

# Phuket Gazette

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## Manhunt: Thief slashes maid's throat



A CCTV image of the intruder.

POLICE have released images of the man wanted for stabbing house maid Sunee Premprasert and then slitting her throat and leaving her to die during a house robbery in Thalang on July 22.

Tah Chat Chai Police duty officer Watcharin Jirattikarnwiwat said police were continuing their investigation, but believe the suspect was no longer on the island.

Tah Chat Chai Police Superintendent Sakchai Limchareon said three of four CCTV security cameras at the residence caught images of the killer, including the moment at 6pm when he calmly slit Ms Sunee's throat before ransacking the home for valuables. In the end, he found none and left.

Police declined to give more information for fear of jeopardizing the investigation.

— Atchaa Khamlo

# Lifeguards lash out over tourist's death

By Atchaa Khamlo

THE death of Romanian tourist Gheorghe Paulive, who died after being pulled from dangerous surf at Karon on July 20, has angered Phuket lifeguards into calling for more cooperation from hotels in helping to warn guests about dangerous surf conditions.

Mr Paulive, 35, was pulled from the surf near the Karon Princess Hotel about 11am. He was pronounced dead by doctors at Bangkok Hospital Phuket two days later, after succumbing from lack of oxygen to the brain.

"The lifeguards on duty were already busy rescuing four other people who were in trouble about 800 meters from him. Someone shouted for us to help the him, but it took 10 minutes for us to rescue him because he was caught in the current," said Karon head lifeguard Utan Singsom.

Mr Paulive was administered oxygen from the nearest lifeguard station, about a kilometer away, before being rushed to Patong Hospital. He was transferred to Bangkok Hospital Phuket the next day.



**SEEING RED:** Karon lifeguards Chatree Promnoon (left) and Charuay Wonggliang want more tourists to obey the flags. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

"He should have been informed [of the dangerous surf] by the hotel where he was staying. He was swimming in a danger zone with red flags, where we do not allow people to swim," said Mr Utan.

"Hotels should inform their guests about things such as the meaning of the different flags.

Yellow flags mean 'can swim, but exercise caution and stay within sight of the lifeguards', and red flags mean 'definitely no swimming'," he said.

"We see guards at hotels helping guests cross the road, but they don't warn them about swimming in the sea," he said.

"Hotels let their guests come to

swim and die on the beaches we patrol. They don't let their guests get hit by cars, but they let their guests drown instead. I don't understand where they get their policies from," he added.

Mr Utan explained that only a few hotels in the area bothered to turn up to a July 9 meeting held to boost coordination between lifeguards and hotels in saving tourists from the sea.

"A few came, such as Club Med, Movenpick and The Boat-house, but the rest of them did not. They weren't even interested, even though they are luxury hotels right on the beach," he said.

"Another meeting will be held again, probably next month," he added.

In the past few weeks conditions have been treacherous and some 20 tourists nearly drowned at Kata Noi, Kata and Karon beaches alone during that period, Mr Utan said.

Fellow Karon Beach lifeguard Chartree Promnoon, 32, said that only about 10% of tourists heed warnings from lifeguards not to enter dangerous surf.

*Continued on Page 3*

## Rotary steps in for Wanphen orphans

THE two young children of Wanphen Pienjai, the bar hostess murdered by American Ron Fanelli, have been accepted into the Scholarship Program of the Rotary Club of Patong Beach (RCPB) and will receive financial support on an ongoing basis.

Meanwhile, Wanphen's mother, Sa-ard Maliwan, 59, has told the *Gazette* that she gave 5,000 baht of the 20,000 baht in donations raised through the newspaper's website (for immediate funeral expenses) to the family's local temple in Petchaboon, where her daughter's ashes are now kept.

"I received 20,000 baht on Tuesday [July 20] and I donated 5,000 baht for building a section of temple wall. Wanphen's ashes arrived on Thursday and they will be put in the temple. The rest of the money will be kept for the children," said Mrs Sa-ard.

Wanphen was murdered on June 18 and her remains were discovered in a suitcase in a remote area off Chao Fa Thani Rd on June 24. Her body was cremated in Phuket on July 14.

Speaking to the *Gazette* from her home in Petchaboon by telephone, Mrs Sa-ard

said, "I haven't seen the guy [Fanelli] yet, but people have called me and asked how such a handsome man could be so cruel. I am happy the police caught him, but I still feel very sad at losing my daughter. Nothing can ever bring her back."

"Normally, Wanphen sent us money. I don't know who else can support us now. She was the only one who gave us hope and now she is dead.

"She was my only daughter. Her ex-husband knows what happened, but never

*Continued on Page 2*



The late Ms Wanphen and her daughter Farm.

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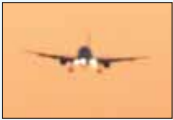
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# Bird on the water

By Fraser Morton



SOAKED IN INK: Les Bird likes to get his local news wherever he is, even in the English Channel.

EVERYONE has their own obsession. For Phuket resident Les Bird, it's physical endurance – the need to push his body to the limit.

Not content with reaching the summit of Europe's highest Mountain, Mont Blanc in the French-Italian Alps, Phuket Ironman Les completed a cool four-kilometer swim in the English Channel the week after.

He swam across the Solent, the stretch of water between mainland England and the Isle of Wight.

Originally planning to make the swim just four days after his successful Mont Blanc summit attempt on July 10, Les decided to wait until July 21 to swim the Solent.

He was "shattered" from his climb, the former Hong Kong police commander admitted.

Due to brutal tidal conditions in the English Channel, a swimmer without proper planning and diligent attention to currents could end up way off course, Les said.

"And I didn't want to see France again so soon after my Mont Blanc climb," Les wrote to the *Gazette*.

"Getting wiped out by oil tankers or ferries is cause for concern swimming these waters, but I had a safety boat tailing me the whole way," he wrote.

The water was a bit chilly, "13°C, and not the kind of water color we're used to off Phuket," he added.

Despite this, Les swam the Solent in 82 minutes.

"It was great preparation for my swim next year, when I'll be swimming the whole way across the English Channel with a few friends," Les wrote.

# Phuket Town wins international award

PHUKET: Phuket City Municipality has received an award for Promoting Economic Development in recognition of the municipality's Old Town project.

Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwanasupana said the municipality was also cited as one of 16 "exemplars of good government" by a group of institutions.

The group includes the Thai Environmental Institute; the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Germany; United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific, of which the regional office is in Jakarta; and the Local Government Development Foundation (Logodef), based in Manila.

The selection was made under the auspices of the European Commission (EC) as part of a project called Partnership for Democratic Local Governance in Southeast Asia.

Five nations are targeted by the project: Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines.

"The project goal is to create a



Burying power cables in Old Phuket Town was a major part of winning the award. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

network of local governments in the five nations to promote consultation and exchange of ideas," said Ms Somjai, who has been Phuket Town mayor for most of the past decade.

"The institutes selected six local governments notable not only for achievements, but for winning acceptance from local people for their initiatives in six cases," she said.

"Our Old Town commercial zone development project was cited as a case in point, as were investments aimed at economic revival in the city and its commu-

nities. They saw that we were promoting not only growth but local pride in our traditions.

"We also offered the chance of participation in planning and operations to local associations and individuals," said Mayor Somjai.

"Information about Phuket Town will be broadcast throughout Southeast Asia. Personnel will be exchanged and study trips undertaken between the city governments. Project participants will return home and become trainers, showing others how to improve performance," Mayor Somjai said.

"Recognition on an international scale for good governance makes city workers proud, too," Mayor Somjai said.

Two cornerstones of the Old Town development plan are the on-going project to bury cables underground in the old quarter and the construction of a new wet market on Ranong Rd.

The cable project, now in its second phase, is widely hailed as a success, yet the Ranong Rd Market has proven more problematic. Completed over a year ago, vendors with the right to occupy stalls there are balking at the chance to do so, citing high fees.

– *Phuket Gazette*

# Wanphen orphans

From Page 1

came to visit. He probably has a new family already," she added.

Wanphen, who used to work in Pattaya, was last at the family home in April this year, just before her move to Phuket.

Mrs Sa-ard described her daughter as straight-talking, loyal and generous, always inviting neighbors to join them for dinner. "She was kind and never abandoned me," she said.

To earn at least some money, Mrs Sa-ard, who is blind in one

eye, has a part-time job cutting grass. She also now takes care of Wanphen's two orphaned children: a boy "Iang" who is in sixth grade at Ban Nong Bua Thong School, and his sister Farm, age three.

"The older child knows his mother is dead, but the little one doesn't realize it yet. I haven't told her because she hasn't asked.

"Iang hasn't said anything about it. Farm just thinks her mom is off working. Sometimes when women walk past our home she [Farm] yells out how happy she is that her mom has finally come home," Mrs Sa-ard said.

– *Atchaa Khamlo and Stephen Fein*

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# Chalong dam mired in mystery delay

CONSTRUCTION of the 5.7-million-cubic-meter reservoir at Klong Krata in Chalong has stalled because the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) has yet to approve a request to use a 60-rai plot needed for the project.

According to Phuket Provincial Irrigation Office (PPIO) Assistant Director Isara Anukul, construction was to begin this year and be completed in 2012.

"But approval for 60 rai of forest land from the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment remains outstanding," he said.

The initial request by the PPIO to use the land was submitted three years ago.

PPIO Director Weerawat Aungsupanith told the *Gazette* in early March that approval for the plot was not far off. "I think it will take about one or two months," he said.

In October 2008, then-PPIO chief Supinyo Hoonpadungrat told the *Gazette* his office was "still awaiting" approval for use of about 30 rai.



Dam: One of the pools at the Klong Krata site. Photo: Phuket Gazette

In April 2007, Regional Irrigation Department officer Tawin Jairak said that compensation for land acquisition had reached its "final phase".

Earlier that same April, Theerachart Sangkaha of the Irrigation Department, who was in charge of the project at that time, reported during a meeting at Provincial Hall that approval from the Forestry Department for use of 157 rai of

the 430-rai, 960-million-baht project had "already been granted".

The project would be finished in 2009, he said at the time.

What has forced the current delay has never been announced, but it is likely not related to protests by environmentalists or attempts by officialdom at environmental preservation.

— *Phuket Gazette*

# Man rescued after heavy surf drags him out to sea

A YOUNG man washed out to sea while fishing from the shoreline had to tread water for three hours before being rescued last week.

Seksun Kaenchan, 20, of Cherng Talay, was fishing with a friend off rocks at Laem Son Beach, at the southern end of Kamala Bay, when he was hit by a large wave and swept out to sea at about 1:30pm on July 25.

His 17-year-old friend Sarawut Khaekwong desperately tried to rescue him but could only watch as the youth was pulled ever farther out to sea by the strong monsoon-season currents.

Mr Sarawut suffered a broken chin bone and multiple lacerations in his attempt.

Kusoldharm Foundation emergency rescue workers and Tambon Kamala officials recognized that they both lacked the equipment and experience needed to safely carry out a rescue mission without endangering any more lives, and hence contacted the Marine Police.

However, the Marine Police confirmed that their own vessels



The Patong beach guard heads out to sea to save Mr Seksun.

were unavailable at the time because they had been dispatched to help a ship in distress.

Despite suffering from exhaustion and a broken leg, the youth somehow managed to stay afloat until he was finally rescued at 4:30pm by a jet-ski operated by a member of the Phuket Lifeguard Club in Patong.

