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End of the ordeal

Charges dropped against Australian accused of sexual abuse

AN AUSTRALIAN man arrested by police in March for child molestation is now free and trying to get his life back together after the Phuket Provincial Court on June 14 dropped the case for lack of evidence.

Andrew Clements of Tasmania was arrested by Thalang Police in his Chalong home on the night of March 19. He spent 12 days in prison before his release on 800,000 baht bail.

Mr Clements told the *Gazette* he went to Phuket Provincial Court on June 14 for the first hearing in the case expecting to plead 'not guilty' to the Public Prosecutor's charges.

The 51-year-old former basketball star said he felt relief bordering on shock when he learned the charges had been dropped.

"I was pretty shocked to be quite honest. Yesterday was surreal, remarkable. It was phenomenal, especially from the psychological aspect of having been labeled a 'pedo', especially when you have views as strong as I do about people who participate in such activities," he said.

Asked if he felt he had been framed by the boy's parents, Mr Clements said he was reticent to release too many details about



FREE: Andrew Clements is met by his girlfriend Sorn after his release from Phuket Provincial Prison on March 30.

the circumstances that led to his arrest as that could potentially raise more 'issues' that could lead to trouble.

However, he did describe the evidence against him as "pretty outrageous" and highly implausible in terms of basic facts like places and times the alleged abuse was

said to have taken place.

"If I did the things to the kid that they said I did he wouldn't have been running around the school, you can be sure of that," he said.

A former teacher at Phuket International Academy, Mr Clements was dismissed by the

school before his arrest for unrelated reasons.

The day after the charges were dropped, Mr Clements told the *Gazette* that some foreign inmates at Phuket Prison threatened to arrange to have him killed by Thai inmates if he refused to pay 50,000 baht.

He was busy meeting with prison officials on Tuesday to try and get the money returned voluntarily, avoiding the need to press charges.

Despite never having been formally charged by a court, Mr Clements' passport was canceled by the Australian government after his arrest and he now has to apply for a new one.

Mr Clements said he was basically satisfied with the media coverage of his ordeal, except for reports that indicated he had been formally charged by the court.

Mr Clements was quoted by Australia's ABC News network as saying he had recently become inundated by calls from the media and no longer wanted to comment because he was sick of all the attention.

His girlfriend Sorn, who has stayed with him throughout the ordeal, told the *Gazette* Mr Clements was tired and needed rest.

— **Stephen Fein**

Expats question account of Aussie death plunge

EXPAT operators of a Patong hotel have dismissed local media reports that suggest an Australian man who plunged three stories to his death on the morning of June 10 took his own life following a World Cup dispute with a Thai girlfriend. The death was most likely accidental, they said.

According to one media outlet, 29-year-old Shawn Morris fell

off the balcony of his room at the Kanjana Hotel on Nanai Road after an argument about the World Cup with his "seasonal" Thai girlfriend, whose support of Germany caused friction in their relationship.

Antonio Pala, the 38-year-old Italian who operates the hotel with his South African wife Cynthia Velopjara, said all evidence suggests Mr Morris accidentally fell from the hotel roof

while trying to get back into the room after locking himself out.

Mr Pala said the Australian couldn't have had a fight with a Thai girlfriend — because he didn't have one.

"He stayed with one Thai girl the first three or four days, but it was the first time he met this girl. He usually seemed to like farang ladies more than Thais," he said.

"I saw this story and talked

to his close friend who has since left because he was so upset. He confirmed that he didn't have a girlfriend. The second thing is that Shawn didn't care about football at all. The last thing, that Shawn came back every low season to see this girl, is not true at all. Sometimes he came with family, sometimes with friends and sometimes with an Australian girlfriend."

Continued on page two

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Death plunge

Continued from page one

"He also came in the high season as well as the low season. So this story is completely untrue in my opinion," said the Italian.

On the day of the accident, Mr Morris greeted staff when he returned at about 4am and called his friend at 4:15am to tell him he was back and safe. He fell at about 5am, Mr Pala said.

"When I went inside the room with the police there were no other signs that others were present," he said.

"He didn't have any problems with anyone else. Okay, he drank too much, that's true. Yes, he started drinking in the afternoons and had long drinking sessions. But my wife told me she talked to him the day before and he said he had a new job driving trucks in Australia, so I don't think he committed suicide, nor do I think anybody killed him."

Evidence suggests the fall was an accident, he said.

A metallic door on the roof that should have been closed was found open, a piece of roof was broken off and found near the body, and Mr Morris's room key was never recovered, Mr Pala explained.

"So the most probable thing was that he came back at about 4am, then went out again for something later but then lost his key. So I think he tried to get into the room from the roof, but it was impossible and he fell," he said.

Mrs Velopjara, 25, said police found cocaine in the Australian's room and that he started drinking at 2pm that afternoon. These factors might have been responsible for his poor judgment and subsequent fall, she said.

Kathu Police Superintendent Arayapan Pukbuakhao confirmed that cocaine was found in Mr Morris's room and agreed that his judgment might have been impaired by it, causing him to fall.

— A. Khamlo and S. Fein

English out of World Cup

Phuket fans let down by lack of English commentary in Thai broadcasts

FOOTBALL fans across the globe are complaining about the vuvuzela – the gaudy plastic horn bringing a cacophonous din to the soundtrack of matches during this year's FIFA World Cup in South Africa.

But expat fans in Phuket have an audio complaint of their own: the lack of English-language commentary on Thai broadcasts of the games.

While some venues seem to have access to matches complete with commentary in English, many of those without the right satellite dish or cable supplier can't provide their foreign customers with commentary they understand.

Andrew Scott, a 30-year-old football-loving Phuket expat, said commentary in his native tongue helped him get more engrossed in the action.

"Thai commentary doesn't do that because you've got no idea what's going on," he said. "You just end up standing in front of the screen and speaking with your friends – and missing parts of the game."

One owner of a popular bar in Kata said that he had noticed his customers "weren't getting fired up enough" when watching Thai-language matches.

"No-one's actually complained but I've noticed that some customers have come in and seen it and walked away, and I can only assume it's because it's in Thai," he said.

Thai entertainment giant RS paid Fifa for the exclusive rights to broadcast World Cup matches

in Thailand. Its terrestrial TV partners in Thailand are providing broadcasts with Thai commentary.

RS sold the rights to HD broadcasts of the games to TrueVisions, the country's only legal satellite provider.

Many of the island's bar owners snapped up the HD package, thinking they'd get English language commentary. They didn't.

One bar owner in Chalong told the *Gazette* that TrueVisions did not tell him the commentary would be in Thai. "If I knew this, I wouldn't have spent the money," he said.

Back in Kata, the bar owner there said he assumed English-language commentary would be included because it came as standard with other sports packages, such as coverage of English Premier League matches.

"I have one person that I normally deal with there and she didn't tell me it wasn't in English," he said.

TrueVisions Service Officer La-ongdao Jarumcrue told the *Gazette* that the company's sales representatives were expected to tell customers there was no English commentary with the World Cup matches.

"If a customer wasn't told, it's the responsibility of the sales rep," she said.

So why didn't TrueVisions buy English commentary in the first place? TrueVisions sales officer Patchara Srisai told the *Gazette* that her company would have bought the rights – but RS didn't have them. And RS didn't have them, she said, because Fifa wouldn't sell.

In an email to one disappointed bar owner in Phuket Town, Chulathai Saligupta, a senior manager for sports program-

'It's easy to see why Fifa didn't want the Thaicom 5 satellite broadcasting English-language coverage to a large swathe of the Asia-Pacific region.'



THE VUVUZELA: Some say this isn't the biggest annoyance at the 2010 World Cup. AFP Photo

ming at TrueVisions, explained, "This is not the fault of RS International Broadcasting but is due to restrictions by the original provider of the World Cup, Fifa, which is not allowing English commentary in Thailand due to the high broadcast piracy problem among neighboring countries."

The *Gazette* contacted Fifa asking them to explain the decision. Fifa failed to respond, but a related incident might shed more light on the situation.

On June 15, Thai viewers with C-Band satellite dishes supplied by TrueVisions were left angry when channels airing free World Cup matches – not the HD broadcasts, which cost extra – went black without prior notice, forcing many to scurry to old-fashioned antenna-based TVs.

RS explained that the black-

out was ordered by Fifa, "for non-encrypted broadcast in Thailand".

In a statement, RS explained that the Thaicom 5 satellite had taken over operations from Thaicom 2 and now broadcasted hundreds of channels, including all free Thai channels that air World Cup matches. The signals can be picked up in countries around the Asia Pacific region.

A complaint was lodged with Fifa from the copyright-owner in India, which said local viewers were able to watch live matches free of charge by receiving signals from Thaicom 5.

With few Thai speakers in India, it's easy to see why Fifa didn't want the Thaicom 5 satellite broadcasting English-language coverage to a large swathe of the Asia-Pacific region.

Knowing how important the World Cup is to his customers, the bar owner in Kata said that he had shelled out 25,000 baht for a one-year subscription to a satellite package that, from June 21, would allow him to show the games – with commentary in English.

Other bar owners are also finding a way to give their customers what they want. The owner of another popular bar, this one in Phuket Town, said that he had changed his cable TV supplier and would be showing the games with English commentary – "until it gets banned," he added.

Still, not all Phuket's fans are too concerned about the situation.

"Commentary is good, but this hasn't ruined my World Cup," said Mr Scott. "I'm having a great time watching it with my friends."

— Dan Waites and Atchaa Khamlo

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CAUGHT: Tossaporn 'Peh' Jarunrak at the press conference.

Man on run nabbed

AFTER three years on the run, a man wanted for a stabbing murder in Phuket Town in 2007 has been arrested by police in Phang Nga.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong, Deputy Commander Peerayut Karajedee and Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekporntip led a press conference on June 11 to announce the arrest of 26-year-old Tossaporn 'Peh' Jarunrak.

Mr Tossaporn was wanted for the May 7, 2007 stabbing of Samnao Tongsin.

The officers said Mr Tossaporn was at Taew Karaoke

on Ong Sim Phai Road near Nimit Circle at 11:30pm that night, when Mr Samnao arrived on a motorbike and demanded money for an outstanding debt.

A violent argument ensued, ending with Mr Tossaporn allegedly stabbing Mr Samnao, who died at Vachira Phuket Hospital two days later.

An investigation by Phuket City Police led to an arrest warrant being issued for Mr Tossaporn in June last year.

He was arrested in Ban Bangmaruanat, Takuapa, by District Police there at 5:30pm on June 10.

— *Atchaa Khamlo*

Patong flooding likely to continue

PUBLIC works intended to prevent floods in Patong this monsoon season have not been completed in time to stop deluges on Nanai Road and other parts of the town.

In March, Patong Mayor Pian Keesin pledged to put an end to the "Nanai River", a 50-meter stretch of Nanai Road that spent much of last year's wet season under three feet of water.

The length of road suffering from recurrent flooding varies, but generally stretches from the Aroonpat Village housing estate to the Chang Residence Hotel.

Work to lay drainpipes to siphon water from the road was expected to be completed by the start of this year's monsoon rains.

But although the rains didn't start until the end of May this year — unseasonably late — the work has yet to finish.

The project is contracted to finish by October 30, but Mayor Pian told the *Gazette* that it would wrap up ahead of schedule.

"It's quite late now as the rains have started and a lot of ve-



A man cleans his motorcycle in the "Nanai River" earlier this month.

hicles use the road, but it should be done within two months," he said.

Mayor Pian said that after this month there would be no more heavy flooding on Phang Muang Sai Kor Road after a project to lay drainpipes along its flanks is completed.

"There will only be small floods when heavy rains come at the same time as high tide," he said.

The project appears to

have improved drainage at the top end of Soi Sansabai, where it intersects with Phang Muang Sai Kor Road.

Although Soi Sansabai is privately owned, it is a major access way to Soi Bangla for nightlife workers living along Nanai Road. Last year's flooding there was a common source of complaint to the municipality.

— *Pimwara Choksakulpan*

Bt49m in counterfeit goods steamrolled in Phuket

HIGH-RANKING members of the Finance Ministry on June 9 took part in the ceremonial destruction of seized counterfeit goods reportedly worth almost 49 million baht.

The event, which took place at the Phuket Customs House in Phuket Town, was presided over by hammer-wielding Deputy Finance Minister Pradit Pattaraprasit and Customs Department Direc-

tor-General Somchai Sajjapong.

There was also an international flavor to the event, as top customs officials from 12 ASEAN nations also attended in the capacity of 'honorable guests'.

The group were in Phuket for the four-day ASEAN Customs Director-General 19th Meeting that began on June 8 at the Sheraton Grand Laguna resort in Cherng Talay.

Apparently impressed by the display, World Customs Organization secretary-general Kunio Mikuriya said, "As we observe, there is a strong commitment from ASEAN, including Thailand, to fight against IPR [Intellectual Property Rights] crime. Over 70 % of IPR seizures are done at the border by customs. So it is very important that customs takes a leading role in fighting against piracy."

The destroyed goods were seized in 23 cases investigated by the Investigation and Suppression Bureau, together with Customs Control Unit of Customs Region 4, which covers Southern Thailand.

The value of the destroyed goods was given as precisely 48,739,462 baht.

A total of 47,697 items were destroyed, including: 1,380 DVD movies; 765 pairs of sunglasses;

4,989 bags; 39,265 items of clothing; 655 watches; 269 caps and belts, and 364 bottles of perfume, according to a booklet distributed to the media during the event.

Deputy Finance Minister Pradit said, "IPR infringement is still a major problem for Thailand... I hope the demolition of pirated goods will trigger Thai people's realization of IPR."

— *P. Choksakulpan & S. Fein*



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Tuk-tuk blockade of Deep Sea

Hundreds of tuk-tuks and unlicensed 'black plate' taxis on June 13 staged a four-hour blockade at the Phuket Deep Sea Port, preventing scores of US servicemen and women from transiting to Patong as part of a scheduled shore leave in Phuket. Gazette reporters review what caused the protest, how a negotiated settlement was found – and what the long-term implications for Phuket might be.

The blockade began just before dusk on June 13 as US servicemen were coming ashore at Phuket Deep Sea Port for some 'rest and relaxation' after months on active duty at sea.

Sources at the port at the time said that hundreds of drivers, most in unregistered 'black plate' taxis and others in tuk-tuks, converged at the site in the hope of finding fares.

The servicemen arrived in Phuket aboard three vessels: the US Navy vessels *USS Curtis* and *USS Vandegrift* as well as the US Coast Guard Cutter *Mellon*. The vessels arrived in Phuket at different times starting on June 12, with the last of them due to ship out on June 20.

Sources at the port said that Thais could typically negotiate fares of about 800 to 1,000 baht for the ride from the port to Patong, but that the US sailors are

typically charged two or three times that amount because they lack bargaining skills, don't know the going rate and are usually eager to get to their destinations – most typically Patong.

Few could blame them; most of the servicemen come ashore after months of active duty at sea, where alcohol is forbidden, hours are long and ports of call are very few and far between. Many of the sailors arriving in Phuket had not been off their ships in over three months of active duty in the Persian Gulf.

In the past, a private firm contracted by the US military to provide support services, including transport to Patong, arranged large air-conditioned tour buses for the sailors, who had to queue up to use them. But as most of the servicemen and women only get a 48-hour shore pass, many prefer not to spend it waiting on a bus.

Despite being briefed about



The *USS Nimitz* at the Phuket Deep Sea Port in January 2010. Some personnel wait in excess of two hours to get off the ship, as service boats ferry servicemen and women to Phuket's shores.

the high prices and scams that might await them if they didn't use the prearranged transport service, many visiting US sailors on past R&R stops starting at the Deep Sea Port have still opted for tuk-tuks in order to get their holiday started as soon as possible.

But on the evening of June

13, the firm responsible for getting the sailors from the port to Patong apparently used the services of a new subcontractor who arranged passenger vans, not buses, for the sailors.

Although a seemingly minor change, it set off a chain of events that led to the tuk-tuk blockade.

According to sources present at the time, an untrue rumor began circulating among the taxi and tuk-tuk drivers that the vans were charging the sailors 200 baht a head for the trip to Patong.

Outraged at what they perceived as an incursion into 'their turf', the taxi drivers – including about 30 particularly tough-looking figures dressed from head to toe in black – formed a phalanx and physically prevented the van drivers from getting to their vehicles.

The servicemen and women could do little except sit and wonder what was going on as day turned to night and their first 'night on the town' began passing away before their eyes.

Once informed, police, local elected officials, village headmen and Royal Thai Navy personnel responsible for port security arrived to try and broker a solution.

A high-ranking US Navy officer attending a welcome dinner put on by the Phuket branch of the US Navy League in Patong that night was reportedly

furious at the security breach when informed by telephone.

His crew had been on active duty in the Persian Gulf and hadn't been ashore for 97 days. The Phuket visit was a last-minute change from the originally scheduled visit to Singapore, he said.

"We would obviously never have a problem like this in Singapore," the officer was quoted as saying.

According to the source, the presence of Thai Navy personnel and the firm's bringing in buses to replace the vans were the two main factors that convinced the taxi drivers to end the blockade at about 9pm.

While many *Gazette* readers were outraged at the blockade, US diplomatic staff played down the incident.

Michael Turner, Press Attache at the US Embassy in Bangkok, told the *Gazette* the day after the blockade, "At this morning's staff meeting one of the representatives of the military brought this issue up and as far as we're concerned it has been resolved – it's not a continuing problem. It's an unfortunate welcome to the neighborhood, but we understand some of the concerns that locals may have and I think it was resolved in a way that all sides walked away pleased. It was certainly resolved peacefully," he said.

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Port threatens local economy



REST AND RELAXATION: US military personnel disembark at the Phuket Deep Sea Port to enjoy the island's recreational offerings.

Mr Turner said he was not sure of the procurement procedures used to arrange transport for the sailors, but said he assumed convenience and security factors were a priority.

"At any given time after that plank hits the deck you have got a few hundred young people eager to get off. I have always assumed that one of the reasons they have those coaches out there is to accommodate their speedy entry into the city," he said.

It also appears no legal action will be taken against those behind the protest, even though most apparently operate without proper licensing and the blockade was set up on the grounds of the Phuket Deep Sea Port, which is a government installation.

Phuket City Police said the morning after the blockade that the duty officer at the time did

not visit the protest site and that no criminal charges have been filed against anyone in connection with the incident.

Preechavude 'Prab' Keesin, president of the newly formed Patong Taxi Federation (PTF), said that members of his association were not among the drivers involved in the alleged protest.

"Our members wouldn't do such a thing," he said.

A well-informed source told the *Gazette* said he feared a repeat of the incident could lead the



TOP LEFT: US servicemen and women line up at a mobile banking center at the Phuket Deep Sea Port. **TOP RIGHT:** High ranking US military officials are greeted by their Thai counterparts at Cape Panwa, June 14.

US military and diplomatic staff to revise its security assessment of Phuket as an R&R stop.

The blockade could be taken as a major security breach because the drivers were allowed to block US military personnel at their designated point of entry into the country, he said.

Resupply of American warships, including some of the world's largest aircraft carriers, is an important industry for Phuket.

"People think the only benefit to the local economy is the money sailors spend on nightlife, but that is only the tip of the iceberg. When the *USS Ronald Reagan* was here they loaded 14 containers of supplies. It is a huge business and it would be a shame if we were to lose it because of the greed of a small group of taxi drivers," he said.

The *Gazette* asked some sailors in Patong if they were among those inconvenienced by the blockade.

"We are not at liberty to discuss that," was the reply.

Since the resumption of democracy in Thailand following the

2006 military coup, more than 20 US military vessels have ported in Phuket. In that period there have been no serious criminal incidents reported among US military on shore leave.

The only serious crime by a US serviceman in Phuket came in May 2002, when US Marine sergeant Thomas Wolf, then 26, was arrested for raping, maiming and trying to drown a female US Navy petty officer on Patong Beach. Although the crime took place on Thai

soil, he was turned over to the US military and sentenced to life in prison without parole by a military court. The sentence was later reduced to 25 years.

