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Tourist in jet-ski coma

Help came too late to save 21-year-old from brain damage, says family

A 21-YEAR-OLD Singaporean man is lying brain-dead in a hospital in his home country after a jet-ski accident in Patong. Relatives say it took at least three hours before Loh Ying Jie got medical treatment in Phuket. If doctors had seen him earlier, they say, he could have made a full recovery.

Doctors at Singapore General Hospital will keep Mr Loh alive for a few more days – but have prepared his family for the worst.

The crash happened on Patong Beach opposite the Phuket Graceland Resort on the afternoon of April 2.

Mr Loh and four friends each paid 1,000 baht to hire jet-skis for 20 minutes.

Koomsan "Bang" Malaw-nichang, a jet-ski operator, watched as the young tourists grew in confidence on the vehicles.

According to Mr Koomsan, five minutes before their time was up a small wave knocked one of them, Tang Gun Han, off balance, sending his jet-ski crashing into Mr Loh's. Mr Loh was knocked into the water about 500 meters from the beach. A third jet-ski ridden by another of



Loh Ying Jie's father Loh Boon Kong (left) and brother-in-law Tay Wee Chin stand in front of the jet-ski Ying Jie was riding.

the group smashed into Mr Tang's and Mr Loh's jet-skis.

At some point Mr Tang's jet-ski hit Mr Loh in the head.

Mr Koomsan was one of about five people who brought Mr Loh back to the shore where a vacationing foreign doctor gave him CPR.

Wadhaya Wandee, who rented out the jet-skis used by Mr Loh and Mr Tang, said he had been in the business for about 16 years and never seen an accident like it.

"I saw one of them really shocked, shaking and praying," he

said. "Loh Ying Jie looked in shock and unconscious, but he still had a pulse."

It was almost half an hour before an ambulance arrived. Within minutes of arriving at Patong Hospital Mr Loh was transferred to Bangkok Phuket Hospital in Phuket Town because his condition was so serious.

A source at Bangkok Phuket Hospital said Mr Loh's condition worsened during the journey. That night doctors operated to drain blood which was hemorrhaging in Mr Loh's brain.

Mr Loh's family flew from

Singapore to be with him. On April 4, he was flown home on a medical evacuation flight.

Members of Mr Loh's and Mr Tang's families met at Kathu Police Station on April 6. Mr Loh's father, Loh Boon Kong, 57, asked for compensation from Mr Tang's family but they were unwilling to pay the sum asked.

The Loh family said if the Tangs did not agree to pay the money the case would go to court.

Loh Boon Kong said, "Doctors at Singapore General Hospital told us his brain has already died. After 10 days we will decide what to do next. That will probably be to unplug the system which is helping him to breathe."

The victim's brother-in-law, Tay Wee Chin, said the doctors told him medical attention in Phuket had come too late. "He would be fine if he got treatment within two hours of the accident," he said.

Loh Boon Kong paid tribute to his son: "We're so sad, he was a really good and optimistic boy. He'd just finished two years national service in the army and was supposed to go to university in Singapore."

– Atchaa Khamlo

Tsunami alert prompts coastal chaos

CONFUSION reigned in coastal areas of Phuket on the morning of April 7 after a tsunami 'advisory alert' was mistaken by many as a full-scale evacuation order.

The alert followed a 7.5-Richter earthquake at about 5:15am local time along the north coast of Sumatra in Indonesia, along the same fault zone that triggered the 2004 tsunami disaster.

Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop ordered the chiefs of

Phuket's three districts – Muang, Kathu and Thalang – to inform residents and tourists in risk areas to be prepared to evacuate.

The district chiefs ordered sound trucks to tell residents to monitor the situation carefully.

In many cases the advisory was misreported or mistaken as a full-scale evacuation order.

By 7am when the warning was called off, some evacuation safety areas on high ground, including Patong Hill, were full of

tourists and residents. None of Phuket's 19 tsunami evacuation warning towers run by the National Disaster Warning Center had sounded evacuation signals.

NDWC Operations Director Somsak Khaosuwan told the *Gazette* his agency had monitored sea-level data from its tsunami direct detection buoy off Phuket and other sources and decided not to sound the warning towers anywhere along the Andaman coast.

Advisory SMS messages were sent to provincial governors and others listed on the recipient list, however.

Sources at the NDWC earlier told the *Gazette* that earthquakes less than 8.0 on the Richter scale anywhere along the Sunda Trench off Sumatra carried an extremely low likelihood of causing a statistically significant tsunami along the Andaman coast.

– S. Fein & P. Choksakulpan

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Precious forest cleared

TWO men were arrested last month over what appears to be a scheme to clear and develop a large tract of protected forest land in Kata.

During a routine patrol near the Kata Viewpoint along Kata-Sai Yuan Road, Karon Tambon Chief Winai Chitchiew discovered around five rai of deforested land.

Most of the trees cut down were rubber trees, though several were protected species such as the Malabar Ironwood (*Takian*).

At the scene were two men with a backhoe and chainsaw. They were arrested and taken for questioning to Chalong Police Station where they denied any involvement in the deforestation.

The suspects claimed they had been hired to cut down just one tree which was leaning precariously against another. They had arrived at the scene only minutes before being spotted by Mr Winai, they said.

Chalong Police Inspector Boonlert Ongklang said the two Rawai men were charged with 'converting wood' without



The two men arrested at the scene said they had been hired simply to cut down the tree on the right.

permission from the Phuket Provincial Office of Natural Resources and Environment.

Afterwards Mr Winai came upon another much larger swath of deforestation.

The second area was off

Laem Mumnai Road, about 100 meters from the Kata Viewpoint on the hillside of Laem Pha.

A rough 500-meter track had been cut by a backhoe along the hillside, granting access to the deforested area.

Mr Winai said most of this area was either Forest Department land or part of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej's land reform program, which sets aside land for agricultural use. Permission must be granted for a lease on the land and no deeds are issued.

Only one 30-rai plot out of the 100-rai area is privately owned. An adjacent 39 rai are in the hands of a large Bangkok-based real-estate developer.

However, a deed has yet to be granted for the second plot, as rights to the land were granted under the land reform program.

Both plots on Laem Pha are surrounded by protected land, preventing access.

After speaking with villagers in the area, Mr Winai believes that the deforestation and illegal road construction have been undertaken by a group of business operators to

add value to seaside plots – incentives for construction or sale in the future.

He said, "The view from this point is stunning and Laem Pha is a beautiful diving area where one can see Kata Noi Beach on the right. No wonder someone has deforested this area for their own benefit."

"As a community leader and defender against deforestation, I am ashamed of what is happening here. Environmental and anti-deforestation campaigns are growing around the world, yet Phuket is still having problems, specifically in the area under my charge. How can we keep Phuket green?" he said.

Mr Winai is particularly concerned about the damaging effects of deforestation after rainfall.

"Rain will erode the land surface causing sediment to accumulate in the sea, covering underwater coral and destroying the scenery that makes this place so beautiful," he said.

Mr Winai has sent a report to Muang District Office and Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop.

– Pimwara Choksakulpan

Brit CEO charged with fraud

THE British chief executive officer of a Phuket resort company has been arrested on fraud charges for allegedly cheating customers out of millions of baht.

Steven James Granville, 43, CEO of Puravarna Resort Co, was arrested at the company's office in Rawai.

Crime Suppression Division police had received information from Mr Anand Kumar Sen, managing director of Tycoon Group Co, a Singaporean company which represented 19 customers who had paid for Puravarna Resort Project residences.

Mr Anand told police Mr Granville and Puravarna Resort Co had advertised the development project in newspapers and had held exhibitions around the world in places such as Singapore, Hong Kong, the UK and Australia.

According to advertisements, the company started building 70 units priced between 6 to 15 million baht near Rawai in 2005. They were due to be finished in 2009.

However, when customers began to realize the construction would not be completed on time, they began to ask questions, said Mr Anand.

Customers' complaints were met with explanations ranging from flooding problems and financial difficulties to political problems.

Mr Anand said that, in fact, the company had never been granted construction permits by Phuket Province.

He added that the victims, who feel they have been cheated, "are from many countries and include well known people such as the owner of the Singaporean Tiger Beer Company."

"This case is tarnishing the reputation of Thailand," he said.

Mr Granville has denied the charges against him and refused comment.

– The Nation

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Songkran safety

THE water-splashing riot of the Songkran Festival draws near and with it the Phuket authorities' annual road safety clampdown.

Between April 12 and 18 police are promising to strictly enforce Thailand's often-neglected traffic laws. In particular, officers will be on the lookout for drunk driving, speeding and motorcycle riders without helmets.

Twenty-four-hour checkpoints will be erected at numerous locations around Phuket.

Police will also check buses

to ensure they are safe. They are asking the public to inform them by calling 1548 if bus drivers are drunk, drive too fast or fail to swap after driving long distances.

The plans were announced at a meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall late last month chaired by Vice Governor Smith Palawatwichai and attended by officials from the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, the Public Health Office, the Land Transport Office and the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization.

Vice Governor Smith said 60 were injured and four killed during the Songkran period last year. In Thailand as a whole there were 4,332 injuries and 373 deaths.

"Most of the accidents involve motorcycles ridden by drivers who were drunk and riding too fast," he said.

"This year we are aiming to reduce the number of accidents and deaths by five percent from last year," he added.

The deputy director of the Phuket Public Health Office, Dr Wiwat Seetamanotch, said most



Thousands turned out on Soi Bangla, Patong for Songkran last year.

of those injured or killed were 15 to 20 year olds. Most accidents happened between 5 and 6pm and

around 1am, when most night-clubs are supposed to close.

— Kitima Pornmongkhonwat

Tour operators miffed by Phi Phi entrance fee

A 20-BAHT "entrance fee" levied by the local authority in charge of Koh Phi Phi has sparked a row with Phuket tour operators.

The Ao Nang Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) began collecting the

charge from all visitors to fund the cleaning of the island's piers on April 3.

Tour operators complained the TAO did not officially warn them in advance.

Nikorn Tormaitree, a tour operator representative, said

operators knew a charge would be introduced but weren't told when the new policy would take effect.

Some tourists were angered when TAO officials asked for the money, he said.

"The tourists didn't know

why they had to pay more because they thought the fee was already included in the tour cost.

Although it's only 20 baht, the tourists should have known in advance because they might refuse to pay and this

would cause problems," he said.

Mr Nikorn said the operators would not resist the charge but asked that the Krabi Governor consider "whether or not it was suitable for tourists".

— Gazette reporter

On home turf Phuket fire five past Ranong

FC PHUKET continued their undefeated run with an imperious 5-0 victory over a flimsy Ranong squad at Surakal Stadium on April 3.

FC Phuket have won every home match this season, giving their fans, who continue to grow in numbers with each game, plenty to sing about.

With midfield lynchpin Diarra Ali injured, striker Chakrit was recalled, while Poramut played on the right wing and Sarach was moved into the middle to partner Camara.

FC Phuket's two African players played a major part in both of the opening goals.

The first goal came as Pongsak lofted a free kick into the Ranong box from well within his own half and Nene Bi rose highest to head the ball home. It was the defender's first goal of the season and well deserved by the Southern Sea Kirin who dominated early play.

The second, scored deep

inside first-half stoppage time, was arguably the most impressive of the season. Nene Bi looped in a free kick to Camara who sent it on to Chakrit. With his back to goal, the striker found the back of the net with a superb bicycle kick.

The only disappointment for FC Phuket was an injury to top scorer Adisak.

The second half saw Ranong capitulate in the face of a commanding FC Phuket performance.

The third goal arrived shortly after the break when substitute Nattupol, who had replaced the injured Adisak, headed home a corner.

Chakrit buried another ball after the Ranong keeper failed to hold a fierce shot to make it 4-0.

FC Phuket were cruising and Manager Arjan Songsamsub was sufficiently confident to give their reserve goalkeeper a run out with 20 minutes to go.



FC Phuket power past Ranong's defense. Home fans bask in their team's 5-0 victory. Photos: Fraser Morton.



Ranong were unable to test FC Phuket's second string keeper. Claiming the final goal of the game, Nattupol burst clear on the right wing and scored a sumptuous lob from well

outside the penalty area.

The result further solidified FC Phuket's status as league leaders. Center half Nene Bi was happy to get his name on the score sheet for the first time.

"I thought the whole team played well today," he said.

"We have a few injuries but I think we have a strong enough squad to cope."

— James Goyder

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Surf's up, drownings down

Phuket water safety expert uncovers the island's unsung lifesaving heroes.

IN RECENT years Phuket beaches have been plagued by drownings, which remain a leading cause of death among tourists, especially those from abroad.

Lifeguard services have been precarious in recent years. Simply put, sometimes there are lifeguards, sometimes not. Throughout the current high season which began last November and which is now drawing to a close, there have been no lifeguards on the island's beaches, although the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization is expected to announce a new service provider by the time this issue is published.

But even with new lifeguards patrolling beaches, it seems inevitable that the death toll will continue to rise until something is done to address the dangerous combination of factors that lead so many foreign tourists into treacherous surf with fatal results.

One man's study

In a recent study conducted by Phuket resident Steven Martin, he



Man on a mission

STEVEN Martin has 30 years of water safety experience, including five years service as County Water Safety Officer in his native Hawaii and 10 years volunteer service with the American Red Cross. Currently in his third year as an instructor at Prince of Songkla University's Phuket campus, the 50-year-old is an avid surfer.

cites unfamiliarity with local beaches, poor swimming skills, language barriers and the disorientation of being in a foreign environment as part of the deadly equation – one made even worse when tourists enter the surf after consuming alcohol.

Several physical factors make Phuket's west coast beaches more dangerous than they may appear to the layman during the monsoon season that runs from May to October, said Mr Martin.

Monsoon season surf in Phuket is characterized by a wave phenomenon known as "short-period swell", which means that waves arrive relatively close together and propagate proportionately strong currents – including rip tides – even if the waves themselves don't appear particularly large or dangerous.

Short-period swells allow swimmers and surfers very little time to recover between waves. For example, a swell period of six

seconds implies that a wave will crash on the shoreline – or on surfers and swimmers in the surf zone – every six seconds on average. The effect on a swimmer in trouble is akin to that of a boxer who goes down not from a single knockout punch, but from a relentless barrage of steady blows.

Adding further to the danger are strong prevailing winds during the monsoon season that can produce "choppy" conditions at the surface that inhibit visibility and disorientate swimmers who might already be panicking.

Few people on the island have more first-hand knowledge of the dangers than veteran Phuket lifeguard Somkhut Kuer-nun, who has worked for years as a member of the provincial lifeguard service. Lifeguard services put in place after the tsunami have cut down the number of drowning deaths, but only by about one quarter annually, he estimates.

"Before the tsunami, there were an average of 12-16 surf-related drownings per year, but for the last five years, with intermittent periods of having lifeguards on beaches, the average was 9-12 per year [prior to 2009 low season]. Most drownings during the surf season are surf-related, while drownings in the high season are usually alcohol related," he said.

Interviews with surfers

After rescuing several swimmers in need of help, Mr Martin decided to study how widespread the phenomenon was by asking fellow surfers if they had ever aided swimmers in distress.

He conducted 167 interviews with surfers in Phuket from May 2007 to January 2010. These included 48 local residents, both Thai and foreign, who surf regularly during the Andaman surfing season and had at least one personal experience in an ocean rescue situation.

He also interviewed 119 surf tourists from countries including Australia, the US, Singapore, Japan and South Africa. Most of these were interviewed randomly and spontaneously, while surfing.