Mr Seksun was taken to Patong Hospital for treatment.

— *Phuket Gazette*

## Lifeguards blast hotels

From Page 1

However, hotels in Karon have rebuked the lifeguards' claim that the hotels do little to save their own guests.

Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort Marketing and Communication Manager Nampetch Tipaxsorn said, "Our own well-trained lifeguards have patrolled the beach in front of our hotel and nearby for about six years. One of them was the lifeguard who administered CPR to the Romanian man..."

"We have a big warning sign on the way from the hotel down to the beach telling guests to be

aware of the different flags and other harmful things, such as jellyfish. We tell our guests every rainy season, and warn people who come to our tour counter," Ms Nampetch said.

A reservations officer at the Karon Princess Hotel told the *Gazette*, "If our guests ask, we will certainly warn them not to swim where there are red flags. But we don't know when they're going out for a swim..."

"They get on their motorbikes, sometimes to go to the beach, sometimes not — we don't know. So we can't warn them," the officer said.

## 'NYC cop' arrested for drugs

POLICE at Tah Chat Chai checkpoint caught two men attempting to smuggle some 8,000 *ya bah* (methamphetamine) pills onto Phuket on July 26.

Tah Chat Chai Police identified the suspects as Wesarat Ninjamrat, 35, from Nonthaburi, and his alleged accomplice Jad Jedklang, 26, from Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

At the time of his arrest, at

about 6pm, Mr Wesarat was apparently under the influence of methamphetamines, say police, and wearing a black polo shirt identifying himself as a member of the New York City Police SWAT team.

The drugs were stashed in several containers, including a box of Scotch Bird's Nest beverage.

Along with the *ya bah* pills was

a small bag containing 2.85 grams of *ya ice* (crystal methamphetamine).

Mr Wesarat initially said the packages contained a present for his boss in Phuket Town and that he was reluctant for police to open it because he didn't want to diminish the beauty of the packaging.

— *Phuket Gazette*

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# Singaporean Ho fails quest for 'lucky nuts'

SINGAPOREAN businessman Ho Kee Wong, 52, made the journey to Wat Sawang Arom in Nakhon Pathom in central Thailand hoping to rent a lucky peanut with five nuts inside the same pod – but was turned away empty-handed.

Ho was hoping to emulate fellow Singaporean construction material trader Lee Yern Wai, 55, who struck it rich after acquiring one of the temple's lucky "five-in-one" nuts. Mr Ho said the remarkable story of Mr Lee was well known in Singapore.

Two years ago, bankrupt and with no money to invest, Mr Lee had traveled to Thailand in pursuit of holy objects that could make him lucky again.

A tour company took Mr Lee to Wat Sawang Arom, where he met the monk "Ajarn Pae".

Ajarn Pae gave Mr Lee a five-nut peanut, telling him to keep it and worship it. This type of nut is very rare in Thailand and said to make whoever possessed it lucky in business, Ajarn Pae said.



Nuts in hand, Mr Lee became increasingly successful in his various ventures, according to Mr Ho. When he went to a casino, he was extremely lucky, winning hundreds of thousands of coins.

Mr Lee told his friends his luck was because of the five-in-one peanut, which he kept on a pedestal and worshiped.

When Mr Ho heard the story, he scoured the markets in Singapore for more five-nut jobs – but to no avail.

Determined to get his hands on one, he flew to Thailand with Malay friend Riharn Ohroon to visit the temple.

The pair met Ajarn Pae, offering him 2,000 baht to rent one of the nuts. They also searched the

stalls near the temple, but were disappointed to find nothing better than four-in-ones.

Ajarn Pae told the pair that five-in-ones were rarer than gold. In 20 rai of peanut trees, you might find just one of them, he said.

He added that 20 years ago, a pupil had donated five of them to the temple for safekeeping, saying they brought whoever possessed them great luck in doing trade.

Ajarn Pae told the merchants in the area that he would buy the special nuts from them for 50 baht each.

Eventually Ajarn Pae acquired about 70 of them. Today, he has about 50 left after giving some away to pupils and people who had done good works for the temple.

They are not for sale, Ajarn Pae told the two hopeful foreigners. The villagers all know they were lucky and anyone who finds one either keeps it or sells it to the temple, he added.

# Going

OVER the past month, and especially over the past week, the *Gazette* has received a flurry of complaints from people across the island whose internet access had either slowed to a dire crawl or stopped entirely. The *Gazette's* Sitthipong Nongkaew reports.

JULY has been a bad month for people on Phuket wanting to use the internet, considered by much of the world today to be a modern necessity. Connection speeds on the island at times have dropped off to a snail's pace, and several times have cut off completely for days.

On July 22, customers using 3BB in Patong, Chalong and Phuket Town could not access the internet for at least half a day, in the morning. Internet access returned, albeit at intermittent speeds, only to drop out entirely again just five days later.

Again, the "zero factor" cut in during the morning. This time right at 9am – prime time for all businesses on the island, including those in the all-important tourism industry.

Looking for answers, the *Gazette* called the Phuket office of Triple T Co Ltd, the parent company for 3BB.

"There was a 'transmission problem' with our central servers in Bangkok from 6am to midday on July 22 that affected 3BB service not only in Phuket but also throughout the entire southern region, including Surat Thani and even Haad Yai," said Customer Service Manager Prapaiporn Longsakul.

"Long-distance services [to remote areas within Thailand] were not available during that time. As soon as we learned of the problem we moved to fix it as fast as we could."

Resolving that particular problem on that particular day took about half a day, Ms Prapaiporn told the *Gazette*.

"We do understand that some customers have businesses that rely on the internet, but it was an

accident," she added.

The *Gazette* called 3BB's technical division to determine exactly what the "accident" was, but the one man willing to say anything, albeit on the condition of anonymity, was not allowed to specify the problem due to company policy that technical issues not be revealed to the public.

However, he did admit that the problems would continue for at least a few days.

"We didn't mean it to happen, and in terms of quality of service we want to keep our good name and improve our high-speed internet access for our customers – but like I said, it was an accident," Ms Prapaiporn said.

Perhaps shedding some light on why 3BB's customers kept ending up in the dark, Ms Prapaiporn explained that 3BB was no longer part of Thai telecom giant TT&T. The corporate umbilical cord was cut last year, mainly so 3BB could redress the archaic problem of TT&T's internet subscribers needing to sign up for TT&T telephone service in order to get internet access through the company's Maxnet arm.

Since May this year, 3BB has been migrating the old TT&T Maxnet subscribers, whose internet access was delivered through telephone cables, to the new 3BB network, an operation that is now about 80% complete, she said.

"Separating the internet access from the telephone network solves the problem of customers who forget to pay their telephone bills having both their internet and telephone services cut off. That's why we introduced internet access that does not rely on having a phone number. It's much more



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# offline

## By the numbers: 3BB's fail rate during July

Provider	Location	Date/Time	Download (Mbit/s)	Upload (Mbit/s)
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/27/2010 10:29 AM	3.23	0.75
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/27/2010 9:50 AM	0.00	0.00
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/27/2010 7:32 AM	3.72	0.61
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/23/2010 2:34 PM	3.66	0.67
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Chalong	7/23/2010 10:07 AM	0.77	0.32
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/22/2010 11:29 PM	3.09	0.57
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/22/2010 1:49 PM	3.12	0.69
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/22/2010 11:43 AM	0.00	0.00
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Chalong	7/22/2010 9:53 AM	0.00	0.00
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Patong	7/22/2010 9:52 AM	0.00	0.00
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/22/2010 7:35 AM	0.00	0.00
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/21/2010 10:11 PM	3.31	0.64
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Laguna	7/19/2010 9:58 AM	2.30	0.22
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/19/2010 8:29 AM	3.72	0.30
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/19/2010 8:20 AM	0.00	0.00
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/19/2010 7:58 AM	3.72	0.55
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Patong	7/16/2010 10:04 AM	1.50	0.20
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/15/2010 10:04 AM	3.72	0.73
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Phuket Town	7/6/2010 7:47 AM	3.72	0.73
3BB - MacNet Premiere 4 Mb	Patong	7/5/2010 4:15 PM	4.01	0.41

Source: Phuket Internet Speed Reporting

convenient," she added.

"3BB is rushing to improve our service. Today, July 28, we launched our new promotion for 5 Mbps internet access, so we have to improve our service real quick to make sure this promotion is a success.

"We apologize for any inconvenience we may have caused our customers. We sent out huge numbers of technicians to repair and upgrade the cables in areas where our services have been affected, but if any customers still have internet service problems, please call our hotline 1530 so we can send technicians," she said.

However, maybe a back-up plan is all that is needed to avoid the internet blackouts. Paritad Rungmee, chief of CAT CDMA Phuket, told the *Gazette*, "CAT provides network transmissions through fiber-optic cables over land and under sea, so if there is a problem with the fiber-optic cables on land, the submarine fiber-optic cables provide an immediate back-up. This is why we have no problems such as our internet service being down for long durations, like a day or even half a day."

Over at the Software Industry Promotion Agency (Sipa) Phuket office, the deputy manager declined to comment on the outages as he was not in Phuket when they occurred.

But another officer said, "It is normal for many business people to complain about the slow internet speeds in Thailand, but it depends on the packages they use. For example, some home users share up to 10 lines going into a single port. Sharing bandwidth across many lines makes internet access slow, so using an individual package is obviously better."

He further suggested that if internet access were critical to a business, perhaps the business should consider having "back-up" internet access.

"Some businesses use two

lines, maybe 3BB as the main provider and CAT as a secondary line to back up when the first one doesn't work.

"A few years ago, many TT&T customers complained a lot about slow internet service, then TT&T lost their customers. But later, when there were less users, TT&T's connection speeds became faster – and TT&T service became popular again," he explained.

"So what we are seeing is that people are signing up for services and promotional packages much faster than the infrastructure can handle."

However, the Sipa officer highlighted a different aspect of using the internet that he thought was much more important. "The real problem is that the web content we use is hosted overseas, which is different from South Korea or the US, which have their most popular web content located in their own countries.

