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INSIDE



A laugh a minute

The Punchline Comedy Club returns to Phuket with three great comedians from the UK. See page 10

NEWS: Patong tunnel proposals; 'Dragon Gang' rounded up; Bt300mn historical park planned.

Pages 2 - 4

LIFESTYLE: The Gazette's Diver Dan goes sub aqua in Borneo.

Page 8

GOOD LIVING: Dan Waites experiences some Swedish cafe culture at Red Cafe.

Page 7

AROUND THE NATION 5; AROUND THE ISLAND 6; MOTORING 9; EXPAT GALLERY 11; HAPPENINGS 12; YOGA MOMENTS 13; WHAT'S ON 15; BUSINESS AND MONEY 16; TAKE A BREAK 17 & 18; TOWN-DINGS, BOOKS 19; EDITORIAL, LETTERS 20; FIRST PERSON 21; SPORT 22 & 23; PROPERTY WATCH 24; PROPERTY LEGAL 25; HOMEWORKS 30; CONSTRUCTION UPDATE 27; CLASSIFIED Ads 32-44.

Floating goldrush

VILLAGERS have gathered several hundred kilograms of ambergris, or 'floating gold', from Mai Khao Beach and think they're about to get rich quick.

They are hoping to sell the substance, which begins life as bile excreted by sperm whales, for prices of up to 80,000 baht per kilo.

But so far only one buyer has emerged, offering just 5,000 baht per kilo and prompting anger and disappointment.

Rattanaporn Rattanaphat, who works as a beach masseuse, said she had collected 30 kilograms of ambergris since it started washing up at the end of last month.

Last week, her hopes of making a killing from the find were high.

"I feel like I've won the lottery," she said. "I want to use the money to fix my roof and take my sick father to see a doctor."

But after hearing the offer, which came from a Ranong-



A woman shows off some of the ambergris found on Mai Khao Beach.

based agent, she was furious.

"They thought because we're poor and have no education, we don't know how much this stuff is worth. But we're not all stupid."

"We know it's worth a lot

more than 5,000 baht a kilo."

Wipada Kankhao, another masseuse, said the agent was trying to buy at a low price because so much had been found.

The buyer also claimed the Burmese in Ranong sold

ambergris at just 3,000 baht per kilo, she said.

The villagers' hopes of making big money were raised by reports the substance was fetching high prices in neighboring Phang Nga province.

The ambergris that recently washed up there was rumored to be fetching 70,000 baht per kilo.

The substance is formed after sperm whales vomit up bile, which solidifies and floats in the sea, sometimes washing up on beaches.

It has a sweet, alluring smell, which makes it useful in making perfume.

Suphot Jantarapornsin, a fisheries specialist at Phuket Marine Biological Center, confirmed the substance found in Mai Khao was ambergris.

The quantity that washed up on the beach meant more than one sperm whale was in the area, he said.

"The lumps are fresh and quite large so we can guess they are swimming close to the island," he said.

— Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

Brit almost killed in 165-foot bungee plunge

A BRITISH tourist was nearly killed in a bungee jumping accident at the Jungle Bungy Jump center in Kathu, it emerged on Monday.

Rishi Baveja hit the water below the 165-foot high platform at around 130km/h after the harness slipped from his legs during the jump.

Luckily he took the full force of the impact on his chest, escaping head injuries that could have killed him, the *Daily Mail* reported.

Mr Baveja suffered a ruptured spleen, collapsed lungs, a torn liver and severe bruising, spending a month in a Bangkok hospital after being transferred from Phuket.

Doctors likened his injuries to those of a car crash victim.

Mr Baveja was on a month-long holiday

in Thailand to celebrate graduating from Cambridge University.

The entire accident, which took place on July 30, was captured on a video that can be viewed on the *Daily Mail's* website.

Terry Pearce, general manager of Jungle Bungy Jump, said, "We're very sorry it happened. We've been open for 17 and a half years and we've never had an accident before."

Describing the accident as 'bizarre', Mr Pearce said Mr Baveja had ignored instructions by jumping feet-first.

"He panicked and bicycle-kicked his feet out of the harness," he said.

Jungle Bungy Jump had changed the material used to wrap the jumper's legs to a new material which meant accidents were now 'impossible', he said.



A jumper takes the plunge at Jungle Bungy Jump in Kathu. File Photo

"If someone jumps exactly the way he did, it won't happen again. I can guarantee that," he said. "You can come and try it yourself."

— Dan Waites

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Bangla beggar's making a killing



Police count 3,500 baht in coins and notes that a beggar collected from tourists on Patong's Bangla Road in just three hours.

On a night patrol in the early hours of Monday morning, Patong's top cop showed a crowd of shocked tourists just how much money Phuket's beggars can make.

Kathu Police Superintendent Grissak Songmoonark stopped a known beggar in front of the Pizza Company restaurant on the famous Soi Bangla entertainment strip.

When the contents of the old man's bag were emptied onto a table in front of curious onlookers, the crowd was amazed to see a pile of notes and coins totaling more than 3,500 baht (approx US\$105.00).

The man said he collected the money in just three hours.

"Do you know why people gave you this money?" Col Grissak asked the man.

"They want to make merit," he replied.

"Then let's take this money to make merit," Col Grissak said.

The police proceeded to take the man to a local temple where he donated almost all the money, leaving himself just 100 baht to make his way home.

"I want to ask everyone who gives money to beggars to think before they donate," Col Grissak told the *Gazette*.

"If they are able to work, please don't support them because they'll only go and spend the money on drink and gambling."

Around 10 beggars persistently take money from tourists in Patong because the penalties for getting caught aren't strong enough, he said.

"It's just a 200 baht fine; then we have to let them go by law, so they always return," he said.

Col Grissak asked anyone who sees people begging for money to call the police or Patong Municipality.

- Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

Three ways to go 'under the hill'

A 40-million-baht feasibility study into the possibility of constructing Phuket's first road tunnel has come up with three options for planners to consider.

According to researchers' preliminary findings, the proposed tunnel between Kathu and Patong would cost between 1.16 and 2.48 billion baht.

Main contractor Epsilon Company Ltd is working with experts from PlanPro Corp Ltd and Kasetsart University to carry out the 15-month study, which got underway in July.

PlanPro will study traffic flow and the possibility of private funding under a build-operate-transfer agreement, while the Kasetsart University Faculty of Engineering team will help prepare the project's environmental impact assessment report.

Phuket Vice Governor Smith Palawatwichai chaired a meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall last Friday to hear the first findings of the study, which was funded entirely by Patong Municipality.

Also attending were project supporters including Patong Mayor Pian Keesin and Kathu Police Superintendent Grissak Songmoonark.

The Patong Tunnel road could take three different routes, all of which could accommodate either a two- or four-lane road, the researchers said.

The final report, scheduled for submission in October next year, will include cost estimates and a determination of which, if any, of the three routes under consideration is viable.



A computer generated image of cars approaching Patong through the proposed tunnel.

The first option would be a 1.44 kilometer tunnel, the access road to which would be a left hand turnoff from Phra Barami Road in tambon Kathu, near the go-kart track.

The total length of the new road, which would end in Patong near the junction of Phisit Gorani and 50 Pi roads, would be 2.27 kilometers. The cost would be about 1.3 billion baht for a two-lane road and 2.48 billion baht for a four-lane road, according to the consultants.

The second option would start in the same location but end in Patong near the APK Resort on Phang Muang Ruam Sai Kor Road, commonly referred to as 'the new road'.

The tunnel would cover just under half of the total 2.93-kilometer route. Cost would be 1.28 billion baht for two lanes and 2.44 billion baht for four lanes.

The third and most striking option would have Patong-bound motorists enter an access road past the go-kart track, then enter a 450-meter tunnel that would pass under the existing Phra Barami Road.

After leaving the tunnel high up in the hills, traffic would be routed via a 450-meter elevated road that would pass over a property development and then back over Phra Barami Road, not far

from where a large sinkhole formed during a storm in August.

The route would end in Patong near the junction of Phisit Gorani Road with 50 Pi Road.

Total road length would be 2.35 kilometers.

Initial cost projection would be 1.16 billion baht for two lanes and 2.48 billion baht for four lanes.

Public hearings will be conducted soon, with the results to be included in the final project recommendations.

"Whichever route is chosen, I think it will increase safety and promote Phuket tourism," Mayor Pian told the gathering, adding that he hoped to attract foreign investment for the project.

Mayor Pian also floated the idea of establishing parking areas at both ends of the tunnel route so that commuters could use an unspecified public transport option.

Col Grissak said the existing Patong Hill road has been the site of numerous accidents during his two-year tenure as chief of the Kathu Police.

"The traffic on the hill road is very bad, especially when it rains. Even one car conking out can cause a two-kilometer tailback very quickly...If you want to go to Patong, you must make sure that your car and driving skills are sufficient," he said.

- Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

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Imam's arrest sparks two-hour road block

AROUND 500 angry villagers blockaded Phuket's Thepkrasattri Road for two hours on Sunday after forestry officials arrested about 30 Muslims for trying to clear protected forest land.

Those arrested wanted to use 30 rai of Bang Khanon forest to build a new Muslim cemetery for three villages in Tambon Thepkrasattri.

One of those taken into custody was the imam of Prusompan Mosque, Sukhum Waree.

Mr Sukhum said the Phuket Forest Office had promised Phuket Islamic Office the land two years ago, though the transfer had yet to be made official.

After armed Phuket Royal Forest Department officers made the arrests at about 8am, a huge crowd of protesters closed the road in front of Thalang Police Station around midday, demanding the immediate release of all the arrested Muslims.

Long traffic jams built up on either side of the blockade, causing tourists to miss flights



Protesters gathered at Thalang Police Station on Sunday to demand the release of a local religious leader following his arrest for clearing forestry land to make way for a cemetery.

from Phuket International Airport.

A crisis meeting at Thalang Police Station was attended by Mr Sukhum, Phuket MP Rewat Areerob, senior police officers, local politicians and community leaders.

By 2pm it was agreed to release the 30 arrested people and allow them to continue to clear the land as planned.

The protesters immediately disbanded.

Mr Sukhum said he never panicked throughout the trouble "because I did this for my people and not for myself."

"I knew God would protect me," he added.

Mr Sukhum explained that the old cemetery used by the villagers, set on seven rai, was too small to serve the more than 1,000 residents of the three nearby villages.

- *Atchaa Khamlo*

Tourist police launch new charm offensive

FOREIGN tourists arriving at Phuket International Airport (PIA) are being introduced to their 'first friend' on the island, the Tourist Police, with the distribution of bookmarks displaying important telephone numbers, including a new Tourist Police hotline.

The nationwide public relations campaign, titled 'Your First Friend', was launched by the Tourist Police last month with the aim of putting a friendly face on the Tourist Police and to encourage tourists to contact them if they encounter any problems.

The Tourist Police hotline number 1155 is prominently displayed on the bright red bookmarks handed out at the airport immigration counters.

Other important numbers on the bookmarks include emergency services, a TAT hotline, hospitals, airports, the State Railway of Thailand and taxi services.

The campaign was first launched on September 4 at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport

and then at PIA on September 29. About 3,000 bookmarks have already been distributed at PIA.

It is expected that more than 100,000 bookmarks will be given out in Phuket during the first six months of the campaign.

Phuket Tourist Police Superintendent Ekachai Pramanakul said the 1155 hotline gives tourists a single number to call when they have a question or a problem, no matter where they are in Thailand.

Col Ekachai said the campaign has made a difference as more tourists were now contacting the Tourist Police through the hotline.

"Most of the callers' questions are general inquiries about tourist attractions and how to get to them, but people are welcome to call any time with any inquiry. If we can not help callers immediately, we will co-ordinate with agencies and organizations that can," he said.

- *Atchaa Khamlo*



'Dragon Gang' rounded up before Phuket Vegetarian Festival

THREE members of the so-called 'Dragon Gang' wanted for a string of robberies in Phuket City were arrested on Sunday as part of a pre-Vegetarian Festival crackdown.

Thanachote 'Liw' Saekhor, 19, Kriangsak Sawasduang, 21, and Rachan Khumphum, 27, all had intricate dragons tattooed on their backs, earning the gang its police nickname.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong and Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekpornpit announced the men's arrests at a press conference at Phuket City Police Station on Monday morning.

Police said the gang was responsible for more than 20 cases of motorbike and cell-phone theft.

The three men confessed to charges of robbery and drug possession.

Mr Liw told the press conference the gang targeted Honda Click motorcycles as well as expensive phones.

"We only chose men," he said. "We never robbed a woman."

The police arrested Mr Rachan in possession of *ya ba* (methamphetamine) after a tip-off, before rounding up the other two members.

Col Wanchai said the police had received a lot of robbery reports from teenagers in Phuket City.

"Finally, we've got them," he said. "I'm quite sure this is the last robbery gang we'll see in Phuket City."

Maj Gen Pekad said the police would be devoting a great deal of manpower to rounding up criminals before the Phuket Vegetarian Festival starts next Sunday.

- *Kitima Pornmongkhonwat*



Three suspected criminals show their dragon tattoos, which police believe make them members of the same gang.



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Bt300mn historical park planned

A 300-million-baht historical park to commemorate the Battle of Thalang is being planned as a new tourist attraction for Phuket.

More than forty architects have submitted designs for landscaping of the new 'Victory Park', which will occupy 96 rai in tambon Thepkasatri, next to Thalang Museum.

One winning design will be selected on March 13, 2010, the 224th anniversary of the battle.

The designer will receive 100,000 baht, a winner's certificate and the right either to undertake the project himself or to find a contractor for it.

Attractions and facilities at the new park will include a food court, a Sea Gypsy village, a car park, a playing field, a meeting hall and a new victory monument.

The park will be large enough to stage re-enactments of the Battle of Thalang.

Museum director Attjima Nookong said the project had been a long time coming.

"Development began 30 years ago and aims at showing thanks to the heroines Thao Thep

Krasatri and her sister Thao Sri Sunthorn for saving Phuket."

No estimated date for completion was announced, and the Phuket Cultural Office, whose project it is, has yet to receive a budget.

In the Battle of Thalang, forces commanded by the two heroines – then known as Jan and Muk – repelled an attack on the government stockade.

They were rewarded for their efforts by the new king, Rama I, with the title of 'thao' and given the names by which they are now generally known.

Jan was given the additional distinction of 'Thep Kasatri' or 'Thep Krasatri': the former signifies an angelic queen or princess; the latter means 'angelic woman' and was usually awarded to favored concubines.

Debate has long raged among local scholars as to which is the correct title.

The Heroines' Monument, in the center of Thepkasatri Road opposite Thalang Museum, is a site of homage for visiting dignitaries, new governors and civil servants and Thais in general.

- *Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn*



One of the proposed designs for a new Battle of Thalang victory statue for Phuket's new historical park.

Andaman Sea Rescue Service gets big boost

By Atchaa Khamlo

THE Andaman Sea Rescue Service (ASRS) is set to receive an additional 18 million baht to their annual budget to splash out on new speedboats and lifesaving equipment, following a Cabinet ruling last week.

The decision came as welcome news to the overstretched ASRS Phuket, which operates sea rescue services in Phuket, Phang Nga, Krabi, Ranong and Trang provinces along the Andaman coast.

With the new budget, ASRS intends to buy three new 'rescue packages'.

Each will include a new speedboat, life raft and communications and medical equipment.

Two of the packages will be allocated to Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi provinces with

one package set aside to include Trang and Ranong.

ASRS rescue workers, many of whom are volunteers, will also undergo a 45-day training program headed up by the Royal Thai Navy and Marine Police.

"With the new speedboats, training and equipment, Phuket's tourists and residents will be safer in Phuket's waters," said Udomporn Karn, head of operations at the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation center in Phuket.

"Our response time will be much faster and we can provide additional support to all five provinces in our jurisdiction with the new equipment," he said.

However, it could take at least five months before the money reaches the ASRS.

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Police officers inspect the site of a car bomb attack in Sungai Kolok, a border town in Narathiwat province on Tuesday. Suspected insurgents killed three people, including a toddler, and wounded at least 34 in a grenade, gun and car bomb attack on two restaurants and a hotel, police said. AFP photo / Madaree Tohlala

Farang robs country star

CHIANG MAI: An Italian man was injured falling from the roof of *luk thung* (Thai country music) singer Yingyong Yodbuangam's house in the process of a burglary.

Police found the 34-year-old moaning in pain in the garden of the house in Doi Saket District on Thursday.

On searching the injured man police found tools used for levering open windows.

Three bedrooms in the house had been ransacked for valuables.

At the time of the break in, Mr Yingyong was away

performing in Bangkok.

A neighbor who looks after Mr Yingyong's house said he saw a man climbing in through an upstairs window.

The neighbor called for help and went to investigate.

On being disturbed, the man tried to escape by jumping from the roof of the house onto the garden wall, but fell to the ground.

Police took him to Doi Saket Hospital for treatment before taking him to Doi Saket Police Station to be charged.

Source: Khao Sod

Queer News

Eel of fortune excites village

TRANG: Residents of Wang Wiset District have been rushing to see an unusual golden eel caught by a villager last week.

Last Wednesday, reporters found a crowd of people around a shack belonging to 42-year-old Pricha Khong-iat. The source of all the interest was a two-foot-long golden eel.

Mr Pricha said he found the unusual fish in a rice field a few days earlier.

He said he wanted to eat eel curry so set off to hunt the slippery fish.

When he landed his first catch, he was stunned to see it was a glittering gold color, he said.

Deciding that the creature must be an auspicious omen, he decided to forgo his eel curry and keep the fish at home so it would bring good fortune to his family.

Neighbors rushed to see the eel in the hope that some of the luck would rub off on them.

Director of the Trang Freshwater Fisheries Research and Development Center Santichai Rangsiyaphirom said the unusual coloring could be an adaptation to fit the natural environment.

As for the idea of the eel bringing good fortune, that was a personal belief which he could not comment on, he said.

Source: Khao Sod

Thieves steal monks' robes

AYUDHAYA: Two women and a man have been arrested for stealing monks' robes from a temple in Lan Sak District.

Phrakhru Uthaiatkosol, abbot of Wat Pa Kha, told police last Wednesday that the three had made off with a large number of new robes and other items from the temple.

Police stopped a suspect pickup truck being driven away from the temple.

In the truck they found seven bags full of robes as well as a number of cartons of candles.

The truck's passengers, Sian Phunphiphat, 34, Oy Phanthong, 30, and Deuan Phonglek, 45, admitted they had stolen the robes after the temple abbot had refused to sell them. They did not say why they needed them.

Source: Khao Sod

Rake strike proves fatal

AYUDHAYA: A woman killed her boyfriend with a rake during an argument on Sunday.

Wasan Triklam, 29, was rushed to hospital with tines of the rake still lodged in his chest.

Doctors were unable to save him.

Following the attack, his 29-year-old girlfriend, who was not named in the report, waited to hand herself in to police.

The woman told police her boyfriend, who she had been seeing for around a year, regularly taunted and beat her when he was drunk.

He gave up drinking for Buddhist lent, but had recently

started again, she said.

On the day of his death, he had been drinking *lao khao* (cheap Thai rum) all afternoon.

As she set off to the traditional massage parlor where she worked, Mr Wasan started abusing her and accusing her of infidelity.

He grabbed her and smashed her head into the floor, she claimed.

On escaping from his grip, she grabbed a rake and struck her boyfriend with full force in the chest, mortally wounding him.

She will be charged with manslaughter, police said.

Source: Khao Sod

Ladyboys fatally drug Indian tourist

BANGKOK: Police arrested two ladyboys for causing the death of an Indian tourist in a Pattaya hotel.

Phongsakon 'Dew' Singkaow, 24, and Prangchomphu 'Pla' Jaruphan, 25, were picked up by police at Bangkok's Sai Tai Mai Southern bus terminal on Friday morning.

The pair are alleged to have seduced Indian tourists Ahmid Annad and Pawan Kumar before drugging them with tranquilizers in their hotel room at the Pattaya City hotel.

Mr Annand never regained consciousness and was found dead in his room.