In June 2008, 25-year-old US Marine Ebony Cooper fell to her death from her seventh-story room at a Patong hotel. It will probably never be known if the death was an accident or a suicide.

The Gazette would like to thank the many sources who contributed to this story.

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‘Together we can’ proves a challenge

Vendors find stalls occupied at Silom sale

BANGKOK: Police had to intervene yesterday after about 500 rally-affected vendors found their stalls for the walking street sale on Silom Road taken over by unregistered vendors.

Surakiart Limcharoen, Bang Rak District chief, said Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) officials closed Silom Road at 11pm on Friday to set up some 2,000 booths for the ‘Together We Can’ Grand Sale.

But when the registered vendors arrived the next morning, outsiders who had occupied their stalls refused to give them up, he said.

The registered vendors were told to wait until the issue could be resolved, but some decided to leave.

Nakan Niwatnirat, who joined the event to sell food, said he would just go home. Mr Nakan urged the organizer to prevent those unaffected by the riots from selling goods next time.

“Many registered vendors who were affected by the riots can’t find a space to sell. Some who were using the stalls without permission claimed to have been



Police and officials intervene as unregistered vendors refuse to leave.

working there for 10-20 years, so I didn’t dare drive them out.”

Deputy Bangkok Governor Thaya Teepasuwat said she had Mr Surakiart file police complaints with police against vendors who were not part of the government assistance scheme.

She also instructed police and BMA officials to help the registered traders gain access to their assigned places as soon as possible and to move the interlopers to a

location further down the road.

Metropolitan Police blocked off one-kilometer stretch of Narathiwat Ratchanakarin Road from Sathorn to Surawong intersections for the registered vendors.

Maj-General Panu Kerdlarppol, the deputy Metropolitan Police chief responsible for traffic, said the closure did not affect traffic in the streets, as many motorists knew about the walking street and had avoided the surrounding area. One lane was also left open for vehicles.

This measure helped avoid fighting between the regular vendors on Silom Road and the visiting vendors, who signed up at the Bang Rak District Office to sell goods during the weekend fair.

However it came after city officials failed to talk the unregistered vendors out of the stalls.

Source: The Nation

Queer News

Chiang Mai cops see red

CHIANG MAI: Police responding to reports of a gathering of hundreds of armed red-shirt demonstrators on June 12 were relieved when the group turned out to be South Korean soccer fans cheering on their team.

Residents told police that a group of around 300 people, many wearing red, had gathered in Manna Rim Mae Ping restaurant on the banks of the Ping River. The group were reportedly chanting loudly and many were brandishing red batons.

Police rushed to the scene to put a stop to the illegal gathering. Fortunately, before charging in with batons and tear gas, some officers noticed that the group appeared to be made up of foreigners and their red shirts carried the logo of the South Korean soccer team – rather than slogans calling for the dissolution of parliament or the overthrow of the aristocracy.

The ‘red batons’ were inflatable ‘cheer sticks’ for waving in the air rather than beating police.



RED SHIRTS: Korean soccer fans in Seoul for 2002 Fifa World Cup.

The Koreans had hired the whole restaurant to watch their team play Greece in the Fifa World Cup.

This gathering ended considerably better for the red-shirted Koreans than their Thai counterparts last month. After their team won 2-0, the police decided to let the party continue rather than arrest the group for breaches of the Emergency Decree, which is still in place in the Northern city.

Source: Thai Rath

‘Handsome man’ sparks bar girl revenge murder

CHIANG MAI: A bar girl was stabbed to death in the street on June 7, reportedly during an argument over a good-looking foreigner.

Udon Thani-native Phisamai Kotban, 27, was left lying bleeding in the street near following the attack. She had been stabbed in the chest and back.

A passerby took Miss Phisamai to Ruam Paet Hospital, but she later died of her injuries.

Witnesses told police that before the attack, the victim, who

worked at a bar on Loi Kroh Road, had been drinking with friends in a restaurant.

When a handsome foreign man started chatting to her, another group of Loi Kroh bar girls became enraged.

When she left the restaurant, they followed her and attacked. They beat her to the floor and one of the group stabbed her twice.

Police say they believe they know the identity of Miss Phisamai’s assailants.

Source: NBN



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Some of the crafts on display at the Prison Products Fair. Photos by Thanasorn Chookate

Prisoner fair showcases confined talent

SHOWCASING a bit of talent from unlikely places, the seventh annual Prison Products Fair was held at Saphan Hin from June 4 to 13, featuring a number of handmade arts and crafts for visitors to browse and purchase.

Each year the fair sells a selection of products crafted by prison inmates from 14 provincial prisons across the Southern Region as part of their vocational skills training. Despite consistently heavy rains throughout much of this year's fair, a

number of visitors still made their way to the event.

The fair included a number of heavy-duty wooden furniture and small decorative items, such as miniature elephants made of rattan, as well as wood carvings, all at reasonable prices.

The fair also offered a wide variety of staged entertainment and food shops.

Prisoners get to keep 50% of profits from sales, which they can use to rebuild their lives after their release.

— *Gazette reporters*

Thailand minimized

TAKING the vibrant sights of Thailand down to a miniature size, Jungceylon Phuket's fourth annual Amazing Miniature Thai World from June 11 – 20 is part of a celebration marking the 60th anniversary of the coronation of HM The King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

A number of the Royal Development Projects for Soil and Water Conservation were replicated on a small scale. Among those on display were Pasak Cholasit Dam, the Vetiver Grass Development Project, and Nong-pho Diary Co-operative LTD. All these projects are designed to implement a "simple but effective" approach to successful agriculture and conservation.

Also featured was a miniature version of one of Thailand's most famous markets, the Maeklong Railway Market (*Talad Rom Hoop*), complete with a train, food stalls, children playing and villagers at work.

President of the Thailand Miniature Center, Mr Chupan Banjongchate, said this year's exhibit boasted a display of more than 1000 sets that took 15 of Thailand's top craftsmen more than one year to make.



Scenes from life around Thailand at the Amazing Miniature Thai World exhibit at Jungceylon.



Phuket also had its own exhibit that highlighted the history of the island's tin-mining industry. The display included sounds and locomotion that gave a sense

of what life was like at a time when Phuket was an international hub of tin production.

— *Story and photos by Thanasorn Chookate*

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Shimmy your way back into shape



Malika in a recent belly dancing session with her students at the RPM Health Club. Photos by Nicky Vermeulen.

FROM now until the end of August, the Royal Phuket Marina Health Club is hosting a 10-session introductory course to the Baladi style of belly dancing.

The course is being taught by Phuket resident Malika, who is a popular entertainment choice at corporate and hotel events on the island for her belly dancing routines.

The first few sessions involve the teaching of basic body movements of belly dancing, which include the mesmerizing

hip punches and shimmies that so many envision when someone mentions the oriental dance form.

The next few sessions will teach choreography and combinations to form effective routines. By the end of the course, Malika's student dancers should be ready to develop their own routines and will hopefully put on a show at an 'Arabian' themed party at the Royal Phuket Marina.

Through the ages, belly dancing has evolved from ancient childbirth rituals to a sexy and

seductive performing art, with several nuances in between that share the same ideology.

All of these aspects aim to embrace both the power and energy of the feminine spirit.

From the restraint and elegance used by Egyptian belly dancers and the flirty, uninhibited style of the Turkish dancers, to the electric goddess-like force bursting forth from Latin American superstar Shakira's hips – belly dancing is femininity in all its sexy glory.

The term 'belly dance', however, is a little misleading, as the movements used require the isolated use of various parts of the body including hips, shoulders, legs, hands, chest and stomach.

In most styles though, the main focus is on the hip and pelvic area.

Aside from the seductive portrayal belly dancing emits, there are a few other benefits. It is also good for the prevention of osteoporosis in older women.

Furthermore, belly dancing is a non-impact weight-bearing exercise and is considered suitable for all ages.

Many of the moves improve flexibility of the torso and dancing with a veil can help build strength in the upper body, arms and shoulders, as the arms are used above the head and shoulders for extended periods of time.

The legs and long muscles of the back are also strengthened by hip movements.

More research seems to indicate the positive effect belly dancing has on a woman's approach toward menstruation, sexuality and her body.

Oriental dancing, as Arabs call it, is thought to be one of the oldest forms of dance on the planet, originating with pre-Biblical religious rites worshiping motherhood.

The only two movements done with the abdominal muscles were used for generations as a

practical preparation for females for the stresses of childbirth.

The dance was also performed at the bedside of a woman in labor by a circle of her fellow tribeswomen.

The purpose was to hypnotize the woman into imitating the movements with her own body, which was believed to greatly facilitate birth and pain reduction from womb contractions.

It helped the mother move with the contractions instead of against them, like so many women in childbirth do today.

It was seen as a poem of the beauty, mystery and pain of childbirth, which men watched with reverence and humility.

It was only when the promiscuous eye of the western world fell upon the exotic dance that it became a vision of sex and seduction.

For more information on the belly dancing courses, contact the RPM Health Club on 076-360885.

– Nicky Vermeulen

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Lek and Celine (far right) with friends at a recent Hip and Chic market.

Hip & Chic in Phuket Town

BESIDES sand, sea and sex, shopping has made Phuket a destination for travelers from around the world.

While Patong attracts those mostly looking for cheap knock-off luxury items and appallingly tacky, tasteless t-shirts, Phuket Town has become the shopping hub for those looking for style and quality.

Forget the mega-shopping centers that have sprouted around the island over the past decade housing mass-produced merchandise. Instead, head into Phuket Town to the modest weekend market that has spread in size like wildfire across the formerly quiet Wat Naka on the west side of town.

Every Saturday and Sunday night, this market buzzes with the thrill and excitement of bargain shopping. It's filled with second-hand clothes in small shops cramped next to each other that offer cute and cheap fashion.

Unfortunately, most of these treasures are a size 0 – perfect for Thai girls, but not for even the most slender of Western bodies.

There is, however, a gleam of hope at the end of the Thai shopping tunnel.

Siam Indigo Exotique Restaurant and Bar, which was named one of Thailand Tatler's

Best Restaurants in 2010, has launched a monthly Hip and Chic fashion market that promises to have something for everyone, regardless of size or style.

In addition, owner Lek Ratanachinakorn has invited his designer friends in Bangkok to showcase their tropical and beachwear ranges at the Hip and Chic market, which is held on the first Sunday of every month from 3pm to 8pm.

"Bangkok has a collection of world class designers and many, such as Rococo, Odds 'n' Ends, Only Sugar and Century 22, import designer items from around Asia, especially India and Vietnam," he told the *Gazette*.

Khun Lek is one of the island's most engaging entrepreneurs and operates Casa 104, a boutique guesthouse, as well as Saneha – a music bar and restaurant around the corner from Siam Indigo on Yaowaraj Road.

"We love Phuket City and wanted to add some excitement to a Sunday afternoon," said Celine Masson, who directs operations at Siam Indigo.

"And what could be more fun than shopping while sipping on a cocktail and enjoying exotic *hors d'oeuvres* all at the same time?"

Celine is offering Siam Indigo tapas at the Hip and Chic



A shopper looks through the selection of designer clothing and jewelry on offer at the Hip and Chic market.

market at reduced prices. The selection includes larb tuna, smoked salmon spring rolls and pork piri piri, as well as designer drinks such as their signature 'orange dragon' cocktail. Meanwhile, pop and jazz band *Jub and*

the Gang give the event some rhythm with their live set.

Khun Lek says that it's like a private party, but everyone is invited and that the European-style event has shoppers delving for merchandise normally found

in big city boutiques.

The next Hip and Chic will take place on July 4. Khun Lek promises an even greater selection of fine jewelry and irresistible clothing, all at reduced prices.

– **Bruce Stanley**

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Ancient healing makes a comeback

THE GOLDEN Tulip Mangosteen Resort and Spa in Nai Harn, has recently undergone an inspirational re-fit under the global Golden Tulip hospitality group.

One of many improvements, the 'Ayurveda Destination Spa' has become just that; a haven to seek out, as it is the only venue on Phuket that has based its entire spa concept on the ancient and unique practice of Ayurveda.

Modern medicine – and its perpetual bombardment of prescriptions, antibiotics and meds to fix even the most minute of complaints – will have you believe that there is a pill fit to fix every problem. Society's sentiments, however, seem to be changing, with traditional and even ancient forms of medicine becoming increasingly popular.

Cultural attitudes are moving away from the synthetic trend of the past few decades and into a rediscovery of mankind's dependence on, and fundamental connection to the earth and its ecology.

Thus the skepticism many possessed towards holistic and



A range of holistic healing treatments are now available at a dedicated Ayurveda spa.

alternative treatments is fading, and being replaced with trust and respect.

The Ayurveda philosophy is based fundamentally on nature and the materials and principles it has to offer. It also focuses on diagnosis and cause, treating those aspects of ailments, rather than the symptoms thereof, which is where many believe modern medicine has lost its way.

Ayurveda was developed in India about 5,000 years ago, by

rishis (or wise men) who cultivated a deep understanding of nature through observations, experiments, discussions and meditation. The first recorded studies are from 1,000 BC.

Interestingly, the practice originated mainly from southern India, which has a similar climate and vegetation to Thailand, so the ingredients and practices are more easily adapted here than in Europe and America, where Ayurveda is also gaining momentum.

Treatment at the Ayurveda Destination Spa begins with a consultation with Dr Baspin, a certified Ayurvedic Doctor from Kerala, India.

He then develops a customized blueprint of health for the client, based on the status of five main lifestyle sectors: diet, leisure activities, career, relationships and environment.

Individual constitution will also be considered through the evaluation of three 'Doshas':

Vata, *Pitta* and *Kapha*, which are believed to govern specific emotional and physical functions in the body.

Ayurveda packages, ranging from a few hours to two weeks at the spa depending on the severity of your condition, claim to have produced real results in the healing of actual physical illnesses.

According to Ayurvedic practitioners, problems and conditions with your muscles, nerves, skin, joints and allergies can all be treated.

Specific illnesses mentioned include psoriasis, high cholesterol, arthritis, rheumatism, sinusitis, spondylosis, sciatica, intervertebral disc prolapses and premature graying of hair.

Psychological ailments such as insomnia, anxiety, depression and stress can also be eased.

Natural ingredients based on the five primal elements of life – air, space, water, fire and earth – are the basis of the medicinal prescriptions, which are applied in many different ways and include hot oil, herbs, rice, sand and steam, to name a few.

– Alexandra Andersson



Freer 'Sparky' Richardson with his nurse and companion Khun Cookie, who does not leave his bedside.

Recovery with a spark

FREER Richardson, better known to his many Phuket friends as 'Sparky', has spent the better part of three months in the government medical facility, Vachira Hospital.

He is recovering from a surgery that has prevented him from being able to walk. Because he has spent all his available cash on his medical treatment, many of his waking hours are spent wishing for a laptop computer so he can answer his many emails.

"I didn't even know I had a

medical problem until my friends told me that I was sick. I had noticed that my speaking was not as clear and I was having hallucinations. One day I found I couldn't walk and a friend got me to go to Bangkok Phuket hospital for an examination."

Immediately he was found to have an infected abscess on his spine which had become a three foot long ulcer that ran the length of his back, affecting his motor nerves. He also realized he had no medical insurance to pay for what would be an expensive surgery.

Fortunately, the doctor who gave him the diagnosis also practiced at the government hospital and Sparky was taken by ambulance to Vachira, where the surgery was done.

"I feel like I've had really good care at both Bangkok Phuket hospital and Vachira and now I'm just waiting to regain strength and for my leg muscles

to allow me to walk so I can return by airplane to England for recuperation."

Sparky first came to Phuket in 1979 on a break from his work as a radio officer on a ship docked in Singapore. He immediately knew Phuket was where he wanted to live.

When he retired in 2002, he moved permanently to Chalong where he has spent many years diving, sailing and becoming an important part of the local community.

He is hoping there is someone willing to loan him a laptop during his remaining stay at Vachira Hospital so that he may stay in contact with his many friends and relieve the boredom of his long stay in bed.

If you have a laptop that you can loan Sparky to increase his comfort, please contact Peter Notley by email at notley.peter@gmail.com.

– Bruce Stanley

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EXPAT GALLERY

John Howard

John Howard is the Managing Director of the Phuket branch of Tilleke & Gibbins, the oldest law firm in Thailand, now in their second century of service.

"I first came to Thailand in 1975 after finishing my Law studies at the University of Melbourne. I met David Lyman and he introduced me to Tilleke & Gibbins, a law firm well known for its Museum of Counterfeits. It was and still is a market leader in intellectual property law."

John grew up in Australia and recalls watching episodes of the popular American television series Perry Mason, which provided weekly installments of courtroom drama and the values of the law. These inspired him to study law "more by default than planning".

After graduation from the University of Melbourne, the young, adventurous John wanted to see the world rather than immediately entering a law practice. He traveled and eventually was hired as a flight attendant for Qantas Airlines, Australia's national carrier. He spent most of the 1970s flying around the world.

By 1981, he left Qantas and settled in Paris where he worked for a French telecommunications company translating their legal documents. But the travel bug bit again and he began to look for jobs in remote tropical destina-

tions. He found a posting as Deputy Attorney General on the exotic island of Kiribati, far off in the Pacific Ocean.

"I was very drawn to the style of living on small tropical islands. And though I didn't know Kiribati, I accepted the posting and headed into unfamiliar territory."

A year later, John was hired to work on the Marshall Islands, again as Deputy Attorney General, this time working with American jurisprudence. His work dealt primarily with the international legal issues common to small island jurisdictions.

He was then contracted by the US Embassy in Fiji to examine the legal aspects of aid delivery to 14 South Pacific countries. He traveled extensively throughout the Asia Pacific region.

In 1989, he was ready to move out on his own. He opened a commercial and criminal law practice in the capital, Suva.

"I was living the dream. I loved living in Fiji. Besides my practice, I enjoyed traveling around the islands and playing tennis at the Royal Suva Lawn Tennis Club."

John spent most of the 1990s on Fiji but the political uncertainties, which included numerous coups, plus security issues for his family and his home, encouraged him to sell his business,

retire, and move back to Australia, in 1999.

But after a few years, he missed the challenges of working in his profession.

"I have always been interested in the property market, which is not uncommon for Australians, and as Phuket's luxury residential market developed I saw opportunities in providing legal services to that market via a branded but truly local firm."

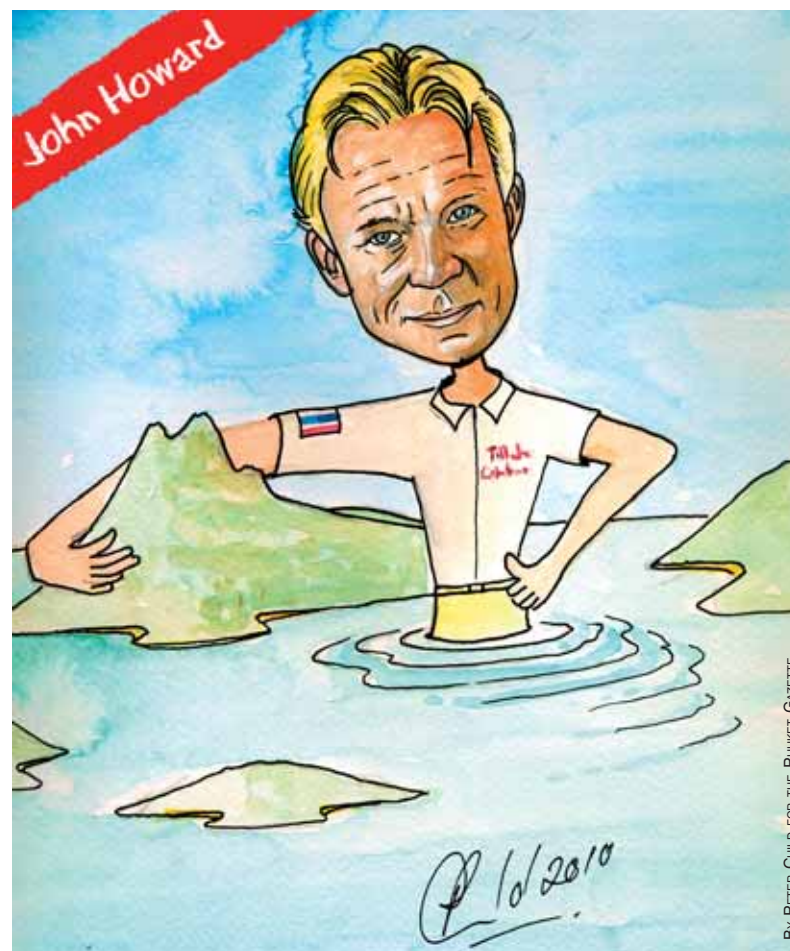
He renewed his contacts at Tilleke & Gibbins and in 2005 established a joint venture to open Tilleke and Gibbins Phuket in Cherg Talay. Today he maintains an office with 15 staff, including five lawyers and support staff. They offer full support services for foreign investors in Phuket.