These interviews revealed that surfers in both groups reported having rescued swimmers, both Thais and foreigners, with the resident surfers reporting a higher numbers of such incidents.

"The vast majority of surfers who responded to calls for help were already in the water when they saw or heard the person in trouble in the surf line. Nearly all the surfers were able to describe the chain of events surrounding each rescue in some detail and were therefore

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as low season waves roll in

Gazette News Editor Stephen Fein reports.



included in the study," he wrote.

Of the 48 Thai and foreign resident surfers interviewed, 23 reported making at least two rescues per year over the three-year period from 2007 to 2009.

"This more or less coincides with my personal experience of eight rescues during the three-year study period. Therefore, with 23 surfers having rescued an average of two people per year, the study identifies an average of 46 rescues per year. Multiplied by three, this amounts to 138 rescues during the study period."

Helping the cause

Mr Martin also recorded second-hand reports by other surfers of 53 additional rescues made by Thai and foreign resident surfers over the same period along Thailand's Andaman coastline.

"For example, there was a report of a group of four European tourists swept off the beach near Khao Lak who were rescued by foreign resident surfer Matt Blauer," he wrote.

Mr Blauer, a fellow American from Oregon state, opened the first surf shop in Khao Lak and kept Mr Martin apprised of rescue reports from Phang Nga province.

"Totalling the aforementioned 138 rescues and the 53 random rescues for the same

period, and including the eight rescue-assists made by the author, this study documents 199 rescues performed [by resident surfers] from 2007-2009," wrote Mr Martin.

Staggering results

In a second study group, 119 surf tourists were asked about their experiences in water safety while in Phuket. Of these, 22 said they had rescued a swimmer once during their vacation in Phuket. Another four reported having rescued at least two swimmers. One surfer said he had saved a family of three in a single incident.

"This shows that 27 of the 119 surf tourists interviewed, over 20 percent, made rescues, totaling 33 swimmers from 2007-2009," he wrote.

Most surfers did not ask the people they helped where they were from, but recalled they were often Europeans. This matched Mr Martin's experience.

"Of the eight rescues I made, all were male tourists: four German, two Russian, one Swiss and one Japanese," Mr Martin said.

"Surfers are inevitably surf lifesavers as they are in the surf line and are often the first to encounter tourists in dire need of assistance. My research documented 232 rescues by surfers over the past three years."

Actual figures are likely far higher, he added.

Mr Martin recommended a number of ways to reduce the death toll. These included increasing salaries to attract more professional lifeguards and bringing in more trainers and mentors from places noted for a more serious approach to beach safety.

"The government will need to allocate an appropriate budget in order to train and pay

lifeguards at a professional level. If we want specialist behavior it will come at a specialized price... Once professional lifeguards are in place, statistics need to be kept regarding 'who, how, what, where, when and why' rescues take place, alongside related wind, wave, and weather data. This is already standard operating procedure in California, Hawaii, and Australia," he said.

Local authorities should also provide videos for passengers aboard inbound flights during the monsoon season warning them of the risks. A similar strategy already in place for Hawaii is a proven success, he said.

Mr Martin called for further mobilization of Phuket's growing number of resident surfers to assist in the beach safety effort. The number of surfers has increased to about 250 from just 30 a decade ago, he said.

Emergency numbers

Police: 191

Tourist Police: 1155

Vachira Phuket Hospital:
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What needs to be done

In his conclusion he asks rhetorically: "As the tourism industry pushes to annualize the tourist season – and draw tourists during the monsoon season – the issue of drowning and water safety will inflate. By offering the Thai surfers a chance for a good salary and meaningful profession, and by bringing in globally recognized professionals to train and inspire them, the current negative image can be wholly reversed and confidence to promote tourism in monsoon season restored. In a global context, waves and surfing are a powerfully positive image. Why not turn the negative into a positive by rebranding the 'monsoon season' as 'surf season', with Phuket beaches guarded by a new class of Thai water safety men and women?"

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AFP PHOTO / NICOLAS ASFOURI

Songkran is back: here's how to stay dry or get drenched in Phuket

THE drill for Songkran is fairly simple: stay inside if you want to remain dry, or prepare to get soaked if you venture outside.

Love it or hate it, Thailand's biggest holiday of the year, known affectionately as 'the water festival', has arrived.

From April 13 to 15, Phuket will join the rest of the nation in three days of waterlogged celebrations.

Roots in rinsing

Songkran's frenetic facade often hides its cultural aspects, which far outdate the street water fights synonymous with the festival today.

Previously marking the start of Thailand's Lunar New Year, the country adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1941 and the festival was stamped with the official start date of April 13.

It is a time for Thais to re-establish bonds with family and friends, and cleanse their minds and homes.

Over the festival, Buddhist images and the hands of elders are washed (gently) with scented water.

At some point in history, the genial dowsing of friends' shoulders was adopted, and the rest is history.

Wet spots

Any populated area is guaranteed to have you soaked within seconds.

A day at Central Festival will be inviting to those looking to escape the action entirely. Other malls, however, are located within Phuket Town or Patong, and are epicentres of Songkran mayhem.

The tranquil northern beaches of Phuket sometimes remain calm, but approach them with caution; there are no guarantees you won't get wet.

Patong is a bustling beach town on any day, but given the excuse to add another element to their party, the masses do not hesitate.

Arriving before 10am will help you avoid gridlock traffic and reach Soi Bangla, the heart of the action. The water and alcohol will flow long after the sun goes down.

Saphan Hin in Phuket Town is a favorite among Thais. After morning religious rituals, a predominantly young crowd forms at the park between 10am and noon. The city sends a large water truck to keep water supplies topped up.

If you're looking for a balance between festivities and dry clothing, Phuket's Old Town



Songkran action in Patong Beach in Phuket last year.

holds the answer. Historic roads such as Thalang and Phang Nga offer comparatively modest festivities and the usual tasty local cuisine.

Weapons of choice

The tools used in waging liquid warfare vary depending on preference and location, so it is fitting to apply the old adage: "When in Rome..."

Those taking to the flatbeds of trucks usually opt for small to medium sized buckets, scooping water from large barrels and hurling it at opponents on the roadside. A word of caution: some locals possess lethal accuracy.

In and around Soi Bangla, festivities take on a more pedestrian nature, and most people wield water guns.

These come in all shapes and sizes and are sold in vast quantities throughout the area for slightly extortionate prices, but are well worth the lasting enjoyment they provide.

Ladies should be prepared for the less than gracious aim of males in Patong.

Most feared out of the entire Songkran arsenal is the PVC pipe water cannon.

These high pressure sprayers have been technically banned due to injuries caused by some unruly shooters.

The unmistakable blue cylinders still dot most scenes however, so be prepared.

Dangers

With vast amounts of alcohol consumed and a large increase in traffic flow, road safety becomes a very significant issue.

Last year's festival left four dead and 60 injured in road accidents. Adhering to speed limits and not driving under the influence will greatly reduce risks.

Motorcyclists are advised to slow to a near crawl or even stop to receive their dowsing safely. Don't try to fight it – accepting one's fate often sees a much softer dowsing.

It is also widely known that Thailand does not have the cleanest tap water. Keep the water out of your mouth and you'll avoid getting sick.

Prepare to get wet

Some of the upper market hotels on the island hand out 'Songkran survival kits' (which might as well be labeled with "soak me, I'm a tourist") but being ready doesn't require donning a poncho with a hotel name printed on it. A zip lock bag is invaluable for cell phones and wallets. If it can't fit in one, it's going to get wet. Your soaked clothes will also weigh you down, so stick to light and roomy attire.

– Michael DesPortes

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- Thongde massage
- etc ice cream

- Derma slim clinic
- Kittiya nail polish and care spa
- be cute (gift shop (beer))
- Australian Visa & Student Service (AVSS)
- Think Pink minimart
- Plus 7 (fashion shop)
- Lagoon laundry
- Sophie carcere

For more info : 076-220105-6 , www.phuketlimelight.com

EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

Passion for Perfume Workshop at The Pavilions April 22 - 26



The Pavilions will hold 'Passion for Perfume', a unique three-day experiential program designed specifically for guests to indulge in the sensual pleasures of scent. Created to awaken and arouse the senses, the courses will be hosted by world-renowned Perfumer Stephen V. Dowthwaite, founder of Perfumer's World. The three-day workshop is 9,000++ baht, and includes morning and afternoon coffee breaks and a three-course set lunch. From 9am - 5pm at The Pavilions, Phuket. For further information contact Khun 'Or', (Front Office Manager). T: 076-317600. E: fom.phuket@thepavilionsresorts.com. W: thepavilionsresorts.com.

April 8 - 11. Phuket Oilfield Classic 2010

The Red Mountain and Loch Palm Golf Courses welcome all competitors to their 2nd annual Charity Golf Tournament. This event attracts international golf pros as well as local competitors. Come join in the fun on the weekend before Songkran and see if you can win some of the fantastic prizes available to all contestants. Lucky contestants will bid for a once-in-a-lifetime collectibles at the Charity Auction, such as a framed Carlos Santana Guitar or a F1 checkered flag signed by all the F1 drivers. For further information, contact Mark Cameron. T: 081-882843. E: mark@phuketoilfieldclassic.com. W: phuketoilfieldclassic.com.

April 9 - 11. The Cooking Khan Grand Opening Weekend

Cooking Khan - The Royal Buffet - is a unique dining experience that offers a variety of oriental culinary delights from a sumptuous all-you-can-eat buffet. Come and savor the mysterious world of Khan at the grand opening weekend with a special offer of an all-you-can-eat Royal

Buffet for 399++ baht. Reservations recommended. Please contact by email or telephone. From 5pm - 11:30pm at Home Pro Village (near Chalong circle). For further information contact Khun 'Ohm'. T: 083-1023547. E: dine@cookingkhan.com W: cookingkhan.com.

April 13 - 15. Songkran Festival - Public Holiday

Songkran, Thailand's biggest holiday, celebrates the beginning of the Thai New Year. Also known as the Water Festival, Songkran is held during the driest months in Thailand, and is celebrated by Thais throughout the country by pouring (traditionally only a little, but these days a lot of) water on other people to wish them good luck for the New Year. Celebrations will take place throughout the island.

April 13. Songkran Dinner & Entertainment at Moevenpick

Moevenpick is making a splash of its own this Songkran with a special Gala Dinner Buffet at the Sand Bar, featuring the best Thai traditional family-style cuisine accompanied by Thai music and a cabaret spectacular. 1,010++ baht per person. The performances start at 8pm; the event runs from 7pm - 10pm at the Sand Bar. For further information contact Mr Teerawat Ratsamee. T: 076-396139. E: teerawat.ratsamee@moevenpick.com. W: moevenpick-phuket.com.

April 21. Phuket Punchline Comedy Club

The Phuket Punchline team returns with another night of international stand-up comedy. This show welcomes internationally acclaimed novelist and comedian Mark Billingham, author of the hugely successful 'Inspector Thorne' books. Joining Mark are two more Brits in the shape of Mike Gunn and Carl Donnelly. From 8pm - 11pm at Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, Patong. For further information contact Boom. T: 089-646 9278. E: info@phuketcomedy.com. W: phuketcomedy.com.

April 22. Phuket International Women's Club lunch at Silk restaurant

The Phuket International Women's Club monthly lunch will be held at Silk Restaurant, Andara Resort, Kamala. All are welcome, but please pre-register. 450 baht for members; 600 baht for guests. From 11:30 am - 2pm. For further information contact Carole Dux. T: 076-316711. E: info@phuketiwc.com.

April 28. The Phuket PR Network Free Public Speaking Seminar

Worried About Public Speaking? Help is at hand. The Phuket PR Network is holding a free seminar on public speaking with author Bjorn Turmann, renowned expert on public speaking. From 4pm - 7pm at Silk Restaurant, Andara Resort, Kamala. For further information contact Alastair Carthew of AC PR Counsel. T: 076-317929, 081-7500448. E: alastair.carthew@staralliance.com.

April 29. Writer's Night with Bjorn Turmann

Don't miss Writer's Night at Mom Tri's Boathouse, Phuket's first literary event of summer 2010. Bjorn Turmann, internationally

recognized writer/speaker, will talk about fiction and film, writing novels and developing Oscar nominated ideas. Drinks at reduced prices. From 7pm - 9pm at Mom Tri's Boathouse. For further information contact Lisa Sol. T: 076-330015 E: pr@boathousephuket.com. W: boathousephuket.com.

April 30. Royal Phuket Marina Music & Art Festival

Royal Phuket Marina and the Lions Club of Phuket Pearl present an evening of jazz, dancing and more in the Town Square, together with a stunning visual display of *Old Phuket* photography. All proceeds to be donated to children in need on Phuket. Dress code is smart casual, entrance is 500 baht and includes a glass of wine with finger food. From 6pm - 11:30pm at Town Square at Royal Phuket Marina. For further information contact Mr. Murat Can Sakarya. T: 081-797 3364 E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

May 1. National Labor Day - Public Holiday

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

Free Computer Clinics

Is Windows driving you NUTS? Want to know about the best Internet connections in Phuket? Need help finding a repair shop or a dealer that knows what they're doing? Worried about wasting money buying high definition TV or the latest phones? Join "For Dummies" author and local Windows guru Woody Leonhard in his FREE weekly seminars. Everyone is welcome. Bring your problems. Bring your computer. Sponsored by Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes and the *Phuket Gazette*.

April 11 - Laguna, April 18, 25 - Chalong
For more info contact Woody. T: 076-290468. E: woody@KhunWoody.com.

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GREEN MACHINES: Organizers of the Nai Harn Bike Event gathered on March 26 to unveil nine new trash cans for the beachfront. All proceeds from the two-day party, hosted on March 11 and 12, went to buy more receptacles to keep Nai Harn Beach clean. Twenty tents used during the event were donated to local schools.



STAR GAZERS: Thai actress Achita "Im" Tanasartanant with her team from Film Factory Entertainment visited the new office of *The Phuket Gazette* on April 3. Pictured from left: Gazette Managing Director Oranee Hildebrand; Gazette GM Natthira Susangrat; Executive Producer of Film Factory Entertainment Podchara Bua-ngam; Film Factory MC Achita Tanasartanant; and Gazette founder and Publisher John Magee.




CHOCOHOLICS: Celebrating the Easter holiday, Banyan Tree Phuket turned into chocolate heaven on April 4, arranging a chocolate buffet with a wide assortment of treats. The Restaurant also took part in the choco-fest as it offered guests a five-course cocoa menu over a four-day Easter celebration. Pictured are Pastry Chef and Chocolate Expert Sopa Chanmee (back left), and Food and Beverage Manager Sebastian Vonderborn (back right) and Banyan Tree staff.



BEAUTY AND THE BEACH: Laguna Phuket's 17th annual Sea Turtle Release Ceremony saw 100 green sea turtles released into the ocean at the Sheraton Grande Laguna Beach. Phuket Vice Governor Theerayut Eamtrakul, Laguna Resorts & Hotels Managing Director Michael Ayling and and Miss Thailand Universe 2010 (pictured) Fonthip Watcharatkul participated in the release, along with the Doherty family of Phuket, who sponsored one of two satellite-tracked turtles. Photo: Elizabeth Branca



BIRTHDAY BASH: Well-known Swiss architect Mirco Canonica celebrated his 71st birthday at Allamanda Laguna Phuket. A frequent visitor to the island, Mr Canonica and his wife (pictured center) celebrated the day with family and friends from around the world.