Source: Khao Sod

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Veggie Fest countdown

By Pimwara Choksakulpan and Fraser Morton

The countdown to the Vegetarian Festival is on. Thousands will flock to Phuket to witness the macabre and the bizarre world of self mutilation and Taoist rituals over the nine-day annual festival.

From October 18 to 26, the streets of Phuket City will be teeming with an army of 'possessed warriors' (*mah song*); mediums performing fire walking, bladed-ladder climbing, bathing in boiling oil and piercing their flesh, to appease the gods.

Participants wear white, abstain from sex, alcohol and meat over the festival period, during which vegetarian food stalls line the streets.

Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop, Phuket City Municipality and Tourist Authority of Thailand (TAT) representatives have been working tirelessly with Chinese shrine committees to ensure the festival goes off without a hitch.

Safety is priority number one for organizers and Gov Wichai has ordered police to ensure revelers do not set off fireworks into the crowds.

However, policing the problem is no easy task.

Each year, participants dance on thousands of lit fire-crackers – one of many pain threshold tests demonstrated during the festival.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pikat Tantipong said he had already issued a command to all officers involved in policing the festival to 'keep an eye on

firework lighting' in a bid to curb the number of 'reckless firework incidents'.

Additional ambulance services will be on standby this year following overcrowding and hygiene concerns voiced by Gov Wichai last week.

He said he wanted the *mah song* who take part in self-mutilation rituals to be flanked by medical teams to ensure piercing instruments are properly sterilized and that their wounds can be monitored.

During the nine-day festival police will be enforcing a clamp-down on overpriced goods on sale in shops in Phuket Town.

"We have asked for co-operation from retail stores to clearly price all items for sale," said Arwut Wongsavas, assistant director of Phuket's Office of Commercial Affairs.

"If there is any overpricing

going on, police will catch them."

Adding to the long list of police priorities is sniffing out the pickpocket gangs who are expected to turn out.

"There are sure to be some bad guys among the crowds who will come to Phuket to pray on tourists," Pikat warned.

He assured the public his officers would be overseeing the festival '24 hours a day', but insisted tourists should be careful with their belongings.

With the festival drawing closer, Phuket City Municipality Mayor Somjai Suwannasuppana said Phuket City Municipality has been 'developing the city-scape by erecting thousands of flags and Chinese lanterns as well as cleaning shrines all over the City'.

Local TAT officials have also had their hands full promoting the festival, distributing festival posters and invitations to international media, asking them to join the event in Phuket and other events nationwide.

TAT Director Setthapan Phutthanee said over 4,200 hotel rooms in Phuket City were already booked out for the final three days of the festival period, generating an estimated 72 million baht.

He added that local vegetable farmers, as every year, stand to make substantial profits in the run up to the festival.

'Possessed cop' will shower in boiling oil



Mah song claim to feel no pain when they are 'possessed'.

Phuket policemen who claims he was possessed by gods over 30 years ago will shower himself in six liters of boiling oil whilst marching the streets at this year's Vegetarian Festival.

And because of his 'super-human powers', he won't feel a thing.

Police Senior Sergeant Major Pisit Kunsong, 54, is one of many *mah song* mediums who claim to be possessed by Chinese spirits over the nine-day festival period.

Sergeant Pisit's story began at the Vegetarian Festival of 1976.

As he watched a procession of *mah song* pass by, the young Pisit accused one of the entranced 'warriors' of faking his condition.

The man told Pisit to attend a *mah song* ceremony at the Jui Tui Chinese shrine in Phuket City later that night.

At the temple, he still

refused to believe it. "I stubbed my cigarette out on the head of a statue of a god," he said.

In the days that followed, every time the young policemen heard beating drums at the festival he would feel ill.

Numerous trips to the doctor found no signs of illness.

But a local elder told Pisit: "You looked down on the gods, and now they have chosen your body as a *mah song*."

Since then, Pisit has taken part in every Phuket Vegetarian Festival, chanting in Chinese and spreading the purification messages of the spirit he believes possesses him.

"The spirit who commands me was an ancient Chinese general," he said.

Needless to say, Pisit now believes in the powers of the *mah song*.

He has abstained from meat since June this year.

On October 23, he will prove his 'super-human' powers by marching for three hours through Phuket City, showering himself in boiling hot coconut oil.

On October 17 at the Jui Tui Chinese Temple there will be a mass *mah song* pole-raising ceremony in which "all the *mah song* will be possessed".

Full details of the road closures for processions and times will be published in next week's *Gazette*.

Beach Fun Fest bash brings rock 'n' reggae to Surin

Catch an earful of live reggae and the latest dance grooves at Catch Beach Club for Patong Rotary Club's Beach Fun Fest fundraiser on Saturday, October 17.

A spectacular collection of unique sporting and entertainment

memorabilia will go under the hammer, including a Beatles guitar signed by Sir Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, a signed Pele 1960s Brazil shirt and a golden Puma running spike signed by the fastest man ever to have lived, Usain 'Lightning' Bolt.

Money raised at the Fun Fest auction will go towards the Rotary Club's Expanded Scholarship Fund.

The fund currently supports more than 250 local children who were directly affected by the 2004 tsunami. That fund is being expanded to include other disadvantaged children and those with special needs in Phuket and in Phang Nga provinces.

In conjunction with the beach party fundraiser,

Twinpalms Phuket has a 'Lost weekend' special offer up for grabs. The 15,000-baht package for two from October 16 to 18 includes accommodation over the three days and two nights, a complimentary barbecue the night before the Rotary Fun Fest, free entry into the beach party and a complimentary Sunday Brunch the next day.

Local sponsors of the Beach Fest include Twinpalms Phuket Resort, the Sandwich

Shoppe, 91.5FM Phuket Island Radio and the *Phuket Gazette*.

Reggae band Job 2 Do and a handful of international DJs will be pumping out the tunes at the beach from sunset onwards.

Tickets are 1,000 each and include a seafood barbecue and the chance to bid in auctions offering a plethora of valuable prizes. Tickets are available at Twinpalms, Sandwich Shoppes, and the *Phuket Gazette* offices.

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Waffle time in Kamala

CHEAP eats

By Dan Waites

Toasted waffles covered in strawberry jam and whipped cream, washed down with generous mugs of high-grade coffee.

It's a simple formula, and one that should draw the sweet of tooth to Kamala's Red Cafe like wasps to a bucket of Fanta.

Aside from Swedish waffles, what other Swedish treats can one enjoy in this Swedish-run coffee shop?

Swedish cakes, that's what.

The home-made cinnamon rolls are a textural treat, with layers that split apart at the tooth, much to the satisfaction thereof.

Also home-made is the squidgy chocolate cake, which will satisfy those who must have their coco-fix.

And there are sweet niblets from the 'Delicato' brand well known to Swedes: almond cake, chocolate balls and *damm sugare*, or "dust suckers" – marzipan cakes so named because of their apparent resemblance to vacuum cleaners.

But we are not all wasps drowning in super-sweet carbonated orange drink.

Should you require, Red Cafe will also whip up a ham and cheese sandwich using toasted bread fresh from the nearby Kamala bakery.

And on the *Gazette's* visit, owner Pierre Hammar takes us 'off menu' with something he calls a 'Swedish egg sandwich'.

The name doesn't quite do the dish justice.

What it should really be called is 'a piece of butter-soaked Ryvita topped with sliced boiled egg and squeezable caviar'.

Yes, you read that right: squeezable caviar. Fish roe squeezed from a tube like tomato puree – or paint.

Swedes love this stuff, apparently.

The flavors are intense, and the dish has the air of one that could become dangerously addictive, should the taste for it be acquired.



SWEDISH SPECIAL: Waffle + jam + cream + coffee = satisfaction.



FIVE-STAR SNACK: This combo of egg on buttered Ryvita is topped off with squeezable caviar.

Two of our party acquire it immediately.

With the opening of the small but homely Red Cafe, located on the same soi as Kamala Police Station just off the beach road, Kamala's sizable Swedish community will surely be delighted to

be able to enjoy some home-grown favorites on their doorstep.

Great coffee, Swedish waffles, a generous selection of cakes, squeezable caviar – what more could you ask for?

For more info, call Pierre Hammar. T: 085-158 7638.

Hospitality hilarity

"I'll have the 'free baby sister' and a 'live crap', please."

LOST IN Translation

By Wilko

There's many a slip between intent and actual content in Thai hotel industry literature. But mangled English is not only the domain of brochure writers, often struggling in non-native English. Native-English speaking guest comments can often be hilariously confusing.

Have a look at these gems gleaned from months of reading Thai hotel brochures and websites as well as the unwieldy pens of guests wishing to vent their praise or bile on Internet pages devoted to the Thai hotel experience.

Exotic English

"The fully equiment and good entertain from our staff should be provided with the warmest. The fitness center are service with the fully-equipment and the experience staff with daily."

Same same, no different

"[Name of hotel deleted] has a reputation for distinctiveness and this five-star beachside resort is no different."

Unexpected offers

"Free baby sister."

Kidnappers welcome

"Duplex room (72sqm) is two adjoining rooms; perfect when traveling with children of another couple."

Keep the noise down

"The quality of our beach and a tradition of hospitality excellence have made us popular hotel among honey moaners and romance-seekers."

No thanks

"Our treatment is designed to help relive your jet lag."

Safe with a view

"Coffee and tea-making facilities and in-room safe; some with views of Victoria Harbour."

Everything must go

"The mini-mart is open from 7am to 10pm. You can purchase anything from alcoholics to swimming suits."

If you spot similar silliness on brochures, menus, signs and websites, you can send them to us for publication by emailing editor@phuketgazette.net.

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Diving at the pinnacle of life



BENEATH THE WAVES

By Diver Dan

It is often said that Phuket residents are fortunate because of what the island has to offer: great beaches, beautiful scenery, a fantastic range of food and drink options and much, much more.

As a diver it is no different. The islands around Phuket are surrounded with vividly colored coral reefs, home to a myriad of different species.

On top of that we have access to the Similian Islands, often named in the top ten of the world's best dive destinations, and from November to May each year, divers head out in droves to the famous islands, hoping for a glimpse of a whale shark or manta ray.

Besides the wonderful diving we have at our fin tips, the status of Phuket as an international tourist destination means there are excellent transport links to places in and around the region, opening up a whole new world for divers.

Following the boom of low cost airlines, keen scuba divers now have relatively easy access to top

dive destinations in the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia. It's an opportunity not to be missed.

Just two short flights from Phuket is Borneo, the third largest island in the world.

Borneo is split between three countries: Indonesia, Malaysia and the Sultanate of Brunei, but it is the Malaysian state of Sabah where Borneo's jewel in the crown is to be found.

Home to wild orangutans, proboscis monkeys living in acres of untouched rainforest; Mount Kinabalu – one of Southeast Asia's highest – not to mention thousands of species of flowers and birds, Sabah has plenty to admire above the waves, but it is in the small fishing town of Semporna in Southeast Sabah where the magic truly begins.

Semporna itself is the gateway to Sipadan – often referred to as the world's best dive spot.

Rising about 2,000 meters from the depths, Sipadan was formed over thousands of years by corals growing on the top of an extinct volcano.

Located at the center of the Indo-Pacific Basin – one of the world's richest marine habitats – the water surrounding the island is home to more than 3,000 species of fish.

When legendary explorer Jacques Cousteau first visited the island in the '70s, he and his research team were so overwhelmed by what they saw, they stayed for an additional six months.

Sipadan has 14 different

dive sites. All the dives are conducted along the steep walls of the volcano, which drop rapidly away into the depths.

On a good day – that said, everyday at Sipadan's a good day – visibility can easily exceed 50 meters horizontally and 100 meters vertically, giving divers the impression they are flying as they cruise along the walls, pushed along by Sipadan's varying currents.

A trip to Sipadan gives divers the chance to marvel at some of the bigger wonders the seas have to offer.

Huge tornadoes of shining barracuda and jacks circle divers; giant trevallies and dog-faced tunas streak past, fixing you with their black eyes; bumphead parrotfish, with faces only a mother could love, block your vision as they pass by in great numbers.

Did I mention the turtles?

There was a time when there were so many turtles at Sipadan they would bump into you on a dive.

These days there aren't as many, but it is still possible to spot more than 40 on a single dive – something you will rarely find anywhere else.

These creatures are spotted on a regular basis, but what lures many divers to Sipadan are the sharks, especially the promise of hammerhead sharks.

When people could stay on the island, pre-dawn dives would occasionally produce spectacular schools of up to 300 or more. Diving before 6am is now prohibited and people are no longer able to stay so sightings are rarer, but just a glimpse of these majestic creatures is enough to take the breath away.

Aside from the hammerheads, white tip and gray reef sharks are common, while leopard sharks, whale sharks and thresher sharks are witnessed from time to time at 'the pinnacle of life'.

Sipadan is truly one of the world's great dive destinations.

But let me let you into a little secret.

Whisper it quietly, there's some even better diving to be



BEST OF BOTH WORLDS: A leopard shark rests on the sea bed (top). A frogfish tries to hide from predators (below). Both can be seen in the Sipadan-Mabul region. Photos by Lia Barrett

found just 15 minutes boat ride away at the island of Mabul – muck diving.

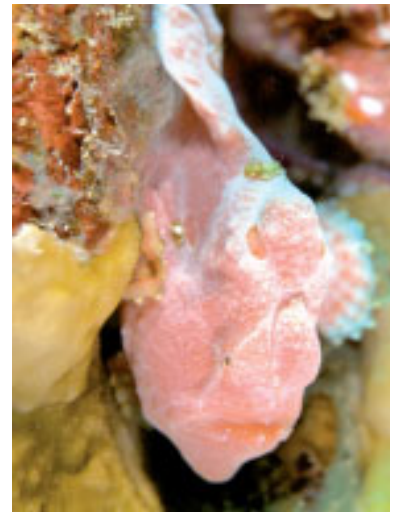
Muck diving generally consists of diving painstakingly slowly across the sediment that lies on the bottom, broken coral, sand, car tires, fishing nets and other man-made items.

Sounds awfully boring, right? Wrong!

Muck diving is where you find some of the world's most dazzling, exotic, weird and wonderful marine life, which thrives in the 'mucky' environment.

Ghost pipefish; sea horses, pygmy and regular; stunning nudibranches; moray eels; harlequin shrimp; blue-ringed octopi; flamboyant cuttlefish; and the bizarre frogfish are just a small selection of things you might discover on a muck dive, some seemingly alien-like.

But be warned, they're not easy to find, which is why muck diving is generally enjoyed more by experienced divers who are quite happy to scrutinize a patch of sand for an hour, searching for a gem.



All the above species and many more can be found at the dive sites around Mabul island, offering rewards for people who are willing to put in the time to hunt for them.

But, at the end of the day, it's horses for courses – some people love the big stuff, while others thrive in the wonderful world of macro.

The best thing about Mabul and Sipadan is you have the chance to enjoy both.

To get to Sipadan from Phuket:

Fly Phuket to Kuala Lumpur and then KL to Tawau. AirAsia operates the flights per day from Phuket to KL and three from KL to Tawau. Semporna is an hour's taxi ride from Tawau. Three dives at Sipadan with Scuba Junkie – a Semporna-based dive operation – is 450 Malay ringitt, including transfers, equipment, Sipadan permit and lunch. Three dives at Mabul is 300 ringitt. Scuba Junkie operates a resort in Mabul which is 80 ringitt per night based on two people sharing a twin room, including three meals a day. E: info@scuba-junkie.com.

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S-class puts drivers in safe hands



By Jeff Heselwood

The new, updated Mercedes-Benz S-Class is truly magnificent. It does everything you want it to and more.

Introduced in 2005, the S-Class line-up received a makeover in time for Auto Shanghai 2009 earlier this year.

The high safety standard typical of the S-Class is further improved by a unique combination of new driver assistance systems, with innovations such as 'Attention Assist' drowsiness detection and adaptive high beam assist, which recognizes oncoming traffic. Since the first S-Class was introduced in 1951, more than 3.3 million have been delivered around the world.

Olivier Boulay, general manager of Mercedes-Benz Advanced Design Center of China said it was at the 1997 Tokyo Motor Show where a concept car of the new S-class was first unveiled, which led to the development of the popular Maybach series.

The latest S-Class incorporates many of the features used in the Maybach, although the S-Class is more of an everyday saloon, he said.

The 'Attention Assist' drowsiness detector is uniquely able to sense if a driver's concentration is wandering due to tiredness, but it's not as simple as it may seem.

"We investigated ways of looking at a driver's eyes, but of course, Asian people have different facial features," said product manager for the S-Class, Frank Steinacher.

"Also, some people wear glasses, others do not.

"And if a driver has sunglasses, it makes it difficult to



S-CLASS AWARENESS: Artificial intelligence in the new S-Class wakes drivers if it thinks they are nodding off. Night vision is also one of the 60 electronic driver aids incorporated in the Bt7.5-million car.

detect anything with the eyes."

Instead the crafty car makers have used a series of computers within the car which forms a driving pattern, based on steering input, cornering technique, braking effort, and a long list of other idiosyncratic behaviour traits of the car owner.

If any of these begin to change significantly, an audible warning will sound to alert the driver.

The new-generation S-Class is available with a choice of three engine variants, two gasoline units and one diesel. By means of specific aerodynamic fine-tuning, and modifications to the steering, fuel pump and the seven-speed automatic transmission, Mercedes-Benz has been able to reduce both fuel consumption and CO2 emissions by up to six per cent.

The majority of accidents start long before the actual collision from a lapse in concentration, poor visibility or hazards which cannot be anticipated.

Mercedes-Benz has fitted the S-Class with a range of safety features which promote relaxed motoring and bring critical situations under control. One of the latest additions to safety is the 'Night View Assist'

which enables the driver to detect obstacles earlier at night.

Night View Assist can make many critical situations a thing of the past, allowing a driver to see everything that's important even in the dark. The secret behind Night View Assist lies in the infra-red headlamps, which light up the road with infra-red light that is invisible to the human eye.

The picture captured by the infra-red camera is reproduced in

shades of grey on the integrated 8-inch multifunction display in the instrument cluster. The view is similar to looking through the windscreen with the main-beam headlamps switched on. There are over 60 electronic aids to help the driver. They issue warnings when required – as in the case of the tire pressure monitoring system – or provide assistance when needed.

Perhaps the most important

of all is the electronic stability program which can stabilize the car if there is a risk of skidding.

Brake systems incorporating brake assist are also becoming increasingly intelligent and can now reduce the stopping distance by a considerable amount when it matters most.

The modified design of the facelift S-Class is characterized by the more pronounced arrow-shape of the radiator grille, plus a new front bumper with a discreet light-catching contour and a chrome strip below the cooling air intakes.

This standard LED package features daytime and night time driving lights and indicators. They lend an unmistakable day-and-night design to the front end. The rear end is characterized by tail lights in a new design, with horizontal, white light rather than the previous inserts in the vehicle color.

Having sold 270,000 units globally since launching in 2005, the latest S-Class series is the world's most successful luxury saloon.

The new S-Class starts at 7,599,000 baht for the S300 wheelbase. The long wheelbase S500 starts at 10,899,000 baht.



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Not a lot of people know this

After a five-month break over the quieter 'summer' season, the Punchline Comedy Club makes a triumphant return to Phuket on October 14 for an evening of witty one-liners, gags and improvised banter.

October's show is set to be a decidedly Anglo affair with all three comedians hailing from England's green and pleasant land.

Headlining the show is Chester's Bob Mills, who, since bursting onto the London comedy scene in the mid-1980s, has established himself as one of the UK's leading stand-up comics and has starred in a number of acclaimed TV and radio shows.

Ablly assisting Bob are Andre Vincent, who once opened a show for the legendary American comedian Bob Hope, and Barry Castagnola, who got his break in the world of comedy after blagging his way onto the stage at the Comedy Store in Los Angeles.

Bob Mills

Phuket expats from the UK might remember Bob Mills for his cult classic TV show 'In Bed With Medinner', which ran for seven years between 1992 and 1999, totaling 60 episodes.