"Phuket's property market has shown remarkable development despite the coup, the global economic meltdown, an airport seizure, a tsunami, and a number of health related disasters over the past few years. With all this, the property market has been stable, perhaps because it is a cash based market.

"While Thailand has recently been going through hard times, the country and the Phuket property market have demonstrated resilience and there's no reason to think that will be any different in the future."

Meanwhile, John is enjoying his return to a life on a tropical island, primarily, he notes, because of the friendly, accommodating Thai people.

— 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.

by Benz Chaengwattana
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BIRTHDAY BOYS: From left: Managing Director of Dewa Phuket, Lars Ydmark, Managing Director of Andaman Lighting Systems, Ian Potter, and Managing Director of Phuket Concierge and British Honorary Consul Martin Carpenter celebrated their 50th birthdays with a party held at Dewa and attended by family and friends. As part of the celeb-rations, their daughters (above) put on a dance show. Photos by Tippanate Pittayasamai.



STRETCHING THE LOVE: Abbyssan Yoga & Wellness Center held a charity event for a special needs school in Phuket on June 6 at King Rama the 9th Park.



BON APPETIT: The Phuket Bailliage of the Chaîne des Rotisseurs held its annual *Chapitre* on May 29 at the Holiday Inn in Patong.



THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT: The Hard Rock Cafe in Patong invited 39 kids from The Life Home Project Orphanage to join them in celebrating the 39th anniversary of Founders Day.



THE BEST OF THE WURST: On June 12, a group of seven food experts came across from Samui to sample what Phuket has to offer in terms of local produce, including German meat products made in Phuket by the Bavarian Sausage Company.



INDOCHINE DROPS BEATS: A warm-up party at Indochine Resort & Villas was held on June 11, featuring a number of international DJs. From right: Triin Tulev from Estonia, local DJ D[r]eadmongey and DJ Rosie Romero from the UK.



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Alfresco's seafood paradise

On the menu WITH Wilko

IT IS a given that, in roughly 75% of the restaurants in Phuket, you will spy one particular Italian gentleman enjoying himself, tucking into the restaurant's fare.

How do I know this? Here we go: A quick internet search reveals that just about three-quarters of Phuket's restaurants claim to feature 'alfresco dining' on their premises.

But just why they would insist on mentioning that Alberto Giovanni Fresco regularly staves off his pangs of hunger at their establishments and not a person from, say, the Teutonic persuasion is beyond me, except to say that *Herman Schmidt Dining* doesn't quite have the same ring to it.

Acqua, in Kalim Beach, just north of Patong, caters beautifully for Al-lovers – and a lot more.

Kalim, it must be said, is certainly not Patong and is morphing into the top bling-bling dining venue in Phuket with at least six chic, see-and-be-seen-in eating locations.

Yes, I know; many seasoned fine diners would choke in indignation on their Grey Goose and slivered lemon, spluttering out that, "P-P-Patong isn't a particularly difficult place to out-posh."

Yet Kalim's best restaurants are serious, world-class dining establishments and places that the venerable Signor Fresco would definitely approve of.

Acqua is a trendy and stylish modern Italian restaurant – the brainchild of Sardinia-born chef, Allesandro Frau. Allesandro was Executive Chef at Sheraton Grande Laguna for four years and his restaurant is, well, beautiful. It has bold, clean lines, a black-and-white color scheme, buffed concrete floors, a good spacious feel and views out over



Acqua's superb dishes include Catalana-style lobster salad (above) and a premium seafood combination dish in a smoking glass vase (top right).



Prabaramee Road (the beach road to most expats) and Patong Bay. An admirable selection of chilled-out tunes tumbles out of the in-house JBL speakers and his staff are impeccably attired.

Acqua recently won Wine Spectator Magazine's 'Award of Excellence' and it's true that the wine list of 140+ labels reads like a 'who's-who' of the vintner world, but we'd already decided that tonight was going to be a rosé evening and so duly ordered a hearty *Cipresseto Animoni* 2008 (1,700 baht).

The complimentary appetizer of buffalo mozzarella wrapped in Parma ham on lethal-looking metal prods is a perfect *amuse-bouche*, but the combination dish that follows is one of the most extraordinary seafood experiences of my whole life: Canadian lobster, French scampi, Spanish mussels, Andaman Sea prawns – all semi peeled and ready to eat – on a bed of ice, topping what can only be described as a giant mushroom-shaped dish (2,000 baht).

If that isn't enough, dry ice propels sliced lemon and coriander in watery circles inside the

dish; an astonishing hubbly-bubbly of seafood delights.

This is by far and away the best seafood I've experienced on the island, but there's more to come in the shape of a cod fillet on a base of cheesy and saffron mashed potatoes with cherry tomatoes in a white-wine sauce

(750 baht) while my beautiful, dutiful partner has a sea bass fillet, also in white-wine sauce (650 baht). Excellent stuff.

All in all, for an ultra-chic restaurant in a beautiful location with top-of-the-range international food, Acqua more than adequately ticks all the right boxes.

Acqua 322/5 Prabaramee Road, Kalim Beach: Head towards Kamala and Acqua is on the right before the road rises into the hills.

Tel: 076-618127. E: reservations@acquarestaurantphuket.com. Open: 4pm – 11pm.

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Elevating Phuket Airport's status

Talking Planes



by Alastair Carthew

MALDIVES, Bali and then Phuket. That is how the 2009 Reader's Choice Award in the *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine, which is regarded by many as the pinnacle of travel publications, ranked the top islands in the Asian and Indian Ocean region.

This demonstrates that with political unrest and other factors working firmly against it, Phuket has a mountain to climb to reclaim the top spot, where it once sat.

Comparisons between Phuket and Bali have long been ongoing, with the greater number of direct flights to Bali, particularly from Australia, being one argument in favor of Bali.

Additionally, in recent times, Bali has benefited from the Bangkok and Phuket airport closures and the political unrest in the capital.



The growing number of visitors and the current expansion at Phuket International Airport could result in the facility being internationally ranked.

Phuket does, however, have the means to fight back.

For a start, it has a better developed infrastructure, which is to soon include the five-billion-baht upgrade that Phuket International Airport (PIA) is currently undergoing, doubling the capacity of visitors to the island from about six million to 12 million.

Although from Australia it takes longer to get to Phuket than

it does to get to Bali, Phuket now has more direct flights from both Australia and Europe. The number of flights appear to be increasing each year, which can be only positive in the long run.

It also seems that there are a few additional factors working in Phuket's favor, namely an increasing number of airlines and their flight routes.

As for the infrastructure

argument, the good news is that despite troublesome red-and-yellow-shirted protests and world recessions, Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok managed to go from 48th best airport in the world in 2007 to 38th best in 2008 and to 24th in 2009, according to Airports Council International [ACI], which rates airports worldwide.

To date, Phuket International Airport is still too small to rate, but with continuous upgrades starting to show tangible results, it's not beyond the possibility that, one day, PIA will register a blip on the ACI rating radar.

It still is, however, very difficult for "unclassified" airports to make any impact. Unclassified means the airport has not yet achieved a star ranking – a system in which one to four stars is assigned to an airport, according to quality and size.

Suvarnabhumi is a three-star airport while Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Malaysia ranked four-star, underlining the intensity of competition in the region.

This is somewhat deceiving, though. For example, the 2007 ACI survey of the 25 fastest-growing airports of that year ranked PIA number 23, with a growth rate of 21.1 percent. Not bad at all.

The survey looks at airports with an annual turnover of five million passengers and over, which in itself accentuates the importance of PIA with about six million visitors in 2009.

If only everyone would behave themselves, PIA could achieve a much higher visitor threshold and growth rate.

However, Phuket cannot afford to be complacent because the world, particularly the so-called third world, is catching up. For example, in the 2009 ACI survey, GMR Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in India, made the list of the best airports worldwide.

This is amazing, given that India's airports over the past couple of decades have been a disgrace, including New Delhi's.

Other airports that have showed vast improvements in services include Cairo, Pont Delgada in Portugal, Abu Dhabi in the Middle East, Cancun in Mexico and Cleveland in the US. So there is hope yet for PIA.

It seems to be heading in the right direction, just like the somewhat overly maligned Suvarnabhumi, which opened far too early to be anywhere near true international standards, but is improving all the time.

‘With continuous upgrades starting to show tangible results, it's not beyond the possibility that, one day, PIA will register a blip on the [international] rating radar.’

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Upcoming events on the island

Live International Stand-up Comedy June 22



The Phuket Punchline Comedy Club returns this June with a TV star headliner. American comedian Arj Barker's recent appearance as 'Dave' in the hit HBO comedy 'Flight of the Conchords' has catapulted him to fame around the world. Also featured is musical comedian Rob Deering and genial Irishman Caimh McDonnell. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. For further information contact Boom. T: 089-646 9278. E: info@phuketcomedy.com. W: phuketcomedy.com.

June 6 – August 8. Belly Dancing Courses

The 10-session course 'Introduction to Baladi' teaches beginner techniques for aspiring belly dancers and is being conducted by the famous Malika. All beginners are welcome. Participants need shorts and a hip scarf to start. Tickets are 600 baht per person, per session. Held Sundays from 12:30pm - 2pm, RPM Health Club. For further information contact Murat Can Sakarya. T: 081-797 3364. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com. W: royalphuketmarina.com.

June 6 – July 18. Brazilian Soccer Sundays

Beginning with just four children back in 1996, the Brazilian Soccer School has quickly become one of the largest and respected soccer training camps for children in the world. The seven-week course offered in Phuket is being held every Sunday until July 18 at Royal Phuket Marina. The price is 2,450 baht per child, per course. For further information contact Martin Hill. T: 085-331 0295. E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com.

June 18 – 20. Four Immeasurables Retreat at the PIA Mind Center

Phuket International Academy Mind Center (PIAMC) is holding an exclusive meditation retreat titled 'Four

Immeasurables' hosted by Dr B Alan Wallace. Presently accepting bookings, this weekend retreat will consist of teachings, guided meditations, and discussions. Registration price starts at 1,800 baht per person, per day. For further information and accommodation options contact the PIA Mind Center. T: 076-376000. E: mtc@phuketinternationalacademy.com. W: phuketinternationalacademy.com.

June 21 – 23. 'The Wizard of Oz'

All are welcome to attend a classic musical presented by students of the British International School (BIS). From 6pm – 8.30pm at British International School, Phuket. For further information contact Ian Christophe Espouy. T: 076-238711. E: cespouy@bisphuket.ac.th. W: bisphuket.ac.th.

June 22 – July 22. Formula 1 Racing at Radisson Plaza Phuket

The race is on... catch the action live on the big screen at Radisson Plaza. Specialty red and white wines from Spain are available during the races at 195 baht ++ per glass. Order a Formula 1 pizza and receive two bottles of Singha beer for only 350 baht ++. From 7pm – 10pm at Octo Lounge. For further information contact Khun Anothai. T: 076-602500. E: pr.phuket@radisson.com. W: radisson.com/phuketth_plaza.

July 4. 4th of July Picnic

Everyone is invited to an American-style picnic, located across from Makro on the road to Kathu, 1km from Central Festival. Hot dogs, hamburgers, ribs and beverages will be on sale, while plenty of music and games will provide ongoing entertainment. Bring the kids – free entry and fireworks at sunset. From 10am – 7pm at Headstart International School Phuket. For further information contact David Rucker. T: 087-266 7514. E: rucker4012@aol.com. W: navyleaguephuket.org.

July 4. 4th of July Party & Barbeque Buffet at Coyote Phuket

Join Coyote Phuket's first Annual 4th of July deck party and BBQ buffet. Feast on an all-you-can-eat BBQ buffet featuring smokey ribs, beer brats, burgers, BBQ chicken, hot dogs and an all-American salad bar. Coyote is also offering all-day 100-baht drink specials. From 2pm – 1am at Patong Beach Rd. Above Starbucks. For further information contact the manager or Chef Matt. T: 076-344366. E: info@coyotephuket.com. W: coyotephuket.com.

July 4. 4th of July "Happy Birthday America" Buffet Dinner

The event takes place at the World Cafe at the Mercure Patong. All-you-can-eat, including charcoal-grilled BBQ ribs, whole marinated chicken, jumbo hot dogs and more. 599 baht per person. Enjoy drinks from the happy hour list during dinner. From 6:30pm – 10:30pm. For further information contact Chonlathich Na nakorn. T: 076-302100. E: salesphuket@mercurephuket.com. W: mercurepatongphuket.com.

July 5 – 9. PIA Sports & Leisure Club Brazilian Soccer Camp

Daily training at the camps will include unique FDS moves, turning, balances and traps, passing, juggling, core skills, one-on-one and

two-on-two training, game play and daily three-a-side World Cup games. Every day finishes with a five-a-side friendly match. From 4,000 baht per week. From 9am – 5pm at PIA Sports & Leisure Club. For further information contact Khun Mik. T: 076-376000. E: activities@phuketinternationalacademy.com.

July 7. Phuket Amateur Open Golf

The second of 11 monthly events in the Phuket Amateur Open Golf series, following on from the tournament at Laguna Phuket on June 9. From 7am – 12:30pm at Loch Palm. For further information contact T: 082-2803486. E: phuketamateurgolfopen@gmail.com. W: phuketamateurgolfopen.com.

July 21 – 25. Six Senses Phuket Raceweek

Now in its seventh year, Six Senses Phuket Raceweek comprises four days of world-class yacht racing and five nights of beachside parties at the 5-star Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa. The regatta is run over seven classes, including cruising/bareboat/charter yachts. From 10am – 11pm at Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa. For further information contact Grenville Fordham. T: 076-264491. E: raceweek@image-asia.com. W: phuketraceweek.com.

July 26. Asarnha Bucha Day - Public Holiday

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

July 27. Buddhist Lent Day - Public Holiday

Marks the beginning of the annual three-month Rains Retreat during which Buddhist monks customarily stay at a particular temple to study and meditate.

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On The Move *Introducing the island's movers and shakers*

Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket recently welcomed **Natalie Kamolwattanasoontorn** as its new Resident Manager. In her new role, Khun Natalie will be responsible for overseeing the hotel operations as well as assisting the General Manager with administration of the hotel. She has more than 17 years of experience in the hotel industry. Her most recent position was at the Dusit Princess Koh Chang hotel in Trat, where she was appointed the first female General Manager.



The Moevenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket has announced that **Prasit O-Charoen** has been appointed Director of Rooms for the property's 356 rooms and butler-serviced residences. Backed by 20 years of experience in the hospitality industry, Khun Prasit was Director of Rooms at Eastin Hotel Makkasan in Bangkok from 2007 to 2010. Khun Prasit will now be in charge of ensuring the seamless delivery of service from guests' arrival to their departure.



The Radisson Plaza Resort Phuket Panwa Beach recently appointed **Thitaya Yenwattana** as Director of Sales as the resort gears up for its first-year anniversary in July. Khun Thitaya joins the resort from XEN Hotels and Resorts, where she was employed as Group Director of Sales and oversaw the sales activities of five properties throughout Thailand. She brings 15 years' experience to the Radisson, which includes tenure for her work in sales at Novotel Bangkok on Siam Square.



Interest freeze denied

GAM Legal opens office in Phuket

THE BANK of Thailand yesterday turned down the private sector's request to freeze interest rates, saying it would let rates move in line with the market. Governor Tarisa Wat-anagase said the central bank would manage interest rates to facilitate both business and the overall economy.

"The economy is growing in a positive way following the global economic recovery," she said.

Interest rates are currently at their lowest level in the past several years. However, the authorities will not intervene in the exchange rate, reasoning that the baht is strengthening along with other currencies in the region.

The Federation of Thai Industries has urged the central bank to closely monitor the exchange rate. Exporters and manufacturers want to see stabilization rather than appreciation of the baht.

Manufacturers want interest rates to move up as slowly as possible, or at least step by step. However, their most grave concern now is limited working capital, which will hamper their operations.

— The Nation

ACKNOWLEDGING Phuket's legal business potential, GAM Legal Alliance recently established a flagship office in Bang Tao to provide legal and immigration assistance to foreigners and locals in Phuket, its neighboring islands and greater southern Thailand.

The founding members, Jirasak Taosiri, a licensed Thai lawyer specializing in Thai corporate, property and family law and Managing Director Angelo Paras, a Filipino businessman, say that most of their clients have reached achievement of their legal objectives due to the firm's staff of qualified new-generation lawyers.

Their attorneys and legal counselors possess solid backgrounds in Thai legal practice in diverse areas of Thai law, especially in property, immigration, family and corporate law. The Phuket office is currently managed by Deaw Promsud, a licensed Thai lawyer.

He worked for an international law firm in Thailand prior to joining GAM, exposing him regularly to the numerous legal concerns common among expats in Thailand.

'Thai Vessel Registration is not a common service offered in Phuket, so GAM, having received immediate inquiries on this matter when opening, made a point to include it in their services.'

George Londob of GAM Legal

GAM Phuket will offer the same services as the firm's main office in Sukhumvit Road in Bangkok, which was established in March this year.

These include Thai company registration, marriage registrations, pre-nuptial agreements, wills, divorces, adoptions, property purchases, vessel registration and more.

The immigration assistance services will help clients secure a Thai visa for long-term stay and will also offer assistance with foreign visa applications for those wishing to secure a visa to the US, UK, Australia and the Schengen countries.

"Thai Vessel Registration is not a common service offered in Phuket, so GAM, having received immediate inquiries on this matter when opening, made a point to include it in their services," George Londob of GAM Legal explained to the

Gazette. "This service caters to both foreign and local clients who wish to register their marine vessels with the Thai government hassle free. The firm is able to conduct business in English, Filipino and Thai," he added.

According to a GAM spokesperson, they are looking to penetrate the top end market of Phuket and provide these clientele with high standards of legal service "guided with the values of integrity and attentiveness."

Over time, the firm is hoping to build long-term alliances with satisfied clients.

As part of an effort to diversify its business interests on the island, GAM Enterprise, another subsidiary of the GAM Group, is establishing a fine dining restaurant in Patong called Clark Field Restaurant.

— Gazette Reporter

Billion baht profits in Q1

COMPANIES listed on the Thai stocks exchange posted a combined net profit of Bt150 billion in the first quarter of this year, according to Charnporn Jotikasthira, president of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET).

Business should continue to be brisk in the second half of this year, and the Thai economic growth should reach five to six percent this year, Charnporn added. Hence, listed firms' combined net profit for 2010 is projected to reach at least Bt600 billion, up 36 percent from Bt440 billion last year, the Thai bourse president said.

— The Nation

FTI sees growth in export sector

THE FEDERATION of Thai Industries (FTI) believes Thai exports this year could grow by 15 to 20 percent.

Thai exports growth was strong in the first quarter of this year, but could slow down in the second half of the year due to the European debt crisis and sluggish world economy, according to the FTI chairman Santi Vilassakdanont.

Thai exporters want the Bank of Thailand to keep the baht from appreciating too much, as it would hurt the competitiveness of Thai exports.