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EXPAT GALLERY

Tim Rice

Tim Rice opened one of Phuket's first professional office supplies stores in 1992. He called it Stationary and Stuff. His original premises, which he occupied until 2006, were at Patong Beach, across from Christin Massage.

"At that time, stationary stores mostly sold juvenile products for young students. But we offered a professional line of materials needed by the growing number of dive shops, hotels and restaurants.

"We did very well selling in large quantities until the shopping centers started opening over the past few years."

While selling stationary, Tim also became one of Phuket's leading personal computer service providers for expats needing help with installation and repairs for their systems.

He also worked with the *Phuket Gazette* to produce the first Gazette Guide, the business and entertainment directory for Phuket.

He then set up Computer Stuff and today manages the island's major yacht charter reservations systems, in addition to providing live on-line support, computer back-up systems, Website development, email spam control and virus protection solutions.

"Of course, my clients can speak to me in English and I can

explain to them what they need and why. There are a whole lot of good Thai computer support technicians now, but they generally cannot fully explain their services or recommend products in English."

Tim grew up in Detroit, USA, and was a skilled motorcycle mechanic in school. After graduation, he began work at a major motorcycle shop, and three years after that he was able to buy the business, which he named Tim's Cycle Center.

At the same time he attended Henry Ford Community College and took an electronics program. But the rest of his life was involved with motorbikes.

When he was just 21 years old, he joined a safari of 250cc dirt bikes determined to cross the deserts of North Africa.

"We started in Morocco and made our way to the Central African Republic, sleeping in tents at night. It was 1974 and there was a lot of political unrest which threatened to sabotage our adventure. But with strategic bribes and ingenuity, we made it to our destination."

When Tim returned to the United States, he was offered a job as Vice President of Parts Galore, a supermarket for motorcycle parts, mostly imported from Taiwan.

He learned the import-export business and by the early 1980s was offered a job in Taipei with Emgo, a large motorcycle parts producer, where he was

responsible for ensuring the parts met an international standard within prescribed time frames.

In 1987, Tim was ready for another adventure and came to Thailand for a holiday. He stayed in Pattaya and immediately decided to make a new life in the Kingdom. He became a dive instructor.

"I learned to dive while living in Detroit. I would dive in the Detroit River and search for bones and debris. There was almost zero visibility so every move underwater had intrigue. Diving in Pattaya, by comparison, was a whole different world."

He became a Master Instructor and spent the next five years enjoying his new life.

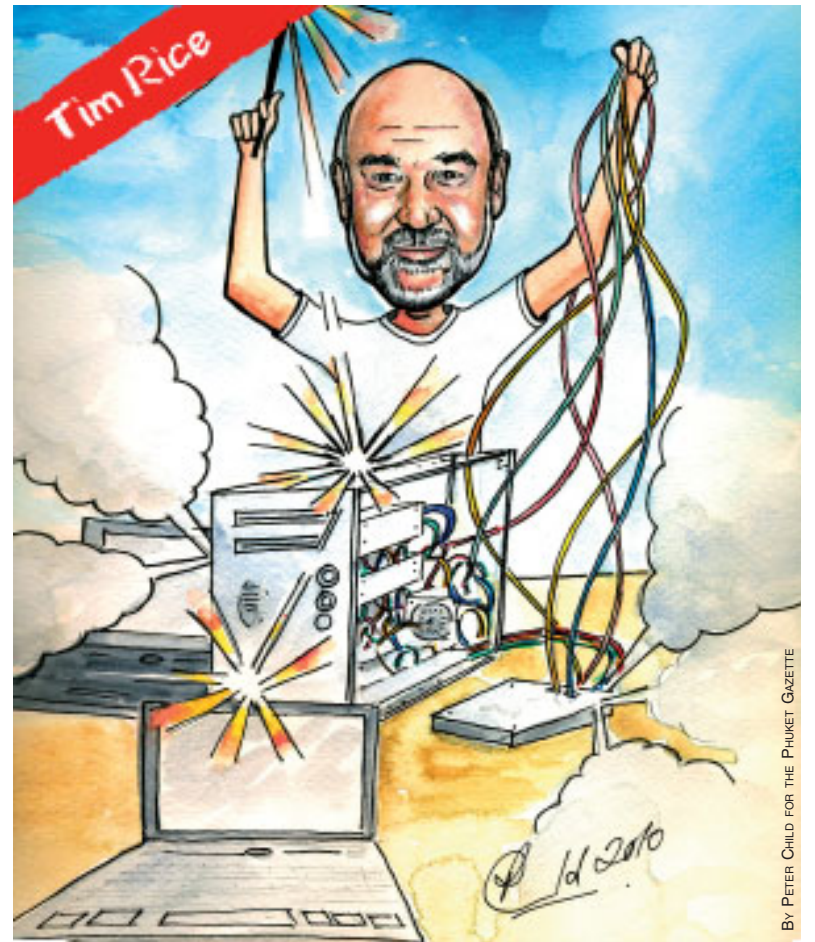
He met his wife, Wawdaw, also a dive instructor, and together they came to Phuket in 1992 and set up their 48 square meter stationary shop.

"I haven't had a holiday since I came to Thailand in 1987. The demand for my services keeps me busy and satisfied."

Today, Tim and his wife and son Pong occupy large premises off the ByPass Road where he happily welcomes his many clients who bring along their computers for him to service.

He also maintains his website, computerstuff.net, which Tim says is his online tool kit where friends and customers can meet to try and figure out how to protect and upgrade their various operating systems.

- Bruce Stanley



BY PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

ABOUT EXPAT GALLERY

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



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3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 224 sq.m.

Model	Area (sq.wa)	*Total price*(baht)	Deposit (baht)	50% Down payment (baht)	Final payment (baht)
Pruerk-Pailin	80	5,630,000	100,000	2,715,000	2,815,000
Pruerk-Ampai	91.10	6,350,000	100,000	3,075,000	3,175,000
Pruerk-Amporn	136.4	9,100,000	100,000	4,450,000	4,550,000

- * These prices include air-conditioners, wall paper, kitchen and garden
- * 1-year-free use of the club facilities except spa and restaurant
- * The price and style of the houses may be changed without prior notice

For further information please contact our office
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Email: info@lhphuket.com <http://www.lhphuket.com>



Ménage à trois of merriment

STAND-UP comedy returns to Phuket on April 21 when the Holiday Inn Resort in Patong presents the Phuket Punchline Comedy Club, showcasing the comic genius of Mark Billingham, Mike Gunn and Carl Donnelly. Each comedian brings their own distinct style of funny to this comedy line-up.



Mark Billingham

Multi-talented author and award winning comedian Mark Billingham has been entertaining audiences with his comic dirty talk since 1987. He has appeared on over thirty radio and TV shows and played every major comedy club in the UK. As well as being an accomplished funny man, Mark is a *Times* top ten best-selling crime novelist with his 'D.I. Thorne' series. His first crime novel 'Sleepyhead' was published in 2001. The UK's *Daily Mail* describes Mark as, "brilliant at being the captain of a ship on very rough and unpredictable waters". For more info on Mark, visit W: markbillingham.com.



Mike Gunn

Also appearing at the one-night comedy club is UK comic circuit cult favorite Mike Gunn. His misspent youth and a series of grim jobs cultivated Mike's cynical outlook on life. A self-confessed pessimist, Mike describes himself as "not a natural choice for a career in laughter" and "drier than a dead man's bones". He now headlines at all the top comedy venues in the UK and has performed in Australia at the renowned Melbourne International Comedy Festival, completing a five-week sell out season. For more info on Mike, visit W: mikegunn.co.uk.



Carl Donnelly

Since 2005 Carl Donnelly has established himself as one of the most exciting new comics in the business. His conversational style and silly sense of humor have won him a host of awards, including 'Best Newcomer Nominee' at the 2009 Edinburgh Comedy Awards. Carl's performance has been described as, "an incredible ability to turn the seemingly mundane existence of the 21st-century slacker into gripping, unmissable stand-up". For more info on Carl, visit W: carldonnelly.webs.com.

Advanced tickets are priced at 960 baht or 1200 baht on the door. To buy advanced tickets please visit one of the island's many ticket outlets, including Woody's Sandwich Shoppe in Patong. Doors open at 8pm on the night at the Holiday Inn Resort in Patong.



Phuket's fun run

THE sound of pounding running shoes will once again echo around the island when the fifth annual Laguna Phuket International Marathon kicks off on June 13.

Now Asia's fastest-growing destination marathon, more than 5,000 entrants from 45 countries are expected to take part in the event, which is preceded by a two-day expo featuring sponsor booths and fun activities.

In addition to the 42.2km marathon main event, the race day will also feature a 21.1km half marathon, 10.5km run, 2km children's race and a 5km family walk.

The marathon begins at Laguna Beach Resort and will move through local areas along a mainly flat course, passing by a village market, rubber plantations, rice fields and beaches, before finishing back at Laguna.

Entries received so far are

up 15 percent from last year.

Managing Director of Laguna Resorts & Hotels Michael Ayling said the natural beauty of the course and the carnival atmosphere that surrounds the whole event attracts repeat entries and new entries alike.

Amongst the returning runners will be last year's winners, Stephen Paine from Australia and Katja Fink of Switzerland. Italian Stefano Passerello, winner of 2008's half marathon, is also expected to race.

Runners will also be encouraged to take part in fundraising, either for their own chosen charity or for Laguna Phuket's fundraising efforts, to support local schools.

Online registration is open until 5th June. For further information or to register visit W: phuketmarathon.com.







PREPARATIONS are underway at The Green Man in Chalong for its annual four-course bash to celebrate St. George's Day on April 23.

The island's iconic Tudor style pub honors England's patriotic day with music, poetry and fine fare.

South African born chef Monody Alderson wants regulars to know that he will honor the pub's traditions, yet stamp his personality into some dishes. "One of the great things about working here is the continuity. The challenge is to maintain that and still bring innovation."



New chef Monody Alderson honors The Green Man's traditional English Pub selections while bringing a few fresh twists to the menu.




Mom Tri's Kitchen is proud to present a special dinner theatre

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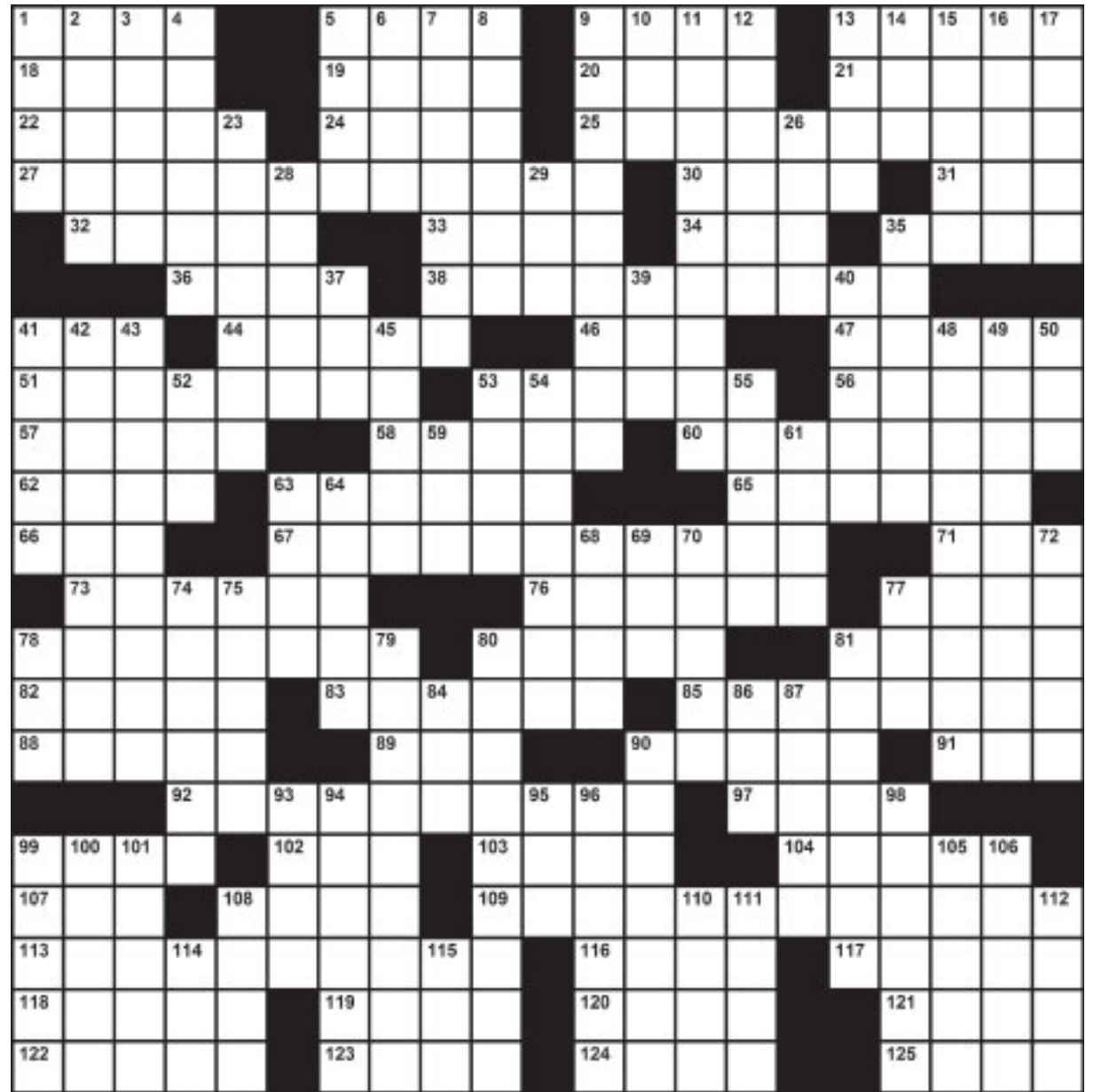



PUZZLES

Spot the Difference



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



ACROSS

- 1 Bored feeling
- 5 European reindeer herder
- 9 Have a bad day in Vegas
- 13 Some adult tadpoles
- 18 Capitol Hill worker
- 19 State absolutely
- 20 In the near future, in the past
- 21 Improbable victory
- 22 Crass people
- 24 Wine, casually
- 25 "Do tell!"
- 27 Incredible
- 30 Butterfly stage
- 31 Every last one
- 32 ___ Hall (New Jersey university)
- 33 Evil smile
- 34 Prefix with "school" or "dawn"
- 35 Customary observance
- 36 Double-curved arch molding
- 38 Aggression
- 41 "A Christmas Carol" comment
- 44 An orderly grouping
- 46 "Alias" equivalent
- 47 Suspension of breathing
- 51 Reverently oiled
- 53 Become attracted by
- 56 Doers of dirty jobs
- 57 Operatic legend
- 58 German poet
- 60 Splices onto a plant
- 62 ___ nitrite (blood vessel dilator)
- 63 Ready to travel
- 65 Civil War battle of 1862
- 66 Fleur-de-___ (Quebec symbol)
- 67 What the U.S., Pakistan, Russia and India aren't
- 71 Terrier's tidbit