'In Bed' had a clip show-based format in which Mills specialized in displaying a cynical view of life and its everyday objects, presenting a long rambling commentary that inevitably led to a story about a video clip, and then to the amusing video clip itself.

Mills' comedy career began in 1985 when he took the London comedy scene by storm with his unique and challenging brand of 'laddish' irreverent stand-up.

In the decade that followed, he established himself as "one of the leading lights of British comedy", managing to bridge the gaping chasm which exists



Bob Mills

between the young and the old, emerging as a pensioners' favorite and a student cult hero with his performances as host of the TV show *Win, Lose or Draw*.

Further success followed when Mills hosted *There's Only One Brian Moore* and *Dial Midnight* for LWT, *Not A Lot Of People Know That* for BBC1 and more than 200 shows for VH1, including documentaries/interviews with Eric Clapton, Phil Collins and Cher.

In recent years, Leyton Orient fan Mills has combined his TV and radio performances with a career as a writer and producer with tremendous success.

As a writer, he penned the critically acclaimed, award-winning comedy *Bob Martin*, the six-part comedy-drama *Northern Lights* and the feature length film *Pierrepont* which premiered in 2006. As a producer he helped Julie Walters to a Best Actress BAFTA in *My Beautiful Son*, also receiving his own coveted nomination from the Academy in the process.

Andre Vincent

According to *The Times* newspaper, Andre Vincent 'possesses the energy of Lee Evans with the improvisational skills of Paul Merton and is one of the best comedians in the business.' If their gushing praise is anything to go by, Phuket comedy fans are in for a treat.

Vincent has spent his entire lifetime performing in one way or another. Even his arrival on earth attracted an audience – his mother gave birth to him in a Woolworth's department store in Penge, England.

A natural performer, as a youngster Vincent would upstage everyone in minor roles as a street urchin or small child in theater productions, before becoming a chorister, much to the delight of his family, whose dream it was for him to follow his grandma into the world of opera.

His family were to be disappointed, however, as he headed to Paris to train as a clown, before touring the world entertaining the masses at circus



Andre Vincent

and theater festivals everywhere under the sun.

While in America, a friend took Vincent to a comedy club in Orlando, something that heralded a new chapter of his life.

Within a few months he was on the road compering at small stand-up clubs in the southern states of the US, culminating in opening for Bob Hope and Bill Hicks in 1992.

Returning to the UK, Vincent quickly established himself as one of the top stand-up acts in the country.

His individual style has seen him present two award-nominated TV shows, feature in countless radio shows, appear regularly on panels for daytime TV shows and star in five sell-out shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, of which he sits on the board.

Barry Castagnola

Comedian, actor and writer Barry Castagnola got his start in the industry the same way as many have done down the years; he blagged his way in.

Castagnola's big break came after two sell-out shows at the Edinburgh Festival and a stint on the *11'O Clock Show*, when Cyderdelic, a three-man



Barry Castagnola

spoof eco-warrior dance-music act won the BBC2 Green Light Award for comedy, thrusting him and fellow comedians Marc Wootton and Liam Woodman into the spotlight.

Since those early days, Castagnola has established himself as a comic and has been delivering first-rate stand-up performances in the UK and internationally for the past eight years.

Regularly headlining gigs around the UK, Barry has also performed in New York, Singapore, Dubai and France to name but a few.

With his easy-going style, blending personal anecdotes with some razor-sharp topical and political comment, Castagnola finds himself in popular demand as a stand-up, but also as a compere and is sure to deliver a top performance here in Phuket.

-Daniel Ogunshakin

The Punchline Comedy Club returns on October 14 at the Holiday Inn Resort in Patong. From 8pm to 11pm. Tickets are priced at 960 baht in advance or 1,200 baht on the day. For a list of all outlets visit their website. W: phuketcomedy.com.

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EXPAT GALLERY

Bill Barnett

If you want to know anything about the Thailand travel market or what's happening with sales of luxury villas on Phuket, ask Bill Barnett.

He has been writing his 'Property Watch' column in the *Phuket Gazette* for the past three years, giving prospective buyers and those already committed in the island property market a view to the health of their investments.

Bill is the founder and managing director of C9 (cloud nine) Hotelworks, which provides all the services that major international hotel chains need before they invest in a new destination. He also advises villa developers on where and what to build as he has long experience and deep knowledge of the region.

But rather than living in Hong Kong or Singapore to be closer to his clients, he has opted for nature, lifestyle, and the dynamism of his industry in Phuket.

"I love Phuket and what the island has to offer. The past few years I've gotten involved with triathlons and the running, biking and swimming. It's given me a real appreciation of the beauty of the island."

Bill started life in the United States. He got his appetite for the bigger world when his parents took the family to different countries for work vacations.

After leaving secondary school he worked in the PR department at Capitol Records. He wrote music reviews when he was underage and had to get fake ID to get into the clubs. He was also a road manager for bands until his early 20s, working with such names as Tom Petty and Fleetwood Mac.

He has always been enterprising. He worked as a croupier at the blackjack tables in Reno and took odd jobs at ski resorts and dude ranches. In his early twenties, he moved to Hawaii where he first worked in hotels, eventually rising to manager.

Instead of settling down into a hotel career in Hawaii, he became interested in the work of anthropologist Michael Rockefeller in Papua New Guinea and secured a job as manager for an adventure tour company in that region.

Later he moved to the Philippines where he worked with an investment company acquiring assets through privatization. He also attended management courses at the Cornell University School of Hospitality Management.

In 1991 he was the first American hotel executive to manage a property in post war Vietnam. Since then he has acted as owner's representative at significant hotels such as the Four Seasons New York, the Regent

Beverly Wilshire, Ritz Carlton Hong Kong, Grand Hyatt Taipei, Hilton Seoul, Westin Philippine Plaza and Sofitel Silom Bangkok.

In 2001, Bill was ready to leave high powered corporate life and began looking for a place where he could get more enjoyment out of life. He chose Phuket primarily for its many golf options.

Two years later, he took a contract at Laguna Phuket to launch a comprehensive marketing campaign for a range of residential housing projects that became a major success and brought international attention to the island as an enviable place to live.

Bill then went out on his own and launched two Phuket projects with partners: East Coast Ocean Villas and Ocean Breeze.

He was awarded a prestigious PATA Gold Award in 2007 and continues in high demand for his views on the region's hospitality and residential industry. He has also appeared on CNBC, BBC and CNN, and in regional news and financial publications.

Over the past year, Bill has been busy consulting on the massive Thai Muang development in Phang Nga and a new Ritz-Carlton over the bridge, as well as some projects in Bangkok and Vietnam.

"I'm not going anywhere. I have a great group of clients and right now I'm busy preparing for my first Ironman [long distance triathlon], to be held in Zurich next year," 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, ahh, not entirely clear. Some of our subjects are not business people at all, but have added real value to Phuket as English teachers, journalists, artists, engineers, fund raisers, etc. But all have one thing in common: if there were a *Who's Who in Phuket*, they'd be in it.

Award winning fund manager shares insights and predictions at MBMG seminar



Also speaking at the seminar, Billy Popham of MBMG Group explained the many advantages available to UK expats by moving their pensions offshore.



Picking the right asset classes rather than individual stocks delivers 90% of investment returns, according to Sam Liddle of Miton Asset Management. "Asset allocation is the key. It's where you invest, not what you buy that really matters".

Speaking at the investment seminar organised by MBMG Group, Mr Liddle said the fantastic bounce in markets in the last 6 months had been driven almost exclusively on the supply side, with companies achieving profits from cutting costs rather than driving revenue.

Looking forward, emerging markets offered enormous opportunities in the next few years, but yields in the UK and US markets will be more difficult to find as their economies are likely to take far longer to recover from the global recession. "No matter what the state of the overall market, there are always opportunities."

"The Japanese market has been regarded as a bear market for many years, but there have been 7 rallies of up to 35% in that time, so close attention to detail can result in strong yields, even when the overall market looks gloomy."



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OPEN FOR BUSINESS: Kitchen Plus, a new restaurant at HomePro Village Phuket-Chalong, celebrated its grand opening on October 2. Pictured are (front row, left to right) Mr Wathanyu Visutthikoson, Deputy Managing Director of Home Product Center Public Co Ltd; Teerasak Polngam, owner of Kitchen Plus; Mr Teerasak's mother; Varangkana Sujaritkul, Phuket Provincial Court Chief Justice; Ms Varangkana's mother; and Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong. Also pictured (back row) is Thanapat Nuansakul, General Manager of Kitchen Plus.



CLEAN TEAM: Blue View Divers co-ordinated a two-day beach and dive cleanup on Koh Phi Phi Don and Koh Phi Phi Ley last month. More than 90 Blue View Divers volunteers, members of Scuba Schools International (SSI) and local business representatives collected in excess of two tonnes of rubbish over the two days, more than twice the amount of the previous year.



ABSOLUTE LUXURY: The Absolute World Group hosted a VIP party on October 6 to celebrate the pre-launch of Absolute Bangla Suites, the first five-star boutique resort on Patong's Bangla Road. Pictured are (from left) Bryan Lunt, Chairman of Absolute World Group of Companies; Thirada Leeyawanich, Director of Absolute Bangla Suites; Vladimir Sucevan, Absolute World Group of Companies CEO; Wichai Phraisa-ngop, Phuket Governor; and Pongpayome Vasputi, former Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Interior.



FINANCIAL PLANNING: Sam Liddle (left), award-winning fund manager with Miton Asset Management, discusses market prospects for 2010 with Tim Goodman at the MBMG Investment Seminar held last week at the Holiday Inn Phuket Resort and Hotel. The five-star international fund manager spoke to attendees about investment opportunities and the five reasons why people should review their UK pensions now.



RED LETTER DAY: As part of the Chinese National Day's 60th anniversary celebrations, Prince of Songkla University (PSU) welcomed students from Kwangsi University in Hong Kong. The guests entertained PSU students with traditional Chinese performances.



CALIFORNIA DREAMING: 'Wine educator' Mr Lim Hwee Peng compares notes with Mr Peter Komposch, General Manager of Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket, at a recent wine tasting event held at the hotel. The event was organized by The California Wine Company.



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Getting the right angles



In this month's Yoga Moments, we shall work through the stages of the Utthita Parsvakonasana. The name of the position comes from the words Parsva, meaning side or flank, and Kona, meaning angle. This is the extended lateral angle pose or extended side angle pose.

Technique

1. Stand in *Tadasana* (starting position) on the front of mat (photo 1).
2. Inhale and move the right leg back, placing it 4 to 4.5 feet from the other foot, keeping the heels aligned.
3. Raise the arms sideways in line with the shoulders, palms facing down, keeping the arms parallel to the floor.
4. Turn the front foot out 90 degrees to the left, keeping the back foot stretched from the inside and tightened at the knee.
5. Bend the left leg at the knee

until the thigh and calf form a right angle, and the thigh is parallel to the floor.

6. Exhale and stretch the trunk to the left, lengthening the spine. Rest the left side of abdomen and chest on the left thigh and place the left palm on the floor beside

Check Points

1. Keep the back leg knee locked and press the outer border of the back foot firmly on the floor. Do not let it lift up.
2. Keep the front knee in line with the corresponding hip. If the hip moves out, push the hip in and move the knee out, bringing them in line.

Benefits

1. Tones the ankles, knees and thighs.
2. Develops the chest and reduces fat around the waist and hips.
3. Relieves sciatica and arthritis pain.



Photo 1



Photo 2

the left foot. The left armpit should be covering and touching the outer side of the left knee.

7. Inhale and stretch the right arm out over the corresponding ear. Keep the head up or gaze at the center of the extended arm.
8. Tighten the loins and stretch

the hamstrings. The chest, the hips and the legs should be in a line. Achieve this by moving the chest up and back (photo 2). 9. Remain in the pose, breathing evenly for five to seven breaths. 10. Inhale and lift the lower palm from the floor and return

to step three.

11. Return to step one and practice with the other leg, repeating steps three to eight. Hold the posture for the same duration as you did on the other side.

12. Inhale and come up and return to step one.



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Pruerk-Ampai	75	5,950,000	100,000	2,875,000	2,975,000
Pruerk-Amporn	136.4	9,100,000	100,000	4,450,000	4,550,000

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- * The price and style of the houses may be changed without prior notice

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

Punchline Comedy – Live Int'l Stand-up Comedy – October 14.



The Phuket Punchline Comedy Club is very proud to present the irresistible and irrepressible comedy of Bob Mills. Many Brits will best remember Bob for his hugely successful British TV show 'In Bed With Medinner'. Joining Bob for this night of uncontrollable cachinnations are 'cheeky-chappy' compere Andre Vincent, who once opened a show for the legendary American comedian Bob Hope and a rising star of the UK comedy circuit, Barry Castagnola.

Tickets are available from various outlets around Phuket. Please visit our website for prices, locations, maps and a lot more info. The show is sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*.

From 8pm to 11pm at Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, Patong. For further information contact Khun Boom. T: 089-646 9278. E: info@phuketcomedy.com. W: phuketcomedy.com.

October 8-10. Software Park Forum / IT Architect Conference

The Asia Oceania Regional Software Park Forum 2009 is the third consecutive gathering of software park operators, tenants, software vendors, consulting firms and end-users from across the Asia-Oceania Region. Participants will have opportunities to promote their mutual interests and collaborative efforts to grow their businesses and quickly respond to challenges. The forum is expected to attract more than 300 visitors from nine countries across the region. There will be seminars, meetings, panel discussions and lectures on Open Innovation and related topics. From 8am to 6pm at Merlin Beach Resort. For further information contact Sutthinee Sati, SIPA Phuket. T: 076-379111. E: sutthinee.sa@sipa.or.th. W: SoftwareParkForum2009.org.

October 9-November 9. Art Men 5 at Hung Fat's

Five Phuket artists present art to celebrate recycled and found objects on the island. John Underwood has invited local painters and sculptors to show their talents at Hung Fat's at Kalim Beach. Bill O'Leary will show his expressionist paintings, 'Phuket Modern Primitive, inspired by the *Phuket Gazette*'. From 7.30pm to 12.30am at Hung Fat's Restaurant. For further information contact John Underwood. T: 081-968 6529. E: john@underwood-phuket.com. W: underwood-phuket.com.

October 10. Annual Pro Dive Event 2009

This year, Aqua Master opens its doors to all professionals of the dive industry on Saturday, October 10, at our premises. At the one-day event, you can meet your dedicated contact for your orders, discover the latest product information, new promotional materials and special deals to start the season, plus enjoy great food, drinks and lucky draws. Our team is looking forward to welcoming you on this great day. From 10am to 6pm at Aqua Master, Chalong Pier. For further information contact Mr Joffrey Tissier. T: 0818-935492, 076-281 227. E: sales@aquamaster.net. W: aquamaster.net.

October 11-13. Asia's First Alternative Ownership Conference

Alternative Ownership Conference for Hotels and Resorts – Asia Pacific. A two-day conference and networking event with key industry players. The conference covers fractional ownership and vacation ownership. Many speakers from around the world will share their experiences, case studies, highlights and strategies, and advise newcomers on how to introduce these concepts to their business model. The event is ideal for hotel and resort owners, and professionals in the tourism and the real estate industries. From the event you will understand why fractional and vacation ownership are booming, while other industry sectors are slowing down. The *Phuket Gazette* and PGTV are sponsors of this event. Register now. Limited seats. From 8am to 8pm at Millennium Resort Patong. Contact AOCAP for further information T: 083-650 6848. E: info@aocap.org. W: aocap.org.

October 17. Beach Fun-Fest at Catch Beach Club

The Catch Beach Club at Surin Beach is the venue for the 'Beach Fun-Fest' Live Music Party hosted by the Rotary Club of Patong Beach. This fun event will raise funds for 'Children in Need'. The event, on Saturday, October 17th, starts at 7pm and will go all night and into the morning! Twinpalms will serve an exciting Beach BBQ. Tickets are only 1,000 baht, including the dinner. Tickets can be purchased from Woody's Sandwich Shoppes in Laguna, Patong and Chalong, from Friendship Beach Resort in Rawai or from members of the Rotary Club of Patong Beach. From 7pm to 2am at Twinpalms' Catch Beach Club. For further information contact O.B. Wetzell. T: 081-892 9207. E: ob@dmg-thailand.com. W: rotarypatong.org/fund-raiser.html.

October 18-26. Phuket Vegetarian Festival

This festival is an annual event held during the ninth lunar month of the Chinese calendar.

Though the origins of the festival are unclear, it celebrates the Chinese community's belief that a strict diet of 'vegetables only' will purify mind and body and constitute merit-making. Sacred rituals are performed at all Chinese temples in Phuket. The processions from each temple show strict vegetarians, known as devotees, ostensibly possessed by gods, piercing their tongues, cheeks and other parts of the anatomy with sharp implements. The devotees apparently feel no pain and show no sign of real injury.

October 20-22. Phuket International Academy 350 Sports Camp

The PIA 350 Sports Camp takes place at PIA's international-standard Sports, Arts and Wellness Center. Activities include: football, swimming, basketball, baseball, rugby and hockey. Ages: eight to 14 years. Price: 500 baht per day or 1,250 baht for the three days (members receive a 20 percent discount). From 9am to 4pm at Phuket International Academy, 115/15 Moo 7 Thepkasattri Rd, Thalang Phuket. For more information contact Martyn Ware. T: 0843-080827.

E: martyn@phuketinternationalacademy.com.

W: phuketinternationalacademy.com.

COMPUTER CLINICS

Free Computer Clinics. Join Woody Leonhard and other Windows victims at his Sunday morning Computer Clinics, which are co-sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. Come early to make sure you get a seat: several recent events have been standing room only. For further information contact Woody. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com. W: KhunWoody.com. Driving instructions at www.Woody.info.

October 11. Free Computer Clinic – Laguna

From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna.

October 18. Free Computer Clinic – Chalong

From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong

October 25. Free Computer Clinic – Chalong

From 10am to 12pm, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong

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Global currencies in tricky balancing act

The imbalance of a huge deficit in the US compared with the large surpluses in China and Japan is frequently blamed as a root cause of the global financial crisis.

We are told that if we remove that imbalance, many of the problems will go away.

When one examines current US dollar levels against the yen, the situation would appear to be improving, superficially at least.

After all, where deficits are large, as in the case in the US, a weak dollar tends to inhibit imports and encourage exports. This, in theory, should be part of the remedy.

The dollar has fallen to 88 yen, making the dollar cheap and the yen a very expensive and not very competitive currency.

From a Japanese perspective, a really strong currency makes imports cheap.

There is even an external school of thought that says perhaps this is good for the Japanese economy.

The reasoning behind this theory is as follows:

Japan is too dependent on exports. An 'expensive' yen makes exports suffer, but cheap imports will encourage Japanese consumers to spend, revitalizing the economy through domestic consumption.

The Japanese have just voted in a new government. The Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) are now at the helm and the new finance minister has somehow managed to convey the idea that Japan is not worried about a strong yen.

Currency markets and their traders like to see how far they can push matters – hence a weak dollar and strong yen.

However, even if, in theory, currencies can move against each other to produce a better outcome, no one is ever really happy if this happens too quickly.

Well, almost no one. Currency traders are always delighted, especially if they are on the winning side of the currency trade.

Japan's finance minister is starting to mumble about the situation, and with good reason.

The strong yen is hurting exports and helping competitors.



Secretary of State Hilary Clinton and Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner listen to President Obama's opening address at the US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue. China is now America's largest creditor and has neatly turned the tables on the US.

In the past 18 months, the yen has not only appreciated against the US dollar, but it has gained 35 percent against the Korean won.

This represents a huge boost for Korea's exports, and as Korea is a major manufacturer of electronic goods and auto-mobiles; to name but two, it is incredibly good news.

Japan holds around US\$900 billion in foreign exchange reserves, which is the second largest reserve in the world after China.

Japan also has the dubious distinction of having the largest national debt – 200 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – of any country in the industrialized world.

This is completely different to the US, where it is estimated that debt might reach around 80 percent of GDP, after all the stimulus packages have been spent.



MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

Richard G Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service, and has over 25 years experience in this field. Office: 076-381 997. Mobile: 081-0814-611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th www.globalportfolios.com.

Japan's problems came from massive government stimulus programs in the 1990s.

The then government thought the economy would recover if they spent enough money on infrastructural programs.

Returning to exchange rates, there is another major issue that is somehow being ignored.

In theory, the strong yen and the cheap US dollar helps US and Japanese trade imbalances, but it totally avoids the larger issue of the massive imbalance between the US and China's currencies.

The value of China's currency is set by the Chinese Government.

While some movement is allowed in its trading range, the yuan has about as much freedom to roam as a dog on a lead.

A few years ago, the Chinese allowed their currency to revalue against the US Dollar in measured steps, but for the past two years – roughly the length of this global crisis – there has been no real movement.

China is now America's largest creditor and has neatly turned the tables on the US.

To achieve this desired

state of affairs, China has used psychological warfare against the US.

The first approach was to make concerned noises about the ongoing health of the dollar, referring to how much they were holding in US dollars and making vague statements about the need to diversify their foreign currency holdings.

America was forced to make statements defending the dollar, assuring the Chinese of the safety of their investments, always mindful that they would need even more Chinese money to pay for America's enormous deficits.

It has been noted that America 'forgets' to mention human rights issue when dealing with the Chinese these days.

'Over the Pond', the British have real concerns with their currency.

In America, at least when the media approach Treasury Secretary Geithner or any Central Banker on the issue of the Dollar, the mantra "we favor a strong dollar" is still in place.

In a paper published on September 21, the Bank of England announced that the value of the pound (compared to other currencies) would be lower for a protracted period, due to huge deficits.

The pound fell on this news and then swiftly recovered, only to be met with more verbal intervention, saying something to the effect that it is in Britain's 'best interests' to have a weak currency.

Currency traders and others 'got the message' and the pound fell again.



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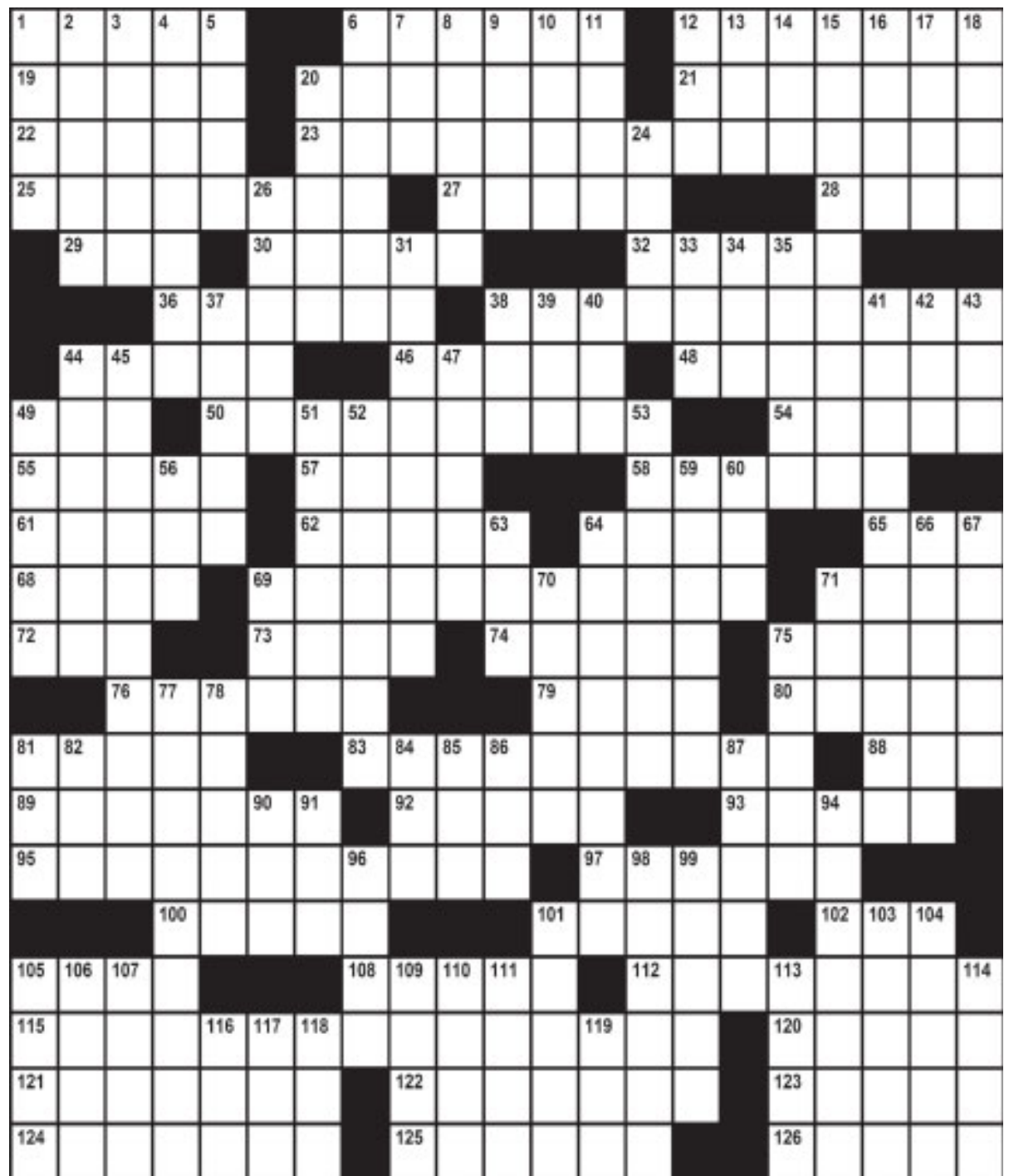
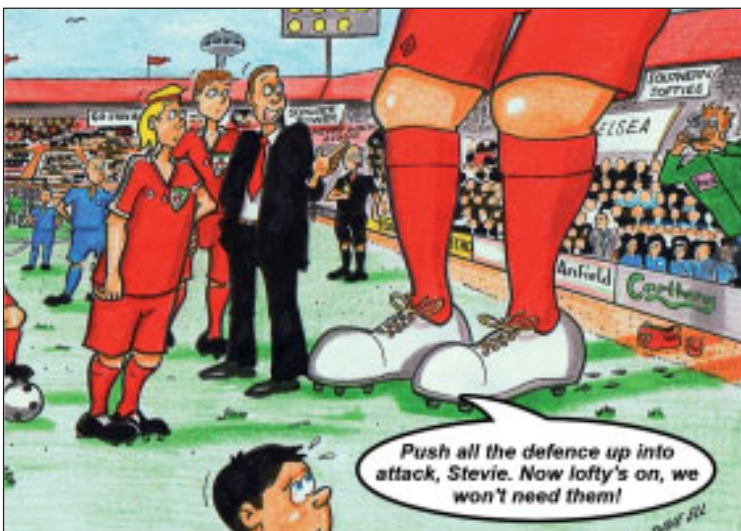
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Spot the Difference



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



ACROSS

- 1 Fort in North Carolina
6 Praisers using verse
12 Once upon a time
19 Groundskeeper, at times
20 Vanessa Redgrave film of 1968
21 Calms down, like the Fonz?
22 Actress Ekberg
23 Passing with flying colors
25 Board game with tiles
27 World-famous ski resort
28 Wine party cheese
29 "The ____" (Uris novel)
30 Old movie crooks
32 Win by ____
36 Speechifying type
38 Bullies
44 Group of conspirators
46 Cases for needles, etc.
48 Transportation giant
49 Bill at the bar
50 Like a bankrupt poker player
54 "Indeed!"
55 Collectively
57 "The Killing Fields" Oscar winner Haing
58 Landed property
61 Cats have nine of them
62 Actress Messing of "Will & Grace"
64 Mutual, trust or slush
65 Amount of hair cream, sometimes
68 Super's apartment number, maybe
69 Emulate a puppeteer?
71 Be an omen of
72 "There's ____ in team!"
73 "Bad Moon

DOWN

- 74 ____ Gras
75 Chukka boot material, often
76 Canary's comments
79 End-of-class signal
80 Fiery crime
81 Bonny hillsides
83 Prepared to operate
88 Good tennis serves
89 Antique desk feature, perhaps
92 Outdoor party spot
93 Does prelaundry work
95 Joseph Merlin invention
97 Ready for plucking
100 Try to rile
101 Despise
102 TV police
105 902, to Nero
108 They sometimes take their toll
112 Like some former inmates
115 It once hung over the Kremlin
120 1996 candidate Alexander
121 Person from whom property is transferred
122 Gradual absorption method
123 ____ self-defense
124 Hanging locket
125 "____ Pizza" (Roberts film)
126 Botanical uprights

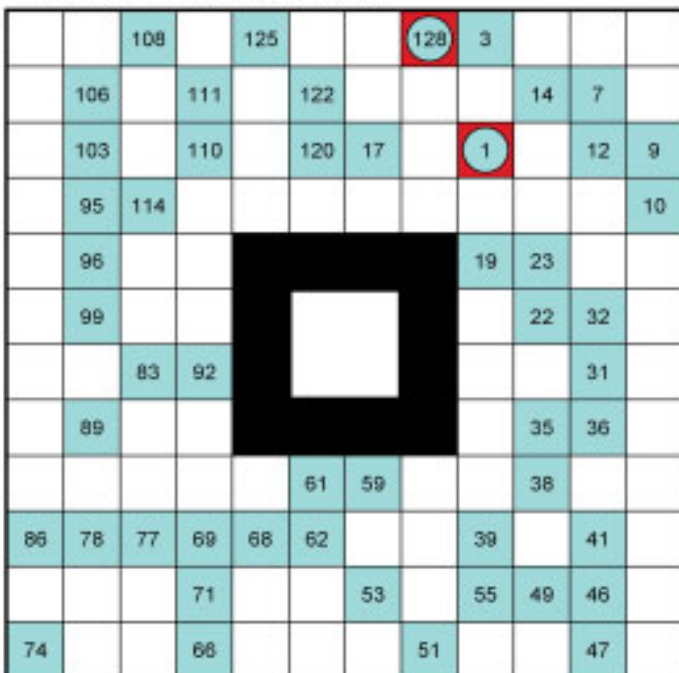
- 8 Kim ____-jung
9 Gets the last of the gravy
10 Activate, as a switch
11 Fit to stand trial
12 D-Day vessel
13 "____ la la!"
14 "... neither the time ____ the place"
15 Travel far and wide
16 Assyrian war god (Var.)
17 "Thank Heaven for Little Girls" musical
18 Will-____-wisp
20 Cartographic dot
24 Eat like a mouse
26 "____ means!"
31 1968 Winter Olympics site
33 "Friends" network
34 Antipoverty agency, created under L.B.J.
35 Sort of bank
37 Long ones have legs
38 Flower child?
39 "____ Lobo"
40 Buckeyes' campus, briefly
41 "Not so fast!"
42 Fjordlike body of water
43 Not easily tricked
44 Atlantic City attraction
45 Oh-so-superior
47 Canada's Northwest ____ (Abbr.)
49 Connor's clutcher
51 Table spray brand
52 Eternal
53 Rollaway bed
56 Gallery-funding org.
59 Brighten with golden light
60 Back covers, often
63 Convenience store fixture
64 Incendiary device

- 66 After-market purchases
67 Has-____ (over-the-hillers)
69 Banana cream, for one
70 Synagogue leader
71 Prickly husk
75 It's a matter of taste
77 Serendipitous
78 Compact first name?
81 Minnesota exclamation
82 Wallaby's cuz
84 Tax prep pro
85 Cat's prey
86 All-purpose truck, for short
87 Seize, as a throne
90 "Are you a man ____ mouse?"
91 Leaky tire sound
94 Change the direction of, as light
96 Typeface term
98 Slangy suffix with "work" or "shop"
99 Vocal inflections
101 Dandy's neck wrap, perhaps
103 Monte Cristo, par exemple
104 State as fact
105 Redden and crack
106 Type of chauvinist
107 Words that don't come from a folder?
109 Lamar of the NBA
110 Some might be req. for a new toy
111 Goes to low beams
113 "How unfortunate!"
114 Airborne fish eaters
116 "Bambi" character
117 Opie's real name
118 Word with "collection" or "class"
119 Certain pressure initials

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August 17, 2009

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1. By what nickname was John Dawkins better known?
2. Which film star has a statue standing in Leicester Square?
3. Virginia McMath became famous as which actress?
4. What is the name of Captain Ahab's ship in the novel *Moby Dick*?
5. Franklin D. Roosevelt won the 1932 United States election. Who did he defeat?
6. Which author wrote *The History of Mr Polly*?
7. What is the first day of Lent?
8. Mr Chips said his goodbyes from which fictional school?
9. Who buried the treasure on Treasure Island in the novel of the same name?
10. Which 1959 TV series was narrated by Walter Winchell?
11. In which country was the Auschwitz concentration camp?
12. What was the first British instrumental to top the USA charts?
13. On which national flag would you find an eagle and a snake?
14. A 'clowder' is the collective noun for a group of what type of animal?
15. What is a Sam Browne?
16. What is the chemical symbol for the metal tungsten?
17. Who are the two most translated English writers?
18. *Citius Altius Fortius* (faster, higher, stronger) is the motto of which organisation?
19. What is the main ingredient of sauce Lyonnaise?
20. What is the full name of the actress who played Miss Marple in six films?

Answers below



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WHATZIT? solutions

1. No time to lose. 2. Great minds think alike. 3. Try this for size.

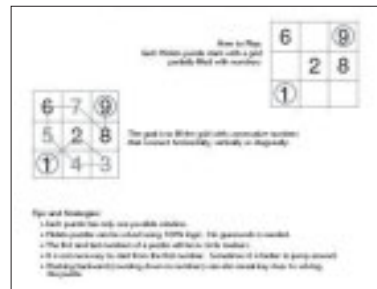
Solution to this week's Spot the Difference



Monster Quiz Answers

1. Artful Dodger; 2. Charlie Chaplin; 3. Ginger Rogers; 4. *Peaquad*; 5. Herbert Hoover; 6. HG Wells; 7. Ash Wednesday; 8. Brookfield; 9. Captain Flint; 10. The Untouchables; 11. Poland; 12. Telstar by The Tornados; 13. Mexico; 14. Cats; 15. Military belt; 16. W; 17. Shakespeare & Agatha Christie; 18. Int'l Olympic Committee; 19. Onions; 20. Margaret Rutherford.

Hidato: How to play and this week's puzzle solution.



Hidato Puzzle Solution

105	107	108	104	125	128	127	3	4	5	6
106	106	108	111	120	122	121	2	18	14	7
102	100	112	118	117	126	17	16	13	12	8
103	88	116	113	118	118	118	18	24	28	11
109	90	94	115				19	25	26	27
87	86	81	82				23	22	32	28
95	90	93	92				21	33	31	29
88	88	88	82				24	29	38	38
87	85	79	80	81	81	58	58	57	58	42
86	78	77	68	68	62	63	38	38	41	43
75	75	79	71	67	63	54	55	48	48	44
76	72	66	68	64	62	61	60	48	47	46

Solution to this week's crossword

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

The world of fractured English



Travelers in Asia often encounter examples of 'fractured English' – English phrases, usually on signs and menus, that make little sense and evoke puzzlement and amusement.

The most famous example is the item listed on menus as 'fried crap'. Whether this refers to carp or crab depends on whether it's listed under 'fish' or 'shellfish'.

Many years ago, when I was living in Taiwan, I encountered T-shirts with slogans whose meaning was, at best, ambiguous.

'I'm a Lucky Bargee' was a favorite, as was 'King of the Eagle – Huge World'.

There was an In-On Hotel and a Happy V.D. Clinic, probably visited in that sequence by the unwary.

There was also a Long Hot Hard Store. I suspect that the innocent owner had asked one of

the many evil-minded American G.I.s then stationed on the island for a good English name for his store and was rewarded with this tasteful appellation.

In recent years, China has become a gold mine for connoisseurs of fractured English.

Back in the 1980s, when Tibetan tourism was in its infancy, Lhasa was graced by an office labeled 'Lhasa Reception Center for the Unorganized Tourists'.

Little hole-in-the-wall restaurants had chirpy names like The Best Place, Fully Restaurant, Merry Making Dining Room, and Toots Restaurant.

Outside Jokhang Square there was a large sign prohibiting a long list of antisocial activities, capped by "Strictly forbid defecating and urinating everywhere". That would make an excellent T-shirt slogan.

India has always enjoyed a high standard of English, but it tends to be quaintly Victorian.

A sign on a wall in Kolkata used to proclaim, "Do not dishonor our proud by committing nuisance here."

'Committing nuisance' is a euphemism for a natural function that Indian men sometimes perform against walls when there are no toilets nearby and no signs to warn them against dishonoring their proud.

Here in Thailand, as the

standard of English has advanced, examples of fractured English are increasingly hard to find. Still, there are the occasional gems:

From a newspaper advertisement for an exclusive restaurant: "The feast is await."

From a billboard advertising posh homes: "Beyond the Prized Life." The ad doesn't specify exactly what the 'Prized Life' is, but beyond it has got to be expensive because the homes are priced at 23 million baht.

On a billboard: "Drink Don't Drive." They want us to drink?

On another billboard: "Don't be fooled by fake drugs." They want us to take real ones?

On a packet of peanuts: "Consume after opening package." Errrr... how could we possibly consume them before opening the package? Maybe the package is edible?

Most wonderful of all are the advertisements for schools that specialize in teaching English.

Sometimes these appear in the English-language press, whose editors don't seem to proofread the copy received by their advertising departments. A few gems:

"Value. I demand it. Direct English deliver it." I'm glad it do.

From an ad for a school teaching the International Baccalaureate (IB) program: "I think, therefore IB." Presumably



Simply Thai Cuisine is palatable and apparently served with gusto.

Photo by Dan Waites

the IB program doesn't include English grammar.

"Xxx international school Bangkok / Proud to present / The world class Educational System from Canada. Study in Thailand with Canadian Educational Standard while your kid still live with you in Bangkok."

Speaking of schools, there is a Joan of Arc Business Administration School in Thonburi. St. Joan's expertise in business administration was presumably what got her canonized, although it doesn't seem to have done her much good when she was being burned at the stake.

The Chinese still do it best, though, as this ad for a summer camp in Shanghai proves:

"Study and activity cooperates with Chinese student / Reach see a factory smelts big

iron most in the world / Rest middle a Shanghai city."

The demand for admission to this camp is so great that they have to caution:

"We take amount 20 seat only."

But some schools in Thailand know how to get it right.

One asks, "Is your English holding you back?" and answers, "Let the experts at Xxx improve your skills, boost your confidence, and turbo-charge your career."

I like the idea of a turbo-charged career, and with that felicitous phrase the school in question can triumphantly claim the prize for teaching unfractured English.

S. Tsow can be flamed at s.tsow@ymail.com, except when he's hunting for examples of fractured English.

Horoscopes



Isla Star

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Finances take a slight downturn this week for Librans. You will be busy juggling income with outgoings, so delay the purchase of expensive items until the end of the month. The spotlight falls on housing in the middle of the month when a water sign friend comes up with a chance of relocation that fires your imagination. Those with a birthday in the week will find more romantic happiness in the year ahead.