— The Nation



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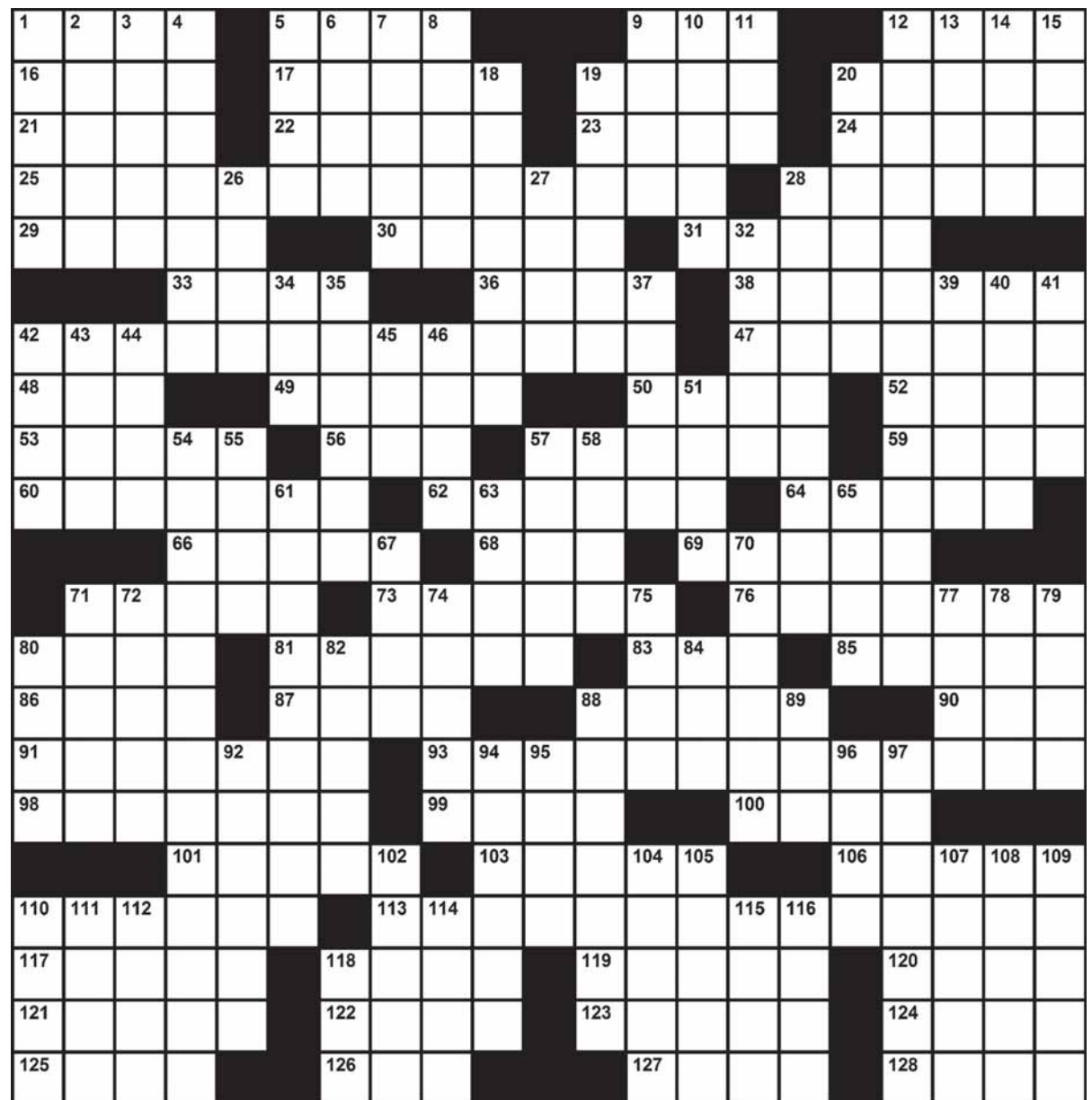
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ACROSS

- 1 Actress Turner
5 Women's links org.
9 1,101, to Caesar
12 Lost seaworthiness
16 Chariot's route
17 Gals of guys with gats
19 One of the Simpsons
20 Unit of light bulb intensity
21 Ballesteros of golf
22 ___ Laredo, Mexico
23 Manipulates
24 Martini item
25 Simon and Garfunkel classic (with "The")
28 Buddha's shade-giver
29 "Christ's Entry Into Brussels" painter James
30 Quick cuts
31 "Beer Barrel ___"
33 ___ on (orders to attack)
36 Like one end of many pools
38 Nickels and dimes
42 Big image maker
47 Medal giver
48 The Wild West was one
49 Poetic "eternally"
50 It has three feet
52 Organs used for propulsion
53 Discriminatory practice (Var.)
56 "Mangia!"
57 Former Ecuadoran monetary units
59 Waterless
60 Disease of livestock
62 Japan's largest island
64 Part of a ship's bow
66 Draw ___ in the

- sand
68 Sailor's distress signal and this puzzle's theme
69 "Whale Rider" people
71 Act like bug spray
73 Black and blue
76 Letter-writing guide
80 Good guy in white, stereotypically
81 "Nothing for me, thanks"
83 Luau plateful
85 Athenian mall
86 At the highest point of
87 Brit's blackjack
88 Huey Lewis and the News tune, "___ Be Square"
90 Amount of hair cream
91 Courtroom conversation
93 Potency
98 Members of the the House of Lords
99 Meat market?
100 Inventory reduction event
101 Have ___ egg (save)
103 More than enthusiasm
106 What blowhards do
110 Paleontologist's find
113 Military move, perhaps
117 Lies adjacent to
118 German river
119 Loosen, as laces
120 To the sheltered side, at sea
121 It's read from at bar mitzvahs
122 Soprano's showpiece
123 Loess and loam
124 Famous Amos?
125 Divination

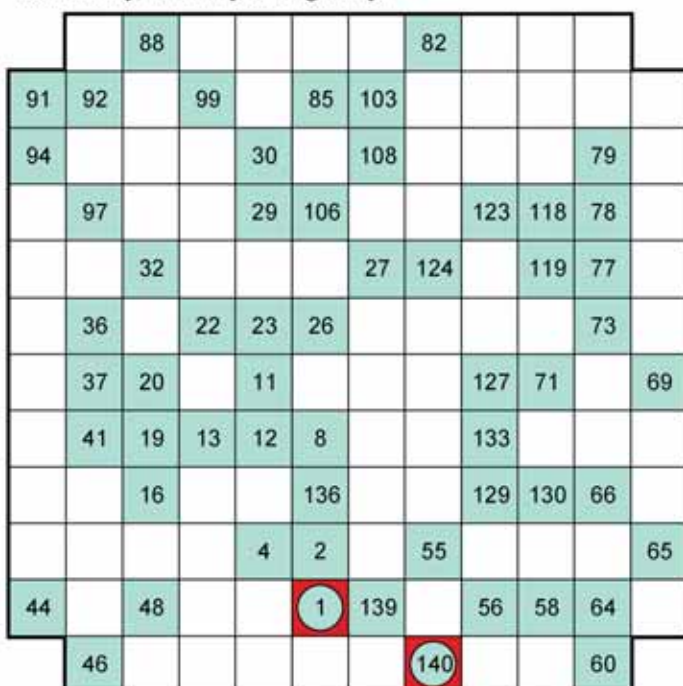
- practitioner
126 High-fashion initials
127 Allowance after tare
128 Wide-mouthed pitcher
DOWN
1 Gauze fabric
2 Used as a dining table
3 Birthmark
4 Sandy or gritty
5 Alphabetic quartet
6 Rounded ottoman
7 Daly's "Cagney & Lacey" co-star
8 Musical chipmunk
9 Fem. opposite
10 No Mr. Right
11 Part of FWIW
12 Babe Ruth nickname
13 Arab chieftan (Var.)
14 Campbell of "Scream"
15 Seat for a dummy?
18 How a well-made truck is built
19 Certain burner inventor
20 "Hey Good ___"
26 Wall-painting woe
27 Masked man's weapon?
28 Like weary eyes
32 Fall color
34 Half of a dance
35 Sober and grave
37 Certain college major, for short
39 Early sign of spring
40 Literary category
41 Goidelic language of Scotland
42 Short-necked duck
43 Cogito ___ sum
44 Not of the clergy
45 JFK carrier
46 Scout recitation
51 Jack-in-the-pulpit, e.g.
54 Susan Lucci is one
55 1,609 meters

- 57 Netlike hat
58 Subj. of a 1991 breakup
61 Common desiccant
63 Nordic capital
65 Square footage measure
67 Heart charts, for short
70 The way things stand now
71 Bind anew
72 Crumble to the sea
74 ___ and aahed
75 ___ and Span (cleaner brand)
77 Programmer's output
78 Nest egg accts.
79 Chem. rooms
80 Fastener on a trunk
82 Fundamental social standards
84 Make a decision
88 Unspeakably evil
89 Topics of reproductive technology
92 Forcibly exile
94 Thighbones
95 Chink in the armor
96 River through Hamburg
97 Newborn child
102 Former Russian sovereigns
104 Contingency phrase
105 Moving around
107 Beaming
108 Metric volume
109 Possessive adjective
110 Waller of music
111 It's blown in the wind section
112 Having no doubts
114 Potentially painful precipitation
115 Flooring option
116 Take a time-out
118 Pronounce

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AGE BUT

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1. Which letter is used in the coding system for food colors, preservatives and additives?
2. In which of Shakespeare's plays does the character Viola pose as a boy, Cesario?
3. Who was the dentist, gambler and gunfighter of the American Old West, who is usually remembered for his friendship with Wyatt Earp?
4. From which movie is the character Randle McMurphy?
5. Martin Riggs is a police officer in which series of films?
6. Which Thunderbird pilot is excluded from the following group: John, Virgil, Scott, Gordon.
7. In Munich, Oktoberfest begins in which month?
8. Bill Clinton was in trouble for "not having sexual relations with that woman" – who was that woman?
9. Green Eggs And Ham is a book by which author?
10. Greenland is an autonomous constituent country within which European kingdom?
11. Which Shakespeare play refers to jealousy as the green eyed monster?
12. First shown in 1983, in which American science fiction TV series were a number of aliens trying to gain control of the Earth?
13. Who played The Outlaw Josie Wales in the movie of the same name?
14. Which movie is anti-hero Jack Sparrow from?
15. The film Reservoir Dogs involved a botched job to steal what type of items?
16. What type of creature is a Bombay Duck?
17. What is the normal color of an airplane's black box?
18. The Canary Islands are named after which animal?
19. From which South American country do Panama hats originate?
20. From which animal is a camel hair brush made?

Answers below



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Puzzle Solutions

WHATZIT? solutions

1. Man in the moon. 2. Cold-blooded.
3. Age before beauty.

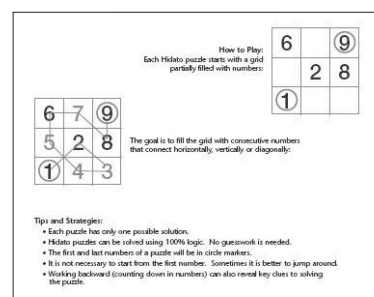
Solution to this week's Spot the Difference



Monster Quiz Answers

1. E
2. Twelfth Night
3. John Henry "Doc" Holliday
4. One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest
5. Lethal Weapon
6. Alan
7. September
8. Monica Lewinsky
9. Dr Seuss
10. Denmark
11. Othello
12. V
13. Clint Eastwood
14. Pirates Of The Caribbean
15. Diamonds
16. A fish
17. Orange
18. The dog
19. Ecuador
20. Squirrel

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



Hidato Sol.

90	88	87	85	102	84	82	81	112	113		
91	92	89	96	101	83	103	83	111	80	116	114
94	93	98	100	30	107	108	104	110	117	79	115
95	97	33	31	29	106	105	109	123	118	78	76
96	34	32	24	25	28	27	124	122	119	77	75
38	36	35	22	23	26	125	121	120	72	73	74
39	37	20	21	11	30	9	126	127	71	70	69
40	41	19	13	12	8	135	128	132	132	131	68
42	18	16	14	7	136	137	134	129	130	66	67
43	17	15	6	4	2	138	35	54	63	62	65
44	45	46	5	3	1	139	53	56	58	64	61
48	47	49	50	51	52	140	57	59	55	60	

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Solution to this week's crossword

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



Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

IN 2004, David Mitchell wrote one of the most amazing and delightful novels it has ever been my pleasure to read.

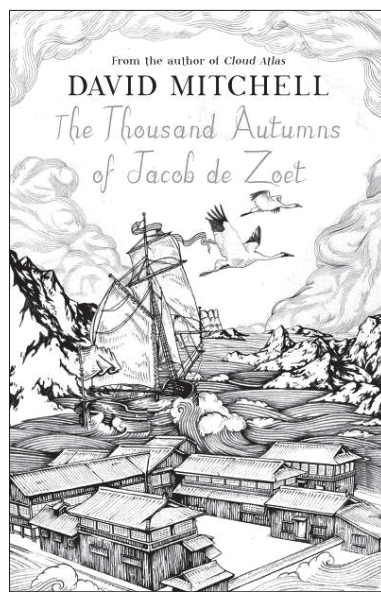
Cloud Atlas is really seven novels in one, with the action taking place in the past, present and distant future in locales as varied as California, Korea, Hawaii and the South Pacific. Mitchell utilizes seven different styles and literary genres, all connected somewhat tenuously with each other. It was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and should have won.

His latest novel is more orthodox. *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet* (Sceptre, London, 2010, 469pp) is a straightforward historical novel, told in the third person and in strict chronology. The scene is Nagasaki,

Japan, the year 1799. For a century and a half, since the First Shogun drove out European traders and massacred their Japanese Christian converts, Japan has been isolated from the world. The only contact with the West is an annual trading ship from Batavia in the Dutch East Indies. The Dutch traders are confined to a small island trading post called Delima.

The racist Dutch are confronted by the racist Japanese, each despising the other. The exceptions to this rule are the Dutch medical officer Dr Marinus and a newly arrived clerk Jacob De Zoet. High-minded, idealistic, intellectually curious about the Japanese, they are in stark contrast to the rest of Dutch delegation who are greedy, corrupt and ruthless. The Japanese counterparts to the two Dutch are surgeons, scholars and interpreters who are open to western science and ideas.

The plot is complex. Backstabbing plots among the Dutch, a love triangle, a murderous Japanese religious cult, a



kidnapping and attempted rescue, a British naval invasion... the story unfolds like a movie. The scene and time are announced and the present tense action is mostly carried through dialogue with occasional short descriptive sentences that are as compressed as a haiku. Take, for example:

"Rain hisses like swinging snakes and gutters gurgle."

"Wasps of pain crawl in and out through the stump of his brain."

"Eyes of sunlight from waves blink and blink on the papered ceiling."

And this as one of the main characters, a Japanese scholar, experiences death by pistol shot: "Thunder splits the rift where the sun floods in."

David Mitchell knows Japan. He taught English there for eight years and returned later for another stint. His wife is Japanese. He catches the nuances of the language and culture perfectly. But, unfortunately, he is not always consistent. At times the dialogue, either highflown or base, sounds like bad James Clavell, and that is very bad indeed.

But he is mostly a grand master of prose. The mere act of Jacob De Zoet biting into his first persimmon, given to him by Aibagawa Orito, the scholarly Japanese midwife whom is the love of his life, merits this crescendo of description:

"Hollows from the fingers of Aibagawa Orito are indented

in her ripe gift and he places his own fingers there, holds the fruit under his nostrils, inhales its gritty sweetness, and rolls its rotundity along his cracked lips . . .

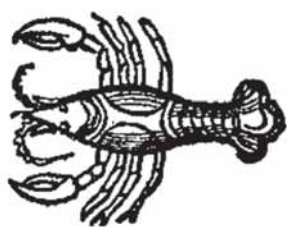
"There is a dusting around its woody black cap and stem. Lacking a knife or spoon, he takes a nip of waxy skin between his incisors, and tears; juice oozes from the gash; he licks the sweet smears and sucks out a dribbling goblet of threaded flesh and holds it gently, gently, against the roof of his mouth, where the pulp disintegrates into fermented jasmine, oily cinnamon, perfumed melon, melted damson . . . and in its heart he finds ten or fifteen flat stones, brown as Asian eyes and the same shape."

I'll leave you with that. I wouldn't dream of describing the plot because it has so many delightful and horrible surprises. This is not the stylistic bombshell *Cloud Atlas* was, but by telling the passionate story of a 210-year-old love, *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet* works its own magic.

Horoscopes



Isla Star



CANCER (June 22-July 23): Cancerians may see a particular bubble burst this week. Your enthusiasm for a project could turn out to have been misplaced. However, the stars suggest that events towards the end of this month will compensate for a missed opportunity. Romance with an air sign is forecast to receive a green light. Those with a birthday during the week ahead can look forward to a year when dreams will come true.



LEO (July 24-August 22): Those born under the sign of Leo who thought that holiday plans may have to be canceled should receive reassuring news this week. However, finances may be affected by unexpected bills at the end of this month, so economizing should be a priority now. Even though your first impression may not have been favorable, the stars suggest that it's worth giving a water sign another chance for romance.



VIRGO (August 23-September 23): Virgoans may find that time is not on their side in the days ahead. The stars predict that your commitments will be more than usual – with emphasis on deadlines being sooner than

expected. Streamlining social outings this weekend should ensure that you have enough energy left over for a bracing week at work. Your love life benefits from auspicious astral conditions – Tuesday is the best day to ask a fire sign for a date.



LIBRA (September 24-October 23): Your quick thinking enables an earth sign friend to avoid trouble this weekend. Librans are also forecast to be flavor of the week at work as you could be the only one to spot mistakes. The stars suggest that domestic harmony may be put to the test due to a partner's tendency to shop first and think afterwards. Sunday is the best day to put your point of view forward.



SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Scorpios who have recently heard why an old friend has been taking distance could now understand the reasons why this has happened. Your calmer mood this week should enable you to find a solution to this situation. Finances are set to improve when an overdue payment finally comes. Romance becomes possible with another water sign when they decide to settle down. The number five can bring good luck late next week.



SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21): Sagittarians should see the light where an employment

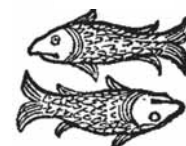
related problem is concerned. Your luck increases slowly this week, although finances remain unstable. Someone who has been on the receiving end of your generosity starts to ask for more than you are prepared to give. This could be the ideal time to cut the connection. Those who are single are pleased when an air sign responds well to flirtation.



CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): Capricorns may have to do more than dropping subtle hints this week. The stars suggest that not everyone will be on the same page as you and this could lead to misunderstandings. Keep life simple by stating your case clearly. Romance could be particularly affected by this trend – another earth sign is likely to get the wrong message this weekend. Wearing a piece of dark jade is likely to encourage a bit of useful wisdom.



AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): Aquarians continue to benefit from auspicious astral conditions. Your luck in the area of employment ensures that you are spoiled for choice. It would be wise to pick the best long term prospects – an offer that pays more is likely to be short-lived. This weekend, a romantic liaison with Aries proves that still waters run deep. Those with a family should pay more attention to minor troubles with children before they escalate into bigger problems.



PISCES (February 20-March 20): Your outlook is mostly good until the end of this month. The atmosphere at work is forecast to be enlivened by the addition of a new colleague and this should also lighten your load. Those Pisceans who are low on luck in romance should cast their nets wider this week. There are signs that moving out of your usual comfort zone will lead to meeting someone who could be the perfect match.



ARIES (March 21-April 20): Arians could be frustrated by someone who is moving as slowly as a buffalo this week. If this situation relates to business, putting tactful pressure on now could help prevent an explosive end to the month. Romance is predicted to become complicated when a partner's ideas about finances clash with yours. Tuesday is the best day for a calm discussion. The number eight can bring good luck this weekend.