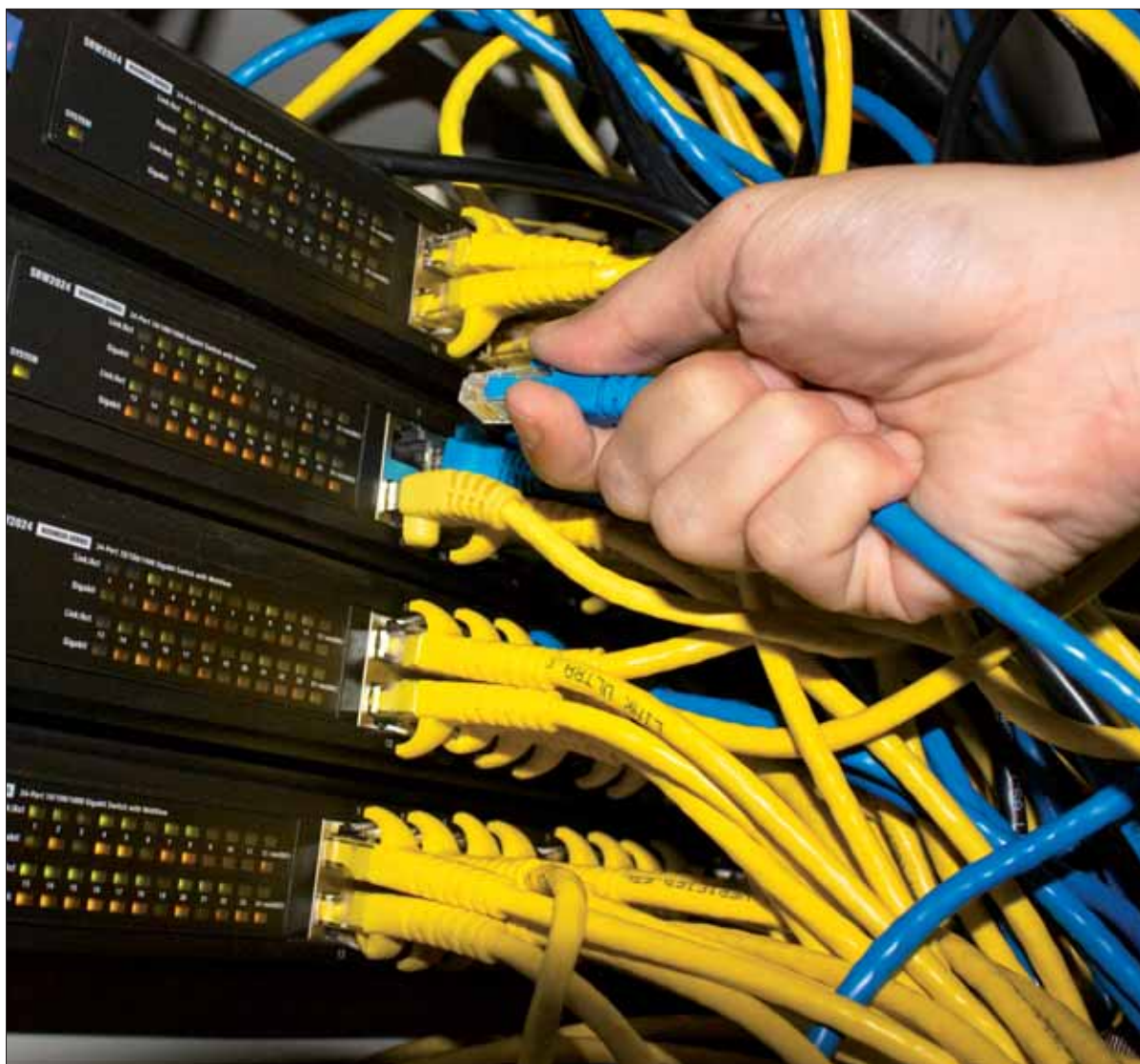
"Surely, if we used local websites it would be faster, and we should have more promotions for people to use domestically hosted websites," he said.

Looking back at the whole scenario, *Phuket Gazette* computer columnist Woody Leonhard responded, "Cutting ADSL service to a small town for a few minutes is an accident. Dropping all of the customers in half of the country for hours on end, twice in one week, is incompetent.

"I hot-switch two ADSL lines – one from 3BB, one from TOT – and on several occasions over the past two weeks, I've had zero Internet access. I'm looking at changing to Cable TV internet, and I'll try CAT's Fiber Optic service, once the price comes down.

"CAT may not be the fastest, but their reliability has been much better than 3BB or TOT's.

"You can see the internet access speeds Phuket customers are getting at [www.live-access.com/PhuketInternet.aspx](http://www.live-access.com/PhuketInternet.aspx)."



Just staying connected has been a major challenge for Phuket internet users. Photo: Suchart Changate

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Former PM Thaksin makes surprise phonecall on his 61st birthday.

## Thaksin calls to say he will 'return soon'

DURING a phone-in to supporters to mark his 61<sup>st</sup> birthday on July 26, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra promised his followers he would return to Thailand "soon".

The call at 10:50am surprised many guests attending a blessing ceremony for Mr Thaksin at Wat Rohng Tham Samakhee in Chiang Mai.

Mr Thaksin thanked those who arranged the celebrations and those "who haven't deserted [me] yet".

He asked the attendees to remember members of the United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship who had been injured or lost their lives fighting for their cause in the past months.

He said he was still feeling strong and healthy and urged his supporters to continue their struggle.

Several members of the Shinawatra clan were in attendance, as well as Pheu Thai Deputy Leader Plodprasop Surassawadi, Pheu Thai MPs for Chiang Mai and many party supporters.

Nine monks led a merit-making ceremony for the fugitive ex-PM. Floating lanterns were released and red candles were lit in his honor.

# Bomb undermines election

DEMOCRAT Party candidate Panich Vikitsreth has been questioned by reporters on connections between his victory in Bangkok by-elections July 25 and the fatal bombing the same day.

The bomb exploded at a bus stop in front of the Big C Ratchadamri superstore in central Bangkok around 6pm, killing one person and injuring at least eight others.

The blast happened the same day Mr Panich defeated Korkaew Pikulthong of the "red shirt"-affiliated Pheu Thai Party in a Bangkok by-election, which was widely touted as a referendum on this year's red-shirt protests.

After the explosion, it emerged that the bomb was planted on land owned by Mr Panich's wife.

Mr Panich said he thought this was probably a coincidence. He did not want to connect the attack with politics or his election victory, he said.

Campaigning in the run-up to the by-election was notable for its lack of violence. Although the land where the bombing took place was owned by his family, it was also the site of the red-shirt protests and was already dangerous, Mr Panich added.

The renewed violence makes it highly unlikely the state of emergency still imposed in Bangkok and in 15 provinces will be lifted soon.

The device was hidden inside a black plastic bag placed near a bus stop seat.

One of the more seriously injured victims, Tawatchai Thongmak, 51, received emergency treatment at Police Hospital for severe shrapnel wounds to his chest and stomach, but could not be saved.

Urai Wiangsong, a 52-year-old coffee vendor who witnessed the



A bomb squad inspects the scene of the explosion that killed one and injured several others at a bus stop in Bangkok's busy shopping district. Photo: AFP

## AROUND THE nation

attack, told Thai daily newspaper *Khao Sod* that at least 50 people were waiting for buses when the blast went off.

Mr Urai was looking down at his stove fire when he heard a loud bang. At first he thought a tire had exploded but when he looked at the road he saw nothing out of the ordinary.

Then he looked at the bus stop and saw injured people scattered on the ground, screaming for help. The rest were running for their lives.

Metropolitan Police Unit 5 Com-

mander Anuchai Lekbamrung said the device appeared to have been remotely detonated, as witnesses reported hearing the sound of a detonator firing before the explosion.

Mr Panich won Bangkok Constituency 6 in his electoral defeat of Mr Korkaew.

Mr Korkaew, a red-shirt leader, was unable to campaign because he is being held in Bangkok Remand Prison on terrorism charges related to the 10-week red-shirt protests earlier this year.

Unofficial results from the Election Commission indicated Mr Panich won 96,480 votes against 81,776 for Mr Korkaew. Voter turnout was 49.6%.

Mr Panich said the victory belonged not to him but to the Democrat Party. The result indicated the people wanted to see

national reconciliation, he said.

The Pheu Thai Party blamed the government's victory on the retention of the emergency decree and various other factors that allegedly made the election unfair.

Pheu Thai Party Bangkok MP Wicharn Meenchainant said that Public Relations Department radio station FM103 had broadcast messages in northeastern Thai dialect urging voters "not to vote for the people who set the country on fire," according to *The Nation*.

Wicharn also alleged that Channel 11 campaigned against Korkaew, saying that even if he were elected, he would not be able to perform his duties as an MP because he was facing terrorism charges.

— *Phuket Gazette*

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## Farmers fall host to ugly bug spawn

A HUSBAND and wife have been struck down by a bizarre medical condition in Rayong Province, *Kom Chad Luek* reports.

The pair have a rash of itchy nodules all over their bodies – and small insects are flying out of them.

Rubber farmers Sarayuth Klingram, 56, and Somlak Klingram, 46, had small nodules of clear fluid all over their arms, legs, neck and head, an official said.

The couple had spent the past two months planting rubber in Tambon Bangbut. Around one week after they returned home, the rashes appeared. Then small insects started flying out of the rash wounds.

A tambon official said he had informed Rayong Governor Sayumporn Limthai of the situation. Mr Sayumporn has ordered the couple be sent for examination by specialists as soon as possible.



# Phang Nga hit by new zoning law

NEW ministerial regulations covering booming west coast areas in the south of Phang Nga aim to slow the number or new large-scale hotel and residential developments being built on prime oceanfront land in the area.

Areas affected by the new regulations include parts of Khok Kloy in Takua Thung District, just across the Sarasin Bridge from Phuket, as well as Natai Beach to the north in Tai Muang District.

The new regulations, published in the *Royal Gazette* on July 2, come under the Ministry of Interior's Town and City Planning Ordinance provisions. They will be in force for at least five years.

The regulations classify all land in the areas into 10 zones:

**Zone 1:** Low-density residential zone;

**Zone 2:** Medium-density residential zone;

**Zone 3:** Commercial and high-density residential zone;

**Zone 4:** Rural and agriculture zone;

**Zone 5:** Open spaces for recreation and maintenance of environmental quality zone;

**Zone 6:** Forest Conservation zone;

**Zone 7:** Educational institution zone;

**Zone 8:** Open spaces for maintenance of environmental quality zone;

**Zone 9:** Religious institution zone; and

**Zone 10:** Government institution and public infrastructure zone.

The zones, referred to as "communities" in the regulations, see most beachfront land being designated as either forest conservation zones or for agricultural use, which limits any new projects to single housing units or government use.

Local property expert Bill Barnett explained, "Developers looking to build within the for-

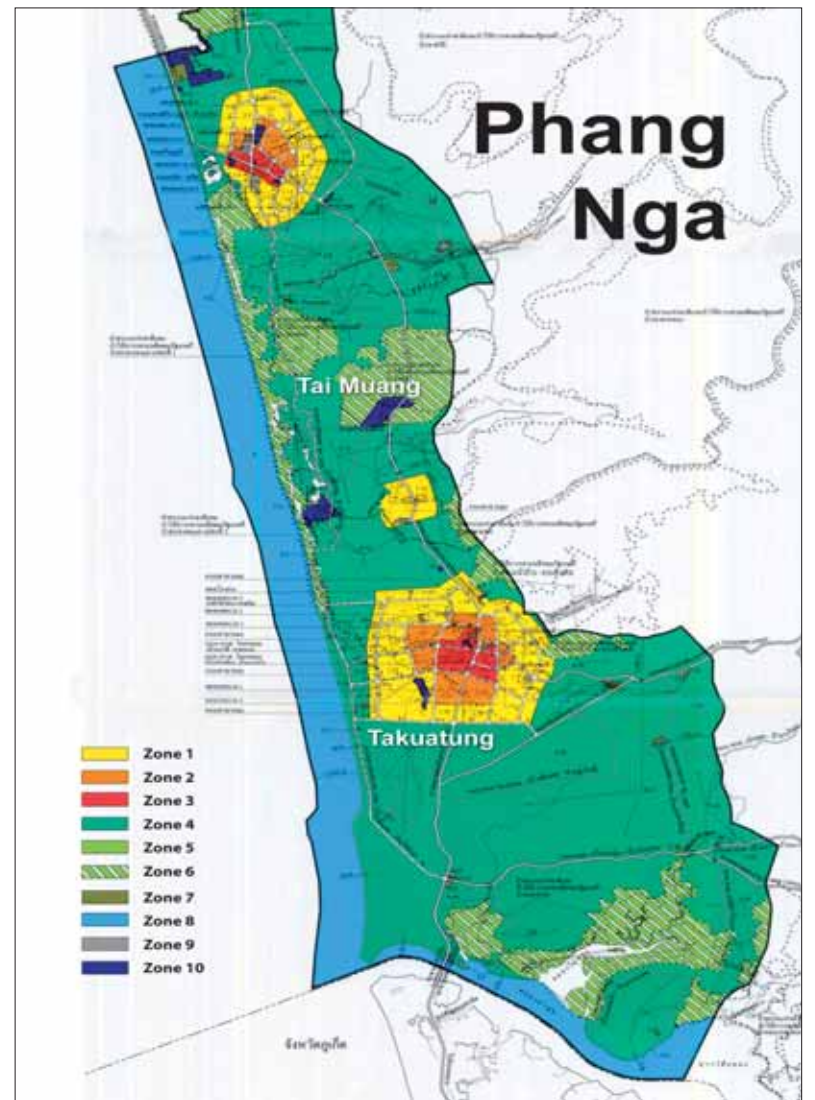
est zone cannot execute residential or commercial subdivisions, except single units, or construct shophouses."