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Although your financial luck remains well-starred until the end of October, gain around the middle of the month is strongly highlighted. Those born under the sign of Scorpio who have been considering a change of career receive interesting news early next week. Family affairs could cause some stress at the weekend when a certain relation shows jealousy. You should treat this person with caution. Wear a piece of clear crystal to encourage insight.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Most of those born under the sign of Sagittarius will feel more positive this week and inspiration begins to flow once more. One business-related idea may not be workable at the

moment, but could produce a good harvest in the future. Your love life is affected by someone's tendency to put themselves first – this weekend is the ideal time to air your feelings. Wearing the color dark plum can encourage more skillful dealings with finances.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Keeping your head above water is a challenge until the end of the month. Many Capricorns will be tempted to indulge themselves this weekend – seek out something to do that won't drain your budget. The stars continue to shine on your efforts to find more worthwhile employment – someone born under an air sign could point you in the right direction on Monday. The number four can bring some good luck midweek.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Aquarians are advised to bear in mind that there can be a fine line between being helpful and interfering this weekend. Your frustration at a Sagittarian's lack of action is forecast to cause sparks to fly. Most events this week will move more slowly than you would like, but this could be the ideal time to reflect on your need for more relaxation. Wear the color primrose yellow to encourage quieter contemplation.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): Pisceans who were relying on an earth sign to pull strings on their behalf are forecast to be disappointed this week. You begin to realize that, in order to get a particular job done, more self-input is necessary. The stars suggest that hard work will be on the agenda until the end of October, but this should bring good results. Romance settles down when your partner becomes less side-tracked.

ARIES (March 21-April 20): Friction with work colleagues is smoothed out and Arians will appreciate receiving more respect for their achievements this week. Money matters are positively highlighted, but you should not jump at an investment opportunity presented by Cancer without doing thorough research. A planned romantic getaway is subject to delay due to family demands. This could prompt a heated discussion at the weekend. Wear the color chocolate brown to encourage a sweeter mood.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Your easy-going attitude could be taken advantage of this week. Taureans are about to find out not everyone can put problems into perspective. The stars forecast that a friendship with Aquarius may be shaken, but giving this

person a wide berth for the time being should prevent a permanent rift being caused. Your love life becomes more peaceful when a partner realizes their workaholic ways need to be addressed.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Geminis who have taken an important lesson on board recently have chance to put this to good use. A business opportunity is certain to take off when others see your experience is valid. Your romantic life continues to be affected by jealousy and this could result in time being spent apart. Those who are single begin to be interested in a sparkling Scorpio. The number nine can lead to good fortune on Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): Waiting for Capricorn to keep their part of a bargain causes some Cancerians stress this week. The situation will give you a better idea of how to schedule future arrangements with this person. Your week is otherwise forecast to be fulfilling in many ways, with romance particularly well-starred. Those who have been waiting for an earth sign to make up their mind can expect a happy conclusion. The number five is lucky this weekend.

LEO (July 24-August 22): A

reunion with old friends this weekend adds some excitement to an otherwise routine week. Leos are advised to devote quality time to tidying up personal administration as the stars indicate a mislaid document will come to light. Your living environment could become an issue when a partner's plans for decorating don't match yours. Incorporate earth and sky shades to encourage a more creative atmosphere at home.

VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Virgoans who are unwilling to embrace change could be surprised by their own actions this week. A spur of the moment decision on Monday or Tuesday has the power to bring a lot more satisfaction to your working life. Affairs of the heart are also subject to a less restricted outlook and an unlikely liaison with Aries becomes an attractive prospect. The number seven can bring good fortune midweek.

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The Phuket Gazette

- Since 1994 -

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Copyright crackdowns

Thailand is now jumping into the intellectual property protection game in a big way. For decades prey to overseas-directed bounty hunters who collect commissions by discovering and seizing pirate editions of copyrighted works, the nation is now moving to secure local copyrights and patents – and move against foreign violators.

Together with its regional partners, Thailand will create an 'Asean Database on Patent Design' providing protected status to local designs and allowing their owners to pursue patent violators.

A Patent Co-operation Treaty has been written and Thailand's Intellectual Property Department is aggressively promoting its services: acting as an agent, translating documents, and arranging fee payment for Thais seeking international copyright protection.

The stated aim is to 'raise the nation's competitiveness', but there may be, too, a hidden aim – to capitalize on licensing fees and the spoils of copyright litigation.

It is important to remember that by no means is every copyrighted or patented idea a viable product.

Copyrights are often taken out on things never produced by the copyright holders, who merely hope to make money in the future if someone else produces them.

Sometimes proprietary rights are established on products either traditional or properly someone else's intellectual property, as famously happened to Thailand's *hom mali* or 'jasmine' rice strain.

Several years back the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization seriously considered trying to go through the international court system to wrest the phuket.com Internet domain name that was already legally registered to a more forward-looking private firm.

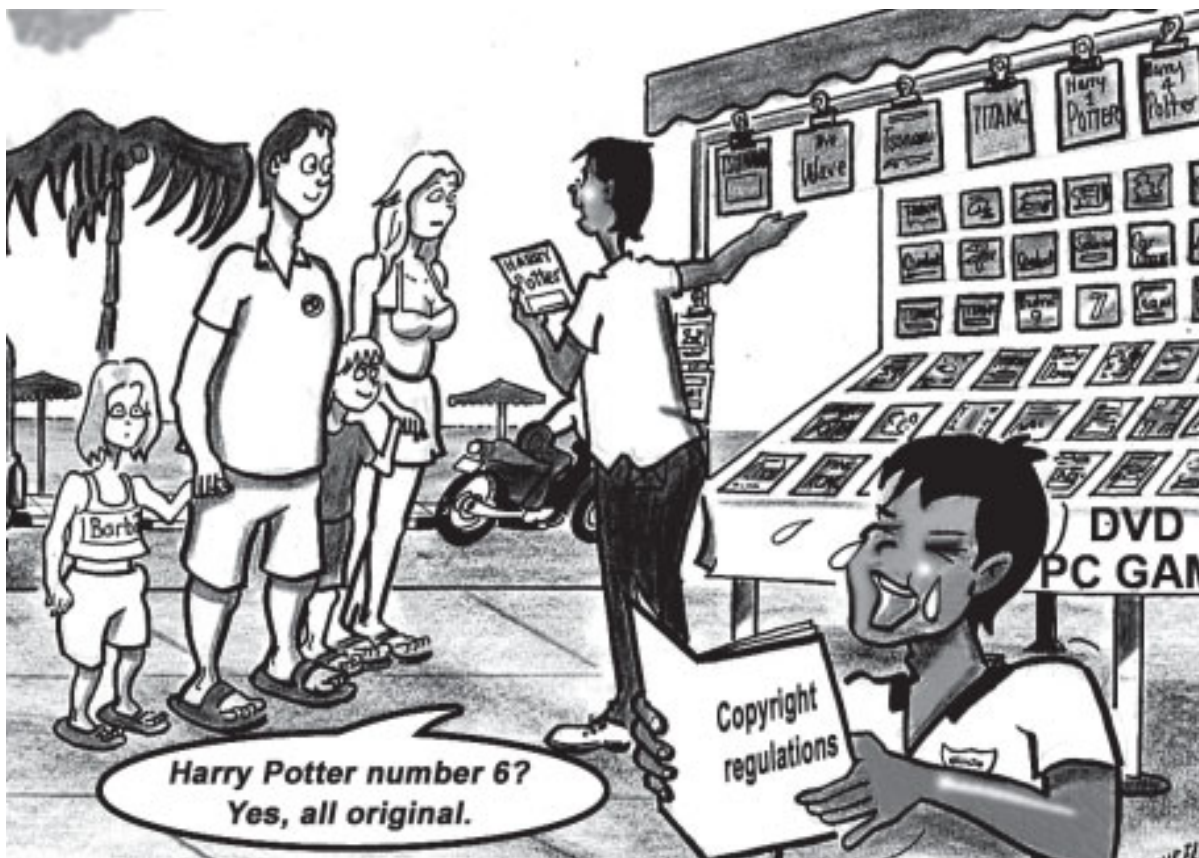
Potential for abuse across a wide range of copyright issues calls into question who is competent to judge. Only last month agents from a Thai music company once again went round to entertainment places in Phuket demanding 3,500-baht licensing fees that, they affirmed, would cover playing in public of virtually all copyrighted music.

Venue owners complain that officials are not terribly nice in distinguishing copyrighted from un-copyrighted material, saying they seize all recorded media – and the equipment that stores it – of those who refuse to pay. How can they tell? The difference between a legal version of your favorite song and mere gibberish is a difference of number strings, in many cases just light impressions on a disc.

How can we expect beat cops to say which is which – especially if led by warrant-bearing lawyers whose vested interest is in seizing as much as they can? Ubiquitous litigation looms in this rush to make everything proprietary, even items once thought not subject to ownership.

If there is to be any justice in the outcome, it must first be established, if indeed it can: 'Who is competent to judge?'

– *Marque Rome*



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.

Firecracker problem

I am writing on behalf of a number of residential developments and hotel operators in the Surin area with regard to the great increase in the use of firecrackers leading up to the Vegetarian Festival which will begin on October 18.

Back in mid-September, the annoyance and disturbance of firecrackers started.

I am not against the use of firecrackers during the Vegetarian Festival as it is understood that this is part of the overall festivities and tradition.

However, when firecrackers are being set off constantly for one month or more leading up to the festival, it changes from being a short-lived bit of fun to a real frustration that can cause significant disturbance to both residents and tourists alike.

Over the last few years, Surin has established itself as one of the leading places in Phuket, home to an array of five-star hotels and fine restaurants.

It attracts a significant number of tourists due to its tranquil nature and is widely used by local residents and families for recreation.

However, for a whole month leading up to the Vegetarian Festival there is a complete disregard to retaining Surin as this attractive and peaceful location – not even to mention the potential fire risks that firecrackers can cause.

There are often suggestions in the *Phuket Gazette* about making Phuket a pleasanter place to live and the governor of Phuket himself alluded to the importance of pre-empting problems before they occur.

Surely the government can

help with this simple problem and allow us all go about our business in peace.

One just has to see the faces of the tourists. Their reactions tell the whole story.

Can anyone help?

Surin Residents

Greedy operators

I have enjoyed yet another lovely holiday in Patong, but there was one thing that soured my enjoyment: the greed of tuk-tuk and motorbike taxi operators.

I normally stay at the C & N Hotel on Rat-U-Thit Road. Every morning I get a motorcycle taxi to Patong Beach opposite Molly Malones bar and hire beds from the the beach lads who I have gotten to know well over the past seven years.

It's usually the same guys who look out for me, but this particular morning they were not there, so I hailed a passing bike.

I asked the price to Mollys and was asked if it was my first time to Patong. Being somewhat taken aback by this request, I said 'yes' and the operator promptly asked for 150 baht.

I politely told him it was too much and received a torrent of abuse for my trouble.

I hailed another and was again told 150 baht, again I refused.

Looking down the road, I saw two tuk-tuks who told me it was 200 baht. I eventually found my regular guy who took us both to the beach for 80 baht and he ended up with a 500-baht tip at the end of our trip.

How many tourists *do* get ripped off and don't return to your lovely island just because of a few very greedy operators?

**Mick and Nid
London, England**

Yobs not wanted

After reading your most recent editorial (*Phuket Gazette*, October 3), I am amazed that you seem to suggest that Phuket should be encouraging the sort of drug- and alcohol-fueled debauchery that exists at Koh Phangan's awful Full Moon parties.

The people on Koh Phangan don't want them there anymore, the locals and the expats are sick of it.

A high percentage (not all) of these 'party' goers are knuckle-dragging yobs and yobettes, who have absolutely no respect for Thailand or its people.

Full moon parties and their ilk have little to do with music, just disposable electronic noise, and are generic the world over.

Thai people don't like aggressive people and should not be encouraging them, but, then again, it's all about money, so nothing is likely to change.

**Derek Steele
Phuket**

Double trouble

I read recently that Phuket is to feature not one, but two themed water parks within the next few months.

What are the thought processes behind opening two major water parks that cost millions and millions of baht on our beloved island?

It may mean that the general public will be able to have the choice of two venues, but is there really any economic sense?

Strangely, it seems the general public are the only ones who will benefit. Maybe the competition will ensure we pay a fair entry price.

**aroyphuket
Gazette/Thai Visa
Phuket Forum**

The Phuket Gazette

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

Please stop the carnage



FIRST PERSON

In last month's 'Governor's Letter', [*Phuket Gazette*, September 19] Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop told the *Gazette* his plans to beautify the roads leading to Phuket International Airport, specifically Thepkrassattri Road. The project is well under way and all the trees that used to line the roads are being ripped up, ready to be replaced by palm trees. Phuket resident Patrick Campbell, the *Gazette*'s 'Nature and Nurture' columnist, was horrified when he drove past the scenes of destruction leading to the airport. He firmly believes Gov Wichai is making a big mistake. In this week's First Person, he shares his thoughts.

Last week I drove north to the airport. Large sections of the central reservation along the by-pass road have become scenes of utter desolation. For kilometers, the pleasant rows of trees, formerly in full leaf, have been uprooted, leaving in their place only tell-tale piles of bare earth. Why, oh why?

I'll tell you why. In his most recent letter published in the *Phuket Gazette*, the governor of this emerald isle announced his plans for beautifying the island. One of his stated strategies, sadly already being implemented, was to tear down all the mature trees along the middle of Thepkrasattri Road and replace them with palm trees.

"I am going to improve the central reservation on the way to the airport, making it more attractive," he said.

"The plan is to replace the old trees with palm trees... to create a good impression of Phuket when people first arrive.

"We are now in the process of cutting the old trees down and I expect the project to be finished

in three to four months."

As a direct consequence of this misplaced initiative, for kilometer upon kilometer, all those pleasant accompaniments along the road – crape myrtle or *lagerstroemia* (*inthanin*), pterocarpus (*pradoo*) and blackboard tree or *alstonia scholaris* (*phya sabatan*), all in leaf, some in flower – have been grubbed up by backhoes.

These are beautiful, established trees. The *pradoo*, the national tree of the Philippines, is responsible for all those leafy, overarching avenues in Singapore; the crape myrtle, another outstanding ornamental, has colourful, long-lasting pink blooms; the *alstonia* has glossy evergreen leaves and white, densely packed flowers. By an odd but significant irony, the crape myrtle happens to be part of the provincial emblem of Phuket.

Far from 'improving' the highway and making it 'more attractive', the chopped up remains of the uprooted trees is not only heart-breaking to behold, but it is difficult to understand how

the project can be considered a good idea.

Apart from the huge – and unstated – financial cost, consider the aesthetic grounds.

Okay, so the gubernatorial plan is to replace the trees with palms. In the meantime, we have miles of motorway bereft of all those reassuring avenues of greenery. An encroaching wasteland, with the remaining trees already doomed.

Even when the new palms are planted, they will take, as palms do, a long while to become properly established. What's more, they will never provide more than a fraction of the verdant foliage supplied by the previous incumbents.

I wonder if the governor has considered other aspects of the carnage. The existing trees – or more properly what remains of them – provide both an oasis of shade by day, and, more crucially, a screen by night that blocks much of the glare from oncoming headlights.

The narrow fronds of palms will be a poor substitute,

even when mature. And if our forward-thinking governor is concerned – as I'm sure he is – about carbon footprints and global warming, then the palm foliage will have a mere fraction of the old trees' capacity to absorb all that carbon dioxide spewed out by Phuket's heavy traffic.

People may rightly say that I am not a Phuket native, that these comments should come from someone with a Thai heritage. Maybe. But those of us who have chosen to live here, reside here because we love this emerald isle and fervently want to see this paradise preserved.

In any case, I am not a lone, dissident voice. Many people have complained – most significantly, informed members of the Thai community. Take Normita Thongtham, who writes a weekly column entitled 'Green Fingers' for the *Bangkok Post*.

On September 13, in a piece entitled 'Protecting Our Precious Ecosystem', she opined:

"During a visit to Phuket last year, I was devastated when the...trees on the island dividing

Thepkrasattri Road were chopped down to their bare trunks."

Happy to see them initially allowed to grow back – as I was too – she was appalled by the recent turn of events. Driving north only this month, she "passed by trees already uprooted. Apparently, Phuket's grand plan to replace shady *pradoo* trees with palm trees had started".

Her article continues: "Can you blame me for thinking that this country is going on a downward spiral? While developed countries are preserving their natural resources, we are destroying ours. While other countries are talking about helping to stop global warming by planting more trees, we cut down what we already have."

In a gnomic conclusion, she asks:

"Why [are] trees planted, only to be cut down and replaced for no apparent reason when they are already established?"

A good question indeed and all the more telling for being posed by a Thai...

Issues & ANSWERS

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

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

Am I still able to work if I have a retirement visa?

I live and work in Phuket and am currently in possession of a non-immigrant 'B' visa and a work permit.

I own a small company and employ one Thai national. I get a multiple-entry visa and am therefore required to leave the country every 90 days.

Soon I will be turning 50 and I can apply for a one-year retirement visa.

Can I still get a work permit if I have a retirement visa?

Nicolaas Stokuis
Rawai

Pol Capt Rassarin Teerapattanakul, Sub-Inspector at Phuket Immigration, replies:

If you apply for and are granted a retirement visa, you will no longer be able to hold a work permit.

A retirement visa means precisely that, you retire from working. If you wish to continue working, you will need to renew both your non-immigrant B visa and your work permit.

For more information contact: Phuket Immigration, 482 Phuket Road, T. Taladyai, A. Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-221905. F: 076-212108. E: phuketimmigration@gmail.com. W: phuketimmigration.go.th.

Can I extend my visa on arrival in Phuket?

As an Indian passport holder I receive a two-week tourist visa on arrival in Thailand.

If, at the end of my stay, I decide I would like to stay in Phuket a little longer, is it possible to have it extended in Phuket or must I leave the country?

On previous visits to the island, I remember Phuket Immigration had a small office on the beach road of Patong.

Is that still in operation?

Glen Cutinha
India

Pol Capt Rassarin Teerapattanakul, Sub-Inspector at Phuket Immigration, replies:

You can extend your tourist visa on arrival by a further seven days at Phuket Immigration.

To have your visa extended, you must use the immigration office in Phuket Town.

The Patong Immigration office is no longer in service.

For more information contact: Phuket Immigration, 482 Phuket Road, T. Taladyai, A. Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-221905. F: 076-212108. E: phuketimmigration@gmail.com. W: phuketimmigration.go.th.

Amateur interest set to spike

The FIVB women's volleyball world tour returns to Phuket for the second year running next month, but it won't just be the elite athletes who will be on show.

An amateur tournament will also take place and is open to hotel teams from all over Phuket.

The final of the hotel competition is scheduled to take place shortly before the final of the professional event, giving the two teams the chance to compete in front of large crowds.

So far there are seven confirmed teams for the Federbrau Hotel Challenge and the organizers are looking to get more hotels involved.

Pentangle Promotions and the Sports Authority of Thailand, the organizers of the main event, were looking at ways to get more local people involved and suggested an inter-hotel tournament.

CJ Prieur and Bob Selznick, two keen volleyball players from the US, have been coaching the teams almost every day at Karon Beach.

"I was happy to help as I am based in Kata and am always interested in promoting beach volleyball," Bob said.

"The girls are all good players, but are used to playing on hard courts, not sand. The beach game is very different so we wanted them to have the chance to practice before the competition started.

"We were originally going to train one hotel team per day, but the players were so enthusiastic, they all wanted to come and train every day."

Bob comes from a famous volleyball family. His father Gene and brother Dane have both been ranked number one in the world at least once.

Brother Dane will also be in Phuket during the tournament as he is the head coach of the Russian national teams.

Both Bob and CJ, who is the managing director of Seara Sports in Phuket, run voluntary beach volleyball clinics for Thai children and have run volleyball clinics at the FIVB world tour for



Two hotel teams practice on Karon Beach ahead of the Federbrau Hotel Challenge. The final will be contested before the women's FIVB pro final next month.

the past four years.

Some of the players are getting their first taste of beach volleyball, but Praphai Pakey, captain of the Phuket Orchid Hotel team, is already a veteran.

"I have been playing volleyball for 10 years and our team has been playing together

for a long time," she said

"We hope we can reach the final and I think we have a good chance of winning because we have been practicing every day.

"All the players work in the morning so it is easy for us to play in the afternoon, but our manager likes the staff to do sport."

CJ and Bob are still hoping more hotels will get involved in the competition, sponsored by Federbrau beer.

Anyone interested in entering a team should contact Bob Selznick on 081-085 7500 or CJ Prieur on 081-823 9448.

-James Goyder

Rugby coaching launched at PSU

The first ever rugby coaching session at Prince Songkla University (PSU) in Kathu took place last Saturday.