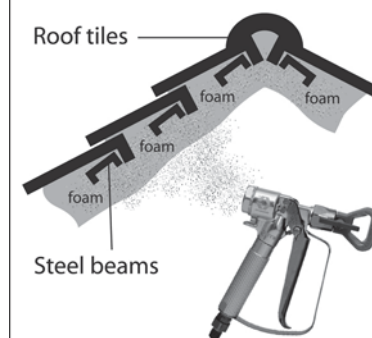
TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Those born under the sign of Taurus who can't get to grips with a creative project should see smoother progress this week. Monday and Tuesday are highlighted to be productive days and Thursday is the best day for business meetings. Where personal relationships are concerned, a water sign takes your words to heart and this could result in them asking for a

second chance. Wear the color burgundy to encourage more balanced energy.



GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Geminis are forecast to be on a winning streak this week. Business chances that you took earlier in the year are forecast to start paying off and expansion could be a strong consideration. Your personal life brings contentment – those recently embarked on a new romantic relationship are ready to leave emotional baggage behind. Matters involving property are well-starred on Monday, while Wednesday and Thursday are expected to be lucky days for finances.

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The Phuket Gazette

- Since 1994 -

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US Navy blockade shows 'protestocracy' must end

While tales of collusion and greed are commonplace in Phuket's public transport sector, the blockade of vans hired to shuttle visiting US servicemen to Patong (see pages 4-5) sets another low for the industry, which continues to be a major hindrance to developing Phuket into a world-class tourist destination.

The blockade is hardly the first of its kind. In December last year, members of the Kata-Karon tuk-tuk syndicate threatened staff of the Centara Karon Resort for allowing tour company vans to collect passengers at their property, even though they had every legal right to do so.

In the latest incident, mostly unlicensed 'black plate' drivers – who shouldn't be allowed to operate in the first place – once again resorted to the same illogical, self-serving argument: that they were being denied their 'fair share' by the presence of passenger vans that were hired by a private firm contracted by the US military to provide transport services.

Within 24 hours, news of the blockade had become the most-commented-upon story in the *Gazette* online readers' forum, with more than 100 people expressing frustration and disbelief over the outrage.

Many *Gazette* readers also expressed hope that news of the blockade would take on an international dimension, finally forcing leaders at the national level to take action, much as British media reports and pressure from diplomatic missions in Thailand eventually led to mandatory insurance for all rental jet-skis.

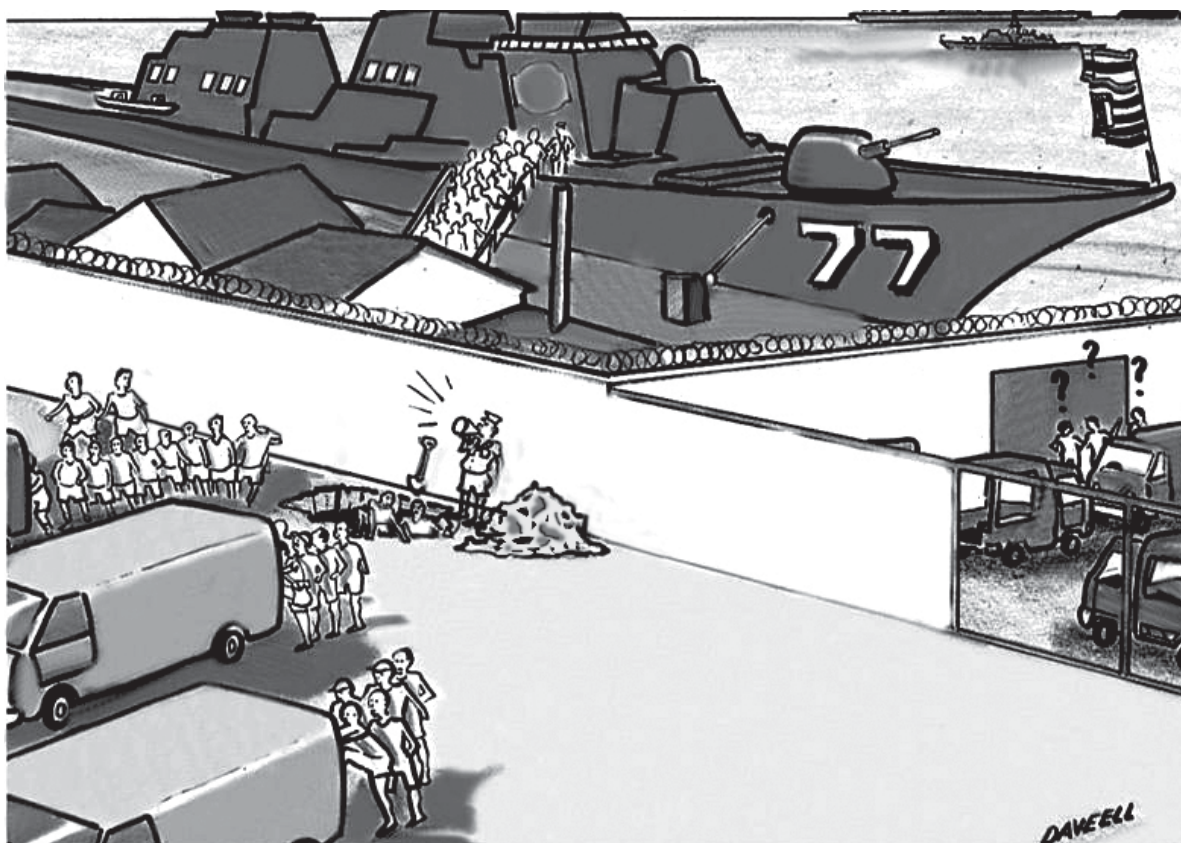
Sadly, that has hardly been the case. The official US Embassy response is that they are viewing the matter as an 'isolated incident', one they are happy was peacefully resolved.

Behind the scenes, however, US military and diplomatic staff are no doubt reassessing Phuket's safety as a rest, relaxation and resupply port for its visiting ships – and their counterparts in other countries allied with Thailand are likely doing the same.

The reaction by those with legal authority to resolve the situation can only be described as apathetic, at best.

After all, if local police and military cannot keep roads clear of illegal taxis inside an important government installation, how can they be expected to provide security for US troops that remain the preferred target among religious extremist terrorists?

US warships returned to Thailand in 2008, after the coup-appointed government was replaced by a democratically elected one. But real democracy only works in a civil society, where respect for the rule of law prevails. Given recent events, perhaps 'protestocracy' would be a better description of our current political system.



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.

One more crackpot Phuket project

Re: Gazette online, Bt9m sign for Patong Hill, Phuket, June 15

Once again, a hearty congratulations to the Phuket powers that be. I have watched local government hatch some foolish schemes in my time but this one plunges to a new nadir.

The Patong Hill road is already one of the most dangerous stretches of road on the island, and this is an island covered in lethal stretches of road. So let's put a massive sign up there with distracting features like concrete banana leaves and spinning pearls! I wonder what will happen to the road toll?

Rather than wasting money on these crackpot schemes, why don't they spend the money on doing something marginally useful like painting lane markers on the road. And if they must build a sign, why don't they put it somewhere safe?

You couldn't make it up.

Bernard Curtis
Phuket Town

Tuk-tuk heroes stand

Re: Gazette online, Tuk-tuks blockade US military in Phuket, June 14

I wholeheartedly support the tuk-tuk drivers and their fight against US imperialism and rampant exploitation at the hands of the foreigners. All these brave men are trying to do is secure themselves the income that is rightfully theirs.

Rich colonialists flock to Phuket, gobble its resources, enjoy its women and demand to be allowed to do so at a cheap price.

The tuk-tuk drivers are merely saying: "If you must destroy

our island, if you must use our wives and daughters as your playthings, you must pay for the pleasure. And you must pay us a good price, so that we can invest that money and once Phuket is completely destroyed by your greed, we can start again somewhere else."

I say: "Good for you". In the eyes of the expats, the tuk-tuk drivers have committed the cardinal sin of standing up for themselves. They have backbone, unlike many of the slimeballs who swamp this island after failing to secure decent lives for themselves in their home countries.

I salute the tuk-tuks.

Derrick May
Cherng Talay

Monkeys, not men

Re: Phuket Gazette, 'I thought I was going to die', June 12

Message to all: monkeys are vicious, hot-tempered, violent creatures that can attack at any moment without warning.

Humans, with our anthropomorphic tendencies, often see these creatures as cute little fur babies that we can communicate and cuddle with. Cute as they may be, our mutual level of understanding is far lower than most would like to think.

Animals read signs, like body language, differently to us, which means that they perceive danger differently. What we may see as a perfectly harmless motion could be perceived by an animal as a threat to its wellbeing. If a monkey is threatened, a monkey will threaten. "Monkey see, monkey do".

Lesson: don't hold a monkey to the same standards of awareness as yourself.

Local tours often take people to monkey-infested areas,

and I suggest that those who wish to "be with the beasts" do so at their own risk. Please be aware that they are dangerous, wild animals who could care less about a photograph for your scrapbook.

Jimmy Englert
Chalong

Tuk-tuks drive away Phuket tourism

Re: Gazette online, Tuk-tuks blockade US military in Phuket, June 14

As the article states, "This would not happen in Singapore". If it did, the police or military would be called out, drivers arrested and jailed, and a full investigation conducted straight away. Thailand has a growing problem and the world is watching.

Soon Malaysia and Bali will be full of former Thailand tourists. *Sabai, sabai* is okay as a cultural lifestyle phrase, but those responsible for the security of the nation should forget this phrase and learn how to call their law enforcement into action on a moment's notice.

Mark
Gazette forum

How was your meal?

Is the *Phuket Gazette* trying to pass the 'On the menu' column off as a restaurant review or is it simply an advertorial?

A restaurant review should present an informed, engaging critique of a restaurant and its products. It should not present one man's pretentious attempt to satisfy himself with his own words.

The only useful information mentioned in the column can be found on the restaurant's menu.

Gareth Thompson
Patong

The Phuket Gazette

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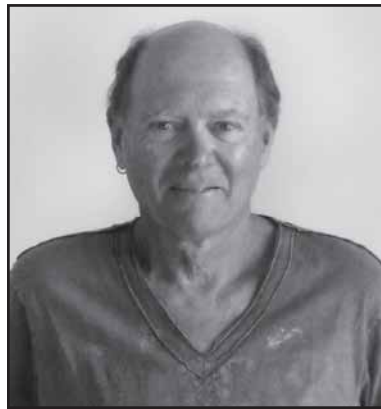
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Letters conveying views and suggestions are published here. Those seeking comment from government officials and/or business owners are published in *Issues & Answers* at www.phuketgazette.net.

Prepare for the worst, enjoy the best



FIRST PERSON

Bruce Stanley has lived in Phuket for almost 20 years. The Canadian-American dual citizen has lived most of his life in Asia and is well known in Phuket as a journalist. Mr Stanley has contributed to the *Phuket Gazette* since its first days in 1994 and is one of the

Wardens for the American Embassy, trying to help his fellow expats whenever he can. Here he talks to the *Gazette* about unfortunate events following a good friend's death and gives advice to those who wish to call Phuket "home".

Frank Visakay knew for a long time that he was going to leave this world. He had been diagnosed with an incurable disease five years ago and lived a couple of years longer than his doctors had predicted. He took great care to make his final arrangements and asked me to dispose of his body when the time came. He left careful instructions for me which included:

"You should take as much as possible: TV, computer as the neighbors will jump over the fence and empty out the place in a matter of days anyway..."

Well, it didn't take the neighbors a matter of days. When I arrived at Frank's home off Soi Saiyuan in Rawai barely a couple hours after his body was taken away to Vachira Phuket Hospital, his yard was filled with pick up trucks and his landlady was directing a mob of staff and family who were busily loading up Frank's possessions. They stole his furniture and his art collection. They stole his passport, his bank books, his ATM cards, his cellphone, his car documents and all the cash he had locked away in a cabinet. They even stole the sheets off his bed and his clothes.

I did manage to get them to return Frank's car, threatening them first with the Chalong Police – to which they laughed in my face. When I told them I would have the American Embassy investigate their theft, they seemed to take this more seriously. They returned Frank's car without the ownership docu-

ments. Somehow, the landlady thought that everything in Frank's house belonged to her even though his rent was paid and she had a two-month security deposit in her possession.

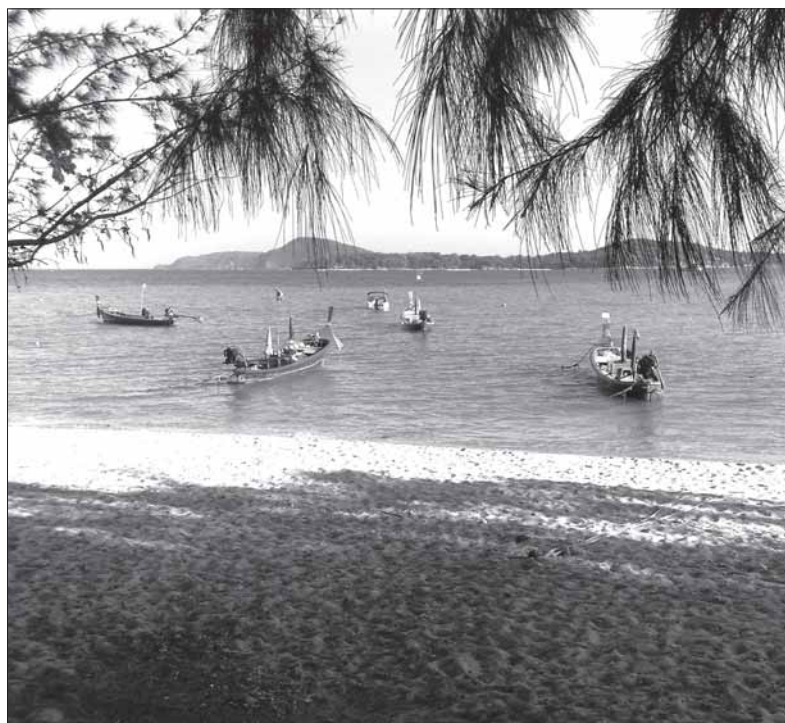
I found dealing with this assault on Frank's estate very sad. It was pointed out to me to not get involved in trying to save these goods for the benefactors of his estate as it might get me killed. People get murdered for less on Phuket.

This situation made me think about the growing number of vulnerable expats who are living on Phuket, especially those past middle age. As a warden for the American Embassy, I get calls quite frequently about expats in distress. I am noticing a trend and it's one that worries me.

I remember the first time I got called to help a distressed expat. One Sunday morning almost 20 years ago, a fellow appeared at my home wearing nothing but his boxer shorts. He wasn't even wearing shoes. He explained that the evening before, he had met a "very nice" girl at a bar and when he woke up in the morning, she was gone with all his clothes, money and passport.

Back in those days, there were no tourist police or honorary consuls to help expats in trouble. Most of the visitors to the island were relatively young, looking for adventure. But in recent years, there's been a change.

Hundreds of thousands of Westerners each year are leaving their homes in Europe and America to retire to the warmer,



PHUKET: A paradise that can become a nightmare if you're not prepared.

less expensive countries farther south. In past years most of these older people have chosen places like the south coast of Spain or Mexico, but these destinations have become very expensive.

Thailand has tens of thousands of expats who are hoping to live out the rest of their lives on the often modest pensions that make it impossible to live in their home countries. It's worked rather well until recently. The cost of living in Thailand, and Phuket in particular, has risen while the exchange rate on the British pound and other currencies has fallen, giving the retired expat fewer baht each month to cover their living expenses.

Living in a place like Phuket

is wonderful if you can afford it. But I'm afraid there are many expats flocking to the island and other places like Hua Hin and Pattaya who are leaving themselves very vulnerable.

I could fill this whole newspaper with stories of expats past middle age who have floundered on the rocks of this paradise. Usually it has been their own naiveté or stupidity that has put their lives in jeopardy. Almost every month I hear a story about an expat who invested his retirement savings into a home on the island and has put it in the name of a company with a majority of unknown Thai shareholders that has turned into a legal nightmare. While there are countless stories

of expats who have found happiness on the island, there are also countless stories of expats who did not do their due diligence when it came to buying property or investing in a business.

There are also many, many expats of all ages who have no medical insurance. It's unbelievable to imagine living in a place where the driving is so manic and the risk of accident is so great, that someone hoping to live well would not arrange for comprehensive medical insurance. It is not the role of the local hospitals or embassies to take care of expats who have accidents. If you choose to live in a foreign country, make sure you have adequate medical insurance to cover repatriation to your home country in case of serious illness.

While the standard of hospital care on Phuket has improved immensely over the past 20 years, the associated costs have also soared. The island's international hospitals are privately owned and run to make money. Don't expect them to take care of uninsured foreigners. There are many insurance companies who provide comprehensive coverage for expats living in Thailand. Make sure you have adequate protection.

Living on Phuket can be very satisfying, but make sure you have a document that states clearly what you want done with your body and your possessions when you pass on. And be sure to include who to notify in your home country in case of emergency. It's all about taking care of yourself now and after you're gone.

Issues & ANSWERS

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

The Phuket Gazette
79/94 Moo 4, Thepkasattri Rd, T. Koh Kaew, Phuket 83000. Fax 076-615240, or submit your issue at www.phuketgazette.net

How can I silence buzzing power lines?

I live on the third floor of an apartment building and am constantly annoyed by the buzzing of the power lines. It is so loud that I have trouble sleeping and it seems that no-one else is bothered. How can this be fixed? Is it a simple procedure? If so, who is responsible for it?

Shaun Jarvis
Patong

An officer at the Provincial Electricity Authority office replies:

Please call or come in to the operations section of the Provincial Electricity Authority office. Just give us your address and we will send someone out to check and make any necessary repairs. Keep in mind this is not a top priority, like a blackout would be, but we can have it done in a few days.

For more information please contact the Provincial Electricity Authority Phuket office: 185/17, 40-41 Phang Nga Road, T. Talad Yai, A. Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076-211663, 076-210379.

Why do I have no water?

The government water supply in Chalong has had such low pressure for the last two years that I have running water only a few times a week for a few minutes, even in rainy season. This problem affects many homes. I have notified the Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) many times. Others have complained, including in the *Phuket Gazette*. What is the problem and when will it be solved?

James
Chalong

An officer at the Chalong TAO replies:

There are a lot of people using water in the Chalong area and we have to ration supplies by limiting usage times for each village. The water pressure is especially low in the dry season because of the low supply and high demand. The only way to resolve this issue is by building an entirely new water system.

The Chalong TAO is awaiting approval on a budget to rebuild the water system, but we are not sure when it will be approved.

For more information contact the Chalong TAO: 38 Moo 4, T. Chalong, A. Muang, Phuket 83130. T: 076-282255.

FC Phuket stumbles in Krabi

A BRACE of goals by Diarra Ali was not enough to save FC Phuket from slipping to a 3-2 defeat against Krabi on June 12. It was the first match in four weeks for FC Phuket, who were top of the league table going into the mid-season break.

Phuket were looking to consolidate their status as league leaders with their first away win of the season against local rivals Krabi.

Phuket's home form has been outstanding and they have won every home match at Surakul Stadium.

Their away form, in contrast, has been disappointing and is something manager Ajarn Songsamssub is anxious to address in the second half of the season.

Krabi took the lead in the eighth minute, but Ali's header after 15 minutes leveled the scores. Krabi were awarded a controversial penalty after 28 minutes, which they converted to secure a 2-1 half-time lead.

The next goal proved decisive. Krabi scored with a well-placed shot after 73 minutes. Ali's



penalty five minutes later gave Phuket hope of a comeback, but Krabi were able to hold on for the win.

Songsamssub bolstered Phuket's ranks by signing four new players during the mid-season break. Two FC Phuket existing strikers, Adisak Kraisor and Chakrit Rawanprakon, are in Thailand's national under-19 squad and are expected to miss several matches due to international commitments.

To compensate for the loss of the two strikers, Songsamssub signed three attacking players: Thawin Butrasombat, Kheerit Mahatthanant, Wipart Kirdmoah and Luechar Jantawong.



FC Phuket's four new signings (from left): Strikers Thawin Butrasombat, Wipart Kirdmoah and Kheerit Mahatthanant, and backup goalkeeper Luechar Jantawong. Photo: Kazi Hans

Thawin, a striker from Chaiyaphum United, has 13 goals to his name already this season, including four hat-tricks.