- 73 Knowledge, colloquially
- 76 ___ fees (video store ad line)
- 77 Berg detachment
- 78 Made into a spray
- 80 Tax extension?
- 81 Pugilist's ploy
- 82 Protected by levees
- 83 Persistently asked for overdue payment
- 85 Northern Manhattanite, for one
- 88 Audition segment
- 89 ___-for-profit
- 90 Better for the job
- 91 Group overseeing Fed. property
- 92 Playwrights who feature catastrophes
- 97 They're in a clergyman's closet
- 99 They may be put in stitches
- 102 Syr. neighbor
- 103 There are 14 in a fortnight
- 104 Nile delta city
- 107 Number that's its own square root
- 108 Aboriginal Japanese
- 109 Expression of amazement
- 113 "Groovy!"
- 116 Rouse to action
- 117 Kin on mother's side
- 118 Franciscan or Dominican, perhaps
- 119 Fit of shivering
- 120 Female red deer
- 121 Work on a magazine article, e.g.
- 122 Altercation
- 123 Caustic solutions
- 124 Isn't straight in the middle
- 125 Scandinavian rugs

DOWN

- 1 Departed

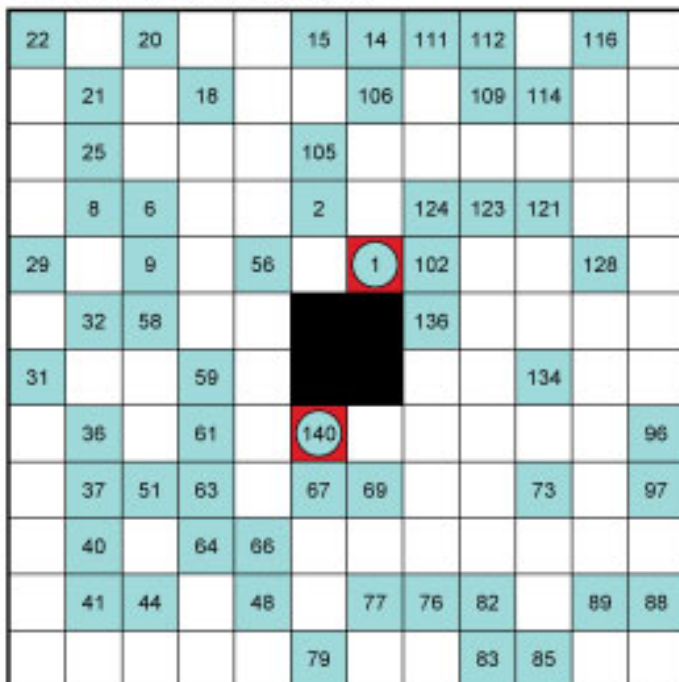
- Pakistani in a "Seinfeld" episode
- 2 Detroit 11
- 3 Clay for brickmaking
- 4 Attached ___ (letter phrase)
- 5 Cleanse with soap and water
- 6 Tel ___, Israel
- 7 Punishment
- 8 Inquisitor
- 9 Tiered, frosted dessert
- 10 Lennon's Yoko
- 11 Deep dish with a wide rim
- 12 Tough it out
- 13 Canned fish
- 14 Make a choice
- 15 Allegro ___ (very brisk, in music)
- 16 Distributed cards
- 17 Counterpart of substance
- 23 Madison Ave. mottoes
- 26 Not invitational
- 28 Nonreactive, as krypton
- 29 Romanian monetary unit
- 35 Undo, as an amendment
- 37 Before, to Browning
- 39 "Song of Old Hawaii" accompaniment, briefly
- 40 Blue Grotto's island
- 41 ___ metabolism rate
- 42 Believing that the universe has a soul
- 43 "Heavens to Betsy!"
- 45 Having a specified goal
- 48 Astonished question
- 49 Makes king
- 50 Donkey
- 52 Running a temperature, e.g.
- 53 A unicycle has one
- 54 Slower than

- moderato
- 55 Start of an attack
- 59 Suffix with "ether"
- 61 Indian liquid butter
- 63 1998 animated bug film
- 64 Went via Greyhound
- 68 Performance enhancer, for short
- 69 ___-Jo (track legend)
- 70 Accumulated, like a tab
- 72 Aquarium beauty
- 74 Catkins
- 75 One on horseback
- 77 Small number
- 78 Theme song followers, often
- 79 Beach vehicle
- 80 Poison remedies
- 81 Prohibited
- 84 "Go ahead" signal
- 86 Student-focused org.
- 87 AT&T, for one
- 90 Nineveh was its capital
- 93 Muhammad and Laila
- 94 Affable
- 95 "Open wide" response
- 96 Mythological maidens
- 98 One needing to repent
- 99 Overhead constructions
- 100 Grow accustomed (to)
- 101 ___ four (small cake)
- 105 Start of a marksman's orders
- 106 Port of ancient Rome
- 108 Linc wore one on "The Mod Squad"
- 110 Chinese percussion instrument
- 111 ___-on favorite
- 112 Volleyball assists
- 114 Bit of horse feed
- 115 Paint property

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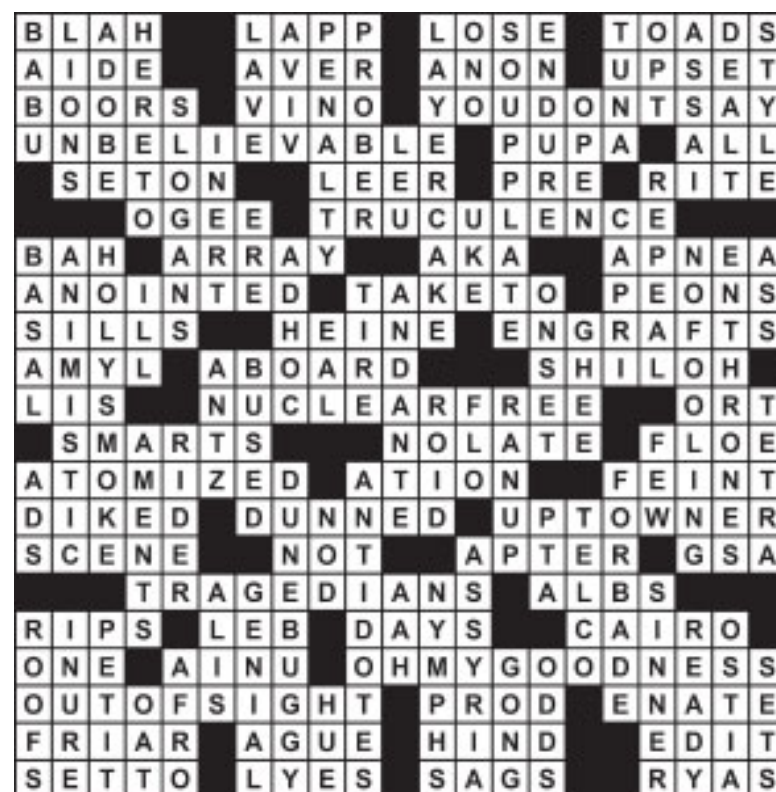


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Difficulty ★★★★★

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Solutions on next page



Unbreakable bonds

The lowdown on your investment portfolio



MONEY TALKS

Richard G. Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service, and has over 25 years' experience in the field of finance.
T: 076-381997, 081-0814611.
Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th.
www.global-portfolios.com.

MANY investors avoid incorporating bonds as an asset class when constructing a portfolio. This is a pity because bonds can often play an important role by giving investment portfolios diversity and, in most cases, low risk.

While bonds are used in almost every country in the world, many nationalities are completely unaware of what they are and how they work.

Investors in North America and continental Europe usually have at least a basic working knowledge of how the bond market operates, but very few other nationalities are well informed.

Bonds come in various forms, but a "standard bond" is basically a fixed income investment that can be issued by a government, municipality or private company. In all cases, bonds have credit ratings which are issued by agencies such as Moodys, Standard & Poor's and Fitch.

The credit rating helps investors indicate the level of risk involved with the bond.

The credit rating agencies have two different categories of risk. The highest is "investment grade", which covers triple A credit ratings as well as much further down the rating scale.

At a predetermined point, investment grade bonds reach a floor and anything below that is called "speculative". That is a polite term used by credit rating agencies; the rest of the world

simply calls speculative credit ratings "junk bonds".

Bonds can be issued for various periods of time, spanning from two years, five years, ten years and even fifty years. The shorter time periods up to ten years are commonly used by both individual and institutional investors. Very long dated bonds are usually only found in institutional investors such as pension funds.

In its basic form, a bond is similar to a fixed deposit with a bank.

The investor simply buys a bond knowing in advance the interest rate that is applicable and the maturity date of the bond. This type of certainty helps individuals to be able to plan their personal finances. Many retirees favor bonds as they give a secure and regular income flow.

A traditional bond usually pays interest every six months. Investors often buy different bond issues with varying interest periods. This makes it possible to have a quarterly or even monthly income at a fixed level.

Although there are some similarities between bonds and fixed deposits, there are also differences.

One of the most noteworthy differences is the ability to "encash" the investment. Banks issuing fixed deposits will sometimes allow early "encashment", but if they do, they will usually levy an extra charge.

Bonds have a vibrant "second hand" market which allows investors the ability to buy and sell at will. Any large bond offering with a good credit rating is a very liquid instrument, meaning that they can be sold instantly. In fact, the global bond markets have a much higher turnover than stock markets.

The second hand value of any bond is not guaranteed in advance, it all comes down to the market price.

Many variables impact on the second hand price of a bond, in most cases, the most important is usually the current level of interest rates pertaining to the period to the maturity of the bond.

An example may be of assistance. An investor buys a

bond of high investment grade with a period of ten years to maturity. After five years the investor needs access to the capital of the bond, therefore the bond has five years to maturity. What the investor is actually selling is a five year bond.

If we assume that the investor originally was promised six percent a year interest on the bond and the current rate of interest on a five year bond is only four percent, then the investor is in the very fortunate position of not only being able to sell the bond, but to do so at a profit.

A bond typically issued at "par," meaning 100 percent of the issue price, will reap a 100 percent return of capital on maturity.

The example, however, has a bond being sold with a higher yield than the market expects.

To balance this, the value of the bond rises therefore the investor should be able to sell the bond around 110 percent of its face value, referred to as "over par".

Where interest rates rise the opposite occurs and selling off a bond before maturity would result in a loss to investors.



Photo: AFP/Scott Olson

Bond traders signal offers at the Chicago Board of Trade.

There are many different types of bonds, one common variant is the "zero coupon bond". This term "coupon" is simply bond terminology for interest payments.

A "zero coupon bond" therefore does not pay out interest.

This type of bond appeals to investors who want to add certainty to a portfolio in the

form of a capital gain.

A "zero coupon bond" with a seven year term may be issued at 65 percent of the maturity value it then matures seven years later at 100 percent.

In a similar manner to traditional bonds, "zero coupon bonds" can be traded at any time.



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Catching the safety wave

A key reason for Phuket's success as a tourist destination is the wide variety of leisure activities available: sailing, golf, bowling, cricket, volleyball, windsurfing, jet-skiing, parasailing, shooting pool, throwing darts – name a pastime and you're likely to be able to enjoy it here.

This week's *Gazette* news feature (see pages 4-5) sheds some light on a newer recreational activity gaining in popularity in Phuket: surfing.

There are now an estimated 250 regular surfers on the island, up almost tenfold from a decade ago. The sport has grown to the point that Phuket now plays host to annual surf competitions with international sponsorship and has a well-established association, the Phuket Boardriders Club, to promote surfing in Thailand.

While rival destinations like Bali, Hawaii and Australia's Gold Coast will no doubt continue to attract the bulk of hardcore "surf tourists", Phuket's west coast beaches offer good enough waves and amenities to keep the island on the map as a surf destination, especially given the low cost of accommodation during the monsoon season.

The fortuitous presence of surfers along Phuket's west coast beaches goes well beyond tourism revenue generation, however. As pointed out in this week's feature, surfers have played a key role in beach safety by helping swimmers in distress back to the safety of the shore. In at least one case, an entire family swept out to sea was saved this way.

A study by Phuket-based American researcher Steven A Martin documents 232 rescues of swimmers by surfers over the three-year period from 2007 to 2009. The actual figure is, of course, probably far higher.

This comes as a rare dose of good news for beach safety in monsoon-season Phuket, where scores of overconfident swimmers – mostly foreign tourists from Europe – have perished in recent years.

Apart from mobilizing surfers, another good suggestion made by Mr Martin is to inform inbound tourists of the dangers they face if they ignore the red warning flags and enter the surf.

In Hawaii this has been successfully accomplished by playing warning videos on all inbound flights. Such an approach, suggested several times in this space in the past, makes a great deal of sense; airplane passengers comprise not only a 'captive audience,' but one that tends to be highly receptive to safety-related announcements.

The Civilian Aviation Department and provincial government should take immediate steps to put such a system in place before the monsoon season begins – and the death toll resumes its climb.

– The Editor

The Phuket Gazette

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Letters

The *Gazette* is pleased to receive mail from readers. Please write to us at 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, Phuket 83000, fax to 076-615240 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.

Crazy riders

Everywhere I go I see these super-intelligent Thais and *farangs* talking on the phone or texting while they ride motor-bikes.

It is against the law to hold a phone and speak while you drive a car. What about motor-bikes?

Obviously, bikes are much more dangerous to ride... maybe using the phone at the same time somehow increases safety? What is going on here?

Andrew Kathu

Plastic politics

Phuket has finally jumped on the eco-friendly bandwagon, and if recent debate concerning a major supermarket's reward system are anything to go by, the island has her work cut out for her [*Phuket Gazette*, Editorial, April 3].

Eco-friendly stores are increasingly packing goods into bags made from 40 percent corn and yam and 60 percent polypropylene – which degrade within 90 days.

Alternatively, transparent oxy-degradable bags decompose into carbon dioxide and water within six months. Manufacturers are also opting to use sugarcane pulp-derived fruit trays, instead of stubborn styrofoam trays.

Unfortunately, environmentally friendly containers cost a bit more than the plastic ones – but this would at least justify consumers being charged for bags.

The powers that be can keep their carrots and sticks. It's corn I'm calling for.

Gillian Smith Rawai

Drastic about plastic

Plastic is a very misused product with a half life 50 years longer than the average lifespan of the people posting comments here [*Gazette online*, Phuket Bag Plague: carrot or stick?, April 4].

I say to them: go to your local 7-Eleven, buy a bottle of water, drink it in less than a minute, then chuck it in a bush. You can be proud of the fact that your children's children will still be able to see the bottle that granddad drank from.

It does not surprise me that a store like 7-Eleven is not joining the plastic bag scheme because anybody who has ever been in a 7-Eleven can see the business plan is the embodiment of the non-sustainable nature of modern human lifestyles.

You have to fight the staff from putting a Mars bar you're about to eat into a plastic bag.

Every product in there is over-packaged in plastic, and still the staff, who are surely told to do it, want to add more plastic before you leave the store.

I'm fortunate to have traveled the world, from the deserts of Africa to the jungles of the Amazon and every country in Southeast Asia.

I've also sailed on every ocean in the world and they all have one thing in common: contamination from plastic bottles and bags and that other nasty little contaminator: the disposable lighter.

I can tell you it is a humbling and shocking sight – the easy come, easy go nature of man. If you want confirmation, just hang around; the wind will be switching to the SW monsoon fairly soon so Phuket can look

forward to another high season's worth of plastic garbage washing up on its beaches.

Charlie Gazette forum

Danger area

Eventually there will be traffic lights at the Thanuthep/Yodsane junction [*Gazette online*, Woman charged over Phuket road killing, April 6]. I wonder how many more deaths it will take before they are installed?

The traffic heading south from Wat Chalong picks up speed as soon as the unfinished narrow road widens. The over-powered vehicles (I didn't mention Fortuners) overtake on the left because they can't be bothered to wait, then everyone heads at breakneck speed to the bend where Soi Thanuthep and Soi Yodsane meet Chao Fah West Road. It's a recipe for disaster.