Children of all ages and abilities turned out on the day, including members of the Sainamyen School under-15s team, looking to hone their already impressive skills.

They were joined by a contingent from QSI school, many of whom were experiencing rugby for the very first time.

The coaching session was organized by Pat Cotter and the Phuket Vagabonds with the aim of setting up an under-15s league in Phuket.

In the meantime, there will be coaching sessions held at PSU every Saturday.

One boy getting his first taste of rugby was nine-year-old Jackson Zandstra, who attends the QSI school.

"It's the first time I have played rugby, but I really like it," he said.

Jackson, from the US, normally plays association football



Action from the first session at PSU. Pat Cotter hopes to be able to establish a Phuket under-15s league in the near future.

and basketball.

"I have never even watched rugby on the television before, but it's a bit like American Football," he said.

"I am definitely going to play again and will be coming back every week."

David Weale of PSU is delighted his university is able to help the development of rugby in Phuket.

"Here at PSU we want to get more involved in the community, encouraging young people to take up sport," he said.

"We are happy that the children are able to use our facilities to learn a new sport and hope to see even more of them coming to play rugby on a Saturday morning in future."

The rugby coaching sessions take place at the PSU campus in Kathu every Saturday from 9am to 12pm.

Children of all ages and abilities are welcome.

-James Goyder

Happy days to return for Laguna Triathlon



Granger and Cunningham (center) and fellow pros in 2008.

Defending champions Richie Cunningham and Belinda Granger of Australia will return to Phuket in December to defend their Laguna crowns, following maiden victories in 2008.

For both Cunningham and Granger, victory last year came as a great relief. Neither had ever managed to top the Laguna podium despite competing in the 'Race of Legends' five and six times respectively.

This year to date, Cunningham has enjoyed an almost identical season as last year, recording victories in Germany and the US, as well as finishing second in Musoka, Canada and Rhode Island, USA.

Shortly after winning at Laguna, Granger's 2009 season was dealt a hammer blow when it was revealed she needed surgery on her Iliac artery.

Ever the fighter, just three months after surgery Granger returned to competition in style, claiming victory in the Honu Ironman 70.3 (total distance of 70.3 miles).

Joining Cunningham and Granger are 2008 Beijing Olympic gold medalist Jan Frodeno of Germany, 2007 Laguna Phuket champion Massimo Cigana and Mirinda Carfrae, runner up to Granger in 2008.

Since its inception in 1993, the Laguna Triathlon has attracted 21 world champions, Olympic medalists and eight triathlon legends.

Only the Ironman World Championships in Hawaii attracts more stars of the sport.

The 2009 event is set to be the largest ever. On the December 6 race day, organizers are expecting a record field of 950 individual athletes and 50 relay teams, all testing themselves over the 68.8km course (1.8km swim, 55km bike and 12km run).

Places for the main event and relay have sold out, but there are still slots available in the Splash 'n' Dash and the Fun Run.

As a media partner, the *Phuket Gazette* will be publishing regular updates and coverage of the triathlon.

For more information visit lagunaphukettriathlon.com.

-Daniel Gunshakin



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Lifesaving skills put to the test



The Phuket Lifesaving Carnival, which was postponed due to severe weather in July, finally took place last Saturday.

The event, organized by the Phuket Lifeguard Club, saw participants compete in a variety of disciplines in a bid to promote water safety on the island.

An official opening ceremony was presided over by Mr Chairat Sukaban, deputy mayor of Patong Municipality.

A total of 78 people took part in the carnival, including 30 children.

The events on offer were a surf race event, a board race, a tube race, an Ironman and Ironwoman, a beach sprint, a beach relay, a beach flag race and a 2km beach run.

Australian lifeguard David Field was one of 15 international participants who took part.

David, who regularly comes to Phuket to train the lifeguards at Le Meridian Hotel, Patong, scooped first place in the veterans category of the Ironman event.

"These events are specifically designed to hone lifeguard skills. You have to get out through the surf break to a buoy which represents a person in trouble and then back to shore again," he said.



"If you can't do that, you can't rescue someone."

This time round the rain stayed away and approximately 50 spectators gathered at the north end of Patong Beach to watch the races.

Despite the lack of rain, conditions on the day were challenging for competitors.

Big waves, which are a far more common sight on beaches in Australia than those in Phuket, made things difficult for a number of competitors, but overall, the day was a resounding success.

The Phuket Lifeguard Club

is a non-profit organization established in 2003. It holds regular training programs for local adults and children in water safety, rescue, first aid and beach management skills.

Club members are mainly Thai and are trained to Australian Surf Life Saving standards. Most work as beach and pool-side lifeguards for Phuket hotels.

The club runs training courses in CPR, first aid and rescue skills for locals.

For more information visit www.phuketlifeguard.com.

-James Goyder

Phuket Biking Club to stage race day



The Phuket Biking Club is set to host a mountain bike race day on Sunday, October 11. The event is open to both Thai and foreign nationals and is being staged just outside Patong on Phra Baramee Road.

Registration opens at 8am and the first race will start two hours later at 10am. There will be three races in total; races two and three will commence at 11.30am and 1pm respectively.

The competition is free to enter and is open to men, women and children of all ages. Contestants will be divided up according to age.

There will be races for boys and girls aged 12 and under, 15 and under and 18 and under. Men and women will compete in races for people aged: 19-29; 30-34; 35-39; 40-44; 45-49; 50-54 and over-55s.

There will also be two subcategories for competitors who are entering the event for the first time: rookie under-34s and rookie over-35s.

Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in each category.

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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.

As property issues on the island seem to be taking a decidedly litigious course of late, the late Warren Zevon's words – "send lawyers, guns and money" – never rang more true. As a limited number of projects slow down or are put on hold on the back of an economic downturn, which is proving harder to shake than a cold which won't go away, some buyers are wondering what to do when things go wrong.

Phuket property is mostly sold to foreigners who comprise the majority of the resort property market. These purchases are conducted on either a

leasehold basis or on a freehold basis if the property is in a condominium and is part of the 49 percent threshold for overseas buyers.

Legal contractual disputes in condominium projects have grown more sophisticated over the past few years. Last year, a significant amendment was made to the Condominium Juristic Act, bringing purchasers rights increasingly parallel to those found in many Western countries.

Leasehold ownership is inherently more complicated as there is no 'leasehold title' per se. It is governed under the Civil and Commercial Code and referred

to as 'the hire of immovable property'.

For the most part, legal action is broken down into Product Liability Law and Consumer Proceedings Law. In Thailand, the Office of the Consumer Protection Board has been established to handle initial complaints and hopefully find a resolution.

Desmond Hughes, a well-respected property legal advisor, clarified, "For condominium issues, legal cases are typically filed here in Phuket, but consumer complaints are filed in Bangkok and staff are sent to the island to investigate.

"Furthermore, leasehold cases are filed mostly in Phuket as well."

It should be noted that the process of filing complaints with the Consumer Protection Board can be a complicated task for many absentee owners, but it

remains a much cheaper option than full-blown litigation.

Looking at an overview of real estate

the economy to the island.

Failing to go down the consumer complaint route, some purchasers opt to go directly to civil court and file a case under the Consumer Case Procedure Act. Should this be the case, litigation remains the final process that should be considered.

Leasehold litigation can be complex in Thailand. In many cases, contracts are broken into sale and purchase agreements for villas or apartments and share subscriptions to name but two. However, more often than not, the jurisdiction of these components is specified outside Thailand.

Having been involved in the property industry on the island for the past eight years, I can thankfully say I can count the number of real estate failures I know personally on less than 10 fingers. Given the lack of bank financing and the strong sales momentum over the past five years of double digit capital appreciation, supply and demand was in good form and most projects have delivered, albeit – in true Thai *sabai sabai*-style – not on time.

While writing for the *Gazette* and my property blog, I have seen a marked increase in complaints of late from buyers regarding issues such as non-completion of units, lack of titles or defunct projects.

When someone writes to me, I always advise people to pick up the phone and call the developer, or go see them in person and try to work out a solution. If that fails, there are a number of good lawyers on the island and getting good legal advice is readily available.

Sadly, in many cases, making an informed decision is often an afterthought, and many who rush into purchases don't complete due diligence or ensure adequate contractual coverage.

Although Warren Zevon is no longer with us, and guns are widely frowned upon, sending in a lawyer and money looks to be something on the rise in today's market.



No need to pull out your 'big guns' to protect your property rights, just send money and lawyers. Photo: AFP

In Bangkok, a new trend has emerged in which foundations or associations are hired to handle disputes. Examples of these are the Foundation for Consumers and Kon Condo Network. Unfortunately for people in Phuket, these foundations mainly focus on disputes in the capital and more often than not specialize in condos.

On the back of the current housing boom in Phuket, one would expect similar organizations to be established here, given the importance of this sector of



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Don't take your lease agreement to the grave

Leasing has become a popular option with foreign property buyers who want to acquire interest in land or apartment units. This is due to the legal restrictions that foreigners are faced with when applying to purchasing property in Thailand.

Most readers will know that the maximum term under Thai law for residential leases a lessor and his lessee can agree to register with the land department is 30 years, whereby renew options are usually granted.

However, when it comes to protecting the beneficiaries' inheritance from the lessee, most may not be aware that lease rights cannot be passed on to next of kin when the lessee dies.

Unfortunately, the Thai Civil and Commercial Code (CCC) does not provide for a transfer of lease rights by way of inheritance, meaning that upon the lessee's demise, a lease ceases to exist.

This may have serious consequences for your investment, particularly in regard to your beneficiaries, who may not be entitled to use your property once you're gone.

Even more draconian is the consideration that those with long-



When you die, any lease rights you had will follow you to the grave, unless you take a few precautions.

term leases, usually used in order to acquire interest in land or apartment units, must fully pay the lessor in advance.

In order to protect the inheritance of lease rights, the lessor

and lessee may agree under the lease that the agreement shall be binding upon and enure onto the parties' heirs in case of either party's demise.

However, such succession

or inheritance clauses may not be accepted by a court if a dispute between lessor and the lessee's heirs enters the judicial system.

The lessee should consider that, in the eyes of the law, a lease right is basically considered as a personal right of the lessee, which can not be transferred upon the lessee's demise.

Caution is therefore advisable in regard to your individual agreement with the lessor, which is normally your only safeguard in regard to the inheritance of your lease rights.

However, courts have decided that under certain conditions, a lease is inheritable.

A scenario of an inheritable lease would be if a villa structure has been erected on the leased land and both lessor and lessee had agreed that the building shall be conveyed into the lessor's name upon expiration of the lease or its extensions.

Nevertheless, property buyers should be aware that courts rulings on the transfer of inheritable leases more often than not favor the lessor.

Investors' confidence when buying property in Thailand could be increased if the inheritance of lease rights could be guaranteed by law requiring respective

amendment of the CCC.

But until such an amendment comes into effect (if ever), the safest way of acquiring lease rights seems to be under the name of a corporate body (as they don't usually die), preferably off-shore.

Acquisition of lease rights under the name of an off-shore company may offer further advantages.

However, this should be discussed with professional advisors, in order to ensure that the chosen legal structure satisfies your personal requirements on a safe investment.

For those who do not feel comfortable with holding property under the name of company structure, it is advisable to enter into a lease together with your beneficiaries, as the longer living lessees are entitled to benefit from the property until their passing.

This article is written by International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd. For enquiries, contact Michael Greth, Consultant, by email (michael@ilo-phuket.com) or phone (+66- (0) 76-222 191-5).



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Stainless steel secrets revealed



The beauty of stainless steel is that it is timeless provided you purchase the most suitable grade for your needs.

When I talk with clients about stainless steel, most of them believe it's a material which never rusts simply because their stainless steel kitchen equipment never does. However, you can't compare the pots and pans you use in the kitchen to exterior equipment which is exposed to Phuket's tropical environment or salt water.

Stainless means 'less stains', not 'stain free' which most people believe. How stainless your steel will be depends upon the amount of chromium in the blended metal of the object. The amount will range between 13 and 26 percent and, together with other bypass products like nickel or carbon, about 150 different stainless steel variants can be found on the market.

The most common stainless steel is the 304 (A2) grade. It has a minimum of 18 percent chromium and 8 percent nickel, combined with a maximum of 0.08 percent carbon. Grade 304 is the standard '18/8' stainless steel that you will find in your pans and cooking tools.

The 316 (A4) grade or 'surgical' grade steel is the second most common. If molybdenum is added to the 316 alloy, preventing specific forms of corrosion, it becomes 'marine grade' steel due to its increased resistance to chloride corrosion.

When carbon content is reduced to less than 0.03 percent, it produces 'L' grade steel which provides additional resistance.

Chromium oxide (CrO) creates an invisible barrier against oxygen and moisture. The chromium protects the iron against most corrosion or red-colored rust, hence the term 'stainless' steel.

The layer is too thin to be visible, meaning the metal stays shiny. It is also impervious to water and air, protecting the metal beneath, and if the surface is scratched, this layer quickly reforms.

The purpose of stainless steel is to provide a hard exterior material which is highly resistant to stains, rust and corrosion, and also protects against atmospheric conditions such as carbon dioxide, moisture, electrical fields, sulfur, salt, and chloride compounds.

It also protects against natural and synthetically-produced chemicals and cases of extreme weather, for example, very cold temperatures.

Often developers try to save money by purchasing lower grade stainless steel, while those who install stainless steel frequently break the one golden rule: don't mix metals.

I regularly see stainless steel railings welded to lower grade stainless steel or see builders using steel footings, low grade sling cables attached to high grade metal poles or simply steel bolts and screws to mount stainless steel parts in place.

This mixing of metals produces galvanic corrosion which is a localized mechanism by which metals can be preferentially corroded.

This form of corrosion has the potential to attack junctions



Stainless steel is made by coating the metal with an invisible layer of chromium oxide (CrO) to create a barrier against oxygen and moisture. Rust, stains and pockmarks can still occur if the steel is not kept clean or joined with inferior metals. An extra coat of marine-grade nano lacquer gives a longer lasting, low-maintenance sheen.

of metals, or regions where one construction metal sits next to another.

This condition frequently arises because certain metals are more suited to certain functions than others.

For example, a door frame might be manufactured from aluminum extrusions, but has a door handle made from stainless steel tube to exploit its higher strength and abrasion resistance.

The two different metals are in electrical contact with each other and this is, of course, is very common and can be bolted, welded or clamped together, or even just rest against each other.

The metal junction will be bridged by an electrolyte. An electrolyte is simply an electrically conducting fluid. Almost any fluid falls into this category, distilled water being an exception. Even rain water is likely to conduct sufficiently after contact with common environmental contaminants.

If the conductivity of the liquid is high – a common example being sea water – the galvanic corrosion of the less noble metal will be spread over a larger area. In low conductivity liquids, the corrosion will be localized to the part of the less noble metal near to the join.

The final result is stainless steel which requires a lot of maintenance. It is highly

recommended to clean up salt residues and dust from the steel surface frequently, otherwise corrosion will soon appear and pockmarks will show up, possibly resulting in permanent ugly marks.

A frequently applied metal protective will reduce the problem, but if you want to limit maintenance to a minimum, I can highly recommend TCM Asia's unique Nano 2K clear marine grade lacquer.

The stainless steel will be protected by a super hydrophobic coating, ultra resistant to most contaminants which gives the metal a high gloss superior sheen.

The 2k lacquer is incomparable to other coatings and was previously developed for the marina market.

Maintenance on such coated metal is reduced to a minimum by simply washing from time to time with a mild detergent.

This will keep the protection ship shape for five years.

Andreas Ruthe is managing director of TCM Asia Co Ltd. He has been living in Phuket since 2003 and has been consulting and providing high-end surface protection technologies to the hotel and development industry. He can be contacted directly at ruthe@tcm-asia.com

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Construction Update

Mai Khao

Asian-style resort aims at newlyweds

Situated on the road leading to Mai Khao Temple near the beach on the northwest coast of Phuket, the 114-unit Piraya Resort and Spa nears completion in one of Phuket's most un-developed locations.

Co-owner of the resort Kalyarat Kun-ngao said the resort's concept and location is designed to cater to honeymooners.

The resort's location puts it close to one of the island's most pristine beaches and a 12-km drive from Phuket International Airport.

"Golf enthusiasts will also find the Piraya an excellent holiday resort due to its close proximity to Blue Canyon and Mission Hills golf courses," said Ms Kalyarat.

Construction of the Piraya Resort and Spa began in September last year and is scheduled for completion by the end of this month.

To date, 36 rooms and two villas have been completed

Built on a total of 13 rai at a cost of 500 million baht, the resort project will feature a total of 114 units, comprising 106 deluxe



To date, 36 rooms and two villas have been completed. On the right is an artist's impression of what the Piraya Resort and Spa will look like upon completion later this month.



rooms with or without direct pool access and eight villas, some with a private pool.

The resort's design is heavily influenced by Southeast Asia and the Far East, with the rooms and villas incorporating a blend of styles from Bali, Thailand, China and Japan.

To complement the rooms and villas, the Piraya will feature

three swimming pools. One pool will be 100 meters in length, the second will be 80 meters long, and the third will be 60 meters long.

As the name suggests, the Piraya Resort and Spa will feature a top-of-the-range spa center offering a range of treatments.

The resort will also be home

to a number of food and beverage outlets.

The Piraya is being marketed as an ideal destination for a honeymooning couples. Packages on offer will also include Thai-style wedding ceremonies or even deep sea weddings, where guests can don scuba gear and tie the knot beneath the waves.

Ms Kalyarat said the resort's Mai Khao Beach location was chosen because of its privacy, unspoilt nature and relaxing environment.

"We named the resort Piraya because it's an easy name to remember and it is a beautiful Thai-style name that fits the concept," she said.

-Atchaa Khamlo

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Property Gazette

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1 story house on land. 1.5 rai, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished at T. Taimuang, Phang Nga 2.5 million baht. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: pookie.lovely@gmail.com

PERFECT LAND

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

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.

NEW BRAND CONDO

Mid Town, Royal Place Project. Studio condo, fully furnished, reasonable price. Tel: 086-476-9612.

NEW TOWNHOUSE

for sale. 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room. 2 million baht. Tel: 081-895 3661.

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: drbearshaw@gmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

near the main road to Baan Don - Chermg Talay. 68sq wah. 1.1 million baht. Tel: 089-472 9118. Email: honda.1437@yahoo.co.th

CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

Close to Phuket International Airport. 4 rai, Chanote title. 3.8 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-868 7676. Email: phuketann@gmail.com.

LAND AT PA KHLOK



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

SEA VIEW LAND

Patong Beach, 500 m2 mountain plot, very natural and quiet location with good access road. Part of an existing project consisting of 3 houses and a common swimming pool. Priced to sell. Contact me (Andy). Tel: 081-891 3466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

QUICK SALE!

Nice single house, 2km from Heroines' Monument. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished. Quick sale, 2.4 million baht. Tel: 087-817 3019.

2 RAI IN AO MAKHAM



Chanote, in Soi Rat-U-Thit 1, public utility area. easy access in and out. Just 12 million baht for both rai. Tel: 076-522938, 087-689 9679, 089-588 5458. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

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

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.

LAND CHALONG BAY

Flat land with bay views and access. Priced to sell. Tel: 089-652 1473 (English). Email: jacek_fi@hotmail.com

BAAN BAI MAI



for sale in Samkong near Bangkok hospital. 2 storey, 2 bed, 2 bath, 1 car parking space. Email: info@allaboutwebanddesign.com

PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

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

WEST COAST LUNA PHUKET

Beautiful 3 bed, 3 bath villa with private pool and lots more. Brand new. Reduced by 3 million baht to sell at 15.25 million baht. Areal bargain. Tel: 089-873 7075. For further details, please see our website at http://www.lunaphuket.com

NEW HOUSE

for sale! Phuket Thane Project at Heroines' Monument. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, on corner, 24 hour security. Very good price: 2.9 million baht. Tel: 087-817 3019.