Kheerit, another striker, but from Nakhon Pathom, has experience of playing in Division One with Ratchabui.

Wipart, signed from Nakhon Ratchasima, is an attacking midfielder who impressed fans in an FA Cup game against FC Phuket earlier this season, scoring his side's only goal in a 2-1 defeat.

The final arrival, Luechar, is

a goalkeeper. A Phuker resident who had previously been playing in local football matches, he will replace Safari Nansen as back-up for first-choice shot-stopper Jakgid Thammasaen.

— James Goyder and Kazi Hans

Youth sailing program gathers steam at Ao Yon

THE OPTIMIST racing program at Phuket Yacht Club at Ao Yon continues to go from strength to strength with a number of exciting recent developments. The ranks of optimist racers have been bolstered by a fresh influx of children from the Phuket Sunshine Village.

The existing optimist sailors, most of whom live at the Phuket Sunshine Village, had such a good time sailing at the Top of the Gulf Regatta in Pattaya earlier this year that another six youngsters, all aged between 8 and 10, have taken up sailing.

Meanwhile, all the young



All the young sailors are busy getting ready for their next big regatta. Photo: James Goyder

sailors are busy getting ready for their next big regatta, which will take place at Hua Hin in early August. Phuket Yacht Club will be sending their six best sailors to this competition.

The Hua Hin Regatta is one of three on the Thai yachting calendar that contribute towards Optimist sailors being given a ranking by the Yacht Racing Association of Thailand.

The other regattas are the Admiral's Cup and the Top of the Gulf Regatta, and Phuket Yacht Club will be sending a team to all three events in future.

Four Thai youngsters from the club recently received their sports sailing card from the Sports Association of Thailand, entitling them to represent Phuket at the National Sports Festival in Chonburi in December.

Katie Gooch from Topper

Sail Phuket, who has been teaching the children to sail every month at Ao Yon, is pleased that some of her sailing pupils will have the honour of representing Phuket.

"The Yacht Racing Association of Thailand suggested that we apply for these sports cards. We asked the director from Phuket Sunshine Village to apply on our behalf as everything is in Thai.

"The YRAT were very surprised to actually receive these entries and are very keen on what we are doing," she said.

Phuket Yacht Club are currently putting together sponsorship packages for anyone who is interested in sponsoring one of the children to sail in these regattas. For more information, email phuketyachtclub@gmail.com.

— Gazette reporter

World Cup update

The games that remain

The *Gazette* received a huge response to last week's souvenir wall chart outlining all the matches of the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa, featuring all the correct times the matches will be shown in Thailand. For those who missed out, here we present all the remaining group matches in order of the date they will be played – with the Thai TV channels each game will be broadcast on.

June 19

Netherlands	6:30pm (Ch 11)	Japan
Ghana	9pm (Ch 3)	Australia

June 20

Cameroon	1:30am (Ch 7)	Denmark
Slovakia	6:30pm (Ch 11)	Paraguay
Italy	9pm (Ch 9)	New Zealand

June 21

Brazil	1:30am (Ch 3)	Côte d'Ivoire
Portugal	6:30pm (Ch 7)	Korea DPR
Chile	9pm (Ch 9)	Switzerland

June 22

Spain	1:30am (Ch 3)	Honduras
Mexico	9pm (Ch 3)	Uruguay
France	9pm (Ch 11)	South Africa

June 23

Nigeria	1:30am (Ch 7)	Korea Republic
Greece	1:30am (Ch 3)	Argentina
Slovenia	9pm (Ch 3)	England
USA	9pm (Ch 7)	Algeria

June 24

Ghana	1:30am (Ch 7)	Germany
Australia	1:30am (Ch 9)	Serbia
Slovakia	9pm (Ch 3)	Italy
Paraguay	9pm (Ch 11)	New Zealand

June 25

Denmark	1:30am (Ch 11)	Japan
Cameroon	1:30am (Ch 7)	Netherlands
Portugal	9pm (Ch 11)	Brazil
Korea DPR	9pm (Ch 9)	Côte d'Ivoire

June 26

Chile	1:30am (Ch 7)	Spain
Switzerland	1:30am (Ch 3)	Honduras

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Records fall at Laguna Marathon

RECORDS were broken as Thai athletes dominated the 2010 Laguna Phuket International Marathon on June 13, claiming first place in both the men's and women's races.

Charkrit Boonkong won the men's event, completing the course ahead of defending champion Stephen Paine from Australia. Paine, however, still holds the course record from his win in 2008.

Compatriot Thanyathorn Samutnoi won the women's marathon, outclassing defending champion Katja Fink from Switzerland and setting a new course record in the process.

Despite the violence in Bangkok last month, the event attracted a record number of entrants: more than 4,600.

Among the multinational field of athletes, Thai runners stole the show. Charkrit, competing in his first Laguna Marathon, pulled away from Paine around the 17-kilometer mark.

Paine was the strong favorite to win the race for the third consecutive year, but found himself fading as the sun rose and temperatures began to soar.

Boonkong, perhaps more familiar with the sweltering conditions, gradually increased his lead and crossed the finish line in 2:40:08.



Help was readily standing by for a woman who became exhausted from competing in the marathon. Photo: Chris Husted

Thanyathorn set a new course record in the women's event, finishing in 3:21:24, 30 seconds ahead of fellow Thai Amnuay Kiamgoolearn.

The marathon was not just for the elite athletes. The biggest cheer at the prize-giving event was reserved for two of *Asia's Biggest Losers* TV show fame.

Phuket resident Garry Holden and Suthat 'Tony' Charnvises, who lost 90kg between them within six months during the show, competed in the event – their first marathon ever.

Holden finished the half-marathon in 2h 10m and vowed to compete in the full marathon next year.

Gordei Semnhood of Thai-

land won the women's half-marathon, finishing just 30 seconds ahead of American Bryan Marotta.

Vivian Tang, Singapore's leading female runner and 2008 winner of the Laguna women's half-marathon, broke Thailand's sweep by winning the women's half-marathon with a course record time of 1:25:07.

Thai movie star Ananda Everingham was also in Phuket for the event. He led the 5km Charity Walk, which raised money for the Baan Jao Krua School in Phang Nga.

Any runners questioning the need for 4am start to the marathon could see the wisdom in the move once the sun came up.



Charkrit Boonkong breaks the tape, becoming the first Thai national to win the marathon. Photo: Laguna Phuket International Marathon

"Hats off to all runners who finished the races today," said Raimund Wellenhofer, course director for the event.

"Runners were very disci-

plined, and knew how to pace themselves and stayed hydrated as temperatures soared," he added.

– James Goyder



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PROPERTY WATCH

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

RIDING a bull market is never easy, and at times could mimic one of those mechanical contraptions that have thrown many aspiring cowboys into 'Dazed 'n' Confusionville'.

Looking back over the years, it's hard to view more of a 'high-water' market for resort real estate than the middle part of the decade, when the property market was indeed a gentler and kinder place.

Birds could be heard singing most mornings and anxious buyers were eagerly transacting as demand far outstripped supply in what could be called the halcyon days.

Success for many is a highly subjective thing, but one pair of expat developers, perhaps more than anyone else, set the bar for selling and delivering property in Phuket into the hands of anxious buyers.

Brit Paul Moorhouse and American Don Taylor started off on the doorstep of Laguna Phuket with their ambitious Lakeshore Villa development when empty house lots still dotted the resort's golf course.

The migration of Hong Kong expatriates into the island's real estate market for a second

Defining the decade boom



The Phuket property market was an interesting place during the first decade of the new millennium, thanks largely in part to Don Taylor (top right) and Paul Moorhouse (bottom right). Their ambitious Lakewood Hills Villa set new standards on the island.



home or retirement in paradise was still just a twinkle in the eye.

Taking up the idea that big was better, and relying on tropical designs, the pair came in at ground zero of what was to become a fanatic movement in the years to come. Next came a foray at Tinlay Place for Pepper's

Bar and the former Lakewood Hills in what was considered only a Bang Tao 'outpost' at the time. Now it has become a well recognized cornerstone of other nearby estates.

Size did indeed matter and Lakewood grew while setting new milestones for other developers to follow. Always ahead of the curve, they next set their collective ambitions on providing quality premium office space at Plaza Del Mar, which today plays home to a number of international businesses.

After many years of working together, the partners decided to move into the next era of their lives as Don made his way to Bangkok and finally Vietnam in various real estate ventures

throughout neighboring countries. For Paul, scale was appealing, so he created Layan Gardens and later bought into Luna Phuket, within a stone's throw of each other.

After switching back from condos to pool villas, Paul worked tirelessly in attracting potential buyers at regional road shows and through advertising and promotions.

While the grind became just that as of late, Paul looked for smaller projects, such as the redevelopment of a luxury villa in Cape Panwa, potential in the highly-charged Bangkok condo market and now a boutique property in Kata.

While both gentlemen now split their time in various parts of

Thailand and abroad, from time to time they can be seen in all of the familiar places in Phuket, and suddenly invoke memories of how things once were in boomtown.

Succeeding in business in one's home country is hard enough, but coming to a foreign land and becoming a success is not only an accomplishment, but also a sign of willingness to take risk, work endlessly and have faith in what's being done.

Phuket has its share of success stories and there are far too many to recount, but Don and Paul somehow embody the spirit of success that continues to lure budding entrepreneurs to Asia and should continue to do so for many years ahead.



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Construction Update

Kata



Construction recently began on Kata Rocks, which will offer five-star villas and penthouses in the hills of Kata.

Building luxury into the rocks

CONSTRUCTION on the International Property Awards 'Best Apartment in Asia-Pacific', Kata Rocks, began about three weeks ago with main contractor DCM Solutions on site, and is creating quite a buzz in the property world.

UK Developer Richard Pope, who has developed quality projects in Notting Hill in West London, put together an all-star team to ensure residents at the award-winning villas and apartments receive service of the highest quality.

Architect Adrian McCarroll of Original Vision has designed modern, contemporary buildings that maximize the available space within each villa.

He has also made the most of the pristine location, which is situated at one of the most scenic sites on Phuket's west coast, right on the oceanfront alongside Kata Beach.

Interior Designer Kelly Hoppen, who received the honor of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for her services to the interior design industry, is

infusing her signature touches into the Kata Rocks apartment villas. Chantal Fernandes, previously of the Amanpuri Hotel, is onboard to ensure the highest level of service is incorporated by means of a concierge, 24-hour room service, chefs for in-home dining and maids, to name a few.

Among the list of people purchasing at Kata Rocks is TV's 'ultimate survivor' Bear Grylls, who recently reserved a penthouse.

"I make a living by showing how to stay alive if you are in a survival scenario, but when I

am on holiday, I am on holiday! I just love to chill out with family and friends, and to pick places that are discreet but spectacular. Kata Rocks is both of those in abundance," he said.

The penthouse sprawls a massive 460-square-meters over two floors.

A 14.1-meter-long open plan living room, dining room and kitchen leads onto a large terrace and a 10-meter private infinity pool overlooking the Andaman Sea.

Of the four bedrooms, there

are two master bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms, outside terraces and private jacuzzis.

The penthouse apartments include private elevator entrances to the higher level units, an outside dining sala, Western kitchen, maid quarters, a utility room and owner's storage area.

Prices range from 29 million baht to 67.5 million baht and the project is expected to be completed by the end of 2011.

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Some of the best offerings of Thai fruit grow on plants too big for a garden, but far too sweet not to mention. Clockwise: Rambutan, durian, durian tree and longan. Photos: wikimedia

Too big to grow, too sweet to ignore

MANY of the succulent fruits that adorn fresh market stalls come from large rainforest trees that are not suitable for the average garden, and most of these trees will not produce a crop until they are well-established.

Pride of place among these fruit trees must go to the durian (*Durio zibethinus*), if only because it is Thailand's most revered fruit.

The most famous examples come from Nonthaburi, where long-stemmed durians called *kan yao* can fetch 3,000 baht each.

It is also the most controversial – banned from many hotels and airlines on account of its pungent odor, which is somewhat reminiscent of sweaty armpits.

Moreover, it looks extraordinary – a green, oval shape the size of a football, with enormous green or red-brown spikes that cover its entire surface. Inside are five whitish segments, each containing two or three sections

of cream flesh around a large beige seed that is also edible if cooked. People either love it or hate it.

There are more than 30 recognized species and hundreds of cultivars, all of which have two flowering and fruiting periods. Its attractive, feathery flowers are pollinated mainly by fruit bats in most parts of Southeast Asia. It can be grown from seed, but grafting is the favored commercial method.

The durian (pronounced *dturian* in Thai) is not just famous for its exotic taste and extraordinary smell. It has a folkloric reputation as an aphrodisiac: there is even a Malay proverb that states, "When the durians are down, the sarongs are up."

If that is hardly a concern for sober-sided gardeners, then the tree's size may well be problematic, since it is a fast grower and will soon tower above most other inhabitants in the garden.



Then there is the harvesting of durians, which is an art in itself.

Altogether more amenable is the rambutan (*ngoh*), a spring and autumn cropper that, like the durian, is just beginning to appear on market stalls. If the durian is the most prized, then the rambutan is arguably the most popular of Thai fruits.

Round and reddish, the fruit has soft, green, hairy spines, (the name comes from the Malay word *rambut*, meaning hair).

Moreover, it is produced on a small, evergreen tree that will not readily outgrow the garden. The skin is leathery but easily removed. It encloses translucent white flesh that tastes of lychees – unsurprising, as it is a member of the same family as the lychee (*linchii*) and the longan.

One handy way to remove the fruit from the tree is to use a long-forked stick to twist the fruit from the branches. But they are best harvested still attached to the twig, as they are more likely to stay fresh longer.

As these fruit trees are a popular choice for gardens, there are hundreds of cultivars to choose from. Just remember that these trees require organically rich soil and are dependent on bees for pollination. As such, it will attract bees to your garden. Also, the male rambutan produces no fruit, though hermaphroditic trees are available.

The lychee, however, is much better known to foreigners

than the rambutan. The reason is that lychees dislike the heat and humidity that are part and parcel of life in Thailand.

They can be found in Phuket, especially in supermarkets, but the bumpy, red fruits usually have been imported from China. Lychee trees here in Phuket are uncommon.

The longan, or dragon's eye, however, is widely grown in Thailand. Known as *lam yai*, the tawny fruits grow in grape-like clusters. Spherical, and with a relatively smooth, bark-like shell, they peel readily to reveal a round, translucent globe that resembles an eyeball. Hence its popular name.

Like the rambutan, the longan is sweet and juicy with a slightly woody aroma. It possesses a good balance of fruitiness and acidity.

Moreover, it enjoys hot conditions and sandy soil, which is good news in Phuket, but beware: it will grow into a sizable tree.

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Property & Tourism Briefs

Warnings of possible Thailand property bubble

THE president of Thailand's Agency for Real Estate Affairs has warned against the possible formation of a bubble in the Kingdom's property market, according to *property-report.com*.

Dr Sopon Pornchokchai expressed his opinion that, during 2011 – 2012, a bubble could form because of rapid construction of low-priced housing as developers rush to take part in the country's Board of Investment homes project.

He said, "When there is more supply, it is likely that there would be more speculation." He urged home buyers to manage their finances well, and for lenders to be prudent with their financing.

The agency has forecast the value of new homes being launched during 2010 will be worth Bt158.4 billion (US\$4.84 billion), down 15 percent on the value of homes launched during 2009.

Tamarind Villas targets growing 'silver market'

AGEING investors looking to manage their assets in retirement or assisted health care developments can now buy into Tamarind Villas in Rawai, Phuket, according to *property-report.com*. Niche Real Estate has been exclusively retained to offer the villas for sale.

Currently there are 22 pool villas for sale, with 14 set to become available under the next phase of development. Tamarind Villas will offer both independent and assisted living accommodation.

Daojai Tanommuang, managing director of Niche Real Estate, says that developers in Phuket have overlooked the market for retirement properties and hopes this can be a model for expanding the market on the island.

Phuket property looks to persevere

IN THE wake of Phuket's isolation from Bangkok's recent unrest, *thailand-business-news.com* finds the outlook for the resort island's real estate sector optimistic.

This optimism is founded on two key factors – the ability of Phuket to promote itself separately from Thailand, and the uniqueness of what the island can offer.

Phuket has its own marketing strategy and the island is now served by a growing number of direct flights from low-cost carriers. Thus owners from Singapore or Hong Kong, for instance, need not transit in Bangkok.

Bill Barnett of C9 Hotelworks pointed out, "Well-informed travelers and buyers will come back to Phuket because they understand its peacefulness and because the island offers a combination of natural beauty and sophisticated facilities that no other destination can match."

Dewa Phuket Resort gets joint management

TWO industry management leaders have joined forces on a boutique resort in Phuket, according to *hotelinteractive.com*.

As part of its expansion into the Asia Pacific region, LaTour Hotels and Resorts, which offers personalized, luxury hospitality management services for four and five-star properties worldwide, along with Tri-Asia, a hospitality management company based in Phuket, will now manage the Dewa Phuket Resort.

Tom LaTour, chairman of LaTour Hotels and Resorts said, "With our combined strengths, we look forward to continuing to build the LaTour brand in the Asia Pacific region."

Tri-Asia, headed by veteran hotelier Lars Ydmark, is well established in the Phuket, region where LaTour Hotels and Resorts also manage the IndoChine Resort in Kalim, Phuket.

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

SMEs may suffer most from political turmoil



Thailand's small and medium-sized enterprises – especially those in the service industry – could very well be the most adversely affected group from political turmoil. AFP photo/Christophe Archambault

THE Office of Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion is prepared to chop the growth target for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as one third of the entities are in the service sector, which was hit the hardest by the political turmoil.

Director General Yuthasak Supasorn said that the political impact could shave one percentage point off the growth target for SMEs, from the original target of 3.8 – 4.2 percent.

The remaining SMEs in the trade and manufacturing sector are mostly benefiting from the global economic recovery and the government's stimulus package, Mr Yuthasak said.

SME export income this year is expected to grow 15 – 16 per cent, from Bt1.6 trillion in 2009, which accounted for 31 percent of national export income.

According to the office, the economic size of SMEs covers 2.83 million entities and 8.9

million workers, and stood at Bt3.4 trillion in 2009, or 38 percent of national GDP.

The fact that most SMEs are staying in the 'safe zone' means commercial banks are maintaining a relatively optimistic view regarding growth in SME loans despite the recent turmoil.

Kasikorn bank, for example, targets SME loans to expand at the end of this year, and at Siam Commercial Bank, the growth rate of SME loans – which now account for about one fourth of the total loan portfolio – is expected to be 47 percent.

This is despite the fact that

Kasikorn Research Centre estimated that the turmoil could cost Bt130 billion in economic damage, and tourist arrivals should be dropping by eight percent on year to 13 million, which will inevitably have a negative affect on the service sector business.

"There is no change in the overall outlook, as the overall economy and exports are buoyant. Problems on loan repayment should be clearer in the next one to two months," Poomchai Wacharapong, Bank of Ayudhya's head of SME banking, concluded.

– Achara Deboonme, *The Nation*

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Property Gazette

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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.amphaiseabreeze.com

NAI YANG BEACH HOUSE

3-bedroom, 3-bathroom house with nice kitchen, big garden and carpark. In a quiet area near Nai Yang Beach. Tel: 076-241594, 089-652 1751 (English & Thai), 089-648 4703 (English & Thai). Email: pietankam@yahoo.co.th

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

Sale price: 6.5 million baht. Rent price: 20,000 baht per month. Lake view and fully furnished by "Index". Located in Chalong. Tel: 082-420 3134. Email: paul.phuket@gmail.com

POOL VILLA

For sale. Bang tao. 490sqm, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms and a big swimming pool. 370sqm living and 490sqm land. Quick sale! Only 9.9 million baht. Tel: 084-851 6121. Email: phuketmat@yahoo.com Website: www.phukethome.ws

BANG TAO HOUSE

For sale. 2-4 bedrooms, fully furnished, and with big swimming pool. Price: 3 million baht. Tel: 084-851 6121.