Heading north, the entrance to Soi Yodsane is hidden by the bend. The Big Buddha is causing a big problem in that area.

RIP Sathit.

Mike Boyd Gazette forum

On a sweeter note

What is with the wanton mixing of savory and sweet in Thai convenience food? Yesterday a Thai friend gave me a bread bun filled with pork as sweet and light as candy floss. It revolted me.

In 7-Eleven right now they're selling a toasted cake sandwich – with sausages inside. I'll try almost anything once – even ladyboys! I draw the line at cakes with sausages in them.

Dave Richards Phuket Town

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.

The inexorable red march

OPINION



Dr Thitinan Pongsudhirak

The current round of red-shirted uprising in Bangkok has brought Thailand's topsy-turvy political trajectory to a critical juncture. Over the past three weeks, tens of thousands of disenfranchised and disillusioned "red shirts", supporters of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, have demonstrated in peaceful street protests against social injustice, calling for a dissolution of the lower house and new polls to reset the country's democracy.

The reds' demands are set against the defiance and resolve of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva and his yellow-shirted allies, setting the stage for a battle of attrition. The odds are stacked up against the reds, but Abhisit and his backers are mistaken in their belief that the protesters can be whittled down into submission. To cultivate Thailand's new consensus, the onus is on the prime minister, his patrons and allies to acknowledge and accommodate the red shirts' demands for democratic rights and access to opportunities by enacting constitutional reforms and delineating an election timetable.

The pro-Abhisit coalition of army, ruling coalition parties, the



The red shirts have been systematically marginalized as Mr Thaksin's misguided and paid foot soldiers, their grievances and demands for social justice and greater redistribution summarily dismissed as unfounded. AFP PHOTO/PORNCHAI KITTIWONGSAKUL

yellow-shirted People's Alliance for Democracy and Bangkok's co-opted civil society and home- and car-owning middle class have closed ranks and hunkered down for the long haul.

Their understandable vested interests in prevailing power, privileges and opportunities for upward mobility are deeply embedded in the pre-Thaksin status quo. Indeed, Thailand's future is theirs to lose. Having supported the military coup in September 2006, they have ensured that the post-coup aftermath is in their custody for them to call the shots.

After the putsch, the reds' preferred political parties and governments were dissolved twice in 2008 by the courts under the army-sponsored 2007 constitution. But instead of adopting Thaksin's appealing pro-poor policy legacy while discarding his excesses, these conservative forces reversed course and dragged Thai democracy back to the pre-Thaksin decades by vesting constitutional prerogatives and

the balance of power with the bureaucracy, the judiciary and the military at the expense of elected politicians, parties, and parliament.

A generation ago, they would have got away with it. But intensified globalization and unavoidable democratization have heightened the political consciousness and empowered neglected voices that now appear unwilling to return to pliant passivity. Such is the underpinning of the red shirts. They have been systematically marginalized as Mr Thaksin's misguided and paid foot soldiers, their grievances and demands for social justice and greater redistribution summarily dismissed as unfounded.

Yet the red shirts can protest all they want but are unlikely to get their way as long as the pro-Abhisit coalition holds. Their prequel in a similar build-up of protests last April ended ignominiously in street riots. That they have come back for more mass demonstrations in Bangkok in less

than a year suggests the reds' sentiments are broad and deep-seated in the vast North and Northeast and other areas of the country where traditional antipathy was awakened by Thaksin's pandering populism that boosted a sense of upward mobility.

Notwithstanding the odds, the red-shirt protesters this time have enjoyed a limited but unprecedented welcome in the capital. The rural downtrodden have been joined by Bangkok's underclass, the like-minded menial workers and service providers who hail from upcountry. Some Bangkokians with a conscience of what is not right in Thailand have also shown significant sympathy.

Going forward, the reds are increasingly transcending Thaksin's paradoxical corruption and policy innovation. To be sure, Thaksin's corruption and abuse of power are now naked, proven in legal convictions and assets confiscation, but the reds look past this as 'par for the

course' in Thailand.

The reds have upped the ante for the coming days with their calls for new elections, though they cannot dislodge the government as long as Abhisit's coalition remains intact. But while the culmination of the current brinksmanship is unlikely to be in the reds' favor, the establishment forces behind Abhisit must come to terms with their lot in Thailand's transformation.

The government's concessions and reforms need not be boundless. They can still keep much by letting go of some. The risk of keeping it all is that they may end up with little left at the end of the day.

Thitinan Pongsudhirak is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Institute of Security and International Studies in the faculty of political science at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University. He is also a Director of The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd.

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AFTER all the trials that come with purchasing or building a new dream house, few owners allocate enough energy into turning their vacation property into a home.

In Phuket it is especially challenging when trying to enhance your property's rental capability. That's where a rental agent can be worth their weight in gold.

When choosing furnishings, owners will find that a budget between four and eight percent of the purchase price provides a good guideline.

The watchwords when furnishing a rental are 'replaceable', 'repairable' and 'widest appeal'.

High design, although visually impressive can be a little impractical. The white leather sofa would be great in a Frankfurt studio, but not in a Phuket home with rampaging kids.

To start the process, check the websites of island rental agents to see if they provide a suggested list of home inventories for free. The best practice would be to provide things renters would expect to have in their own home.

Phuket now has as many furniture and décor shops as Bali. A staggering choice is available to the weary shopper, but how do you decide what is best for your potential rental customer?

Initially the buyer should find out whether the developer provides a furnishings package. It should include everything you need, not just beds, a sofa, a coffee table, TV and a reclining Buddha.

Phuket has a number of fine furnishing companies such as Ikaya (not IKEA) and R&R. They both offer a number of styles, colors and finishes to choose from while also being attractive and practical.

Most companies will offer a product continuation guarantee of up to five years, making replacement a breeze.



Photo by Phuket Island Property Service

When decorating a rental property, owners should peruse local rental agency websites to find a list of suggested home inventory items.

Best of all, they will deliver and install everything so more beach time is possible.

When using your property for the dual purpose of personal residence and vacation rental investment, plan wisely.

Before making a commitment to rent your property always make sure you have a space to store your personal valuables and belongings during your home's rental period.

Usually the space under the

stairs, near the circuit breaker switches, is not ideal because it will need regular access.

It is not unusual to have a lock fitted to a wardrobe with a small private sign indicating private storage. Believe it or not, folks aren't that interested in your things, but it is your stuff after all, so keep it out of the renter's sight.

In every rental property, it's always good to have a selection of board games and DVDs,

especially during low season.

Home owners should take some time to clear out their movie collections and place them in their rental home. Because DVDs are easily replaceable it doesn't matter if they go missing. How many times can you watch *Bridget Jones Diary* anyway?

Lastly, check with your agent or management company about what is covered under your home's insurance policy.

After discussing your needs

with a broker, most people find insurance is comparatively cheap in Thailand, but it does have a couple of interesting quirks.

Remember, if you spent a fortune on that reclining Buddha statue, then it is best to lock it away with your valuables.

Allan Mossop is Managing Director of Phuket Island Property Service, providing home management, rental and furnishing services since 1999. Allan can be contacted by email at allan@pipsphuket.com. T: 076-270750

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Surin Beach had numerous land encroachment violations according to a recent study. [There is no suggestion the businesses pictured here have broken the law.]

Businesses get marching orders

Study finds land encroachment is rife on Phuket's northern beaches

HOTELS and restaurants in Mai Khao have been given one month to vacate illegally occupied beachfront land after a barrage of complaints from local residents.

Villagers complained in writing to Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop that it was becoming ever more difficult for them to access public beach land because hotels and restaurants have erected barriers and employ security guards to limit access.

A tense meeting on the issue was chaired by Gov Wichai at Phuket Provincial Hall on April 1.

Taking part in the meeting

were Phuket Vice Governor Tri Augkaradacha and representatives of 30 private sector groups, including managers from 10 local resorts. Several local government bodies also attended, including the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization, represented by its President Paiboon Upatising.

The meeting started with a presentation by Thalang District Chief Naruenart Suphattharaphatheep outlining the extent of beach encroachment in the district.

The worst encroachment was along the seven-kilometer stretch of Bang Tao Beach in

Cherng Talay, where almost 150 restaurants and shops have been set up on public land, the meeting was told.

The figures are the findings of a special survey team set up by Gov Wichai and led by Mr Naruenart to study the problem in Thalang.

Other beaches said to be rife with encroachment are Nai Yang and Surin, each with three to five beachfront resorts and 30 or 40 restaurants and shops on public land, Mr Naruenart said.

Nai Thon Beach was relatively quiet, with three hotels and just two or three

restaurants encroaching.

The 11-kilometer Mai Khao Beach, including its northernmost stretch known as Haad Sai Khao (White Sand Beach), is currently home to about 10 beachfront resorts.

About half of these have encroached on public beach land by setting up rows of beach chairs exclusively for guests and limiting access to local residents, the study found.

After negotiations between the hotel operators and representatives of Sirinath Marine National Park, the hotel representatives agreed to vacate within

one month all public areas and lands inside the boundaries of the national park.

During the meeting, Gov Wichai expressed interest in a plan put forward by the Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organization (Mai Khao TAO) to build a beachside promenade and ensure sufficient beach access for both hotel guests and local residents.

Additional meetings between the TAO, local villagers and hotel operators are expected to follow soon to work out a fair solution to the problem.

— *Kitima Pornmongkhonwat*



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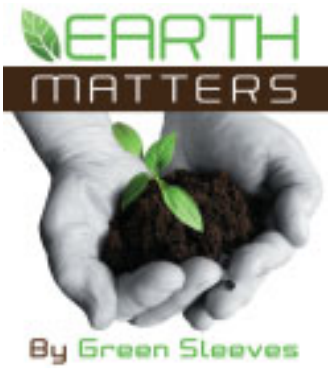
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Exotics part II

More extravagant plants to grace your garden



IN LAST week's article about extravagant tropical plants, I made a point of saying that one article would scarcely do them justice. So here is a second stab.

As it happens, I only considered one variety – the torch ginger – from the large family of *Zingiberaceae*. The name alone is exotic enough, but there are other members that deserve to be mentioned in dispatches.

I currently have two varieties in my garden: one, spiral ginger [*Costus spicatus*], has spear-shaped leaves arranged in a spiral, surmounted by densely packed, bright red cones. It looks rather sensual, hence its common name, French kiss.

In Thailand, it is sometimes used in large clumps as a bedding plant: thus employed, it can look very striking.

It also exists in a variegated form with striking white and green striped leaves. This variety is, in my experience, less likely to produce flowers. Like all gingers, the *costus* will need plenty of moisture and filtered shade.

The second ginger I can talk about from personal acquaintance is the red ginger, [*purpurata*] which produces



EXOTIC BEAUTIES: A variety of vibrant plants native to the tropics make Phuket gardens an attractive hobby. Clockwise from left: Spiral Ginger [*Costus spicatus*], sometimes referred to as 'French Kiss'; the prized but difficult to grow Blue Ginger [*Dichorisandra thyrsiflora*]; and the exotic climber jade vine [*Strongylodon macrobotrys*]. Open source photos by Wikimedia.

large red flowers (again technically bracts) at the end of woody, rod-like stems. The canes, large green leaves and dramatic, long-lasting flowers make this a very popular ornamental shrub in Phuket, where it is known as *khiing daeng*.

I have one at home in a terracotta pot where, benefiting from dappled shade and daily waterings, it is in permanent bloom. Equally spectacular is the crape ginger [*speciosus*] which has less tightly packed cones from which – rather dramatically – sprout large white flowers with a darker throat.

The blue ginger, not really a ginger at all, is unfortunately rather difficult to cultivate on

account of its preference for cooler climes. Apparently, it does really well in Hawaii.

It looks like a ginger with the characteristic spirally arranged leaves and rod-like stems, but is in fact a succulent from the family *commelinaceae* and, most surprising of all, has dark blue flowers shading to mauve. A very unusual color in tropical gardens and therefore much to be prized. As far as I know, only *thun-bergia* has similarly colored blooms.

An equally exotic member of the family is the beehive ginger [*spectabile*]. So-called after its large cones of yellow, waxy bracts that look as though they have been constructed by industrious bees. Given rich soil for its roots, this variety will even grow in your fish pond, where it will provide a very dramatic addition to water lilies and papyrus.

While the blue ginger is the



most difficult to grow (I have only seen it flourishing in one Phuket garden) all gingers need nutritious soil, a moist environment and some protection from the tropical sun.

But they will grow apace in the right conditions and, since they are rhizomes, the roots can be taken up, divided and replanted. In the case of the French kiss, the plant can be easily propagated from cuttings.

The only climber to invade this list is the jade vine [*Strongylodon macrobotrys*]. Like the gingers, it likes moist soil and shady conditions when getting established. The similarities end there though, for this is a rampant climber, at home in trees and capable of covering a trellis.

A couple of restrictions. It is not easy to find in plant nurseries and it will take time to acclimatize in Phuket, since its natural habitat is the Philippine rain

forest. But it fully justifies its place in this survey on account of its magnificent, pendulous racemes.

They may be as much as twenty inches long, and since each individual floret is an unusual shade of pale greenish-blue, they are bound to attract attention in any garden. Well worth searching for.

Finally, the wax rose [*Pereskia bleo*]. This is an easy to grow member of the cactus family which enjoys dry conditions and is easy to propagate from cuttings. Sometimes called a rose cactus, it doesn't deserve a mention here solely on account of its ordinary double orange-scarlet flowers that resemble a small rose.

The seed pods, however, are extraordinary: yellow-green, waxy fruits, conical in shape and reminiscent of poppy seed heads. Only these are much larger, and smell of pineapples.

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Property Briefs

Foreign affairs

CAMBODIA is trying to encourage international investment by relaxing laws on property ownership by foreigners.

The Financial Times reports that Cambodia's draft law is under discussion at the National Assembly and would allow non-nationals to fully own residential apartments for the first time.

While resort islands such as Phuket and Bali remain the most popular destinations for foreigners looking to purchase a holiday home in Southeast Asia, Cambodia's lawmakers hope deregulation will help to lift the Cambodian property market out of the doldrums.

Housing the mind

PHUKET International Academy (PIA) is opening its Mind Centre on April 10 with a "Genuine Happiness Retreat".

PIA Deputy Chief Executive Officer Nick Seaver said the retreat would be the first of many programs at the new center.

The new Phuket International Academy is a US\$45 million facility on 135 rai of land in the northeastern part of Phuket, incorporating three integrated centres: the PIA Mind Centre, the PIA Day School, and the PIA Sports and Leisure Club.