LUXURY CONDO

for sale. Andaman Beach Condominium, 160sqm. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big kitchen and living area. Panoramic sea view from 18th floor, freehold, fully furnished. Contact Songpan. No brokers please. Tel: 081-737 8662.

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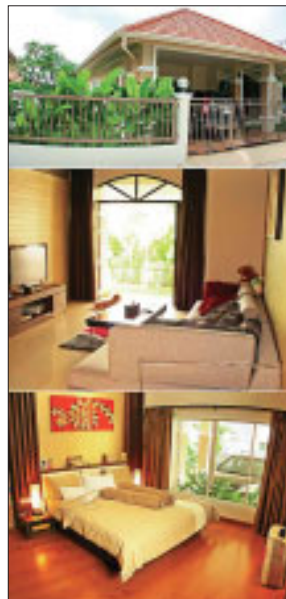
081 464 0966

Sales@thegreengolfresidence.com
www.TheGreenGolfResidence.com

"The Green Golf Residence Project", the name of condominium is "Phuket Golf Resort Condominium", registered as condominium at 31234. The Condominium is located on the land title deed no. 2199 and 2191. The owner of condominium units of the project is Tammarind Bay Co., Ltd., located at 1 Montree Road, Tarad Yai, Muang Phuket, Phuket. The President: Mr. Weerachart Surthisirikul.

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VILLA FOR SALE OR RENT



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

PENTHOUSE FOR SALE

Beautiful penthouse (210 sqm) with infinity pool and deck. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, storeroom, built-in modern kitchen. Very quiet, surrounded by nature. 1km to beach. 12 million baht. Tel: 089-137 5325 (English). Email: mbdettmann@yahoo.com

LAND NEXT TO MISSION HILL

716sqm corner plot with road and electricity, ready to build. Price 1.6 million baht. Tel: 081-892 1097 (English & Thai). Email: colan007@hotmail.com

TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



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

TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



In Moobaan Tinawut, Samkong, close to Yada Dental Clinic. 2 connected buildings, 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. For rent: 12,000 baht per month, sale: 2.8 million baht. Tel: 081-597 6302, 081-597 9441.

LAND IN PAKLOK

1.87 rai (or 2,812sqm) set in natural surroundings near Bang Pae Waterfall on north east coast. Great mountain and sea views. A must see! Nor Sam Gor title. Company owned. Topographical survey available. Price: 5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-895 3347 (English & Thai). Email: lamacaBP@gmail.com

NATAI LAND FOR SALE

4 rai and 1 ngan on the main road to Natai Beach. Only 2 km to the beach. 1,000,000 baht per rai. Email: nisaya@yahoo.com

1 RAI IN PASAK

Pasak Soi 8. One rai with Chanote title. Pls contact me for exact location and details. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



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

NEW HOUSE IN THE BANYAN VILLA



for sale. 3.4 million baht, near Land and Houses Park. 29.5sq wah, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, hill view, common pool, club house. Tel: 089-873 1009 (English), 081-893 8524.

PATONG TOWER

condo units for sale. Freehold, hill and sea views. From 5 million baht. Tel: 081-878 2199. Email: orso.realestate@gmail.com

NEW HOUSE

for sale! Phuket Thane Project at Heroines' Monument. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, on corner, 24 hour security. Very good price: 2.9 million baht. Tel: 087-817 3019.

CHANOTE 7 RAI

for sale. Mai Khao, 200m from the beach. Connecting condominiums projects a possibility. Can purchase just one or two rai. Tel: 080-719 8627.

LAND SALE IN THALANG
366sq wah, 1.6 million baht. 500m to Thalang market. Good view. Tel: 081-396 5752.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Nice house in Patong! Good location, living room, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, extra studio with bathroom, rooftop terrace and garage. Very good price: only 6.9 million baht! Must see! Tel: 087-883 8066. Email: michahildner@hotmail.com

SURIN BEACH

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

BEACH FRONT CONDO

North Patong. 2 bedrooms, freehold, great seaview. 9.7 million baht. For pics, please contact Tel: 086-276 5117. Email: jhshand@gmail.com

CONDO IN KATHU SALE/RENT

Two units: 38 and 48sqm. Nice view, gym, pool, very central. Available for sale or rent. Tel: 075-662161, 089-652 7900 (English & Thai), 089-583 5097 (Thai). Email: mail@chanida.de

HOUSE FOR SALE

Nice house in Patong! Good location, living room, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, extra studio with bathroom, rooftop terrace and garage. Very good price: only 6.9 million baht! Must see! Tel: 087-883 8066. Email: michahildner@hotmail.com

HEAVEN ON EARTH



5 bedroom Thai style villa in Phuket. Magnificent Phang-Nga Bay sea view. 3 big bedrooms are en-suite with seaview. Private swimming pool. Land plot 730.8 sqm. construction area approx. 573 sqm. Full security service. Located at Rommai Chailay Estate. 24.9 million baht. Tel: 089-474 2234.

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

LAND, 161 SQ WAH

for sale. Baan Maneekram, quiet, lovely views across the bay possible. Reduced to 3 million baht. Tel: 086-905 1406 (English).

COCONUT ISLAND LAND



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

65 SQ WAH APT IN RAWAI

1 bedroom. Only 1.25 million baht with Chanote title. Photos on request. Mail for details. Email: mlandi@free.fr

COMMERCIAL BLDG

located opposite a hotel: 207 sqm on 3.5 floors. One shop, 1 living room, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. For rent or for sale. Tel: 075-662161, 089-652 7900 (English & Thai), 089-583 5097 (Thai). Email: mail@chanida.de

2 BEDROOM CONDO

74 sqm, 2 bedrooms, 3 aircon units, swimming pool. 5th floor with nice view. 1.8 million baht. Tel: 085-782 8881 (English & Thai). Email: arunrat65@hotmail.com

90 SECONDS WALK

to Soi Bangla. Large townhome: 6.5 million baht. 2 bedroom apartment: 8.6 million baht. Please contact for viewing. Tel: 087-272 0303. Email: docucolumns@hotmail.com

PAKHLOK HOUSE

for sale. Reduced by 10%. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living, dining, office, kitchen, carport, quiet. 2 million baht. Tel: 086-905 1406 (English).

LAND PLOTS IN KATHU

15 rai of land with electricity and blue book. 650,000 baht per rai. Be the first to get the best piece. Call our office for more information. Tel: 076-381303. Fax: 076-381303. Email: maria@bayproject.com

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.

KOH YAO YAI

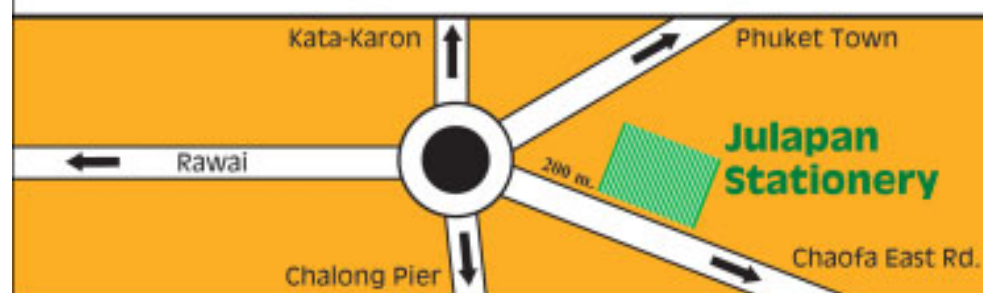
Cheap land, good investment. 2.8 rai, Chanote title, water, electricity. Price: 900,000 baht. Tel: 081-892 8208.

2 STORY HOUSE CENTER RAWAI

Sale or lease. 160sqm. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, close to beach. 1.8 million baht. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

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Property Gazette

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with separate apartment in Rawai area. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 car park and garden with water treatment system. Ground: 1,300sqm. Direct sale. Please contact Tel: 081-970 7780, 086-954 4389.

CONDO PATONG

for sale. Fully furnished freehold in Andaman Beach Condominium, Patong, Phuket. 126.43sqm, 16th floor, seaview, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 living room. Contact Songpan. No broker please. Tel: 081-737 8662.

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

HOUSE IN KAMALA

for sale. 2 houses on land. 2 ngan, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, Nor Sor Sam Kor title, good location, 5km from the beach. Price: 10 million baht. Direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: pookie.lovely@gmail.com

KARON VACANT LAND

Great land for hotel. 200sqm, can build 5-floor seaview hotel. Discounted price offer. Tel: 081-446 0215.

KATA POOL VILLA

New, 6 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, 550sqm. 14 million baht or offers. Tel: 081-091 8908. Email: gjepp969@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

RAWAI 5 BED POOL GUESTHOUSE



for sale: 6.5 million baht. Lease, cheap rent and financing available. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.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.

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: 081-273 3303.

LAND CHALONG BAY

Flat land with bay views and access. Priced to sell. Tel: 089-652 1473 (English). Email: jacek_fi@hotmail.com

RAWAI HOUSE BARGAIN

2 storey house for sale. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, pool, seaview. 7.2 million baht for quick sale! Tel: 087-800 3942.

LAYAN LAND



for sale. 11 rai, flat land. 3 min from Layan Beach, hill and lake view. Price 4.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-813 1447.

2 STORY HOUSE CENTER RAWAI

Sale or lease. 160sqm. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, close to beach. 1.8 million baht. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

KAMALA LAKE HOUSE

2 large bedrooms, big bathroom, European kitchen, clean, quiet, great view. 2.9 million baht. Tel: 081-892 8208.

SEAVIEW POOL VILLA



Surin/Bangtao, 10.8 million baht house + land or 4.6 million baht land + house plans only. New development with all utilities, fantastic views, proposed home area, 341sqm. Land 540sqm. Only one Chanote. Tel: 084-744 2240. Email: ross@funboatcruises.com

HOUSE IN ANUPHAS GOLF VILLE

Kathu, 3 bedrooms, maid's room, aircon, small swimming pool. Chanote title. 8 million baht. Tel: 081-854 0061 (English), 081-080 3414 (English & Thai).

NEW HOUSE

for sale. Chaweng Beach, Koh Samui. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, front+rear terrace. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-537 3450, 084-447 5997.

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE, FULLY FURNISHED



Ready to move in, 254 sqm. 2 floors. Near Downrungs school, Vichit area, close to Phuket Town, nice living room and garden, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, 2 car parks, very nice and quiet area. Price: 7.2 million baht. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-541 2025.

PRIME LAND IN KATHU

Within 2 km of 3 golf courses. 5 rai, 50sq wah with Chanote title, near Central, Tesco Lotus, Big C. Perfect for private complex. Reduced to only 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-854 0061 (English), 081-080 3414 (English & Thai).

NEW DETACHED HOUSE



for sale in Phanason 3, Thalung. 253.25sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage, furnished and landscaped garden. 2.95 million baht. Contact Phing. Tel: 087-278-0067. Email: sweetpinkylive.co.uk

SHOPHOUSE - CHALONG

12 months old, 3 storey, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1 km south of Circle. Full kitchen, 1 air con, hot water, all-glass front door, office furniture, beds, very clean. Rent 28,000 per month. Valued at 3.7 million, you pay 3.6 million baht including additions. Bargain! Tel: 086-476 2093.

HOUSES IN KATHU

for sale in Anuphas Golf Ville, Kathu. Both houses have 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, aircon, small swimming pool. One house has an added pool room with pool table. Fully furnished to a high standard. Cost furnished 8.5 million baht, unfurnished 8 million baht. Tel: 081-273 3975, 081-854 0061.

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

THE ROYAL PLACE

7th and 5th floor 1 bedroom condo units for sale. Fully furnished, ready for occupancy. Secured complex with pool, gym, restaurant etc. Very central location. Tel: 087-273 0786. Email: napi-atfifty@hotmail.co.uk

BEAUTIFUL 950SQM LAND

in Rawai. Located just 50 meters off Samakkee 2. Cleared land plot ideally suited for a large private villa or can be subdivided into 2 smaller plots. 3.9 million baht. Tel: 081-808 8896.

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

HOUSE IN KATHU

Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, includes utility and pool room, swimming pool. Immediate viewing is essential. Priced at only 8.5 million baht. Tel: 081-854 0061, 081-273 3975 (English & Thai).

KARON VILLA TOWNHOUSE

with Chanote title, 2 large bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished. Garden extension possible. 6.3 million baht. No agents. Tel: 089-594 0423.

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

LAND IN KATA BEACH

700m from Kata center, great location, 600 sqm, title deed. Please buy me. Tel: 081-271 9340. Email: brandyblackcherry@gmail.com

HOME IN LAGUNA



for sale. Detached home on golf course, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 270sqwah. Price includes golf membership and residents' privileges at all lagoon hotels. Must sell. 19 million baht. Call Steve. Tel: 076-305657, 087-888 1913.

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Dealership Office: The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Martin Holmes
tel: 076 238 803
fax: 076 273 319
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Brokerage Office: The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 081 868 1437
tel/fax: 076 239 729
email: andrew@leemarine.net

Yacht Haven Marina Office: The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket
Contact: Jim Poulsen
Mobile: 081 891 3237
tel/fax: 076 206 260
email: jim@leemarine.net

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BENETEAU OCEANIS 361

2001. US\$100,000. For further details, please see our website at http://www.boatshedphuket.com

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

11.8 M CATAMARAN

Pescott Whitehaven 2000. US\$189,000. Tel: 084-842 6146. For further details, please see our website at http://www.boatshedphuket.com

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

YACHT CHARTER COMPANY

12-meter, ocean-going sailing boat with steel hull and Thai flag. Sale includes license, web sites, many parts and equipment. Call or mail for details. Tel: 076-283446, 081-892 7847 (English). Or fax: 076-283447. Email: patrick@oceanic-global.com or please see at http://www.sailing-thailand-phuket.com

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New! 6 double cabins, 20sqm, cockpit, new sails, composite. Tel: 087-461 8089.

BENETEAU CYCLADES 393

Enjoy sailing from Phuket and learn a little. 3 cabins, 2 toilets. Layout excellently maintained and loaded with extras. Thai registered and under maintenance contract with advance bookings. Tel: 076-348117, 081-8916953. Fax: 076-348118. Email: rob@sailing-thailand.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

SAIL BOAT WANTED

30 to 40 feet. Racer/cruiser to charter for King's cup. Email: air2cure@yahoo.com

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Simply write out your ad, pay for it and leave it with Khun Kung (076-324312).

GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're PAID!
Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published simultaneously - and **FREE** - in the **Gazette Online!**

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

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

TO: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd, 367/2 Yaowarat Road, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, Thailand.

YES, I want to receive the **PHUKET GAZETTE** for a full year - **52 issues!**

I hereby authorize payment against my Visa ☐ / Mastercard ☐

☐ Thai Baht 1,560 for Phuket Special Delivery (Phuket Island only!)

☐ Thai Baht 2,800 for a domestic subscription (outside Phuket)

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Surname (as appears on card) Given name(s) (as on card)

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City State or Province Zip Code

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To ensure clarity,
please attach
Do not Fax!

Island Job Mart



Directors PA required. Perfect English with European experience. Experienced, qualified, meticulous, enthusiastic, based in Phuket with extensive travel throughout Asia.

Construction Project Manager required for 20-villa development. May suit semi-retired PM with European experience.

IT Engineer Must be qualified and experienced with abilities in MS exchange, desktop support and web programming.

CV and covering letter to jobs@richmondhk.com



Wine Shop & Restaurant
We are looking for the following positions

F&B Manager	1 position
Operation Manager (Retail Business)	1 position
Shop Manager	1 position
Wait Staff / Bartendy	4 positions
Chef de partie / Cook	4 positions

Wine Connection (Phuket)

19/54-57 Moo 8 Chaofa Rd., T.Chalong, A.Munag, Phuket
Tel: 076-282411-2 Ext 13 (Khun Rotjana)
E-mail: hrphuket@wineconnection.co.th



Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa, Mai Khao Beach



If you enjoy being the best, delivering the highest of standards and are a technical expert in your area then you may want to come and be part of the Anantara Story..... We are looking for the following professionals to join us.

Villa Operations

- Operations Manager
- Villa Manager (FOM)
- Villa Host Supervisor
- Villa Host x4
- Villa Host (Korean)
- Villa Personal Assistant (Butler) x1
- Bellman

Kitchen

- Commis I (Europe)

Security

- Security Officer

IT Manager

Engineering

- Director of Engineering
- Engineer Supervisor

Housekeeping

- Villa Supervisor
- Villa Attendant x3

Food & Beverage

- Restaurant Manager
- Restaurant Supervisor x2

We enjoy a 5 day work week (average 45 hours per week) and free transport to and from Phuket Town.

As part of our recruitment process you will be assessed on your level of English - This is a key skill for all of our team.

Please submit your CV with covering letter stating the position you are applying to email address recruit_phuket@anantara.com or Contact Human Resources Department, Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa Phone: +66 (0) 76 336100-9 Ext.553 Fax: +66 (0) 76336166

Good Luck with your application!

Showartists wanted!



- Male & Female artists age 20 - 35 years.
- English speaking singers with good dancing skills

We offer you a fulltime employment in our Sunwing Resorts in Phuket.

Send your CV to us latest 25 October by email: hrkamala@oceanresortgroup.net

Sunwing Resort - Kamala Beach
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Phuket 83150 Thailand.
Tel: +66 76 279587
Fax: +66 76 279586

www.sunwingphuket.com



Experienced Advertising sales person wanted
Must have experience in advertising sales in Phuket. Good salary for the right person.

Contact us
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www.idm-asia.com
info@idm-asia.com
Tel: 076 521 977

KARON CLIFF STAFF REQUIRED

- 2 Restaurant Hostesses
- Thai Sous Chef
- Cook
- 2 Bar Staff
- 3 Receptionists
- 4 Room Maids

All positions require experience and ability to speak English. Please send CV and recent photo to gm@karoncliff.com For further details, please visit our website at <http://www.karoncliff.com>

ENGLISH TEACHER WANTED

We need a Full Time English Teacher for our school. Salary: 28,000 baht + 3,000 baht housing allowance. Requirements: Graduate Degree + TEFL Certificate. For more info please tel: 081-788 0911 (English & Thai). Or email to: koypanpan@yahoo.co.th

NANNY/CHILD CARER

Nanny needed in Kamala for 2 boys under 5 years old. You must have experience and good English. We offer good conditions. For further details please contact at Tel: 086-972 2893 (English). Email: scot@toon.co.nz

ARCHITECT

needed for Modern Zen Architecture Office. Knowledge of AutoCAD, Photoshop, Sketch up and 3D Studio required. Tel: 076-385964, 087-8925557. Fax: 076-385965. Please e-mail to info@modern-zen.com

TELEPHONE MARKETING

Suits either Thai national educated overseas or native English speaker. Good rates of pay: both basic and commission. Must be willing to work hard, able to handle rejection. Full training given. Office based in Chalong area. Young progressive company. Tel: 080-524-9913.

WHITEBOX RESTAURANT

Looking for hostess, waitress, bartendy, and bartender. Apply now! Contact Khun Eve. Tel: 076-346271. Email: rsvp@whiteboxrestaurant.com

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for www.skyumtravelimages.com. Simple, 30% commission, part time, work from home finding travel companies/ image users on net and make them offers by email or phone. Tel: 086-277 3549. Email: bwskyum@mail.dk

NEED HOUSE MAID

Thai female, good salary and social security, experience in hotel or farang's house, Rawai. Please contact for more details. Tel: 076-288188.

NIGHT GSA - RECEPTIONIST

Night GSA - Receptionist required. Male only, good command of English, one year of experience. Working hours: 10:30pm - 7:30am. Contact for more details. Tel: 084-898-1611. Email: paulmccarthy007@yahoo.co.uk For further details, please see our website at <http://www.thekrisresort.com>



www.hlbthai.com

Accountancy and Business Consultancy Services

HLB (Thailand) Ltd is a member of HLB International, a worldwide organization of accounting firms and business advisors with 450 offices in more than 100 countries.

HLB (Thailand) Ltd is consults investors to plan, structure and implement their projects in Thailand. Our services include start-up consulting, market and feasibility studies, financial project management, accounting and auditing services.