RAWAI SUPER OFFER

2-story, 3-bedroom pool villa. Fully furnished and with garden. Price: 4.4 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

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

720 SQM NEAR MISSION HILL

Nice corner plot, a stone's throw from Mission Hill golf course. Tel: 081-892 1097. Email: colan007@hotmail.com

3 BED VILLA AND POOL KAMALA

Located on the hill behind Phuket Fantasea with nice Seaview. For sale for only 8.95 million baht. Would consider long term rental. Tel: 089-729 1403 (English & Thai). Email: imconnac@aol.com For further details and lots of pics. see my website at www.villakamala.com

LAYAN LAND



for sale. 11 rai, flat land. 3 min from Layan beach, hill and lake view. Price 3.8 million baht per rai. Tel: 089-813 1447.

VERY SPACIOUS EUROPEAN



Villa in quiet area in Rawai. Quality building by Dutch constructor. Large living area and huge terrace. 3 bedrooms with aircon, 3 en-suite bathrooms, 1 separate guest toilet. Western kitchen, garage, beautiful garden, laundry, True Visions TV. 650sqm plot with Chanote title. Price: 9.8 million baht. Please contact Paula. Tel: 084-844 1486. Email: meeuwissen paula@hotmail.com

www.Phuket-Villa-Property.com

We've got it... 08 72 72 03 03

PAY IN 2 YEARS, NO INTEREST



2 condos in Rawai. Price: 1.7 million baht for 54sqm. 1 million baht for 27sqm. Located 200 metres from the pier. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

3-BEDROOM HOUSE

for sale or rent. 312sqm, 2 bathrooms. Fully furnished, 24-hour protection. 5 minutes to Chalong Bay, 10 minutes to Nai Harn Beach, 20 minutes to Patong Beach and 15 minutes to Phuket Town. Price: sale: 6.5 million baht. Rent: 45,000 baht per month. Please contact Khun Sam (English/Thai) 085-1106449. For further details, please see our website at http://ipdproperty.com/30-chalong-villa/30-chalong-villa.html

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

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.

HOUSE IN ANUPHAS GOLF VILLE



for sale. Kathu, 3 bedrooms, maid room, aircon, small swimming pool, Chanote title. 8 million baht. Tel: 081-854 0061 (English), 087-395 7301 (English & Thai).

THAI-STYLE VILLA IN CHALONG



Luxurious, lakeside, Thai-style villa in Chalong. Has 8 rooms and a swimming pool. Price: 38 million baht. Tel: 081-892 8740.

22 RAI 500,000 BAHT/RAI

Beautiful plot of land suitable for either development or agricultural use. Nice mountain views. Has paved road access and electricity. Located 5km south of Tab Lamu golf course and 10km north of Khao Lak. Price: 11 million baht for 22 rai. Tel: 081-892 1097 (English & Thai). Email: colan007@hotmail.com

LAND AT PAKHLOK

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

BEST PRICE VILLA



Thai-Balinese style with L shaped design. 2 en-suite bedrooms, free furniture. Located near BIS. Premium quality & optional pool. Land size 144-284sqm. Price vary between 3.3 - 4.2 million baht. Quality life living waiting you here!!! Tel: 084-293 7923. Must visit us: www.phuket-aurasia.com

CHEAP LAND FOR SALE

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

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.

LAND AT CHERNG TALAY

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

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: drbeamschaw@gmail.com

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

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Property Gazette

PAY IN 5 YEARS, NO INTEREST



Rawai beach. For lease or sale. Land and villa, 400sqm. 6 beds, 6 baths, fully furnished. Sale price: 7.5 million baht. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

KATA HILL - MUST SELL!

Luxury villa. 3 bedrooms, big pool and garden. Includes furnishings. **FROM 19 MILLION BAHT. NOW 15 MILLION BAHT.** Tel: 081-788 8280.

PATONG CENTER

12-room hotel. Take over for 2 million baht or rent for 70,000 baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

CHEAP HOUSE FOR SALE

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

SEAVIEW LAND IN AO POR



For sale. 2 rai, 90sq wah with Chanote title. In Laem Thong, Ao Por. Sale price: 6 million baht o.n.o. No agent! Tel: 087-270 9093.

THE HEIGHTS PHUKET

for sale. Ocean, pool & mountain view. Price: 19.5 million baht or best offer. Tel: 086-883 9815.

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

NEW TOWNHOUSE



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

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

PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

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

CHEAP PATONG POOL

Villa with a seaview, 6 rooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 aircons, 2 kitchens. Quick sale. Price: 6.4 million baht only, sold before at 12 million baht. Tel: 087-053 6016.

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.

LAND ON ISLAND

1 rai on Koh Phayam, Ranong. 300 meters from the beach, beautiful island ready for business. Price: 7.5 million baht. Tel: 089-021 9504. For further details, please see our website at www.kkaowyaioresort.com

SALE & RENT VILLA

7 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, kitchen, garden top floor, swimming pool. For sale: 19 million baht. For rent: 70,000 baht. Tel: 087-267 7281 (Italian) or 085-243 3878 (Thai).

2-STORY 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

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

NAI YANG GARDEN VILLA

Land 1 rai with 4 houses, 7 bedrooms and bathrooms, swimming pool, fully furnished, 2km to beach, 5km to airport. Sale price only 9.5 million baht. Tel: 081-691 9346. Email: sumon@ridethailand.com

LAND FOR SALE PHANG NGA

85 rai, 15 mins from the airport, with Chanote title. Price: 300,000 baht per rai, negotiable. Email: phuketmark@yahoo.co.uk

PATONG LUXURY SEAVIEW VILLA

Villa in Patong with stunning sea view. Ready to move in, Chanote title. Price: 23 Million baht. Tel: 086-982 2888 (English & Thai). Fax: 02-960 7051. Email: prim_purdue@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.awphuket.com

LARGE FAMILY HOME



Lovely, bright, fully furnished/air-conditioned house. 2m-walled garden, electric gate, alarm system. Set on 1 rai in sought-after area near Laguna. Just a few minutes walk to beach and shops. 320 sqm living area, 3 en-suite double bedrooms, 40sqm guest suite, very spacious lounges, large dining area, office/gym, all with solid wood floors. Laundry/maid room. New solid wood kitchen with built-in appliances. Private and safe for children/animals. 5.5x12m pool, large sala, built in stone barbecue, shower and store. 30% cheaper than local equivalent houses. Quick sale from owner! Price: 19 million baht. Tel: 081-956 0527. Email: tuenjai@hotmail.com

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

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.

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

LAYAN: 3/4 RAI (1200SQM)

for sale. Public road, electricity, water, lake view and country side, very quiet, private area. Price: 3,750,000 baht. Tel: 081-787 4383. Email: ruggdan@gmail.com

BRAND-NEW CONDO

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

1/2 RAI HILLTOP LAND

Walled & gated, near Laguna. Low price: 24 million baht. Tel: 086-470 5806, 080-695 9665.

KOH YAO YAI LAND

Beautiful land set among the tropical jungle of the island. While this property is classed as inland, it is positioned a mere 500 meter walk to beautiful sandy beach (Klong Son Bay) of Phang Nga Bay. Nor Sor Sam Kor 5,033 rai of land. Ask price 9.5 MB, includes one (Dusita) Thai house. Tel: 076-289122, 084-848 7474 (English & Thai). Email: kasina_navamachiti@yahoo.com

BEAUTIFUL SEAVIEW

For sale. At Surin Beach. No agent. Call K Sawa for more details at 080-695 2944.

TOWNHOUSE 2 STORIES



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

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.

SEAVIEW LAND IN AO MAKHAM



For sale. Chanote title, easy access in and out with concrete road. Price: 12 million baht per rai. No agent! Tel: 087-270 9093.

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Property Gazette

BOAT LAGOON ON THE WATER

RENOVATED house, 2 bedrooms with includes furnishings. Price: 6.8 million baht. Freehold. Tel: 081-788 8280.

320-ROOM RESORT

On 47 rai, near the beach in a discrete location. Contact for more info at Tel: 087-272 0303.

30 RAI IN TOWN

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

RAWAI SEAVIEW

42sq wah of land with Chanote title. Two stories with Chalong Bay view or mountain view. Tel: 086-951 6505.

THE ROYAL PLACE

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

TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT



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

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@live.co.uk

PAY IN 2 YEARS, NO INTEREST



2 condos in Rawai. Price: 1.7 million baht for 54sqm. 1 million baht for 27sqm. Located 200 meters from the pier. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

5 MINUTES FROM LAGUNA

4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, pool, large terrace, 1,000 sqm land plot, very quiet location. Now a bargain at 11.9 million baht. Tel: 089-875 9609 (English), 087-418 5924 (Thai). Email: claudebaltres@gmail.com

VILLARAWAI

Near "Platinum residents", 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, pool. 740sqm land, view 4,340sqm. Quality as premium. Price: 13.49 million baht. Tel: 082-272 1289.

PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB LAND

Close to 7th fairway, 1,052 sqm. Includes lifetime family membership. Price: 6 million baht. Tel: 084-851 7474. Email: mark_higson@hotmail.com

LAND NEAR NANAI ROAD

for sale. 90 wah near Nanai Road, with mountain and ocean views. Tel: 076-296326, 087-883 1756.

PAY IN 10 YEARS NO INTEREST



Sale of condominium for 1 million baht. Furnished, kitchen, cable TV, ADSL, 150m from sea. Location: central Rawai. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

HOUSE AND SHOPHOUSE

1,100sqm, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living room, kitchen. 150sqm shophouse, 1.5km from Laguna resort, good for a nursery or factory. Only 6 million baht. Tel: 076-274975, 081-891 2503 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-274976. Email: yai_k@hotmail.com

KATHU HOME

Beautiful home for sale. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, maid quarters, swimming pool, modern western kitchen, living room, dining room, family room. Too many features to list. Special offer, great deal. If interested, please contact James. Tel: 085-693 7147. Email: nelson_properties@hotmail.com

BAAN BAI MAI



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

HEAVEN ON EARTH



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

AMAZING OCEAN VIEWS RAWAI

Long leasehold 155msq apartment. Ocean views, private roof terrace and pool. 2 bedrooms, 3 floors. Price: 4.2m baht. Tel: 086-684 5368, 087-897 4421. Email: bisop5@yahoo.co.uk

2.85 MILLION BAHT NEAR BOAT LAGOON



Jao-Fah Garden Home 3 in Koh-Kaew near BIS, 10 min to Lotus. 2 beds, 2 baths, 2 aircons. Nice living & kitchen room, car park, fully furnished. Ready to move in. Tel: 081-541 2025. Email: c.junlarat@gmail.com

HOUSE IN KAMALA



for sale. 2 houses on land. 1 Ngan 89sq wah. Chanote title, near mountain, peace and safe, 10 minutes from the beach. 7.8 million baht direct from owner. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: yaris.vios@gmail.com

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

SURIN BEACH

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

LAND IN KATA NOI



for sale. 6-3-70 rai on mountain. Overlooking the sea. Next to Route 4233. Price: 125million baht. Call for more details. Please contact Khun M. Tel: 081-833 4488.

LAND & HOUSES PARK

2-story, 83sqm, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 5-air conditioned and fully furnished. Includes sofa, dining set, TV, refrigerator, washing machine, garden, 2 parks, auto gate. For sale: 6.7 million baht. For rent: 38,000 per month. Contact: Mr Young. Tel: 081-640 3550. Email: tiger@hotmail.com

SINGLE HOUSE

for sale in Supalai Hill, near Heroines Monument. 55sqm, 3 beds, 2 baths. Call K. Aree for more info. Tel: 083-649 1218.

PAY IN 6 YEARS, NO INTEREST



Sale price: 12 million baht. 648sqm of land, bar/hotel, 9 bedrooms, 9 bathrooms, furnished, WiFi. Location: Rawai Beach. Contact: Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

ONLY 1.9 MILLION IN PHUKET

Villa 3 Park, 3-bedroom townhouse, approx 90sqm, Chanote title. Now renovated. Tel: 081-788 8280.

PAY IN 5 YEARS, NO INTEREST



92sqm apartment, furnished, ADSL, CATV+CCTV. 30-year lease. Price: 2 million baht. Location: Rawai Beach. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

NICE HOUSE 88 SQ WAH



4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 aircons, sofa, cable TV. Near Jomthong Village on Khwang Rd. 6.5 million baht. Tel: 086-774 2034. Email: hataimata@hotmail.com

NEW HOUSE IN THE BANYAN VILLA



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

CONDO IN KRABI

89sqm, 2 bedroom condo, fully furnished. Corner unit, 7th floor in Ao Nang, Krabi. Mountain and seaview. Price: 4.59 million baht. Please contact: K. Chaiyot. Tel: 081-737 9404.

PHUKET VILLA CONDO PATONG



New condo. 1km. to beach, near Bangla Rd and Jungceylon, 1bed, 1 bath, fully furnished. BT 3.9mil for 42sqm and BT 3.8 mil for 44.5sqm. Tel: 081-541 2025. Email: c.junlarat@gmail.com

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RL28 SWING KEEL SLOOP

Big sail wardrobe. Price: AUS\$33,000. Website: www.boatshedphuket.com

BAYLINER POWER BOAT 18.5FT

(5.90 meter). 130Hp in outboard, like new. Now 750,000 baht. Tel: 081-788 8280.

23M DIVE BOAT TWIN DIESEL

Rebuilt last year. Price: 5 million baht. Website: www.boatshedphuket.com

PEARSON COUNTESS (1970)

Reduced to only US\$89,000. For further details, please see our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

BOAT + INCOME 5 MILLION BAHT



2008 Gulf craft. In perfect condition + fully loaded with the best equipment. Now serviced a number of 5-star resorts. LIC for 17 passengers + crew. Also for rent from 38,000 baht per day. Contact: Ross. Tel: 084-744 2240. Email: ross@funboatcruises.com

SCHIONNING POWER CAT 42'

Twin diesel inboards, 4 double berths. Excellent condition. Price: US\$329,000. For further details, please visit our website at: www.boatshedphuket.com

4M RIB FOR SALE

Used RIB needs a new home. Front tubes leaking, repairs quoted by Cholamark at 29,000 baht. Will sell for 15,000 baht ono. Come view in Karon. Tel: 076-286723. Fax 076-286724. Email: info@diving-thailand-phuket.com

SEA RAY SUNDANCER 310

31ft, launched 10/02, 2 X Mercruiser 350 (250hrs). Includes radar, GPS, Panasonic TV, Clarion marine radio, Bose sound system, electric anchor, aircon, 24,000BTU, trailer and Thai registration. For sale at 3.3 million baht. Tel: 038-720519, 085-237 9615. Fax: 038-720219. Email: michael.floeth@globo.co.uk

SWAN 42 (1982)

Scandinavian quality yacht, full racing sails, Price US\$139,950. See our web site at www.boatshedphuket.com

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Mariner 25Hp short shaft & Yamaha 15Hp longshaft fully serviced. Price: 30,000 baht each. Tel: 076-289656, 081-895 1826 (English). Email: info@far-away.net

PESCOTT 11.8M (2000)

Fast cruising catamaran reduced to AUS\$185,000. For further details. See www.boatshedphuket.com

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25-50Hp outboard motor wanted. Tel: 081-8924804. Email: gordon.asia@hotmail.com

MOTORSAILER



Neptunian 33. Bluewater cruiser. New paint and varnish, inside and outside. Sailed single handed from UK. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

60' MOTOR YACHT

60' motor yacht for sale. The boat was built as a passenger vessel and is ideal for day trips and dive trips. 2 x 380 hp engines. Licensed for 40 passengers, plus crew. Tel: 083-395 8198 (English & Thai). Email: frank@krabibiz.com

NEW SEADOO RXTX 255Hp

New 2008 Seadoo Rxt-x 255Hp. Special price: only 485,000 baht. Can do 70mph. 2 units left. Tel: 081-754 7599. Email: csutivas@hotmail.com

DUNCANSON 30 (1996)

Cruising & racing sails. Website: www.boatshedphuket.com

SEALINE 260

Economical single diesel, end of season. Bargain at only 1.2 million baht. Website: www.boatshedphuket.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 ☐

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

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

☐ Thai Baht 9,000 for an overseas subscription (any country outside Thailand)

Surname (as appears on card)

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Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Issuing Bank: _____ Country: _____

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E-mail address: _____

Please Deliver To:

Street address

City State or Province Zip Code

Country: _____



To ensure clarity,
please **airmail**.
Do not Fax!

Live in Cherg Talay?
Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at
41 Minimart

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

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

The Gazette Online is always on top in Google!

Island Job Mart



I.T. Professional (Website Programmer)

Thai national needed for new internet-based property company.

Applicants must have:

- Good command of spoken & written English.
- Minimum 5 years' experience in website construction.
- Good knowledge of HTML, PHP, JAVA, FLASH, Photoshop, AI & SEO.
- Self-motivated

Very Good Salary!

Please send CV and a picture of yourself to info@phuketproperty.com



Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project

SEEKING EXPERIENCED CANDIDATES FOR COMMUNICATION LIAISON POSITION

Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand are working together through the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project to improve the lives of coastal populations through better management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

The BOBLME Project will soon be based in Phuket. We want to establish a local presence, encourage a sense of ownership among stakeholders in the eight participating countries; promote BOBLME as a major source of information and advice; and communicate the results and progress of the project to stakeholders, especially to people in the coastal communities. One of the major tasks in 2010 will be to set up of media liaison outlets in each of the countries partnered with the project. These outlets will convey the project messages in appropriate language, and actively seek communication opportunities locally.

We are looking for an individual or company to take a leading role in the implementation of our communications strategy over the next four years.

For more information on the role and responsibilities, please see our website: www.boblme.org.

Interested individuals or companies should send a CV or company profile together with a covering letter outlining your professional competence to the Regional Coordinator Dr Chris O'Brien on chris.obrien@fao.org by June 11, 2010. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

APARTMENT MANAGER WANTED

Thai national, able to speak & write English, Multi tasking and dependable. Start on 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-288 8696 (English & Thai). Email: solitude001@aol.com

NEW INT'L PRIMARY SCHOOL IN RAWAI

The IPC is seeking to appoint a head teacher. Must have PGCD and minimum 5 years experience. Be a leader with passion to inspire and motivate both staff and pupils. Please send your CV to: careers@palmhouseprimaryschool.com

SURVEYORS WANTED

Male or female wanted to assist with survey's. Must understand basic English. Good basic salary plus commission. Contact Jay. Tel: 084-851 7529. Email: jamerward@yahoo.co.uk

FARANG LIVING IN PHUKET

is looking for part-time secretary with computer knowledge Thai-English. if possible with driving license. Please send to email: maurice.phuket@gmail.com

THAI MAID WANTED

to work in house in Hong Kong. Required Sept 2010 to work for mature couple in Clear Water Bay, Hong Kong. Must be fond of dogs and cooking. Only basic English required. Excellent conditions. Interview can be arranged in Phuket. Tel +001-852-9468 6499. Fax: +001-852-2849 8448. Email: jdyer@netvigator.com

GRAPHIC/FASHION DESIGNER

Must have good command of English and computer skills. Salary: 25,000 baht per month. Email: boxergirl@boxergirl.net Website: www.boXXerworld.com

SALES STAFF WANTED

Full time, Thai national. English is a plus. Tel: 081-537 6866.

TELE MARKETING JOB

Native English speaker, top rates. Working in Patong. For more information. Tel: 086-479 4027.

LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE ?

Dynamic, mobile, sales and marketing professional required to develop our private holiday villa rental portfolio in Phuket. High business ethics, sound commercial understanding with great presentation & interpersonal skills essential. Superb earning potential with retainer & expenses paid. Work permit available for the right person. Contact Paul by email sales@thailandholidayhomes.co.uk Website: www.thailandholidayhomes.co.uk

Wine Connection Phuket is arguably the leading wine shop in Thailand and is now developing a Deli & Bistro concept as a business extension. Wine Connection is looking for organized and dynamic people to lead our teams.