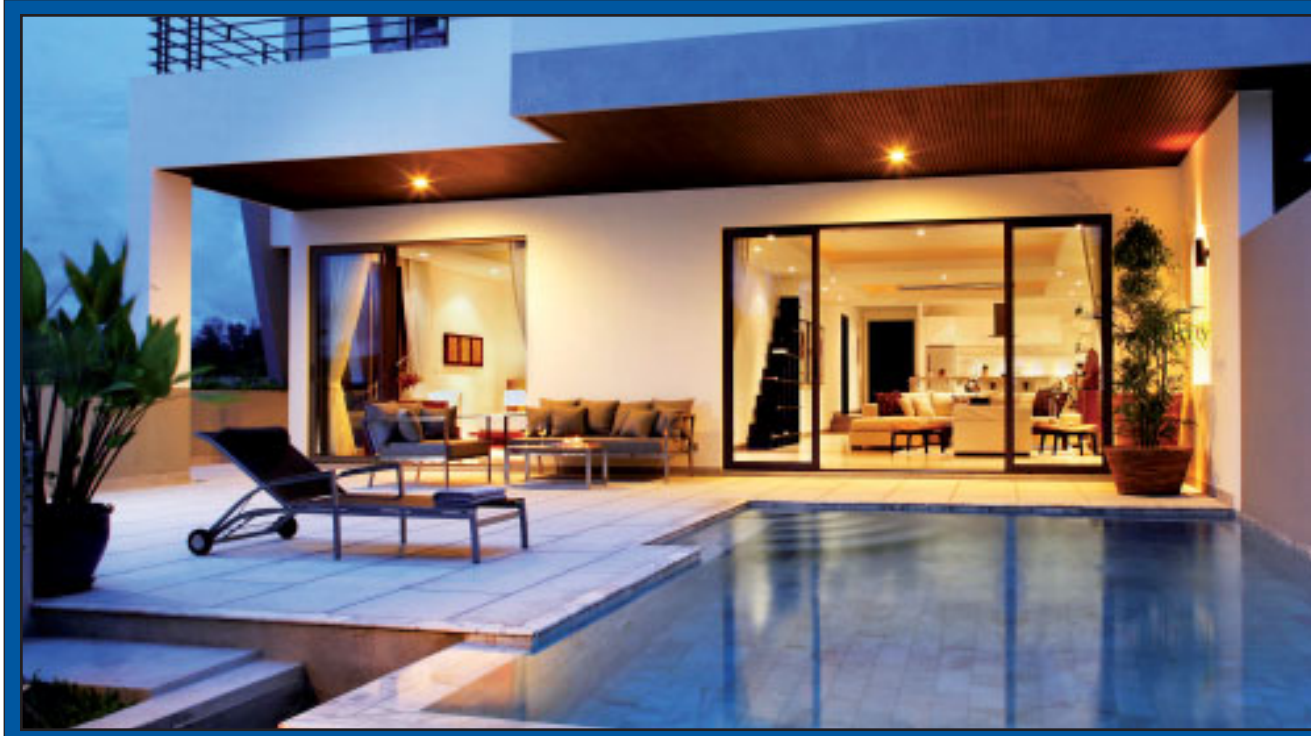
New in Mai Khao

THE RENAISSANCE Phuket Resort and Spa in Mai Khao opened early this month.

The resort offers 150 deluxe rooms, four one-bedroom suites, 25 one-bedroom villas with private pools, and one oceanfront three-bedroom villa. There are also six meeting rooms, totaling nearly 3,000 square feet.

To celebrate its opening, the Renaissance is offering an introductory package for 5,555 baht. It includes deluxe accommodations and a complimentary American breakfast for two adults. A villa package starts at 8,888 baht, including breakfast and free internet. The offers are valid through May 31.

For more news briefs from around Thailand see **NEWS HOUND** at W:phuketgazette.net



Selling power

Representatives from Phuket's Mandala Villas and Condominiums, a collection of 24 apartments and eight villas in the Laguna area, say they have sold ten units since the project's launch in December 2009.

PICTURED: A view of one of Mandala's pool villas.

Phuket market on the mend

ACCORDING to developers, buyer confidence is returning to Phuket, signaling a lucrative year for the island's real estate market.

Tom Travers, Managing Partner of Indigo Real Estate said buyer confidence in Phuket is almost back to what it was in 2007 and early 2008.

"We started to see a turnaround in the fourth quarter of 2009, when the economy didn't get any worse and the political climate in Thailand seemed stable from an international perspective," said Mr Travers.

He added that although the property market is on the mend, buyers are proceeding with more caution.

"The big difference now is that buyers are more nervous about investing in off-plan developments," he said.

Research has shown that while there is more confidence

regarding expenditure, the majority of buyers are looking for completed or nearly completed developments as they provide a more secure investment.

Mr Travers also said, "Buyers are demanding as much value as they can get regarding prices and are now opting for payment terms instead of paying cash".

In contrast with 2004, 2005 or 2006, when people were buying off-plan properties due to the lack of finished developments, the recession brought about a drop in sales on Phuket, despite a high level of interest in the market.

"Because of the global and political crises, there have been very few new project launches," he said.

The good news is that due to the slow market during the recession, there is still a sufficient supply of available properties.

Developers can now look

forward to continuous growth – albeit slowly – over the course of this year, with not much

adjustment regarding overall prices.

– Nicky Vermeulen

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PROPERTY RESALE

Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

<p>1 Allamanda 1-Bedroom Suite THB 6.5 M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 bed 1 bath Apartment fully furnished pool and golf view 	<p>2 Allamanda 2-Bedroom Suite THB 8.5 M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 beds 2 baths Apartment fully furnished golf course view
<p>3 Laguna Village Townhome I THB 19.5 M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-storey 4 beds Townhome extra 4th bedroom with ensuite 24 sqm private pool lagoon view 	<p>4 Laguna Townhome THB 23 M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-storey 3 beds Townhome maid's quarters 25 sqm private pool golf course view
<p>5 Laguna Village Residence II THB 38 M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 beds 3 baths Residence fully furnished lagoon view 	

For more information on these and other properties, please call:
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Property Gazette

Properties For Sale

SURIN LUXURY POOL VILLA



3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 covered parking spaces, 940sqm. land, 450sqm. construction area. 5 minutes from Bangtao and Surin beach. Opposite Chedi hotel, fully furnished, 29.5 million baht. Tel: 087-277 5451, 081-536 1101. Email: maeww@hotmail.com

RAWAI NEAR CHALONG, NICE

3 rai 10 plots for 10 houses with pool. Price: 5.4 Million baht per rai. Wanted: developer/builder to start. Negotiable terms. Tel: 087-388 7702 (English & Thai), 084-850 7106 (English). Email: pkeowan@gmail.com

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

900 sqm, 2.6 million baht. Tel: 086-047 2463 (Eng), 086-161 1136. (Thai).

3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

for sale. 62sq wah, 2 bathrooms, Villa Dawroong. 4.5 million baht. Contact Khun Tar. Tel: 076-377052, 089-971 1268.

6-YEAR FINANCING AVAILABLE



Rawai Beach sale. 12 million baht. 648sqm. Land, bar, hotel 9 rooms. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS HOUSE

or sale. Preusachart Lakeview, Land and Houses Park. Beautiful, peaceful setting on the lagoon. Fully furnished with quality new and antique pieces, 3 double bedrooms, 1 ensuite with jacuzzi. Maid room and covered washing area. Email for full details and pictures to: lowprofile@mail.com

APARTMENT IN NAI HARN

for sale. Palm Beach Resort, 102sqm, private owner free hold, new top floor, 2 bedrooms, swimming pool, fitness, mini tennis club house, security in Nai Harn, minutes to beach. 5.7 million baht. Tel: 089-593 6815. Email: shmaen2006@hotmail.it

VILLA NEAR GOLF



In Kathu, 10 mins from Patong. 2-bedroom villa with swimming pool. 7 million baht. Tel: 076-321445, 089-724 7211 (English), 080-522 4433 (Thai). Fax: 076-323724. Email: info@botanvillage.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-cottages.com

FREEHOLD FINISHED CONDO

2 bed, 1 bath, 105 sqm furnished condo. Asking 8.49 million baht or nearest offer. Tel: 087-077 8454 (English), 081-137 1001 (Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.com

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: drbearnshaw@gmail.com

GOLF VIEW LAND



1,020 sqm, fully serviced, overlooking Loch Palm Golf Course in Kathu. 5 million baht. Tel: 076-321454, 089-724 7211 (English), 080-522 4433 (Thai). Fax: 076-323724. Email: info@botanvillage.com

0.5 RAI CHANOTE LAND

Thalang in area of Ton Sai National park, waterfall, Int'l School, and Russian Church. Tel: 081-005 5701 (English), 086-108 2745 (Thai). Email: info@grass-routes.com

2 BR CONDO, ALANNA YAMU

Luxury 2-bedroom condo with pool at Cape Yamu. Almost complete. An absolute bargain at 7.5 million baht. Tel: 081-894 1530, 081-819 4153 (English). Email: andrew@leemarine.net

17 RAI WITH PALM TREES

At Kok Kien, Takuapa, Phang-Nga. 85,000 baht per rai. Contact Khun Piek. Tel: 081-892 4094, 084-304 9339.

NEW HOUSE KHAO LAK



Near Palm Garden Resort, 3 bedrooms, 4 toilets/shower, 6 rai land. Only 12 million baht. Tel: 081-978 0907 for more info. Email: dao01978 0907kl@yahoo.com

LAYAN LAND



for sale. 11 rai, flat land. 3 min from Layan beach, hill and lake view. Price 4.2 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-813 1447.

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 & FURNITURE

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

CHEAP HOUSE FOR SALE

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: yaris.vios@gmail.com

DETACHED OR SEMI-DETACHED



Large detached 4-bed, 4 bath. Or 2 semi-detached. Live in one, rent one - your choice. Well maintained in quiet Soi in Thalang. 3.8 million baht. Tel: 086-269 7772 (Thai), 081-495 6812 (English). Email: kimera5@yahoo.com

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COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

for sale. Each building has 3 floors. On big road at Kamala Beach, near Krungsri Bank. Price 20 million baht. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: yaris.vios@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

PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

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

30 RAI IN TOWN

Long lease. Near Dowrungs School in Phuket Town. Tel: 081-691 2526.

THE ROYAL PLACE

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

NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO



2-3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 111sqm. Start 4.5 million baht. Must see. Tel: 084-993 7308. For further details, please see our website at www.amphiseabreeze.com

2 CONDO RAWAI BEACH



for sale. 54sqm. 1.7 million baht. 27sqm. 1 million baht. 150m. from sea, renovated, credit 1 year. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.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

SURIN BEACH

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

PHUKET HOUSE & OFFICE

Living room, 5 bedrooms, 1 Office, 4 WCs with shower, 1 business room, 1 store, 1 garden house. Asking price: 13 million baht. Email: khonkaener@hotmail.ch <http://www.thai-swiss.ch/Immobilien.immobilien.0.html?&L=0>

NEW TOWN HOUSE



in Phuket Inter villa project for sale. 2.3 million baht. 36.5sq wah. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, includes furniture, curtains, kitchen, 1 airconditioning unit, common pool access. Tel: 089-873 1009 (English), 081-893 8524.

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Property Gazette

CONDO FOR SALE



The newly built The Royal Place condo opposite Tesco Lotus bypass. 45 sqm. 3 Fl. at the corner with swimming pool view. 2 balconies. 1 bedrm, 1 bathrm, kitchen (microwave, washing machine, refrigerator) living room, 2 air cons, TV flatron, telephone, cable TV. Share pool, restaurant, laundry service, key card with 24 security and car park. Tel: 086-476 9612.

WHITE BEACH



840sqm land plot, 17 meters beachfront, beautiful sunset. Located on Nakha Island, only 3 mins from Phuket's Ao-Por, 25 min to airport and major shopping centers. For sale only 4.9 million baht. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha_phuket@yahoo.com

PATONG FREEHOLD CONDO

125 sqm on 11th floor. Big pool. Nice seaview, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 living room, corner terrace. Must see. Tel: 081-8241385. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

SEA VIEW CONDO

Sale/rent new condo. 2 bedrooms, kitchen, balcony, pool, WiFi, parking. Tel: 084-851 0703. Email: st@kl.lv

3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

for sale. 62sq wah, 2 bathrooms, Villa Dawroong. 4.5 million baht. Contact Khun Tar. Tel: 076-377052, 089-971 1268.

NAI HARN/RAWAI SPACIOUS

1 bedroom, long lease hold apartment with pool, balcony and nice views, 1.75 million baht or 38,000 Euro. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: bisop5@yahoo.co.uk

YACHT FOR HOUSE

Trade your property for 48' luxury yacht+business. Based in Greece. 249,000 Euro. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.hpyachtcharter.com>

PHUKET HOUSE & OFFICE

Living room, 5 bedrooms, 1 Office, 4 WCs with shower, 1 business room, 1 store, 1 garden house. Asking price: 13 million baht. Email: khonkaener@hotmail.ch <http://www.thai-swiss.ch/Immobilien.immobiliien.0.html?&L=0>

NATAI LAND FOR SALE

4 rain 1 ngan, 50 square wah (7,000 sqm) of land on main road, 2 km to Natai Beach. 2 million baht per rai. Email: nisaya@hotmail.com

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

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.

SHOPHOUSE

12 mos old, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, kitchen, 1 aircon unit, furniture. Rent: 24,000 baht per month. 3.8 million baht, pay 3.6 million. A bargain! Tel: 080-522 3357 (English), 086-476 2093 (English & Thai). Email: kcoyle@pinn.net

NEW CONDO PATONG

Brand new one bedroom fully furnished, freehold. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

KRABI, AO-NANG POOL VILLAS

Land area 320 sqm., 2 bedrooms. 6-7 million baht. Second home with strong rental income. Tel: 087-897 7380. Email: mrxelmay@gmail.com

3 RAI LAND IN TRANG



for sale. 3 rai in Baan Po, Muang, Trang. Very good location for business, suitable for house projects. Electricity, access road. Sale by owner. With Chanote. Price: 9 million baht ono. No agents please! Tel: 075-210646, 087-270 9093.

PATONG TOWER URGENT SALE

Freehold, lease hold. Start 4.7 million baht. Tel: 081-878 2199. Email: orso.realestate@gmail.com

48 RAI KHAO LAK / BANG SAK

250m from the beach. Chanote, Nor Sor 3. Only 1.7 million baht. Call or mail for further info. Tel: 080-522 4089 (English), 081-397 4957 (Thai). Email: kamala@phuket.ksc.co.th

HOUSE IN SOI SAIYUAN

3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms with swimming pool fully furnished 9.5 million. Tel: 081-737 1678 (English & Thai). Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

390sqw, nice flat land, quiet area, chanote. In Pasak Soi 5 near Laguna Home. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 089-4729118, 086-709-2933.

KAMALA BEACH

New apartments and houses, furnished Western style, aircon, cable, internet, quiet, security. 6 million baht. Tel: 083-645 3546.

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

KATA OCEAN VIEW 4.9 MTB

Luxury, 90sqm. Click link below for more details. Tel: +1-408-627 5793. Email: maurick1@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at <http://oceanviewkata.shutterfly.com>

1/2 RAI SEA VIEW PROPERTY

In small private estate fully developed Land for sale or lease. Private Road to the property! Electric and Drinking water on site! Tel: 081-817 3776 (English). Email: bic1@phuket.ksc.co.th

LUXURY CONDO

for sale/rent. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 106sqm. Cape Panwa. 4.9 million baht. Tel: 082-1798150. Email: davenatland67@yahoo.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.