Another key item are guidelines for "plot ratio". These place an emphasis on low-density development with green areas required. Depending on the zone designation, these range from 15% to 40% of each parcel.

"The spectacular rise in oceanfront land values just over the bridge from the island, in what has become known as Greater Phuket, had been pegged for international-style hotels and luxury villa properties.

"Looking forward, the new regulations could constrain unchecked real estate price escalation and push development back to Phuket or into Khao Lak, which is not covered under the zoning provisions," said Mr Barnett.

- *Phuket Gazette*



IN THE ZONE: The new zones target preserving Phang Nga coastal areas.



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## Culture is worth caring about

Re: *Gazette* online poll July 22: Do foreign tourists respect Thai culture?

I have been staying in Thailand for about three weeks every four months for many years now. I would like to say that, yes, in many ways tourists do care. They would care more if there was a better way to educate them on what is acceptable in Thai culture and what is not.

My friends and I who travel to Thailand always try to respect the culture and location. But, even after so many trips, I still do not know all there is to know about Thai culture.

Cultures differ everywhere. People in some countries respect the fact that you do not understand their cultures and will, with a smile, let you know so you can become a better tourist.

For example, if a taxi driver introduces his or her culture during a drive, it will help them befriend and retain customers.

Your poll question, "Do foreign tourists respect Thai culture", was nonsense to me. That was not the question to ask. Maybe you could have asked, "Would you care about Thai culture more if we could give you more information about it?"

Ric  
Colorado

## Where are the stateless deported to?

I am somewhat disturbed by the news regarding deportations of "illegals", as the *Gazette* so eloquently put it [*Phuket Gazette*, Alien deportations to set new record, July 24]. This is how I interpret the situation: The

# Surf safety: getting the message across

## Phuket Gazette

**THE FULL** onset of this year's monsoon season has brought with it a sadly predictable rise in the number of drowning deaths, most among foreign tourists who ignored red warning flags and, in some cases, verbal warnings from lifeguards about the dangers.

As this goes to press, the latest casualty was a Romanian tourist who, like many before him, entered the surf unaware of the danger [see news pages].

Reporting the never-ending string of drowning deaths is depressing work indeed. Most of the victims are here on holiday, often with family and friends whose Phuket experience turns to tragedy in a matter of moments.

Equally depressed must be the island's 17 honorary consuls. Almost all of them have had to personally experience dealing with bereaved families, arranging funeral services or repatriating the remains of people who, in many cases, were in the prime of life when they drowned.

But the depression experienced by local journalists and volunteer diplomatic staff pales in comparison to that of the island's lifeguards, whose frustration boiled over last week with an unprecedented charge against hotel owners on the island for not doing enough to warn their guests of the dangers.

While it is unrealistic to expect to reduce the number of drowning deaths to zero, we need to do our best to come up with new ways to get the message across to tourists about

government has initiated a campaign to register all foreign labor in Thailand.

This would be fine if it were carried out in a just and fair manner, which, unfortunately, the corruption that exists in Thailand renders unlikely. What about the remaining people who are "awaiting confirmation"

from their home countries? What are they supposed to do, considering that the government apparently has yet to instruct provincial employment offices on "how to handle cases of alien workers not confirmed as nationals of other countries".

Most probably, they will have to remain where they are,

illegally, and endure persistent fines by the police.

The problem lies in depending on other countries to verify these illegal immigrants, less economically developed countries where documentation of identity may not be issued consistently.

Name and address supplied

## Bang Tao: Please don't eat my dog

I live in Bang Tao and have a recurring nightmare that my dog is going to be eaten by the local food vendors in my soi.

I have a little Toy Manchester Terrier. She's small, cute and wondrously misbehaved. I walk her every morning down to the beach. It's bliss. But every day as I pass a few local food vendors they point at my dog and shout, "Hey you. Dog barbecue for you?"

I can only think they want to throw my little pooch on the barbecue along with the "chicken" legs they cook.

Is it customary for people to think it's funny to propose the slow and painful process of my dog being seared to death? Has anyone else heard of this?

It's probably harmless fun on their part, but it makes me feel a bit worried nonetheless.

Will they eat my dog? I sometimes leave my dog in the garden when I go to work. What if they got in and stole her?

Someone could be tucking into my poor little pooch when I'm out at work. Shudder the thought.

Dog lover  
Bang Tao

## Let the kids decide

Re: *Phuket Gazette*, Issues & Answers: Does this road have a name?, July 10.

Why doesn't Phuket City Municipality and Wichit Municipality have a contest where students from both municipalities have a contest to come up with a name for the new road. Another option would be to have the public submit suggestions for a new name, then have a drawing for the winner.

The Road Worrier

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## Issues & Answers...

### Why remove lifelines at Nai Harn?

During the high season there is a roped-off area at Nai Harn, at the north end of the beach. I presume this is to keep boats out of the swimming area.

They remove those ropes during the low season when the boats are gone, but the low season is when the riptides sweep people out to sea and cause them to drown.

Leaving those safety lines in place would prevent swimmers from being swept out beyond that barrier and would provide them with something to grab on to so they could pull themselves back to shore. Why do they remove the safety lines when they need them the most?

Bob Kelley  
Phuket

**Khun Pum, head Rawai Municipality's municipal officers (tessakit), replies:**

The Royal Phuket Yacht Club at Nai Harn provides the ropes to create a swimming area for their

guests and for other tourists during the high season.

The hotel would like to keep the ropes in place during the low season too, but big waves and strong winds make this impossible. They always come undone.

During most of the low season it is unsafe to swim at Nai Harn, which is why lifeguards are on duty there.

For more information visit Rawai Municipality on Wiset Rd in Rawai Village 6 or call 076-613801.

### Completing a bypass

I like the new surface of the bypass road, but it seems the

project is not finished because only one side of the road has been upgraded.

Are there any plans to pave the southbound lane? The road is in very bad shape in some places, especially the stretch near the Premium Outlet Mall.

Second, what about the northernmost stretch of the bypass road northbound?

It seems the new pavement didn't make it all the way to Bang Khu Intersection.

**An officer at the Department of Highways, Phuket office, replies:**

The bypass road falls under the responsibility of our office. We didn't finish the entire road for lack of budget. We paved most of the northbound side with the budget we had because it was in the worst condition.

We don't know when a new budget will be made available, and so we have no plans for more work on the bypass road at present.

For more information call 076-212179.



# 'Lifelong learning' includes the pregnant

## FIRST PERSON

CURRENTLY, high school students are not allowed to continue classes if bearing child, but in universities there are no regulations saying that students must be "single" or unmarried.

You can see many master's degree and PhD students who are pregnant still attending classes. However, at the bachelor's level, you're unlikely to find pregnant students in attendance.

If we wish to continue promoting the idea of "lifelong learning", saying that people of any age and situation have right to learn, then we should not deny pregnant women their right to participate.

The vast majority of students entering universities are adults, most over 18 years of age.

At that age, what can they do in terms of Thai law? For one, they have the right to vote in any election. In many cultures, people can legally reproduce at even younger ages than 18. So, if we consider other societies and various cultures, we [in Thailand] should not be saying "don't marry and don't get pregnant". It's not consistent with lifelong learning.

Let's talk about the question of whether or not it is wrong for teenagers to get pregnant. In some cultures it is okay; in others it is not. If we bring these cultural concerns into education [regulations], it will create a double standard.



**Methi Sunbhanich PhD, Vice President of Prince of Songkla University Phuket Campus, talks about the proposed Students Pregnancy Bill, which if passed in its current form would allow pregnant students to continue their studies.**

To get back to the proposed bill, I agree with it, especially for students who become pregnant after marriage. They are married and get pregnant; it's a very normal thing. It should not be made difficult for bachelor's level students, or any university students, to continue their studies.

Some students finish their bachelor's degree when they are 21, then marry and continue in a master's program, while others study for a bachelor's degree at the age of 25. So, experience and age are relative and cannot be used to determine when or when not to marry and have children.

For university students who become pregnant outside marriage, it is not "too wrong" to forgive them. They are old enough to reproduce, and, after all, they can legally marry under Thai law.

This bill is good in offering learning rights to pregnant students, regardless of marital status. Regarding the social impact, it will be good to have a law that supports pregnant students and allows them to be in love and marry while continuing their studies. This will bring cultural equality.

Many have said this Act will help decrease the number of illegal abortions [as it will ease social pressure on university students and allow pregnant high school students to continue attending classes]. I think it will influence a decrease, however it also depends on social conditions. The law will be useless if social pressure against pregnant students continues. The first step in deciding against an abortion lies with the pregnant woman and her partner, the next level of support comes from the parents of the woman and finally, there's the law.

It's time to change the law and not allow it to support a culture of destroying chances for people to learn. These students are grown-ups and change needs to be made sooner or later. The internet has exposed people to a variety of cultural norms, and it is time to adapt. We can no longer say, "don't have a relationship". What we can do is teach young people about sex and prevention of pregnancy, instead of punishing them after the fact.

*Compiled by  
Pimwara Choksakulpan*

# Football for the whole family

## Island View

By James Goyder

*Do you have an opinion to voice?  
Email Editor@PhuketGazette.net*



**FC Phuket defender Nivas Petchjamras fired up home fans.**

RESIDENTS of Phuket come from such a wide variety of backgrounds that there are very few attractions on the island that have a truly universal appeal.

The introduction of the island's first football team could well prove to be the exception to the rule as foreigners and Thais alike flock to Surakul Stadium to support FC Phuket.

The atmosphere is fantastic as a group of "hardcore" fans known as "the Hulk", all clad in green, sing songs and chants from start to finish. While the Phuket faithful might be serious and "hardcore" about supporting their team, the atmosphere is totally friendly and not one in which anyone is ever likely to feel intimidated.

FC Phuket are currently riding high in Division Two (Southern Section) of the Thai league. They look certain to win the division and go into the promotional playoffs to advance to Division One.

