantage

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Responsibility: Manage and take care of the project in an efficient manner.

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- At least 3-4 years experienced in Property Management
- Knowledgeable and understand Property Management work
- Talented in management and strong leadership skill

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Phuket 83110, Thailand

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Established real estate agency is seeking motivated individuals for the position of Sales Executive. Applicants should be fluent in English and Thai and have good computer skills. Excellent salary plus commission. Driving license essential. Tel: 076-527565. Apply to cv@phuketocseanvillas.com

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* Trainer. Degree, diploma in TEFL/TESOL, 5 years experience.

* Trainer's assistant, degree certificate in TEFL/TESOL, 2 years experience.

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Farang or Thai to work in English bar. Must be able to cook farang food especially English pub food. 6 days per week, hrs 12pm -10pm. Bar in Laguna area. Tel: 089-474 0431.

SALES PERSON

Real Estate business requires dynamic sales person with sales background, aged 30-40. Fluent English, computer skills and results oriented. Forward CV via mail. Tel: 086-004 3008. Email: asiacasa@gmail.com

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Small boutique villas resort seeks experienced property care and guests relations manager for full time position. Candidate must have bachelor degree in hotel and tourism management or related field, and strong organizational and problem solving skills. Tel: 086-004 3008. Email: asiacasa@gmail.com

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in Phuket. I am looking for a female assistant with a degree. Under 25, some design works experience preferred. Live in available. Please contact Sompong. Tel: 081-376 7395. Email: leealong1952@yahoo.com

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Experience in marketing pool villas and in house operation required. Salary dependent on performance. Tel: 081-877 9292, 081-296 3413. Fax 076-239708. Email: prakaisriroj@hotmail.com

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who can modify or improve the websites, we have. The right person should have experience with Dreamweaver and PhotoShop. Ages 25-35. Please contact Khun Sompong for further details. Tel: 081-376 7395. Or send email to: queensmarine@gmail.com

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- Dynamic, energetic and pleasant personality
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Please apply in person or send your CV to:

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Qualifications required:

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- Cook - Residential Villa

Human Resources Department

60/1 Moo 6, Srisoonthorn Road, Thalang District, Phuket
Tel. 076 310 354 Fax. 076 310 299
E-mail address hr@trisara.com

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Previous experience in private or public school system required. Two students, 8th & 9th grade level, require support in all subjects. Studies conducted in English, but the position open to Thai or international teachers. Tel: 081-536 2069. Email: siamtexan@gmail.com

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Silver, 60,000km, excellent condition. New tyres, full service record, registration and insurance till Jan 2010. Only 525,000 baht. Tel: 087-383 2518.

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HONDA CRV PRESTIGE
Aug 2004. White. 65,000km. DVD/CD. Reversing camera, automatic, all leather, new tires. Regular Honda service, tax paid to 17 Nov, insurance to 26 Oct. Price: 660,000 baht. Please contact. Tel: 087-278 9908. Fax: 076-273685. Email: ftwth@phuket.ksc.co.th

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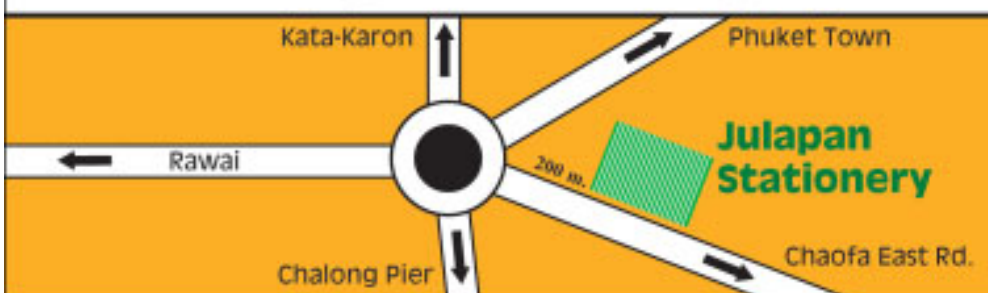
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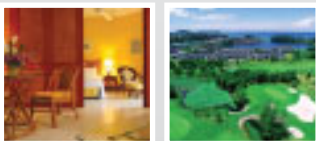
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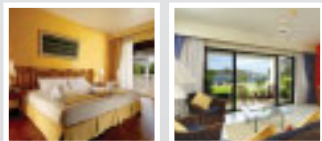
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1 Allamanda Studio THB 5.5 M



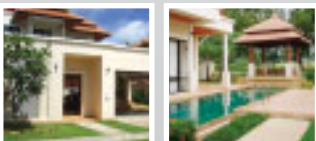
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2 Allamanda 2 Bedroom THB 8.5 M



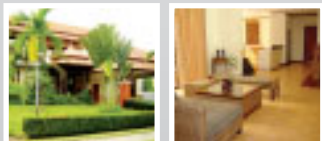
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- fully furnished
- golf course views

3 Laguna Townhome THB 23 M



- 2-storey 3 beds Townhome
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- golf course views

4 Laguna Residence THB 35 M



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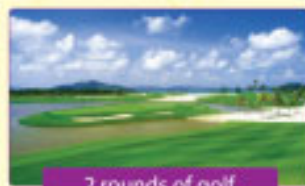


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