TOWNHOUSE, 2 STOREY



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

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

4 BEDROOM POOL VILLA

for sale. Stylish pool villa in Patong. Spacious living, 3 mins to beach. Email: ooy76@hotmail.com

HOUSE & BUSINESS, RAWAI

Land and house with 2 successful businesses (Laundry and Coffee Shop) for sale. Good location between Nai Ham and Rawai in developing area. Price: 6.5 million baht. Tel: 076-388484, 081-891 3264 (English & Thai). Email: bergman.brittmarie@telia.com

SURIN APARTMENT

150m from the beach. 1 b/r, pool access. Great view. 4.99 million baht. Call or mail for further details. Tel: 02-076350. Email: jgstryker@gmail.com

TWO NICE VILLAS

Two nice villas from private party. In Nai Ham: 1,600sqm. And in Chalong: 740sqm. See link to website below for details. Tel: 087-823 7371. Email: holgersaupe750@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.villa-sophia-phuket.com

RAWAI HOUSE

2-story, 3-bed, 3-bath house with self contained Bungalow on 720 sq meters of land in a quiet part of Rawai. 6.8 million baht. No agents, please. Tel: 087-628 3673 (Thai), 081-078 1112 (English). Email: islanderbar3@hotmail.com

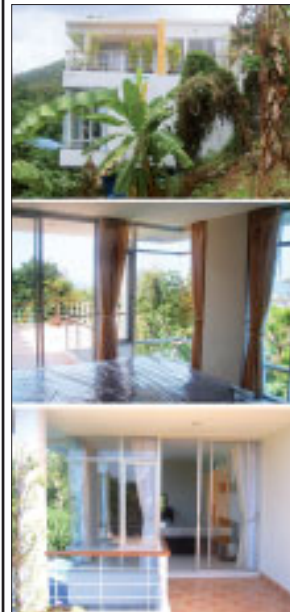
KATHU HOUSE

for sale. Kathu area, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, on 2 floors, parking area, chanote, aircon, WiFi. Tel: 081-415 6415.

LUXURY VILLA-POOL & JACUZZI

2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, solar cells, 3-phase electricity. Thai, English, Danish and French. Tel: 081-895 2890 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-281487. Email: rafi@huset-phuket.com

2-STOREY HOUSE IN PATONG



sea view. Hasip Pee Road, 49sqw. 4 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, air-con, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 17 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

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Property Gazette

OCEANFRONT LAND



Beautiful piece of land, 3.5 rai (can be sub-divided) with over 90m of beach frontage. Opposite Yacht Haven Marina, water, electricity, road access, secure Nor Sor 3 Kor title. For sale direct from owner. Now only 19 million baht for all. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: montha_phuket@yahoo.com

KAMALA VILLA WITH POOL

Beautiful 3-bed, 3-bath villa with private pool and sea view. For further details, please see our website at www.villakamala.com, then contact me by email at imconnac@aol.com. .com

LAND AND COMPANY

Chanote title. Thalung, near PIA, paid-up cap, 2 or 4 rai. Contact Khun So. Tel: 087-898 0649.

URGENT SALE

Beautiful, seaview, land plot, near Mission Hills, 3 rai. Sale direct from owner. 9.5 million baht for all. Tel: 081-343 0777.

CHALONG PRIME INVESTMENT

30 rai flat land, 4 million baht per rai. 1km from Chalung Temple. Tel: 081-719 2984.

PANORAMIC SEAVIEW

Koh Klang Lanta Krabi. 27 rai, Chanote title 2.7 million baht per rai. Electric present, asphalt road. Email: famar5@hotmail.com

HOUSE SALE OR RENT

7 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, swimming pool, kitchen, bighall bar, near Simon. Rent 70,000 per month or sale 19 million baht. Tel: 087-267 7281, 085-243 3878.

POOLSIDE APARTMENT

Top quality, ground floor Poolside apartment at Patong Beach. One bedroom, 85sqm open plan with secure undercover parking and storage room. Very quiet location, but just 2 mins to Beach and town center. Now offered at reduced price. Tel: 081-891 3466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

TWIN VILLAS AT NAI YANG



Only 600 meters from beautiful Nai Yang beach, this modern pool villa is perfectly located. Featuring a chic, clean-cut design coupled with a choice selection of quality materials and furniture, this villa is a promising investment for holiday seekers and permanent residents. Price: Bt10.2mil. Contact Khun Penprapa. Tel: 087-898 9646. Email: penprapa2526@gmail.com

NEW HOUSE KAMALA BEACH

Western style, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, fully furnished, aircon, phone, ADSL, quiet. Mountain view, close to beach. 6 million baht. Tel: 083-645 3546.

KAMALA LAKE HOUSE

5 years old. European, 2 bedrooms, furnished, quiet, clean. 2.9 million baht. Tel: 081-892 8208.

HEAVEN ON EARTH



5 bedroom Thai style villa in Phuket. Magnificent Phang-Nga Bay sea view. 3 big bedrooms are ensuite 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.

GIANT DEAL

The island's best buy! Villa with pool in Patong. Highest offer, bid wanted by April 10. Display 5pm-7pm. Tel: 083-176 7676. Email: erik.blodoks@gmail.com

QUICK SALE HOUSE IN CHALONG

94sq wah, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 car park, big garden, full furnished. Price 4.5 million baht. Tel: 087-886 4208.

NICE PLOT BEHIND LAYAN HILL ESTATE



Manik area, 4.7million baht. Chanote title, good for pool villas. Tel: 081-538 7050.or email: talayjan@yahoo.com

BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



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

SEAVIEW 4/5 BED, PATONG

1-year-old, nice view over sea and town, 4/5 bedrooms/ office, 3/4 bathrooms (2 ensuite + 1 separate toilet), 5 aircon units and fans. Laundry, Europe-style timber kitchen, large balcony off living room to seat 8. Quiet area, 2 levels + flat top (135sqm) for outdoor. Ready for Jacuzzi and garden. 1 car + motorbike. Space covered underneath. Possible to separate into 2 living areas with own entrance = 1 or 2 bedrooms + kitchen and bathroom. Priced at 12.5 million baht (negotiable). Tel: 081-273 1326. Email: jeanwass@yahoo.com.au

RESORT AT NAI YANG

Approx land size: 6 rai, 71 Sq Wah. Nor Sor Sam. Please call for more details. Tel: 086-279 8050. Email: taan_ty@hotmail.com

NAI HARN/RAWAI SPACIOUS

1 bedroom, long lease hold apartment with pool, balcony and nice views, 1.75 million baht or 38,000 Euro. Tel: 086-684 5368. Email: bisop5@yahoo.co.uk

NEW HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT



In Srisuchart Grandville 3, not far from Tesco Lotus. 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms, 1 car park and little garden. Very nice house contact to come see at 087-277 0978 or koyangle99@hotmail.com

FLAT LAND

for sale. 9,312sqm, flat land near Bang Pae waterfall on border with the main road to Mission Hill. Asking price 3.5 million baht per rai = 1,600sqm. Tel: 081-693 4075 (English & Thai). Email: cannanagarden@hotmail.com

BEACH LAND KHAO LAK 5 RAI

Beautiful 5 rai of Chanote land. Hard to find better than this, next to 5-star resort. 118m of beach front, stunning property. Tel: 081-649 3557 (English). Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuketlifestyle.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.

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE, FULLY FURNISHED



Ready to move in, 254 sqm. 2 floors. Near Downrung school, Laemchan 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: 6.8 million baht. Tel: 081-541 2025.

LUXURY VILLA-POOL & JACUZZI

2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, solar cells, 3-phase electricity. Thai, English, Danish and French. Tel: 081-895 2890 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-281487. Email: rafi@huset-phuket.com

LAND AT PATONG BEACH

Cheap land for sale at North end of Patong Beach. Has access road, good water supply, and underground utilities. Very quiet, natural location, 2 mins to beach. Land plots range from 500sqm to 1,400sqm. Part of an existing small development. Tel: 081-891 3466 (English). Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

PROJECT FOR SALE

50 unit condominium, great seaviews, building and environmental permits issued. Ready to build now. Call Luke. Tel: 085-880 7954. Email: lukeremmers@yahoo.com

PREMIUM LOCATION AT BANGTAO



Beautiful piece of land in 150 m. from Bangtao beach. Have access to main road. 1.5 rai for only 18 mln. THB. Tel: 081-737 1687. Email: raisamail@gmail.com

KATA CHEAP GUESTHOUSE

Can resale as penthouse, 4 condos, 2 apartments, balconies, garden, near beach, security can extend. Offer over 7 million baht. Good investment. Tel: 086-276 6597.

2 HOUSES KATA HILL SALE

Good investment. Land 920sqm. Fully furnished, quiet, good view. Asking 8.9 million baht. Tel: 081-367 0991.

NEW TEAK HOUSE

2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 84/460sqm, terrace + pool! From 5.9 million baht. Land plot near Boat Lagoon. Construction time: 3 months! Tel: 076-325085, 086-281 1264 (English). Email: ts-teak@contexphuket.com

MUST SELL EVA NO.1

Eva Rawai fast sale, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, pool, seaview. 17.9 million baht this month only. Tel: 086-272 3217. Email: hariedekort@gmail.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.

WESTERN STYLE HOUSE

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 powder room, hot water, 4 aircon units, telephone, ADSL, cable TV, washer, dryer, western kitchen, 40" LCD TV & entertainment. 160 m2. For rent or sale. Tel: 02-860 3254, 081-400 0796, 087-895 3555. Email: popeyepsc@hotmail.com

SUPER GUESTHOUSE PATONG

Looking for a guesthouse? Call Real Pro, we have it! 19 rooms, elevator, rent 135,000 baht. Great location 86 Nanai Road. Price 2,900,000 baht. Real Pro Co Ltd. Tel: 076-345 238, 084-078 2753 (Frank). Email: info.realpro@gmail.com

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 Co Ltd, 79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd
T. Koh Kaew, A. Muang, Phuket 83000

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

I hereby authorize payment against my Visa ☐ / Mastercard ☐
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Property Gazette

Property Services

INDIVIDUAL HOME MANAGEMENT



Servicing Phuket homeowners since 1999! Home management, housekeeping, pools, gardens, rental management and many more... Tel: 076-270750, 081-719 3795. Fax: 076-270751. Email: allan@pipsphuket.com For further details, please see our website at www.pipsphuket.com

Property Wanted

LOOKING FOR HOTEL RESORT

Villa over 15 units for management or long term rent option to buy later Rawai, Naiharn beach. Please contact for further details. Tel: 086-143 7915. Email: hyipme@lire.de

HOME RENTAL

An Aussie couple want to rent a villa or residence, 4-5 beds, furnished or unfurnished, from 1 April 2010 for a minimum of 3 months up to 12 months. From Layan to Surin, but prefer Laguna area. Prepared to pay up to 80,000 baht per month. Tel: +61-7-5444 5612, +61-438-082632 (English). Email: minyama1@gmail.com

Accommodation Available

KATHU GOLF CONDO 62SQM

1 bedroom, 1 bath, living room, Western kitchen, balcony, nice view, fully furnished. For long or short term rent; also for sale. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385 (English). Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

BANGKOK NEW GUESTHOUSE

Upmarket. Promotion rate: 799 baht. Tel: 02-2599 884. Email: mlrathan@hotmail.com Please visit our website: www.mhc-guesthouse.com

PATONG SEA VIEW CONDO

Studio, 50sqm, Western kitchen. WiFi. 11th floor, nice sea view. Resort pool, long or short term rent. Also for sale. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385. Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

KATHU GOLF PENTHOUSE 135SQM

Condo, 5th floor, 2 bedroom with big living room, terrace, complete Western kitchen, partially furnished, nice view around. For long term rent or sale. Tel: 076-293149, 081-824 1385 (English). Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

A-ZONE HOTEL

New hotel with nice, clean rooms and lobby bar/cafe with pool table. In the heart of Patong, near Jungceylon and Otop; and only a 10-minute walk to the world famous Bangla Rd and Patong Beach. Tel: 088-444 7840 (English & Thai). Email: azonehotel@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.azonehotel.com

APARTMENTS, SALE OR RENT



The Royal Palm Residence. Stunning modern new apartments. Fully furnished, full security, garden, car park. Near Naiham Beach. Prices start from 2.69 million baht. Tel: 076-289122, 087-887 7133, 084-848 7474 (English). Fax: 076-289122. Or send email to: kasina_navamachiti@yahoo.com. For further details, please see our website at www.theroyalpalmresidence.com

1 BED APT PATONG

Spacious luxury apartment, quiet location, swimming pool, WiFi, very beautiful. 25,000 baht. Tel: 086-279 0837. Email: bricothailand2@hotmail.com

APT / ROOMS IN PATONG

Furnished apartment in Patong Grand Condo with A/C, TV, refrigerator, queen size bed, community swimming pool. Available for long term. Rooms for rent long term or short term. Tel: 882 1445. Email: peter_bloom77@hotmail.com

PATONG GUESTHOUSE

8 room apartment and internet cafe. Rent 47,600 baht. Tel: 085-794 6530

PATONG LUXURY APT

Center Patong, 1 and 2 bedrooms. Tel: 076-341827 or email for info and photos. Email: suites247@yahoo.com

ONE BEDROOM APART
fully furnished, wifi, pool and parking quiet location in Patong 22,000 baht / month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-892 1621.

STUDIO W/ POOL, KAMALA



45sqm, kitchen, swimming pool, available from 1 April. Tel: 085-158 7638 (English). Email: pierre@husiphuket.se For further details, please see our website at www.husiphuket.se

FREEDOM APARTMENTS PATONG

Small kitchen, fridge, E-cooker, fully furnished. European style, aircon, fan, internet, TV, safe, bathroom, hot-cold water. 8,000 baht per month. From April 1st, 2010. Tel: 084-845 0541, 081-891 4561

BEACH SERVICED APARTMENT

2-bed apartment at The Sands Resort. Near beach. Fully furnished, equipped. Wifi. Bt 3,500/day, 40,000/month. Tel: 076-396639, 083-648 8820 (English). Email: rtmeakin@samart.co.th

STUDIO APARTMENT IN PATONG

for rent. 46sqm, fully furnished, swimming pool. Daily - Monthly. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

HOTEL ROOM FOR 600 BAHT

Brand new hotel type apartments for rent in Rawai (near Tesco Lotus). Please contact for more information. Tel: 085-472 0542 (English). Email: jens@paradiisisaar.ee

RAWAI APARTMENT

Secure, quiet, aircon, 2nd floor apartment. Available April 1st. On the beach between Rawai and Chalong, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, living/dining room, small kitchen, cable TV/ADSL available. No dogs, no children. Call between 9:00-12:00. Tel: 089-729 7622.

APARTMENT AT CHAOPRAYA RIVER VIEW

Fully equipped room with building's amenities @ Baan Chaopraya Condo. Oriental decor! Please contact for more further details. Tel: 076-261025, 089-668 3639 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-261025. Email to: zhu@junkseilon.com

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Contact: 087-270 9093 (Thai), 087-689 9679. (English). Email: allservices29@gmail.com

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Want to change your facade? German Aluminum Doors and Windows - Top Quality - fair prices! Get a free quote! Special offer for projects! Tel: 086-281 1264. Fax: 076-325085. Email: info@contexphuket.com

Holiday Homes & Villa Rentals

TEAK HOUSE

Complete new Teak houses for sale from 25 to 138 sqm (without land)! Showhouse available! Email: tsteak@contexphuket.com

WE NEED VILLAS NOW!

Thailand Holiday Homes, after 7 years of successful Villa rentals in Pattaya with stock exceeding 100 Villas, now require Villas in Phuket. Sales only or full management services offered. Leading website generating over 15,000 visits a month. Interested? Please forward contact details and our local manager will contact you. Tel: 085-089 9965 (English & Thai). Fax: 038-233010. Email: sales@thailandholidayhomes.co.uk Please visit our website at: www.thailandholidayhomes.co.uk

Household Items

NICE NEW CLOTHESHORSE

Just bought new at Home Works for 1,400 baht. For sale now at only 700. Moving sale. Tel: 084-065 8036. Email: philip.seiffert@web.de

WARDROBE (WHITE)

Beautiful white 2-door wardrobe with lower drawer. Hardly used. 6,000 baht. Please contact for more details. Tel: 087-419 4296 (English). Email: samiael balawi@yahoo.co.uk

INDEX COFFEE TABLE

Frosted glass top coffee table. Was 5,000 baht new. Will take 1,250 baht now. Tel: 082-829 8701 (English). Or send email: andygee21@gmail.com

ELECTRIC LAWN MOWER!