Despite the growing interest in the team and the growing number of companies and individuals looking to invest money, it would be naive to presume that the success FC Phuket is currently enjoying will continue forever.

The manager and the best players on the team have been borrowed from Thai Premier League Champions Muang Thong Utd, who might be a little more reluctant to offer assistance to FC Phuket once they are promoted to a higher division and become more of a threat.

While the future looks bright, it is also possible that having a healthy lead at the top of Division

Two and one of the best home records in Thailand, this might be as good as it gets for FC Phuket.

There will never be a better time to get behind the team than now. With tickets priced from as little as 50 baht and FC Phuket shirts available for 400 baht from the stadium shop, supporting FC Phuket need not break the bank.

Unlike at Premiership stadiums, alcohol can be drunk inside the grounds, which might enhance the enjoyment for some fans.

Phuket is home to several one-off sporting events, but there has never been a local team for people to really throw their support behind. Now, in FC Phuket, the island finally has a team to be proud of. Come on – come out and support your local team.

## ...asking the questions that affect you...

### When is a good time for a funeral?

Does anyone know if funerals and/or cremations can be arranged to take place within 24 to 48 hours of a death, or does it have to be done in accordance with Thai tradition, after a vigil of three, five or seven days in a temple?

*Lily  
Address supplied*

### Raphan Sriharun, an undertaker at Vachira Phuket Hospital, replies:

No, normally it cannot be done in one to two days. After a foreigner dies, we have to notify their family and their embassy. Before making any funeral or cremation arrangements, we need the permission of the family.

Also, the family must organize and secure a location for the funeral. This process usually takes more than 10 days, and in some cases up to a month.

If you have any questions, please call Vachira Phuket Hospital at 076-361234. You can also

send us an email at info@vachiraphuket.go.th.

### Boonkuea Kongchana, undertaker at Wat Kitti Sangkaram (Wat Kata) replies:

The first thing we have to do is notify the municipality, but once everything is approved, we can cremate a body on any day after the death except Thursdays, Fridays (bad luck day) and Buddhist days (of which there are four a month). Our temple is capable of holding two funerals per day.

### Importing a family pet to Thailand

I will be moving to Phuket for one year and would like to bring my dog with me from Europe. I would like to know more information about importing a pet to Phuket. Could you please give me some information about good veterinary clinics or animal hospitals where English is spoken. Is there a health department to contact?

*Caroline Clerc  
Switzerland*

### An officer at the Phuket Animal Quarantine Station replies:

To bring a dog or cat to Phuket, you need to provide several documents.

Among the documents required are the owner's passport with a copy, certification that your pet has been vaccinated (especially for rabies and leptospirosis) at least 30 days prior to departure, a health certificate issued by a veterinary authority, a microchip or tattoo certificate, a Thailand import permit for special entry through cargo and an import fee of 100 baht.

Please note that we prohibit the importation of pit bull terriers, American Staffordshire terriers and American Staffordshire bull terriers.

Also bear in mind that exporting a dog or cat from Phuket requires a similar process, with some additional procedures.

If you have any questions, please stop by the Phuket Animal Quarantine Station in the cargo terminal on the second floor of the Phuket International Airport. You

can also call us at +66-76-351514 or email to qshk\_hkt@dld.go.th.

### Dr Waraporn "Aui" Namket, a senior veterinarian with the Phuket Animal Welfare Society (Paws) replies:

We have veterinarians who speak English and love animals. We provide assistance with paperwork when you leave Phuket with your pet. If you have any questions, please call us at +66-76-264504 or email paws@pawsp Phuket.com. Our Skype ID is "canineworld".

### Taking Buddhist icons abroad

Where do I apply for permission to take my collection of Buddhist statues and amulets to Australia.

*Name and address supplied*

### Phuket International Airport Customs officer Khun Wichai replies:

You must obtain permission from the Department of Fine Arts in Bangkok through an approved

Customs clearance form, which is free of charge.

You can start the process locally by contacting the Thalang National Museum (076-311426), which is run by the Fine Arts Department, or call Phuket Airport Customs at 076-351092.

### Learning to turn the wheels of business

Can a US citizen open a bicycle rental business in Phuket?

*Shellie Ellis  
Phuket*

### An officer at the Commerce Ministry's Department of Development office in Phuket, replies:

You can open the bicycle rental business in Phuket, but because it is a service business you must first apply for a Business Operation of Foreigners permit at the Department of Development.

Please check our website (dbd.go.th), which tells you everything you need to know about opening a business in Thailand



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



Starwood Hotels recently announced **Elise Boon** as the new Director of Event Sales for its Sheraton Grande Laguna property. Ms Boon will oversee group markets as well as leading the event sales team for the resort. She brings with her over 13 years' experience in the hospitality industry, most recently in the position of Director of Catering & Conventions for the Andaman Resort in Malaysia.



Indigo Pearl recently announced the promotion of **Supavadee Wongsuthin** as their new Purchasing Manager. Her responsibilities include processing purchase requests, securing all quotations and bids, and preparing purchase orders. Originally from Phuket, Ms Supavadee graduated from Ramkhamheang University in Bangkok with a bachelor's degree in Mass Communication before returning to Phuket for work.



**Alexandra Andersson** recently joined the features team of the *Phuket Gazette* as a Desk Editor. Originally from Sweden, Ms Andersson grew up in Hong Kong before attending Leeds University, where she achieved a bachelor's degree in Politics and International Development. She worked for several local magazines and newspapers in Leeds before moving to Phuket in 2008.

## Butterfly farmers eye UK market

AT LEAST two agriculturalists in Ranong are discovering more profit in butterflies than in the crops they pollinate. Tropical species of butterfly have what are described as a "huge market abroad", especially in Great Britain.

Somchai Chaiyata, of tambon Kampuan, Sooksamran district of Ranong, said he is now cultivating "more than" ten species of exotic butterflies at the farm of his partner, Kriangkrai Reuangrit. "We have more than 100,000 caterpillars between us," said Somchai, "and we can sell as many as we produce. English companies especially are interested."

Somchai said he got started in the butterfly trade after working for an Englishman in Phuket who had a butterfly farm.

Somchai believes the butterflies he sells "are released in public parks around the world" rather than stuck on pins by collectors who value their coloration.

Somchai did not reveal what the profits vs. investment ratio in his business approximates, but he has clearly hit upon a new career opportunity for agriculturalists in Thailand's mountainous areas.

— *Marque Rome*

# Middle East boom offers big lessons for Phuket

By Alastair Carthew

PHUKET International Airport's (PIA) international passenger numbers rose 46.37% in June over June 2009, in line with the general Asia-Pacific increase of 10.8% over the same period.

This is despite political upheaval, erupting volcanoes and the like throwing everything but the kitchen sink at tourist destinations such as Phuket.

This healthy upward trend, however, was hampered by June's domestic figures, which show a 5.8% reduction in passengers, the second straight month of decline. This is in addition to a recent survey also found that the current state of tourism unsustainable.

Both these trends suggest that the tourism and travel industry needs to work harder to ensure Phuket retains its leadership status and identity as a tourism center in South East Asia.

According to a *Phuket Gazette* poll in July, more than two-thirds of respondents believe the current state of Phuket's tourism is unsustainable.

This is a disturbing result, considering that sustainable tourism was defined as "an industry committed to making a low impact on the environment and local culture, while helping to generate future employment for local people".

Local foreign residents were



**FOLLOW THE LEADER:** Air traffic at Dubai International Airport has been increasing due to its strategic location and airport service quality, setting a good example for Phuket. Photo: Wikimedia

particularly pessimistic, with 78% saying tourism was unsustainable and 43% saying there was no hope of recovery.

Phuket and Thailand in general should be alert to the tremendous growth in aviation taking place in the Middle East.

The region's projected growth for 2010 has reached 15.5%, overtaking the Asia/Pacific figure mentioned earlier.

Thereafter, growth is estimated to be at 12% in 2011 and 11.5% in 2012, while the Asia/Pacific figures remains at a modest 7.5% projection.

This growth is a double edged Arabian sword for Thailand.

Middle Eastern visitors to Thailand are continually increasing, but by the same token, the high qual-

ity Middle Eastern carriers, like Turkish Airlines, Emirates Airlines and Qatar Airways, are attracting many more passengers through their regional hubs in Dubai and Istanbul, amongst others.

They are using their oil-based economic muscle and globally central locations between East and West, to stage major events to attract visitors in sports like golf, tennis, and Formula One racing. Abu Dhabi, Istanbul and Bahrain have all hosted F1 races.

Singapore airport, and the new Chinese airports like Beijing Capital International, also give arriving passengers a favorable impression of the destination.

This is combined with evidence that Middle Eastern states are getting their airport act together, such

as Abu Dhabi International Airport, which won the award for Most Improved Airport in the 2010 Skytrax World Airport Awards.

The airport won because of a new terminal and parking facilities, free wi-fi and use of other technologies, good retail and food and beverage offerings and staff training policies, among other things.

Airport feedback on Phuket is mixed. One passenger commented in a recent PIA survey: "This is a tiny place, it feels like being in the countryside."

Another passenger observed: "It needs a bit of redevelopment to bring it up to scratch."

Well to that passenger, and the six million in who went through the airport in 2009, hang on, PIA is working on it.

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## On for IBAP medi-meet

THE next International Business Association of Phuket (IBAP) meeting will take place on August 13 at the Dara Hotel, across from Central Festival in Phuket Town.

A host of medical professionals will speak about the newly approved biological-integrative and non-invasive treatment for malignant and benign cancerous tumors.

For more information see W: [ibap-phuket.org](http://ibap-phuket.org)



# Minor food plans major expansion

MINOR Food Group, the international operator of Dairy Queen stores, expects to double the number of their ice-cream outlets in Thailand to 450 by 2014 with the roll-out of a sub-licensing system.

The company is also aiming to double the sales generated by Dairy Queen to two-billion baht within the same timescale.

Under the sub-licensing strategy, all Dairy Queen provincial stores, including those in Phuket, will be converted into franchised outlets owned by executive franchisees. They will be in charge of expand-

ing the stores in their own territories. Phuket currently has three Dairy Queen outlets, with three more planned for next year in Central Festival and other locations.

Choompot Tantisoonthorn, Vice President and Group General Manager for Minor Food Group, said the company currently operates 233 Dairy Queen outlets, 105 of which are in Bangkok and surrounding provinces.

"With the new sub-licensing system, we will convert all provincial outlets of Dairy Queen into franchises, starting in the

South," he said.

The first franchised outlet will open in Hat Yai next month, with the another to open in Phuket following in December. All 19 Dairy Queen outlets in the South will eventually be fully converted into franchised stores.

New sub-license investors can enter into a 10-year deal, requiring about 1.8 million baht of investment. They will then pay loyalty and marketing fees, which will be 5% and 6% of annual sales, respectively.

— *Gazette and The Nation*



DAIRY LIFE: Minor Food Group GM and VP Choompot Tantisoonthorn and Marketing Manager Jiraporn Limmaneevichit. Photo: Minor Food Group

## CRBE on top of the world

CB RICHARD Ellis (CBRE) has been ranked the number one commercial property management firm in the world, according to *National Real Estate Investor*, a magazine for real estate professionals.

CBRE has retained the top position in the publication's annual ranking for seven consecutive years.

CBRE manages more than 232 million sqm of commercial property globally. This portfolio is more than 79 million sqm larger than the number two firm.