Now, we are looking for an experienced professional to fill this position:

Junior & Senior Accountant, based in Phuket and Samui

Full Time: Mon - Fri (09.00 - 18.00)

Job Description:

- Control G/L, A/R, A/P management
- Control fund receipt, payment and cash flow
- Prepare regular financial reports and statements
- Take care of all banking requirements including monthly reconciliation
- Co-ordinate with auditors and government officers
- Close monthly and annual accounts
- Prepare monthly and annual tax returns for clients
- Provide advice to customers when appropriate
- Able to handle admin job

Qualifications:

- Must be able to understand and communicate in English
- Bachelor's degree in accounting
- Minimum 3 years' experience in accounting field
- Able to close accounts independently
- Computer literate and experience with integrated accounting software solutions
- Mature personality with good analytical and communication skills
- Able to work overtime when necessary and under pressure

Interested candidates are invited to send your resume in English only and recent photo to jaruwan@hlbthai.com

LEMONGRASS CONDOMINIUM

Phuket-based property developer now seeking candidates for the following positions: In-house Lawyer, Financial Controller, Project Co-ordinator and Office Administrator. Applicants must be fluent in written and spoken English and Thai, with good computer skills. Interested applicants please send full CV with current salary to ying@tamarindhills.com or contact Dararat Srijaroen (Ying) Tel: 076-615937, 081-538 5810. Email: ying@tamarindhills.com

MEDIA COMPANY

Looking for advertising salesperson with good personality, able to work independently, good English, computer skills and own transportation. Media background an advantage. Contact Pond. Tel: 089-474 4704. Email: p_eanso@hotmail.com

WAITRESS NEEDED

Small restaurant in Karon needs a waitress urgently. Pls contact us for more info. Tel: 081-8914 019 (English). Email: tkoschig2000@hotmail.com

COOK NEEDED

Restaurant under new management seeks experienced cook for Thai and Western Food. 12,000 baht a month + profit sharing. Must be willing to work hard and be very clean. Call Dan at Tel: 081-928 6746 (English) or send resume to: jintana@phuketfishboat.com

FRENCH RESTAURANT STAFF

Opening in Bang Tao in November. Staff required: 1 head cook, 1 second cook, 2 waitresses. Send CV via email: scphuket@yahoo.com

STAFF WANTED, KARON

Can you run a small coffee shop and cocktail bar, and make a good receptionist? Tel: 086-271 8254. Email: ninproperty@hotmail.com

**Looking for a job?
Looking for a better candidate?
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at www.PhuketGazette.Net!**

Island Job Mart

ALL RESORT STAFF REQUIRED

The Phuket Beach Club opens on Bang Tao Beach in November, 2009. With 350 meters of beach front and 85 rai in total, the resort will include an up market restaurant, full child care facilities, an aqua water park, full PADI certified diving centre, water sports centre, and excursions from our 150 meter floating pier...to name a few.

We require all types of staff, including:

– HEAD CHEF. Must be able to cater for 200 plus diners and run a large up-market restaurant operation.

– RESTAURANT MANAGER (2). Day and night shift.

– CHILDCARE ASSISTANTS for our daily year-round children's club, English speaking.

– CHILD CARE MANAGER for our centre.

– WATER SPORTS MANAGER and staff. Must have some experience and knowledge of windsurfing, kayaks, surfing, etc. The ability to teach sailing would be an added bonus.

– SALES EXECUTIVE to promote our club to tour operators and outlets in Phuket and surrounding areas.


– WAITERS AND WAITRESSES (16). Must speak English and MUST have experience.

Please contact for more info at tel: 084-898 1611. Email: paulmccarthy007@yahoo.co.uk

For further details, please see our website at <http://phuket-beachclub.com>

PART TIME ASSISTANT WANTED

To work for a small charity in Khao Lak. Duties include basic admin and document/meeting translations. Must have a good standard of English and basic computer skills. Tel: 089-875 1995 (English). Email: samanna29@hotmail.com



Sales Manager required for property development company. Exceptional individual with drive and enthusiasm required to sell and lease properties.

GM required for Holiday / Residential Resort. Experience in Asia essential. Proven ability in resort sales and marketing essential.

Please send your resume and application letter to susan@dpiworldwide.com



The Bell is a luxurious pool villa resort focused on personalizing the stay of guests.

Director of Sales or Sales Manager

Requirements:

- Minimum 3 years experience as DOS or sales manager
- Specific pool villa resort or luxury boutique-style resort experience
- Good knowledge of overseas travel agents
- Fluent in English

Operations Manager

Requirements:

- Minimum 3 years experience as operations manager or related field
- Specific pool villa resort or luxury boutique-style resort experience
- Great organizational skills
- Thai or foreign nationals

The Bell Pool Villa Resort,
41/31 Moo 5, Baan Hua Khuan,
Sai Bell, Kamala, Kathu, Phuket 83120

Tel: + 66 (0) 76-279914 Fax: + 66 (0) 76-279412
E-mail: tony@TheBellphuket.com
Web: www.TheBellPhuket.com



OPERATIONS MANAGER

Rainwater Solutions is a progressive company specializing in the provision of continuous guttering.

We are seeking an energetic self-starter who is able to read construction plans and come up with design solutions for the installation of guttering and collection of rainwater. Other tasks include on site measure ups and quotations, supervision of construction staff and actively seeking new work.

The successful applicant will be fluent in both spoken and written English, and will have a proven track record in customer relations, sales and marketing. The position is open to Expats and Thais. Please email your CV to malee@rainwater-solutions.com

SALES STAFF WANTED

German company looking for sales executive for southern Thailand. Requirements: highly motivated and able to work independently, excellent English, good computer skills (all office programs). Applicant should have knowledge of window and door hardware, contacts with architects and developers, proven sales record and own car. Tel: 081-553 5002. Email: andre.gehrmann@gmail.com Website at <http://www.vbh.co.th>

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Leading audio visual company is seeking candidates for the above position. Applicants must be fluent in written and spoken English and Thai with good computer skills. Experience in administration and accounts an advantage. Tel: 076-527640. Email: cv@enhanceav.com



IT Company looking for team member with experience in hotel reservations

Globekey is a fast-growing IT company based in Phuket, providing an online reservations system to hotels and other accommodation providers around the world.

We are looking for a dynamic, full-time person with:

- Experience working in hotel reservations (hotel or tour operator)
- Excellent spoken and written English
- Good computer knowledge (email and internet)

You will be working closely with our sales offices in Australia and England, will provide customer support by email to clients around the world, and by phone and email to clients in Thailand.

Our office is located close to Wat Chalong. Job title and salary according to your qualifications.

Please send your resume with cover letter to jobs@globekey.com



JUNIOR SALES COORDINATOR

To assist project managers in delivering and managing high quality products, designs and services to the customer.

Qualifications:

- University degree, or equivalent experience.
- 1 year relevant experience in a customer-facing role.
- Motivated, energetic individual with excellent communication and customer service skills.
- Attention to detail and quality of work.
- Excellent English skills.
- Must possess a car and driving license.

WEB PROGRAMMER AND DESIGNER

To design, code, implement, optimise and maintain websites and to provide ongoing customer support.

Qualifications:

- University degree, or equivalent experience.
- Mastery of CSS, HTML, XHTML.
- Demonstrated skills with scripting language such as PHP, SQL and Javascript.
- Web optimisation and page ranking techniques.
- Must be knowledgeable about standards design methodology and usability testing.
- Excellent communication and English skills.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Delivering creative and strategic advertising and marketing design solutions across all mediums.

Qualifications:

- University degree, or equivalent experience.
- 5 years relevant experience in an advertising agency.
- Excellent English skills.

Tel: 076 236 637

jobs@southern-media.net

SALES EXPERIENCE

Exciting new company in architecture and property development is looking for sales staff. Tel: 076-385964, 080-696-5104 (English). Fax: 076-385965. Or send email to: info@mo-dem-zen.com

Employment Wanted

JOB IN PHUKET

32y/o warehouse manager with 8 years' experience in the frozen food industry wants to work in Phuket. Will take any challenging and rewarding job opportunity. Resume on request. Tel: 082-703 8341 (English). Email: tkmofs77@hotmail.com

SEEKING WORK IN PHUKET

I am a British male seeking employment in Phuket. I have a strong sales/customer service background and am based in Patong. I am open to most opportunities! Tel: 083-389 9873 (English). Email: nick.tiller@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR WORK

I am an Australia citizen, married to a Thai lady. I have purchased a house in Phuket and intend taking up permanent residence in 2010. I have had a good education and the following qualifications: land agents licence, land valuers licence, conveyancers licence, auctioneers licence and commissioner of declarations. I am looking for part-time employment. If interested please contact at: ccopleya@bigpond.net.au

PHUKET BEACH CLUB

The Phuket Beach Club opens in November on Bang Tao Beach. We require the following staff:

- Thai Sous Chef
 - 10 Kitchen Staff/Cooks
 - 28 Waiters. Must be experienced and speak English
 - 4 bar staff. Experienced and able to speak English
 - Thai F&B Manager. Must speak English
 - 4 Restaurant Hostesses. Must be experienced
 - 4 Cleaners. Experienced
 - Bookings Controller
 - 4 Security Guards. Experienced
 - 2 General Resort Assistants
 - 4 Childcare Assistants. Experienced
- Tel: 084-898 1611 (English). Email: paul@phuket-beachclub.com

MASSAGER WANTED

Body scrub for 1.5 hour, 5 times per month at home in Kathu. 300 baht per time. For more info. Tel: 081-432 6587.

LANDSCAPE PROJECT MANAGER

Tropical Landscaping International are seeking a qualified Thai landscape architect or horticulturist to join our Phuket team as a landscape project manager for onsite supervision of projects. Candidates should be English speaking, possess excellent communication skills, have the ability to work in a team and be honest and hard working. Tel: 076-620099. Fax: 076-620098. Please forward full resume including photo, references and expected salary to: info@tropical-landscaping.com

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

WANTED

Looking for business to buy or lease. Tel: 085-691 7186. Email: kim_partanen@hotmail.com

INTERNET GAMES

shop for lease in Patong. Cheap rent, 7 computers. Tel: 089-592 7102.

20% INTEREST

Invest 20 million baht in a property. Get 20 percent interest per year. Call for more details. Tel: 085-792 0908.

RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Just outside of Patong, great view over Patong Bay, just next to the View Point. It has 50 seats and a fully equipped kitchen. Very low rent and five years left on the contract. Tel: 087-882 1445 (English & Thai). Email: peter_bloom77@hotmail.com

FOR SALE

Front bar, Bangla Road. For more details, please call 087-274 8530.

SHOP PATONG NO KEY MONEY

Shop opposite Cabana Hotel and immigration on Beach Road. 39,000 baht per month ono. 3-year lease. Tel: 081-958 6741 (English & Thai), 089-588 2392 (Thai). Email: poda2000@hotmail.com

SECURITY COMPANY FOR SALE

One of the biggest security company in Phuket for sale, offer start at 3 million. Import Alarms, camera, dvr. Can include 3 car's. Contact Michael. Tel: 081-968 5963. Email: wit@phuketsecurity.com

BAR FOR SALE

with accommodation on Bangla Road. Phone or text for details. Between 4pm and 12am. Tel: 084-843 6792, 087-740 4052.

O'MALLEY'S PUB

Located in Phuket Town, great price, long lease. TLC is needed. Call Lei. Tel: 081-271-4540.

GUESTHOUSE DEALS PATONG

Looking for a guesthouse lease? Call Real Pro today for a showing. 1) 5 rooms. Rent 30,000, price 1,400,000. 2) 8 rooms + internet shop. Rent 42,700, price 2,500,000. 3) 17 rooms. Rent 125,000! Price 1,500,000! 4) 10 rooms + restaurant + beach! rent 150,000, price 3,300,000. 5) 20 apartments! Rent 110,000! Price 3,200,000! 6) 20 rooms, elevator. Rent 165,000, price 2,700,000. Contact Frank, Real Pro Co Ltd. 86 Nanai Rd, Patong. Tel: 076-345238, 084-078 2753 (English). Email: info.realpro@gmail.com

BAR FOR SALE

Kata. Price 100,000 baht. For more information, please contact Khun Mai. Tel: 087-893-6148.

INCOME POTENTIAL UNLIMITED

Ambitious? Self-starter? Must possess desire for success and be farang-friendly. Tel: +1-613-422 3224. Email: chris.lalande@gmail.com For a free consultation, please contact me at http://www.enjoyfreedom4life.com

GARDEN RESTAURANT

Soi Tan. 500,000 baht. For rent: 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 085-794 9687. Email: candny_dog@windowslive.com

MUNOI SUN OIL

Trademark registered in Thailand, product ready for bottling and sale. 850,000 baht. Tel: 089-289 8628.

699,000 BAHT GUESTHOUSE

Located on Patong Nanai Rd/ Banzan Rd, next to 7-Eleven. 3 rooms with fans, 3 a/c rooms, beauty salon at bottom, separate entrance to room. 90,000 deposit, no key money. Rent 34,500 baht, 3 years lease left. Contact Mats or Tan. Tel: 081-787 2573, 085-795 2101.

GUESTHOUSE 7 ROOMS FOR SALE

in Patong on Rat-U-Tit road. Includes furniture. All new and clean. Please call for more information. Tel: 089-472 9895.

APARTMENT BUILDING

Comprising of one 175 m2 two-bedroom owner's apartment plus two 85 m2 one-bedroom poolside apartments for rent. Very quiet and natural location Patong Beach. Brand new building, built to a very high quality. Priced to sell. Contact me (Andy). Tel: 081-891 3466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

AIR CONDITIONED SPORTS BAR

Fully-equipped sports bar with kitchen. Check use out on Facebook. Nanai Sports Bar, Patong. Tel: 089-493 3977, +61-40-777 7750. Fax: 089-493 3977. Email: absoluteautos@hotmail.com

SLINGSHOT ADVENTURE RIDE

Reverse bungy jump ride – launch two people in a safety cage, to a height of 60m, at 100 km in 1.8 seconds! Great business opportunity. The ride is manufactured in Germany. Sale price includes all equipment, installation at your site of operation, and instructions on operation. For full details, contact me (Andy). Tel: 081-891 3466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

RESORT FOR SALE

A well-known resort for sale in Koh Jum (Krabi), 7 rai with Chanote title in the center of the beach. Access road, water, power now on island. Land price rising. Contact Sao and Ray. Tel: 081-8935330. For further details, please see our website at http://www.woodland-koh-jum.com

NAVEEN

DEVELOPMENT-DREAM

Naveen Development is a luxury property development company in Phuket. Naveen Development is a one stop service for your Dream villa – we take care of everything for you – land purchase, design, planning, construction, permits, etc. Let us quote for your Dream villa. Don't hesitate to contact us – initial consultancy free of charge. Languages: English / Scandinavian. Tel: 076-381992, 089-971 0928. Email: dir@naveendevopment.eu For further details, please see our website at the link: http://www.Naveendevopment.eu

WORK, BUY, RENT, LEASE

A 46-year-old man from Sweden is looking for work or for some small business to buy or rent, or maybe a partnership. Tel: 0733-908414 (English). Email: massloso@yahoo.se

NEW BAR AT TIGER

Disco for sale. 1.5 million baht, 4-year contract. Only 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-387-2595.

SHOP AND BAR IN KATA

for rent long term. Lease 800,000 baht, rent 25,000 baht per month. If rented for 1 year, only pay the lease price. Tel: 085-571 8001.

RESTAURANT FOR SALE

just outside of Patong with a great view over Patong Bay, just next to the View Point. It has 50 seats and a fully equipped kitchen. Very low rent and five years left on the contract. Tel: 087-882 1445 (English & Thai). Email: peter_bloom77@hotmail.com

LIVE THE DREAM IN PHUKET

Fully-equipped air conditioned sports bar with kitchen, outdoor terrace, projector, bike hire, bbq, etc. Ready to go with new 3x3 year lease. Check it out on our Facebook. Nanai Sports Bar Patong, Phuket. Tel: 089-493 3977. Email: absoluteautos@hotmail.com

SAUNA & SPA KAMALA

Fully equipped, Jacuzzi, big garden with fish pound. Rent: 12,000 baht. Tel: 081-968 1160.

INVESTMENT IN LANTA

Want partner to open guesthouse and restaurant in Koh Lanta in the shophouse I own. Tel: 081-970-6503 (English & Thai). Email: onthespot.phuket@gmail.com

PATONG SAUNA & HEALTH

Perfect for couple. Profitable. Please email for details: nongsauna@hotmail.com

INVESTMENT RETURN

One time offer. Invest 30 million baht. Returns a guaranteed minimum 10%. Call for more information. Tel: 089-971 2117.

EXCLUSIVE DEALERSHIP

for Phuket and southern provinces for sale. Tel: 076-521688. Fax: 076-521689. For more info, contact us by email: info@phuketwpc.com Please see the website: http://www.phuketwpc.com

EARN AN EXCELLENT INCOME

This is a home-based business that really works. Enquire now. This is NOT MLM. Email: sevenhills54@gmail.com For details, please see our website: http://www.oursecretsuccess.com

MASSAGE SHOP

on the beach road, Patong. Great location. Rent: 18,000 baht per month. 280,000 baht. Contact Carl. Tel: 084-058-2410 (English).

RESTAURANT PATONG

Good location, 80 m from the beach on walk-through street. Invested over 1.5 million baht. Will sell now for 1 million baht. Low rent! Tel: 089-932 5175 (English). Email: wojidkowbengt@hotmail.com

MASSAGE NANAI + 4 ROOMS

Nice massage and 4 rooms, 3 story house. Quick OFFER! 600,000 baht. I have to sell it NOW! Tel: 085-158 7638. Email: pierre_hammar@yahoo.se

8 STUDIOS NAI HARN BEACH

for rent. Bar, restaurant, office, tour office, swimming pool, boutique, staff room, fully furnished, main road, 1km to the beach. 2.2 million baht, 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-091 0964.

WELL ESTABLISHED

hair and beauty salon for sale. Great location on Surin high street, good profits. Contact 089-8952441 for more details.

MASSAGE PARLOUR FOR SALE

in Patong. 120sqm with equipment. Please call for more details. Tel: 081-495 4761.

FITNESS FOR SALE

Phuket's premier personal fitness training business is for sale. Includes gym and full roster of clients. Email: info@phuketfitness.net

Business Products & Services

CHAO MASSAGE AND SAUNA

Visit Khun Chao for a relaxing and therapeutic massage. For October this year we have these promotions: Thai massage 150 baht per hour, oil massage 250 baht per hour. New restaurant open for breakfast, lunch and dinner (Western and healthy food and drinks). Cheap price for food. Tel: 076-613635, 086-529 9576.



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NONG Assurance Consultants

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Fax: +66(0)76-323941
108/4 Moo. 6, T. Kathu, A. Kathu, Phuket Thailand 83120
Mail: nong.insurance@yahoo.co.th

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Trip To Malaysia	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Day</th> <th>Oct. '09</th> <th>Nov. '09</th> <th>Dec. '09</th> <th>In night time free pick up around island</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed.</td> <td>7, 14, 28</td> <td>4, 11, 18, 25</td> <td>2, 16</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sun.</td> <td>4, 11, 25</td> <td>1, 8, 15, 22, 29</td> <td>13, 20, 27</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Day	Oct. '09	Nov. '09	Dec. '09	In night time free pick up around island	Wed.	7, 14, 28	4, 11, 18, 25	2, 16		Sun.	4, 11, 25	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	13, 20, 27	
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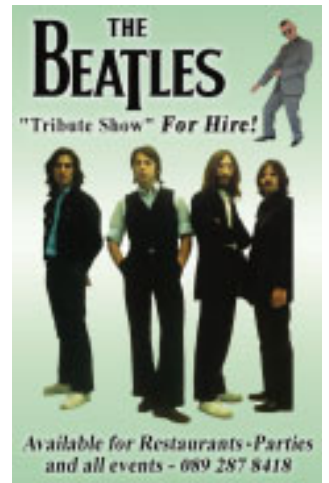
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