Sales Executive

Qualifications:

- Preferably 25-35 year old Thai female
- Minimum 2 years experience in Sales and/or Marketing of consumer product
- Good negotiation and English communication skills
- Pleasant personality
- Client oriented
- Persuasive, solution finder
- Self-motivated, service minded, result oriented
- Pro-active, innovative and well organized
- Computer literate

Key responsibilities:

- Executing sales plan: This function requires 70% prospecting, 25% client follow up and 5% public relation work
- Client targets: hotels, restaurants, bars and pubs
- Finding new business opportunities with existing clients and new prospects
- Developing and maintaining good client rapport
- Regular commercial follow up to clients with visit reports
- Reporting of sales activities and market visits to Sales Manager

Good benefits for the right candidate.

Please send your resumé to SeniorHrPhuket@wineconnection.co.th or call 076-282411 # 15 for further information.



Laguna Holiday Club, the fastest-growing Vacation Club in Asia, is urgently seeking to immediately employ the following:

Central Marketing Manager (Bkk)

Fluent in English, Command of further Asian and /or European Languages Experience in Vacation Ownership Industry Preferred

Sales Manager (Hua Hin)

Sales Representative (Hua Hin)

Native Thai Speakers

Experience in Vacation Ownership Industry Preferred

Salary, benefits, generous commissions and bonuses, and easy hours

Call... 076-362400 Ext.4404-4405
careerwithlhc@lagunaholidayclub.com



Sai Taan is a fast growing property developer based in Phuket. Due to continued expansion we are looking for an ambitious, hard working finance manager/controller.

Key Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the financial operations of the company
- Work with management team to develop tax planning
- Develop and monitor cashflow plans & company budgets
- Provide weekly and monthly financial reports
- Manage current book keeping staff.

Key Qualifications:

- degree from recognised, leading university
- excellent spoken & written English is a must
- at least 6 years experience
- willing and able to learn necessary accounting regulations related to property business
- hard working & ambitious
- able to take initiative and work independently
- ideally some experience with a real estate development company.

We are looking for someone capable and ambitious to join our small team. This is an opportunity to join a small team and make a real contribution, while learning the details of the property development business. Competitive salary for the right candidate.

Please email to info@sai-taan-phuket.com enclosing a resume, recent photo and details of your current salary.

Sai Taan Villas Co., Ltd.

3/14, Moo 5, T. Cherrngtalay, A.Thalang, Phuket 83110
Tel 076-271257-8, Fax 076-271256
www.sai-taan-phuket.com

DIVE INSTRUCTORS KOH JUM

Dive Instructor (or a team of 1 dive master and 1 instructor) wanted at luxurious Koh Jum Beach Villas on the island of Koh Jum. Salary commensurate with experience. Email resume to info@kohjumbeachvillas.com For further details, please see our website at www.kohjumbeachvillas.com

ADMIN ASSISTANT/PA

Highly motivated self-starter to support the management of an international media services company.

-Very good English required.

-Good organizational skills and attention to detail.

Email or fax resume. Fax: 076-223392. Email: mark@gsd-digital.com

ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER

- Females 25 - 35 years
- Must have bachelor's degree
- Good command of spoken and written English

- Must have own transportation
- Must be active and have interest in fitness and sport industry

Good salary + commission + benefits.

Tel: 076-610227.

Email: cj@searasports.com

SALE MANAGER WANTED

Russian real estate agency looking for a sale manager assistant. Thai female, 25-35, fluent in English, higher education. Salary: 15,000 baht. Please send your resume to: sales@tr-d.ru

LEATHER STITCHING

Person with experience in stitching and use of sewing machines required for work with leather. Tel: 081-956 0571 (English). Email: jean-yves@bayokcreation.com

SPEAK ITALIAN: IT'S POSSIBLE

With qualified and experienced teacher. Call for more details. Tel: 084-851 8099.

BEAUTY THERAPISTS WANTED

Position open for Thai nationals with excellent English and sales skills and with at least 1 year experience in luxury resort. Send your resume with recent photo to: sparecruit@hotmail.co.uk

ACCOUNTING

Permanent position. Experience with all facets of accounting including sales, purchases and tax required. Salary: 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-331615. Fax: 076-331616. Email: inq@sailing-thailand.com

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

Island Job Mart

Wine Connection Phuket is arguably the leading wine shop in Thailand and is now developing a Deli & Bistro concept as a business extension. Wine Connection is looking for organized and dynamic people to lead our teams.



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- Reporting of sales activities and market visits to Sales Manager

Good benefits for the right candidate.

Please send your resumé to
SeniorHrPhuket@wineconnection.co.th or call
076-282411 # 15 for further information.



PROLIVING Company Limited is a property development company. We are engaging in a high end luxury condominium project located on the beach side of Patong beach, Phuket. We are recruiting talented and collaborative individuals that are interested in joining a dynamic team.

SALES / MARKETING MANAGER

The position requires a business minded person to lead and supervise all sales and marketing for all projects.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Male / Female Age 30 +
- University graduate with Bachelor Degree or higher
- Minimum two years experience in dealing with high end sales / marketing at managerial level
- Experience in Phuket real estate is a plus
- Superior record in achieving sales target
- Exceptional command of English
- Excellent planning and organization skills
- Strong interpersonal skills, self-motivated and first-rate team player
- Job location in Patong, Phuket

SALES ASSOCIATE

QUALIFICATIONS:

- University graduate with Bachelor Degree or higher
- Experience in Phuket real estate is a plus
- Minimum two years experience in dealing with high end luxury condominium sales
- Able to work in a fast track environment
- Good command of English
- Job location in Patong, Phuket

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

QUALIFICATIONS:

- University graduate with Bachelor Degree or higher in accounting or finance
- Two years experience at supervisor level
- Good command of English
- Handle daily accounting operations (i.e. A/P, A/R, GL)
- Submission of monthly withholding and VAT
- Liaison with accounting firm
- Job location in Patong, Phuket

Interested candidates, please send your resume and picture to: sotorn.dansirkul@gmail.com



Looking for Thai nationals for the following positions in Phuket:

- Beauty/ Spa Therapists
- Assistant Manager

Good English & communications skills required
Please send your resume with recent picture to:

staff@sunspa-esthederm.com



Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following positions:

Web Programmer (3 positions)

General Duties:

- Designs, programs, implements and maintains computerized business systems for use on the Internet or Intranet
- Develops both internal and external website and web-based applications/features
- Researches and develops new web technologies
- Provides continuing diagnostic support for applications and execution of web services.

Requirements:

- Bachelor Degree in Computer Science/Programming
- Proficient in asp, asp.net, PHP, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, XML, MsSQL, MySQL and Ajax programming
- At least 2 years' experience in programming
- Ability to work within tight schedules
- Independent and attentive to detail
- Able to communicate effectively and show good problem solving skills
- Fluent in English, written and spoken
- Must be a team player.

Web promoter & IT support (1 position)

General Duties:

- Search engine optimization
- Manual directory submission
- Link exchange development and admin
- Procurement from PC hardware/software suppliers and building system providers
- Maintenance of PCs, networking, and building system functionality
- Troubleshooting re user problems
- Independent resolution of hardware break-fix issues, network connectivity, and application related questions
- Weekly conversion of Pagemaker files to PDFs, and compilation of the Digital Gazette
- Conversion of AVI to Flash video for PGTV
- Other related tasks.

Requirements:

- Degree in IT or equivalent work experience
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in web promotion and IT support
- Understanding of search engine algorithms (a must)
- Excellent skills in Search Engine Optimization
- Knowledge of promotional techniques through Google/Yahoo/MSN
- Fluent in English, written and spoken
- Proficiency in Internet research
- Ability to maintain web pages.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to big@phuketgazette.net

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

British International School, Phuket

British International School, Phuket is looking for the following candidates:

PE Assistant

Qualifications

- Thai National
- University Degree, Physical Education Major or related fields
- Good English, positive, willing & hard working
- Knowledge of local schools or clubs to arrange fixtures
- Knowledge of local facilities & sports opportunities
- Coaching qualification to coach a team such as basketball etc.
- Be able to be a supervisor for Military Training & Teaching Assistants
- Be able to work flexible hours 1 pm. to 6 pm. all day Saturday

Teacher Assistant

Qualifications

- Female, Thai National
- Bachelor degree in related field
- Teaching qualifications and experience of child care / teaching preferable
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills
- Loves to take care of children



59 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200
Tel: 076-238711-20 # 2103, 2206, 1111
Fax: 076 238711-20 # 1130
E-mail: patcharakornt@bisphuket.ac.th or
sirirats@bisphuket.ac.th

GRAPHIC ARTIST WEB DESIGNER

Illustrator, Photoshop, Indesign. Full time or part time position depending on skills. Creative work environment with unlimited potential. Must read and write English reasonably well. Tel: 086-275 2480 (English). Email: tony@graingerdesigns.com.au For further details, please see our website at www.graingerdesigns.com.au

ASSISTANT WANTED

Assistant to service director. Qualifications required: Experienced (minimum 5 years) in water filtration, domestic & commercial. Good command of written and spoken English, leadership qualities. Driver's license is essential. Contact to make appointment: 076-620193.

MALE MASSEUSES WANTED

Earn good extra many with our outcall massage service for couples. No need to be qualified, training can be provided. Please email: massagephuket@gmail.com

KOELBL & LEHMANN CO LTD

Staff wanted.

- 1) Quality controller
- 2) Security
- 3) Office administration with good English and experience
- 4) Thai sales with food experience and car
- 5) Driver

Tel: 076-246621

TEACHER WANTED

HeadStart International School, Phuket, is currently seeking qualified, experienced and caring teachers for Physical Education, Kindergarten, Primary and Secondary levels. Tel: 076-612876. Fax: 076-612877. Please email CVs to school@headstartphuket.com For further details, please see our website at www.headstartphuket.com

PADI DIVING INSTRUCTOR

Required for 5 Star dive center on Phi Phi island. Email: jkgk24@hotmail.com

SECRETARY WANTED

For property management company in Cherng Talay. Must communicate well in English and good computer skills. Tel: 083-391 7254. Email: parkfld@yahoo.com

MARKETING

Permanent position - Work with our website, agent and direct marketing. Good spoken and written English, and computer skills are required. Salary: 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-331615. Fax: 076-331616. Email: inq@sailing-thailand.com

LINUX PROGRAMMERS NEEDED

American company seeking Linux programmers in Patong. English language required. Experience with C language or Perl required. Device driver experience and kernel level programming, or user interface programming with Perl and knowledge of Linux administration. Please send resume and salary requirements to Michael Anderson. Email: manderson@streamscale.com

Gazette Online Classifieds – 10,000 readers every day!

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

Articles For Sale

MOVING SALE

Full set of office furniture, photo studio equipment. Tel: 081-081 9424.

ITEMS AS NEW

French crystal glasses for wine, white sherry liqueur etc. For table of six, delph dinner service for 8. Toshiba electric frying pan 14 inch diameter. Braun coffee grinder. LG DVD/Karaoke player. Call K. Sam. Tel: 081-083 0460.

JIGSAW PUZZLES

One 1,500-piece Waddingtons "One of the Family" by F G Cotman. 88 x 58cm. Price: 350 baht. One 3,000-piece Arrow Puzzles, 'Italian Garden, Garinish Island, Co, Cork, Ireland' 118 x 89cm. Price: 550 baht. Tel: 086-940 2111 (English), 087-270 7698 (English & Thai). Email: tom_woods6@hotmail.com

ELECTRIC HOT PLATES 2 RING

Electric hot plates, 2 rings. Both rings have quick heat up sensors. Has adapter plug for common house power point, but can be hard wired also. 10 months old. Price when new: 5,500 baht. Will sell for 3,200 baht. Tel: 085-275 3720. Email: russcottent@hotmail.com

MOVING SALE

Teak wood large working desk 190cm x 90cm. Matching side board 190cm x 45cm. Cannon color scanner, HP laser printer with new toner, Panasonic PLAIN paper fax. Call Simone. Tel: 086-951 5445 (English). Email: guidotti@netvigator.com

SWEDISH CANDY/ SNACKS

Stock clearance and end of season sale. All Scandinavian/Swedish candy and snacks must go. Bargain prices! Licorice, Bilar, Cheez Doodles, Chips etc. Tel: 076-513408, 087-274 6602, 085-885 6798. Fax: 076-513408. Email: info@scansnax.nu For further details, please see our website at: www.scansnax.nu

KING-SIZE MATTRESS

4 1/2 months old, in perfect condition. Not one of those rock-hard mattresses. Price: 5,000 baht new, with receipt. Pics available. Email: Strawberryfields747@gmail.com

DEHUMIDIFIER FOR SALE

Tired of the high humidity? Buy this dehumidifier. Fixed price 2,000 baht. Tel: 089-289 5102. Email: buapanjindasree@yahoo.com

BED AND MATTRESS FOR SALE

Bed and Seally orthopedic mattress for sale. Bought for 45,000 baht, will sell for 7,000 baht. Tel: 089-289 5102 (English & Thai). Email: buapanjindasree@yahoo.com

SONY PS3 & ACCESSORIES

Comes with second controller and Logitech G25 Steering wheel. Games available include: Guitar Hero 3, Avatar, Transformers 1 & 2, Star Wars: The Force Unleashed & The Complete Saga (Lego), Burnout Paradise City, GT5, Army of Two and Airborne. Contact Mike. Tel: 086-951 2455. Email: miketipton@netseven.com

LLADRO FIGURINE

Tahitian Dancing Girls, #0100 1498. It's 11.75 inches, retired 1995, hand painted. DF file available by email. Very slight damage to 2 fingers on 1 hand. 40,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-895-7727 (English). Email: info@axiominvestments.com

MOVING SALE CHEAP!

Need to move back home. Selling everything. Good price. Call now. Tel: 081-294 5441.

SOFA CLEARANCE SALE

50% off selected items. Prices start from 14,000 baht. Tel: 085 787 1515.

HARDWOOD BENCH SEAT

Beautiful hardwood bench seat. Good for inside or outside. Tel: 082-878 0392 (English & Thai). Email: olay1@yahoo.com

MOVING SALE RAWAI

Orient rugs prints from China, India, Japan, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong. Select Asian furniture. Jade ivory vases, kitchen utensils, rosewood desk, Japanese wedding kimono rare, Japanese stone lantern. More to come. Indonesian statues, queen size bed+matress, tables, flowerplots, dining set (8). Tel: 080-145 3483. Email: heinogeick@yahoo.com.sg

FRAMED CROSS-STITCH PICTURES

Three beautiful, large, framed, hand-made cross-stitch pictures in matching frames. Two @ 8,500 baht (Thai dancers) and one @ 10,500 baht (Nature scene). Tel: 087-897 3497 (English & Thai). Email: catch22phuket@gmail.com

BAGLESS VACUUM CLEANER

Electrolux zac 6,707 warranty till 11/06/2010. New 6,000 baht, now 2,500 baht. Colour: red/white. Tel: 076-319560, 084-441 3871 (English & Thai). Email: sawasdee-khrap@hotmail.com

MOVING SALE NEW STUFF

Must go before 1/31/10.
- Room fan: 36 cm, 390 baht when new. Now 200 baht
- Hot water pot, aluminum, 290 baht when new. Now 150 baht.
Tel: 089-350 2592 (English). Email: alkan@hush.com

GARMIN GPSMAP 60CX

Color map navigator, pre-loaded with marine charts. One year young, never used. Price new 25,000 baht, make an offer. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-077 3307. Email: sudeckh@web.de

TEAK, RATTAN FURNITURE

High quality furniture for sale: 5-seater modular rattan sofa, 2 plantation chairs, customised Balinese teak shelves, wooden benches & more. Leaving Phuket. Must sell by month end. Call to view. Prices negotiable. Tel: 085-791 0691 (English). Email: vjmisso@gmail.com

LIFE VEST

Life vest, Helly Hansen navigate, swoon-safe, size 7 (54-56) for people over 80kg. Price: 1,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-480 2089 (English). Email: constructionvisor@hotmail.com

POOL PUMP

1.5hp Pentair Whisperflow. Hardly used. 12,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 086-683 1964. Email: franklee200@hotmail.com

Bar & Restaurant Equipment

RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT

1 and 3-door refrigerator, 3-deep-section freezer, meat slicer. 4 stainless-steel work tables, 1 gas rotisserie, 1 gas griddle, 1 high stock pot and 1 gas-electric oven. Tel: 081-090 7809. Email: bavaria-muenchen@live.de

COFFEE SHOP EQUIPMENT

Coffee machine "Saeco" Royal Cappuccino, 2 years old. Price: 29,000 baht. Cake display: 29,000 baht. 3 wooden benches, 200x40 x60, 190x40 x60, 250x40 x60. Price: 5,000 baht for 3. Electrolux fridge, grey: 10,000 baht. Wooden counter: 4,000 baht. Tel: 081-077 8774. Email: jenny.westlie@hotmail.com

Bulletins

SKIPPERS PUB QUIZ

Come join our monthly, last Thursday Pub Quizzes. Starting at 20:00. Royal Phuket Marina. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-360890.

SPONSOR

a needy child. The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of donors and sponsors - small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor. Please call K. Carol (Tel: 087-417 8860) or K. Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948). Or email: info@phuketiwcc.com

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

For Phuket info (English) call 081-8812895, 081-8954763 or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

English Speaking Meetings
Mission Hospital - Phuket City
Wed and Sun 7 PM

Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City
Fri 7 PM

Patong Hospital - Patong
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun at 7 PM

Green Man Restaurant - Chalong
Tue 1 PM

Krabi Hospital - Krabi
Wed 1 PM

(additional Krabi meetings on request by contacting 084-4483103)

Scandinavian Speaking Meetings-Karon
Tue and Sat 7 PM (Nov-April only)

Tel: 086-9440460 Sive, 082-2765998 Nor

For info on other Thailand AA meetings inquire @ 02-23118300 (for Thai language press 3) www.aathailand.org or email: info@aathailand.org

Business Opportunities

BAR FOR SALE

Soi Eric, 37 month contract. 50% share available. Offers are invited. Must sell! Tel: 087-883 1756, 089-288 2803.

CHIPS & DIPS

Fast-food restaurant. Near Chalong Circle. Selling for 950,000 baht. Email: ben@chipsanddips.net



Fast-food restaurant. Near Chalong Circle. Selling for 950,000 baht. Email: ben@chipsanddips.net

BAKERY / RESTAURANT

Guesthouse in Kata area. Urgent sale for family reasons. Tel: 083-639 4268.

PATONG BAR

For sale. Good location in new soi. Fully furnished, free rent, 3-year lease. 1.4 million baht. Tel: 086-952 8832.

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.

Live in Patong?

Place your **GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS** at

Taurus Travel

Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it with Khun Kai (076-344321-2)

GAZETTE CLASSADS - they work because they're **PAID!**

Hundreds of new ads in print every week, all published simultaneously - and **FREE** - in the Gazette Online!

The Gazette is always on top in Google!

Tout, Trader & Trumpet

TSBA *We sell going concerns*
BUY OR SELL A BUSINESS
 Tel: 086-268-6090
 Email: ference@tsba.info
 www.tsba.info

BAR FOR SALE

Pool bar restaurant in Phuket Town. Price: 700,000 baht. Contact: K. Nop. Tel: 084-445 9998. Email: napathorn@windowlive.com

BEST GUESTHOUSE IN PATONG

Looking for a guest house in Patong? We have it! 86 Nanai Rd, 18 rooms rent for 110,000 baht. Contract is a 9 year lease with key money. Price: 1 million baht. Contact: Frank. Tel: 084-078 2753. Email: info.realpro@gmail.com

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Bar for sale, good location with established trade in Karon. Tel: 080-519 1661. Email: paul1rossiter@aol.com

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Best location on Bangla road and beach front of Patong Beach. If interested, please contact Bell. Tel: 076-513122, 080-371 8701 (English & Thai), 089-755 3585 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-513122. Email: bell_jidapha@hotmail.com

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Just in front of Best Western Bangtao Beach Resort. Contact: Mr. Bobby. Tel: 081-842 6278.

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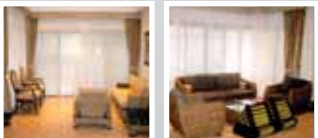
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