In Thailand, CBRE manages over 6.4 million sqm of grade A offices, world class villas, luxury condominiums and apartments, and retail locations in Bangkok, Phuket and Samui.

Some other properties under CBRE's management include The Exchange Tower, Royal Phuket Marina and The Heights.

CB Richard Ellis established an office in Bangkok in 1988, followed by Phuket office in 2004 and Samui office in 2007. The Phuket offices are located in Thepkasattri Road, Koh Kaew.

— *Phuket Gazette*

# KBank confident in recovering Phuket

CAPE View Resort and Spa has clinched a 567-million baht loan agreement with Kasikorn Bank (KBank) in order to finance its new development project on Kalim Beach.

The four-star Kalima Resort and Spa will feature 168 hotel rooms on the 24-rai property, which requires a total investment of 1.25 billion baht.

Construction will begin late this year and is scheduled to be completed by late 2012.

"Phuket still offers huge room for growth," Paponpat Niyomdun, an executive of the new hotel, said. "As we have witnessed, Phuket can recover quickly from turbulence and still remains a major destination for foreign travelers."

The hotel will mainly target European tourists, especially those from Scandinavia, for the high season, and Asian markets during the low season.

Some marketing activities are being planned in cooperation with Blue Marine Resort and Spa.

Tawit Thanachanan, first senior vice president of KBank, said the loan was extended due to



PHUKET BELIEVER: KBank is helping new Phuket projects with loans.

confidence in Phuket's potential to keep attracting tourists.

Hotel business on the island is remaining buoyant despite previous concerns about political instability. Tawit noted that the bank had been

approached to finance new developments and refurbishment of existing hotels and resorts, with many seeking loans of more than 500 million baht each.

— *The Nation*

## Slow fall in office rentals

RENT for Grade A offices in Bangkok's Central Business District (CBD) have fallen only marginally in the second quarter of 2010.

Leasing activity resumed in June and is likely to pick up gradually in the remainder of 2010 as outlook for the overall economy is improving, according to Jones Lang LaSalle, a professional services firm specializing in real estate.

Mrs Suphin Mechuchep, Managing Director of Jones Lang LaSalle, said "Political demonstrations in April and May caused business interruptions in central Bangkok and a short halt in leasing activity in the office market. Nevertheless, conditions have returned to normal more quickly than expected."

According to Jones Lang LaSalle, the average gross rent for Grade A office space in the CBD dropped by 0.5% in the second quarter.

— *Phuket Gazette*

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# True portrait of a rising city

## Books

By James Eckardt

### A Diamond in the Desert

By Jo Tatchell

JO TACHELL was raised in Abu Dhabi in the 1970s. After moving away for college, she frequently returned for vacations. After graduation, she took a job at the Marina Mall Club, hobnobbing with both Emirati and expatriate gentry before leaving the city again to marry and have three children while working as a journalist covering the Middle East.

In 2009, she returned to Abu Dhabi and looked up her old friends. The result is *A Diamond in the Desert* (Sceptre, London, 2009, 294pp), subtitled "Behind the Scenes in the World's Richest City".

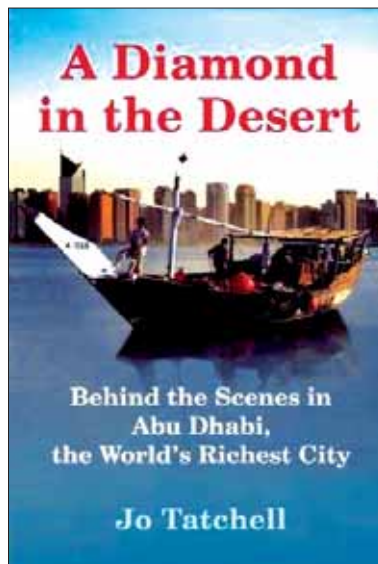
Her scope is wide and her tone is fair. She admires Abu Dhabi but

does not shy away from its faults. She was there at the beginning, when oil money and the dynamic governance of Sheikh Zayed al Nahyan, the founding father of the United Arab Emirates, suddenly transformed a few palm frond shacks on the beach into a glittering metropolis strung along a beautiful Corniche.

She interviews Abdullah Masood, the head of a business empire with whom her father had worked.

"Of course we needed roads and houses, schools and hospitals," he tells her. "You know how my father and my grandfather lived? Four months in the desert, four months in the mountains, four months at sea, with the fish and the pearl. Moving always. We used the plants of the land. We were eating from the land – dates and camel's milk, goats and bread. We had a very simple life. Happy times, when God was with us."

Now the people of Abu Dhabi use more energy per capita than anyone else on earth. "Water is



being drained from the gulf for electricity, irrigation, industrial and domestic use, marine life is drenched in pollution, and noxious, warming gases are sent into the atmosphere as commercial interests extract and produce oil for the demanding world market and the residents' power-profligate lifestyle, which depends on huge

vehicles and ice air-conditioning," Tatchell writes.

There are human costs as well. The author grew up as a privileged teenager, boating, dancing, night-clubbing as part of an aristocratic youth that had to answer to no one; immune on account of their limitless wealth.

The work was done mainly by laborers from the sub-continent. Tatchell remembers corrugated shacks in clusters all over town. "Now, as workers are driven out of the plush city centre, semi-industrial areas like Mussafah have morphed into grimy shanty-towns for thousands. The cramped, dirty quarters are hot, pungent, and a long way from the smart, iridescent blocks of the rest of the city."

Yet she credits the rulers of Abu Dhabi for addressing their problems and fixing a goal for long-term development: to make the city the cultural and educational capital of the Middle East. New York University and the Sorbonne are setting up campuses, while an offshore island will house

branch museums of the Guggenheim and the Louvre.

The director of Abu Dhabi's Cultural Foundation, Addulla al Amri, explains his concept of Middle Islam, leading to a new Golden Age for the region: "It is the Islam where you know your God directly, as good Muslims go," he says. "You are good to those around you . . . It is about ideas, not war and domination."

"The physical development of the city has taken place at break-neck speed," the author concludes. "Abu Dhabians have compressed six hundred years of economic growth into just forty. And at the end of it, they have reached the outer limits of consumption and found there is nothing left."

"Instead, they have turned their attention to the new frontier of intellectual and cultural empire-building. They now appreciate the value of fostering an authentic and meaningful society. There is a deepening hunger for this, the ultimate badge of civilization."



## Bestsellers

### English language books in Thailand

- 1) **Private Dancer**  
Stephen Leather (395 baht)
- 2) **Last Night in Twisted River** – John Irving (350 baht)
- 3) **Pirate Latitudes**  
Michael Crichton (350 baht)
- 4) **Assegai** – Wilbur Smith (350 baht)
- 5) **The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest**  
Stieg Larsson (350 baht)



## Behind the pages

OVER the past 20 years, financial journalist and author Michael Lewis has become a maverick economist of sorts, earning a reputation as one of the most down-to-earth voices reporting on the world of corporate finance.

Lewis has been praised for his direct and blunt prose in describing the greed that has dominated Wall Street and corporate businesses in recent decades.

He is perhaps best known for his non-fiction on the economics of sports, which include *Moneyball* and *The Blind Side*, the latter

of which was adapted into an Oscar winning 2009 film starring Sandra Bullock.

With his most recent book, *The Big Short: Inside the Domsday Machine*, Lewis tackles the recent global economic crisis, but he does so from a different perspective. Rather than focus on the sudden impact and unforeseeable nature of the crisis, as many books on the issue have, Lewis reported on the people who did not only see it coming, but also made a lot of money from it.

Born and raised in New Orleans, Lewis earned a degree in art history from Princeton University before deciding that he wanted to make his fortune in Wall Street. After an initial string of rejections, he enrolled in the London School

## Michael Lewis



of Economics, where he stumbled across a lucky interview after sitting next to the wives of two Salomon Brothers managers at a dinner. The break landed him his first job as a bond salesman at the firm's London office in 1985.

Over the next four years, Lewis reportedly became increasingly distraught with the greed and excess of the Wall Street lifestyle. He left the firm shortly after and wrote *Liar's Poker*, which is still regarded as one of the most informative works on the greedy nature of corporate finance during the late 80s and early 90s.

Following the successful release of *Liar's Poker*, he continued to write as a financial journalist on a range of topics that included US and Japanese business relations (*Pacific Rift*), Silicon Valley (*The New New Thing*) and even fatherhood (*Home Game*).

He currently lives in California with his wife and three children.

– Scott Phillips

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EASY DOES IT: Tré restaurant's Executive Chef Alex Nassar (left) has never met a French-Vietnamese recipe he can't cook.

# Learning new accents at Tré

## On the Menu

By Fraser Morton

THIS might be the best empty restaurant in Phuket. Banyan Tree's French-Vietnamese Tré restaurant stays open late in a resort where everyone is tucked in bed by 8pm. We arrived on the stroke of 6:30pm (opening time).

The place was quiet and still. No bleating kids, no chaos, no unwanted visitors or over-attentive staff – just right.

Locked away deep in the bowels of Banyan Tree's pool-villa residential quarter, Tré is a 15 minute golf buggy ride from the resort's car park, or a half-hour walk if you're feeling energetic.

Prices are high (Four-Course Dinner, 3,180 baht; Poached Phuket Lobster, 2,120 baht and Vietnamese Noodle Soup, 700 baht). But you don't come to Banyan Tree for cheap eats. You come to impress your date, or because you treat money like hot potatoes.

There's a fine beer list. An even better wine list. With some deviance from the French-Vietnamese accent of the restaurant, there are a few South American dialects thrown in on the wine selection, just to keep things cosmopolitan. The Sauvignon Blanc Talamanda 2007 (390 baht per glass, 1,500 baht per bottle) is one Chilean worth an introduction.

There are also Chinese, Nepalese and Tibetan dialects represented by the Himalayan Rock Salt, served as a companion to the

freshly baked breads while you get to know your new Chilean friend.

Dishes are light but substantial, elegant and moreish, fresh and flavorful. Have the Three-Hour Oven Braised Duck (1,480 baht) as a main course and you'll be back again.

A lonely hunk of succulent meat is kept company by a few peppercorns and thin strip of sticky rice with lentils. That's all it needs. When meat is cooked this well, and for so long, it shouldn't have any distractions.

The Salmon Trilogy (1,540 baht), grilled with fennel and saffron confit, steamed in spinach leaf with squid ink risotto, smoked with jack fruit and served with chili jam is a mouthful to say, and many a mouthful of pure glory. If victory really does have a taste, this is it.

If you're not enjoying yourself by now, then you're in the wrong place.

Resorts love the word "complimentary". It's code for, "We value your custom, and wait while we reward you". Fine with me.

Tré pats its customers on the back with one reward in particular.

Never mind the cold and scented hand towels, the sturdy, grainy and molecularly perfect breads with dipping salts and oils – all branded "complimentary". No, forget them all. The complimentary Tamarind Sorbet (0 baht) – served between starter and main course – is the reason to have a soft spot for your new friend, Tré.

Ask most chefs for their secret recipe and they'll show you the

door. But ask Tré's Brazilian Executive Chef Alex Nassar – yes, Brazilian, there are a few on Phuket – for his Tamarind Sorbet secret and he's more than willing.