Black & Decker brand. Collects the cut grass. Very effective and inexpensive to use. A new one costs over 7,000 baht. Will sell for 4,500 – and with home delivery in the Chalong/Rawai area. Please contact for more information. Tel: 082-271 3717. Email: perhe.willig@gmail.com

MOVING SALE!

– Cozy, quilted Western-style mattress. 1 year old. Queen-sized. 9,000 baht or best offer.
– Outdoor lounge chair: 800 baht o.b.o.

Please contact for further information. Tel: 083-551 6349 (English). Email: beckersteph@msn.com

INDEX SOFA BARGIN PRICE

Grey 3-seater Index sofa. Was 30,000 baht new. In good condition. Will take 7,500 baht. Tel: 082-829 8701. Or send email to: andygee21@gmail.com

Household Services

PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

renovations, house repairs, painters, tilers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, construction. Fluent English speaking boss. Free quotes given. Contact Rin. Tel: 084-1935124. Or send email to: phukethomemaintenance@yahoo.com

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Fully qualified all works construction refurb. Tel: 083-175 0485.

Classified Advertisements

Please use this form to write your classified advertisement.

Then hand it to any of our agents.

_____ (heading)

Classified ads are charged per line. Each line is 120 baht, with a minimum of 4 lines (heading included) per ad.

All advertising must be paid for in advance.

Deadline for Property Gazette page: Friday 3 pm.

Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.

Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at www.phuketgazette.net

Bandhil Construction Service & Swimming Pools
House and Swimming pools building, remodel.
Home improvement, build, repair and maintenance.
www.bandhilconstruction.com
MSN: bdonlineservice@hotmail.com
Tel: 076-238548 Mobile: 089-5913996

Island Job Mart



ONLINE JOB APPLICATION
HOTEL - ACCTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B
www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm

Short-Term Administration Clerks

American Red Cross is seeking 2 short-term Administration Clerks for approx. 5 months to assist with arranging, scanning and filing documents. Competitive salary offered.

Preferred qualifications:

- High School or Vocational Education
- Knowledge of computers is mandatory
- Experience with office equipment will be advantage

Interested candidates can walk in during 09:00 am - 05:00 pm on April 19, 2010 at American Red Cross, Phuket office, 100/158-9 Moo 5, Srisuchart Village, Chalempakiat R.9, T.Rasada, A. Muang, Phuket 83000. Or contact Khun Apichaya at Tel. 076.376.253 ext. 104 for more information.

Phuket Gazette
The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

Reporter

The successful candidate will be a Thai national with initiative, an outgoing personality and plenty of experience about the world and how it works. Also essential are the ability to communicate in English, both spoken and written, and a car. Knowledge of Burmese is an advantage.

Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to Ann@PhuketGazette.Net. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd
79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasatri Rd, T. Koh Kaew
A. Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076-273555 Fax: 076-615240

Phuket Gazette
The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following position:

As part of a major expansion project, the Phuket Gazette is seeking a PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

The Job:

- To initiate, drive and manage CSR projects
- To design and manage Contests and Events
- To take primary responsibility for the newspaper's relationships with Government, Hotels, and Charitable Organizations
- To design and implement promotional activities to support Nation / Gazette Seminars and Forums
- To assist in the design and use of flyers, posters and other graphics to support a wide variety of promotional campaigns
- To represent the Gazette at major Events in Bangkok, Phuket, and elsewhere in the region

The Candidate:

- Thai National with a 'World View'
- Fluent in English, aged at least 28
- Positive, outgoing personality
- Ambitious and Proactive

Contact Khun Oranee Hildebrand, Managing Director, for further details. Ann@PhuketGazette.Net

The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd
79/94 Moo 4, Thepkrasatri Rd, Koh Kaew
A. Muang, Phuket 83000
Tel: 076-273555 Fax: 076-615240

INTERLAW OFFICIAL
สำนักงานกฎหมายระหว่างประเทศ

International Law Office, Patong Beach Co., Ltd.

OPEN POSITION

• **Lawyer**

Qualification

- Bachelor degree or higher in Law from reputable educational institution
- Minimum of three (3) years experience practicing in a Law Office
- Excellent communication skills in English
- Good computer and typing skills in English
- Competent, highly responsible and self-motivated
- Strong leadership skills

Please send English resume with work experience, references, recent photograph and expected salary to the following email: sam@ilo-phuket.com

International Law Office Patong Beach Co., Ltd.
17/6 East-Chaofaa road, Talaadrua sub-district, Muang, Phuket
Tel: 076-222191-5. Fax: 076-222196.

Location: Phuket town, Thailand

NANNY NEEDED

Experienced Nanny to take care of 2 kids between ages 4 and 7. Good English skills and driving license. Live in, from Monday to Friday or whole week. Recommendation letters from previous employers needed. Good salary. Tel: 084-189 3070.

OFFICE ASSISTANT / COMPANY SECRETARY

Good computer knowledge, accounting and business admin experience required. Marine industry experience an advantage. Tel: 076-206707, 084-844 6246. Email: info@seamarine-services.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT 1 POSITION

- Female 22-26 years old only
- Experience preferred
- Vocational Certificate – Bachelor degree major in business or Accounting
- Good EQ and IQ, good health
- Good computer knowledge in Microsoft Office and Internet
- Basic English conversational skills
- Trustworthy, motivated and self-reliant

All applicants must submit full resume by email: info@octopusasia.com

CHEF IN SWEDEN

This is an opportunity for an experienced chef who has worked in the 4-5 star hotel sector and has knowledge about Sushi. A very generous salary is on offer for the right candidate. Tel: 080-6963183.

KRABI ENGLISH SPEAKERS NEED

- Project Manager
 - Site Foreman
 - Reception Manager
 - Housekeeper Supervisor.
- Tel: 081-375 6234. Email: pps@tharaheighth.net

TEACHERS WANTED IN PHUKET

Satree Phuket School is seeking 10 full time native – speaking teachers to begin in May 2010 to teach Science, Drama & Western Music & Modern Dance, Social Studies, Health and P.E., IT, Maths (3), and English (2) to 11 – 18 year old students.

Salary begins at 35,000 – 40,000 baht with 4 weeks paid holiday, government health plan and 3,000 baht housing allowance.

Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree or above, plus TEFL or CELTA certificate or equivalent. We can only reply to applicants who meet the minimum requirements. Please email your CV with covering letter to: joeynho@gmail.com; toptip4736@yahoo.com; nong64@live.com; a_pupatanun@windownslive.com; arayaphan@hotmail.com

For more information. Tel: 084-666 3557, 089-647 9085, 089-587 1018, 086-945 9280.

Be prepared to present all original certificates at the interview and give a teaching demonstration.

WEST SANDS VACATION CLUB
Mai Khao Beach, Phuket

Be a part of something fantastic! West Sands Vacation Club is seeking outgoing, motivated individuals to join our fun-filled family. Competitive salaries and benefits.

Russian Sales Executive (Fluent English required)	1 position
Russian Marketing Executive (Fluent English required)	1 position
Marketing Executives (Thai, Chinese, Japanese speakers required)	5 positions
Member Services Supervisor	1 position

Send resume or CV with recent photo to mark@west-sands.com



STAFF NEEDED

For a luxury restaurant in Patong, we need 5 waitresses, 1 bartender, 1 bartendee, and 2 cleaners. Good interpersonal skills, English speaking. Tel: 085-679 3808 (English). Please send your CV to email: ilpalazzo.phuket@gmail.com

HARD AND SOFTWARE COMPANY

FOR CASHIER SYSTEM

Looking for staff Phuket

- Programmer
- Staff office administrator
- Freelance for sale

Applicants must be fluent in written and spoken English with good computer skills.

The P.O.S. Solution.

Tel: 076-340830.

Email: info@eucasoft-asia.com. Please visit our website at: www.eucasoft-asia.com

RECEPTIONIST REQUIRED

Atsumi healing requires full time receptionist 6 days per week, 9-6pm. Must have BA or higher and excellent English skills. Email resume to info@atsumihealing.com. Starting salary: 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-288075, 081-272 0571 (English & Thai). Email: shell@atsumihealing.com. For further details, please see our website at <http://atsumihealing.com>

RECEPTIONIST IN KARON

Needed for beautiful guesthouse. Thainational. Tel: 089-8753823. Email: ninapartments@hotmail.com

DETOX CONSULTANT

Atsumi Healing center is looking for a full time Western Fasting consultant (preferably male). Must have a keen interest in and knowledge of health, the human body, yoga and meditation. Full training will be provided. Tel: 084-855 7803 (English). Please email resume to shell@atsumihealing.com. For further details please visit our website at <http://atsumihealing.com>

ASSISTANT FOR HAIR SALON

Should know how to wash/dry hair, manicure, pedicure. Must speak English. Good salary. Tel: 084-838 2304. Email: hamuenst@yahoo.de

SALES EXECUTIVES

- Male/female, 22-30 years
 - Bachelor's degree in any related fields
 - New graduates are welcome to apply
 - Must have outgoing personality
 - Excellent command of English written and spoken
 - Must have own transportation (car or motorcycle)
 - Must have good knowledge of Phuket and surrounding provinces
 - Computer literate (Excel, Word, Power Point, Outlook Express)
 - Positive attitude and pleasant personality
 - Competitive attitude to reach targets
- Contact us now. Tel: 076-263687, 081-823 4627. Email: ying@phuketpooltables.com

Looking for a job?
Looking for a better candidate?
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at www.PhuketGazette.Net!

Island Job Mart

PA TO MD / EXECUTIVE ASSIST

- Must have experience as executive assistant/PA to MD for at least 3 years.
- Must be fluent in English and Thai
- Female aged 27-35.
- Must own and drive a car.
- Must have excellent skills with computers and the internet.
- Experience in dealing with hi-end luxury products/yachts.
Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th
Please visit our website at www.boatlagoonyachting.co.th

BOAT SALES BROKER/EXECUTIVE

- Experience as broker for luxury motoryacht sales (new/used) of over 3 years.
- Fluent in English.
- Knowledge of motoryachts, and ability to handle boats would be helpful.
- Good at computer and internet-experience working in sales.
- Driven environment.
Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th

A SMARTHOME COMPANY

requires audio/visual technicians, electricians, design engineers, an office manager, a purchasing manager and a personal assistant. All nationalities considered. Fax CV with photo. Email: daragh@techwork-projects.com

VOLUNTEER ENGLISH TEACHER

English speaking teachers to volunteer teaching kindergarten and grade 1-6 in Klok Kloy, Phang-Nga. 1-4 days a week. Expenses paid, 2,000 baht a day from Phuket. Call Principal Vinai Visam at 086-470 5337.

NANNY NEEDED

Experienced Nanny to take care of 2 kids between ages 4 and 7. Good English skills and driving license. Live in, from Monday to Friday or whole week. Recommendation letters from previous employers needed. Good salary. Tel: 189 3070

CAREGIVER FOR ELDERLY WOMAN

Must speak English. 10,000 baht per month and room provided in Kamala. Thai national. Tel: 080-699 2436 (English). Email to: kokakat@gmail.com

OFFICE MANAGER

for a dental clinic - Thai national with reasonable English. Please contact for further information. Tel: 087-277 5014 (English). Email: info@dentalsea.com

We are part of an established and diversified group of companies involved in the business of hotels and resorts, travel and property development.
We seek results - orientated individuals to join our team as:

PROJECT MANAGER (Phuket)

REQUIREMENTS:

- ▶ Possess Degree in Architecture, Civil Engineering, Building Science or equivalent professional qualification
- ▶ Minimum 6 years hands-on working experience in property development and building construction
- ▶ Able to lead a team of consultants and contractors effectively
- ▶ Strong project management skills with experience in managing multi-disciplined projects
- ▶ A team player with good interpersonal skills and high level of integrity
- ▶ Computer literate with good knowledge of planning software and presentation tools
- ▶ Willing to be stationed at Phuket project sites

Interested candidates are invited to e-mail resume stating present and expected salary to sao-narak@hotmail.com



Aava Resort & Spa is located in a peaceful tropical beachfront that offers 5 star boutique hotel service standards with the appropriate quality facilities, such as 28 luxurious villas, pool, pool bar, gourmet restaurant & bar, pizzeria, bakery, lounge bar, business center and conference/meeting room.

We are recruiting for the following positions:

1. Bartender	2 Positions	11. Guide	1 Position
2. Coffee Shop Attendant	1 Position	12. Reception Supervisor	2 Positions
3. Waiter / Waitress	3 Positions	13. Driver	2 Positions
4. Restaurant Captain	2 Positions	14. Room maid Supervisor	1 Position
5. Spa Manager	1 Position	15. Room maid	2 Positions
6. Spa Supervisor	1 Position	16. Gardening Supervisor	1 Position
7. Spa Therapist	1 Position	17. Housekeeping Manager	1 Position
8. Front Office Manager	1 Position	18. Housekeeping Supervisor	1 Position
9. Receptionist	3 Positions	19. Room Boy	1 Positions
10. Reservationist	1 Position		

Hotel Benefits:

- 5 day work week
- Life & Medical insurance
- Associates Dormitory
- Uniform and meals on duty
- Job Career opportunity
- Guarantee a Service Charge

Please do not hesitate to contact us, if you have any questions or need more information.

Aava Resort and Spa 28/3 Moo. 6 T. Khanom A. Khanom, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80130
Tel: 080-5268872 Fax: 075 300 312 Email: aravan@aavaresort.com

www.aavaresort.com

Cape Panwa Hotel & SPA Phuket, Thailand



The Cape Panwa Hotel and Spa embodies tropical luxury in one of the world's most desirable destinations. Tucked away in a quiet corner of south-east Phuket, the hotel is renowned for its excellent service, stylish rooms and exclusive beach.

We are inviting applicants for the following positions:

Front Office Manager Front Office Supervisor Receptionist

The candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- At least 2 years' experience in similar position
- Good command of English

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

Splash Jungle Water Park

Sales & Marketing Manager

Phuket's first and only Water Park is looking for an experienced, outgoing, ambitious Sales & Marketing Manager to promote the Water Park throughout Phuket and the surrounding area. The ideal candidate will have knowledge of the travel, tourism and entertainment industry in the Phuket area. Great opportunity for the successful candidate with competitive salary, benefits and incentives.

Send resume or CV with recent photo to hr@west-sands.com and chris@west-sands.com

The Sands Condominium

The Sands Condominium is offering 1 exciting opportunity

Property Duty Manager

Qualifications:

- 1) Property Management Experience
- 2) Budget Management
- 3) Knowledge of property law
- 4) Office admin & computer skills
- 5) Excellent spoken & written English
- 6) Thai Nationality ONLY

Please send your cover letter with complete CV
E-mail: thesandsjp@gmail.com, prama_mantana@yahoo.com
Tel: 076-388 329 Mobile: 084-058 9856, 087-273 2934
Contact Khun Mantana (Yaa)



Legal & Property Consultancy Firm in Phuket urgently requires

Executive Secretary

With these qualifications:

- ▶ Female with Bachelor Degree
- ▶ Excellent spoken and written English
- ▶ Able to translate Thai - Eng & Eng - Thai
- ▶ Computer Literacy in: MS Word, Excel, Outlook, Internet
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