Sour Tamarind (with seed) water, syrup, corn flour, sugar, water and glucose. That's it, simple. Now don't try this at home. Remember it costs 0 baht at Tré.

In Chef Nassar, you'll find a purveyor of pleasure. Not only has

he never met a French-Vietnamese recipe he can't cook; but he makes them all at the same time. You'll shake his hand when you leave.

Décor: It's an open-air restaurant. No more than 20 groupings of glass-topped tables and chairs with enough space between each to feel comfortable smoking a cigar out of coughing distance from neighboring diners. Very thoughtful.

If you're lucky enough to avoid the impending low season

rain, then Tré is a scenic and calm spot on the lake. Simple and elegant, still and quiet, high prices with high service and food standards to match.

When we arrived we were the only couple in Tré. When we left, six tables were occupied.

It seems Tré is a dish best served after dark.

For reservations call 076-324 374 or visit [www.banyantree.com](http://www.banyantree.com)

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# Larry Amsden

LARRY Amsden is a founding member of the Rotary Club of Patong Beach, where he is Chairman of the Community Services Committee.

"I have always felt that I owe something back to the community. My work with the Patong Rotary has given me the opportunity to help the lives of children who can't afford school fees, and to help entire communities devastated by the 2004 tsunami."

Larry had a 30 year career with Hewlett Packard, one of the world's largest manufacturers. He grew up in the Midwest U.S. and worked, while still a young student, as a "rough neck" on oil rigs.

He enrolled at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute to study electrical engineering, then graduated from the University of Colorado with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. He was immediately recruited by Hewlett-Packard.

He later attended Stanford University for his Masters Degree while working in HP's research laboratory designing high speed switching circuitry which later became the basis for computers.

During Larry's career with HP, he moved from R&D to the sales and marketing of computers and instrumentation systems. He was posted to Mexico City as Sales

## EXPAT gallery

By Bruce Stanley

Manager in charge of Latin American and South African operations.

When the company sent him to Beijing in 1986 as Sales, Support and Marketing Manager, he took his two young sons with him. He spent the next three years as a single father raising his family while developing HP's presence in China. He was in Beijing during the Tiananmen Square revolt and ensured the safe evacuation of his staff.

Larry first visited Phuket in 1983. He had been sent to Bangkok to establish the HP office, and when he was later offered a promotion which meant returning to the U.S. in 1993, he decided to accept an early retirement package.

He opened his own business, Management Consulting Services, in Bangkok with a focus on helping his clients obtain the coveted ISO 9000, an International Quality Standard, and the ISO 14000 for Environmental Management Systems.

He bought his first property on Phuket in the late 1980s, a condo

at The Residence on Kalim Beach. When he decided to move to the island, he designed a hillside home south of Patong Beach where he has been living since 1996.

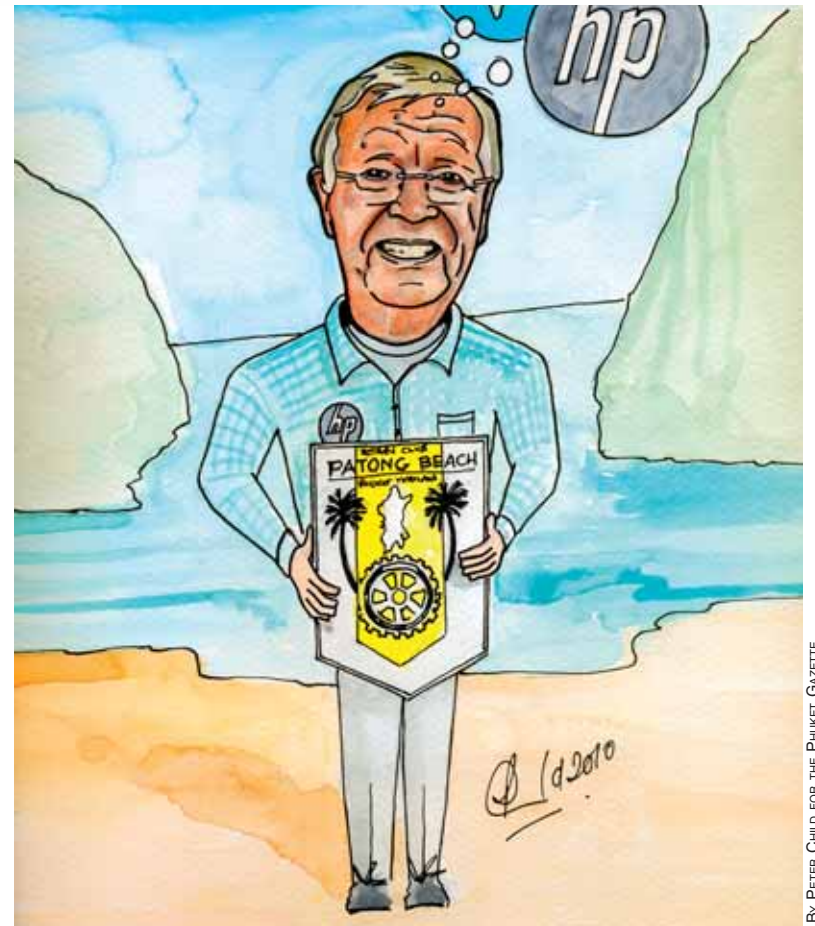
He developed the curriculum for the Environmental Science course at Phuket's Prince of Songkla University where he taught for several years. When *Or Bor Jor* President Paiboon Upatising invited him to join the Patong Rotary in 2000, he was ready for community service.

"In the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami, we focused on a small village far north of Khao Lak, near Kuraburi, where all the houses were washed away. With the generosity of donations, we were able to build 24 homes and repair 180 boats."

Larry also works with the Patong Rotary and the U.S. Navy League to organize sailors' time on shore when they visit Phuket, and he looks for funds to pay for the schooling of children from low income families.

"There are 370 students from 15 schools who have been given scholarships to complete their education and another 39 students are currently being added.

"We are also working with Father Joe Meier from the Human Development Foundation to provide services to those with needs," he says.



By PETER CHILDS FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

### About Expat Gallery

The individuals profiled in "Expat Gallery" are chosen on the basis of their contributions to Phuket, and for having made those contributions in successful partnerships with Thais. For many, the contributions have entailed significant investment, often in the mid-80s and 90s when the rules of business were, ahh, not always clear. Some are not in business at all, but all have one thing in common: if there were a *Who's Who in Phuket*, they'd be in it.



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# Sisters not doing it for themselves

By Alexandra Andersson

IN A bid to raise money for charity, two Phuket sisters made it 3,560 meters up Borneo's Mount Kinabalu in the early hours of July 15.

Kasia Sambrook, nine, and her sister Alicia, six, were the only children in a group of 174 climbers attempting the two-day climb to the 4,095-meter summit, the fourth highest peak in the Malay Archipelago.

The girls, who have lived on Phuket for five years with their father Frank and mother Ania, were climbing to raise money for Phuket's Soi Dog Foundation.

Out of the group, some 40 climbers gave up on the first day, but Kasia and Alicia were undeterred.

They endured three near vertical rope ascents in the dark with only headlamps to provide visibility, as exhaustion and diminishing oxygen took their toll.

The girls' father Frank, who kept a close watch on the youngsters with wife Ania throughout, told the *Gazette* that the girls made it "within touching distance of the summit."

"As the girls made their way up, they kept meeting people coming back down who had given up at the sight of the first rope ascent," Frank said.

"With 535-meters left to go, the girls' guides told them the rope ascents were becoming too difficult," he said.

"Some climbers on the trip did not even attempt the rope ascents and the guides had to deal with returning climbers who burst into tears on the mountain," Frank added. As the girls made the tricky

descent back down the mountain, their father said Alicia ran down the final steps, with Kasia following close behind.

"Both girls looked incredibly well considering their exhausting adventure," he said.

"At various times over the two days when one of them started to tire, the other would keep them going by shouting 'Think of the puppies!'"

So far, the sisters' remarkable charity climb has generated 10 donations totaling 30,000 baht, including one "very generous pledge of 10,000 baht from JW Marriott and Marriott Vacation Club Resorts," Frank said.

When asked about the dangers involved for the girls on the trip, Frank said: "Kids who sit in front of a TV screen for hours on end, kids with over-scheduled lives under pressure to achieve high grades, or kids running on junk food – that's where danger lies."

"The trip was grounded in managed risk. Kasia and Alicia have enjoyed a great adventure; their free-range life-style has made them fit and strong, emotionally resilient. And they've achieved something for a cause they care about. Good for them!"

"We hope the publicity can raise some more funds for the brilliant charity [Soi Dog Foundation]. We are very, very proud of our girls and what they have achieved," Frank added.

If you would like to contribute please make a donation at: [W.soidog.org](http://W.soidog.org) referencing the Mount Kinabalu climb, or E: [home.schoolphuket@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:home.schoolphuket@yahoo.co.uk).



SISTER ACT: Alicia Sambrook, six, (above) checks out the view from high up on Mt Kinabalu.



HARD WORK: Alicia and older sister Kasia (light blue coat) tackle some tough rope climbs with their guide.

## Farewell Dominique

LONG-TERM Phuket resident and charity campaigner Dominique Renolds has died in Canada after a long illness. She was 59.

Born Dominique Gindre in Milan, Italy, where her father was serving as a member of the French diplomatic corps, she was a true internationalist, living in Brazil, France and several Asian countries before moving to Phuket 15 years ago.

She was a gifted linguist, graduating from the Sorbonne in Paris before taking up a foreign-languages teaching position at Berlitz in Lyon, where she met her husband Mike.

They were married in Kenya, later relocating to Jakarta and Singapore. When Mike retired in 1995, they decided to make Phuket their home.



Dominique soon joined the Phuket International Women's Club, which raises funds for education scholarships for needy children, where she later held the position of Vice-President for five years.

Wipa Tanmanatragul, President of the PIWC said, "Dominique was a larger than life person with a heart to match and made a significant contribution to the

continued success of the PIWC.

"She will be remembered fondly by her many friends as a person who faced her trials in the most positive spirit, determined to make every day count. Dominique will be sorely missed."

Dominique traveled to British Columbia several weeks ago on a family visit but her health deteriorated and she died on July 19.

In Phuket, highly-attended Buddhist and Catholic commemorative ceremonies have been conducted in her memory. Her funeral was held on Saturday, July 31, in Lyon, her family's ancestral home.

Dominique is survived by Mike, son Lindsay, daughter Virginia, three grandchildren, her 91-year-old mother and two brothers.

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For further information go to [www.tourismthailand.org/thailandgrandsale2010](http://www.tourismthailand.org/thailandgrandsale2010) or click the banner on our website: [www.phuketbulletin.co.th](http://www.phuketbulletin.co.th)





# Phuket's British influence

THE Thalang letters are a collection of old manuscripts that record the correspondence between Captain Francis Light and several Siamese nobles in Phuket during the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Many of these letters, written in Thai, have provided historians with valuable information about the political history of Phuket during that time. Today the original Thalang letters are kept in the archives of the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London.

Capt Light was an officer of the British East India Company who lived and traded in Thalang, which was the largest town on Phuket during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

It was during the short period of King Taksin's reign over Siam that many of the Thalang letters show Capt Light's well-acquainted relationship with the governor of Thalang.

Some of the letters written by Lady Chan – the legendary heroine of Thalang who led the islanders to resist a Burmese invasion in the year 1786 – are the only surviving historical evidence that confirms her existence in history.

Without these historical artifacts, containing her very own handwriting, Lady Chan may have been dismissed as a local myth due to lack of historical evidence.

Through the letters, historians

## Looking Back

By Anand Singh

have been able to learn a great deal of Capt Light's connections with Phuket. They provide rare insights into 18<sup>th</sup> century politics and trade on the island.

During most of his reign, King Taksin had to fight to reunite the kingdom and fend off the relentless Burmese threat.

The earlier Thalang letters show how King Taksin relied on Capt Light to supply him with much needed European flintlock guns and cannons to support his ongoing wars.

Several of the letters written between 1773 and 1780 referred to trade contracts between the king and Capt Light, in which the Siamese received infantry supplies in return for locally produced commodities, like rice and tin.

Another letter written in the same year told how Thalang was the main port of entry for such exchanges with the British.

The later letters, written from 1780 onwards, showed how Capt Light's role shifted towards greater political intervention.

His correspondence with other high ranking officers of the British East India Company in Bengal tells of how he believed that the central



**RISING HIGH:** British Captain Francis Light was an influential figure in both Thailand and Malaysia in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Photos: Wikimedia/Flickr

authority of Siam was waning.

The kingdom had been weakened from internal strife and the constant Burmese attacks.

He proposed building a British settlement on Phuket.

Capt Light believed that the islanders would welcome the British incrementation of Phuket because through years of chaos, the locals of Thalang had "lost faith" in the central authority.

In 1784 Capt Scott, an associate of Capt Light, wrote to Lord Macartney, the governor of Madras, explaining that if an agreement could be reached with Phraya Phimon, the British would be able to annex Phuket without any local resistance.

It would be months before the news would reach Bangkok, after which it would take even longer for the Royal Army to travel south to reclaim the island.



HM King Taksin ruled Siam in the 1700s



Lord Macartney, Governor of Madras, was asked to help Phuket.

To be able to support Phraya Phimon militarily, Scott proposed improvising the rumor of another major Burmese invasion.

Such rumors had already been circulating in the previous months.

In doing so, Phraya Phimon would be able to build new forts with the help of the British without arousing suspicion of a rebellion.

In December 1785 however, Phraya Phimon fell gravely ill.

Letter 37, written on December 6, 1785, was a message from Lady Chan to Capt Light.

The letter, written in a friendly tone, mentioned that the governor had taken ill. Lady Chan went on to express her sorrow in hearing that Capt Light's trade in Thalang had shown great losses over a long period. She had also heard that Capt Light was preparing a ship to leave Thalang. In her letter she persuaded him to stay. The news

of another Burmese invasion had been very ill-timed. Thalang's governor was ill and there was no one that could lead the island in defence. "If the Burmese come I must depend on you as a post to cling to", Lady Chan pleaded.

Later that month, Phraya Phimon died. The governor's death stalled Capt Light's plan of a peaceful annexation of Phuket. The Burmese invasion was no mere rumor and it finally came in 1786. By that time Capt Light had already sailed to Bengal.

The Thalang letters are amongst the most valuable historical documents that relate to Phuket. In 1962 Phuket Governor Uan Surakul visited London, obtained permission to copy the original letters and brought them back to Thailand.

Anand Singh can be contacted at E: [as.pkt@hotmail.com](mailto:as.pkt@hotmail.com)

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## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### June 6-August 8. Belly Dancing Course

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

### June 26-August 20. Summer Family Festival at Laguna

The Laguna Phuket Summer Family Festival is for both kids and parents. There will be a bouncy castle, flying trapeze, "Kidz Lounge" with movies, video games and more to keep the young ones occupied while parents relax with happy hour prices and barbecue fare in the Festival Beer Tent. From 2pm-midnight at Canal Shopping Village. For details contact Chureeporn Manabutr. T: 076-362330 E: shopping@lagunaphuket.com W: lagunaphuket.com/familyfestival

### July 29-August 1. Architect & Engineering Exhibition 2010

See the latest breakthroughs in construction technology, interior design and building maintenance at the Construction Materials and Tools Exhibition. Products from more than 100 manufacturers and

importers. New light-weight structural materials. Learn how to design smart homes for multi-million-dollar projects - IPTV, 3G internet, IP Phone, CCTV and high-tech devices. The latest products for home spas, swimming pools and gymnasiums. From 11am-8pm at Royal Phuket City Hotel. Contact PIC Phuket Co. T: 076-522828 E: info@picphuket.com W: aaashow.com

### July 31. Sala's Chillin' & Grillin' BBQ

Join Sala Phuket for their Ocean BBQ. DJ Tom will set the mood for the afternoon while children enjoy the pool and garden games and Chef Jan serves up his usual mouthwatering BBQ fare, including Australian ribeye, slow-smoked pork ribs, grilled veggies and fresh salads. The price is 950 baht per person. From 1pm-5pm at Sala Phuket Resort and Spa. Contact Tibor Baan for details. T: 076-338888 E: fbphuket@salaphuket.com W: salaphuket.com

### August 1. Swiss Feast

Exceptional cuisine at a grand Swiss buffet. There's a lot more than just fondue and rösti. Swiss music will fill the air, but no Alphorns will be played! 950 baht per person. From 7pm-10pm at the Pacifica Restaurant. Contact Carlos Sanchez Vizan. T: 076-396139 E: carlos.vizan@moevenpick.com W: moevenpick-phuket.com

### August 5-8. First annual Stereolab Phuket Kite Jam

Surin Beach and Stereolab will host the first ever international Kiteboarding Competition in Phuket, under the "KTA Open

## Phuket International Academy Kids Sports, Arts & Adventure Day Camp - Aug 2-6



Phuket International Academy (PIA) Sports and Leisure Club's Kids Camps combines the best of sports, arts and adventure programs where students can try out a range of different activities. The camps help students develop their self-esteem, confidence and leadership qualities. There is opportunity to camp overnight on our adventure weekend. From 9am-5pm at the PIA Sports & Leisure Club. Contact Khun Nok.

T: 076-376000 E: activities@phuketinternationalacademy.com W: phuketinternationalacademy.com

Event" umbrella. From 9am-5pm. Registration will be on the beach, or you can contact and pre-register on the website. For further information contact Willy Kerr. T: 089-529 2050. E: willy@kiteboardtour.asia W: kiteboardtour.asia

### August 9-13. PIA Sports & Leisure Club's Kids Holiday Camp

Sports & Leisure Club's Kids Camps during the August holidays is made up of a weekly programme broken down into different sections. Each day will combine sports, arts and adventure. Programme costs vary from 500 baht - 10,000 baht, depending on the length and nature of the child's participation. For ages 6-14 years. From 8am-5pm. For further information contact Khun Nok E: activities@phuketinternationalacademy.com W: phuketinternationalacademy.com

### August 10. A Live Music Extravaganza

Featuring performances by The Colin "Illy" Hill Band, The Little Rock Band, Rockin Angels, Groove Doctors and many more. Special Buffet only 270 baht. From 6:30pm-10:30pm at Friendship Beach Resort, Rawai, Phuket. For Reservations and more information, please call Charlie or Took T: 089-728 5304. E: bookings@atmanjai.com

### August 12. HM The Queen's Birthday - Public Holiday

HM The Queen's Birthday is marked as Mother's Day in Thailand.

### August 13. Curry Fridays

Indian food buffs are invited to enjoy an authentic and lavish Indian curry buffet on the second and fourth Friday of each month. Enjoy an all-you-can-eat buffet with classic Indian dishes like chicken tikka masala, mutton vindaloo, juicy kebabs and more for 399 baht. Draft beer by the glass for 50 baht. From 7pm-11:30pm at Navrang Mahal, Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa. For further information contact Seemant Raju. T: 076-286464 E: sm@karonseasand.com W: karonseasand.com

### August 19-20. Passion for Perfume workshop

The Passion for Perfume Program

at The Pavillions is a workshop conducted by world-renowned Perfumer Stephen V. Dowthwaite, founder of Perfumers World. He will lead you into creating your own personal scent. Price for the two-day workshop is 7,000++ baht. From 9:00am-5:00pm. For more information please contact Sophie Couturier T: 076-317600 E: rm.phuket@thepavillionsresorts.com W: www.thepavillionsresorts.com

### August 19. Phuket International Women's Club Monthly Lunch

This month's lunch will be held at Indochine in Kamala, from 11:30am-2:00 pm. Everybody is welcome. Members: 450 baht; guests 600 baht. It is necessary to register in advance. Contact Carole Dux for more information: T: 076-200730 E: arnulphy@loxinfo.co.th W: www.phuketiwcc.com

## Free Computer Clinics

Is Windows driving you NUTS? Want to know about the best Internet connections in Phuket? Need help finding a repair shop or a dealer that knows what they're doing?

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# YOUR Phuket

# Reveling in R

AFTER each race day at the Six Senses Raceweek that took place from July 20-25, the event's fun-filled daily prizegiving parties went off at the Evason Phuket and DaVinci restaurant in Rawai. Free-flow beer, wine, spirits and food ensured five nights of partying were enjoyed by all. Phuket locals Olga Gorodova (left) with her friend Tanya Ramnishina were among the revelers at the closing party on July 25.



Clockwise: Bob Seven, Billy G, Julie Street, Linda Kul and Gay Pratumwan.



The Kerida crew were awarded the Seraph Perpetual Trophy.



From left, Brigadier General James Baxter OBE with Raceweek event organizer Grenville Fordham and Chris Howarth.



Skandia crewmen: From left, Rob Hielken with Nick Blackman and Gary Porter.



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# aceweek

nevieve  
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## Beauties drop in

THIRTY hopeful contestants in the Miss Thailand 2010 pageant paid a visit to the new OTOP outlet at Saphan Hin on July 23, getting a warm welcome from Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) President Paiboon Upatising (top, pink coat) and fellow PPAO members.

The beauties, who were encamped at the Cape Panwa Hotel Phuket for three nights starting on July 20, took part in a variety of activities on the island.

Under the theme "Beauty has value in Thai education", the contestants took part in a batik painting activity to create colorful new curtains at the seaside school.

The contestants also drew lots to see which lucky six would be taken to the seaside in a pram.

Now back in Bangkok, the beauties are taking part in more activities leading up to the night of August 15 when one of them will be named Miss Thailand World 2010 during a televised broadcast from Bangkok.



### ANOTHER QUALITY PROJECT FROM LAND & HOUSES

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#### Puerk-Ampai

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 167 sq.m.



#### Ladachon

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 172 sq.m.

Model	Area (sq.wa)	*Total price*(baht)	Deposit (baht)	50% Down payment (baht)	Final payment (baht)
Puerk-Pailin	80	5,680,000	100,000	2,740,000	2,840,000
Puerk-Ampai	111	6,570,000	100,000	3,185,000	3,285,000
Ladachon	100.72	6,980,000	100,000	3,390,000	3,490,000

- \* These prices include air-conditioners, wall paper, kitchen and garden
- \* 2-year-free use of the club facilities except spa and restaurant
- \* The price and style of the houses may be changed without prior notice

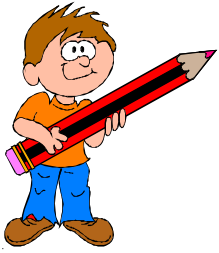
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Location Map



## Spot the Difference



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

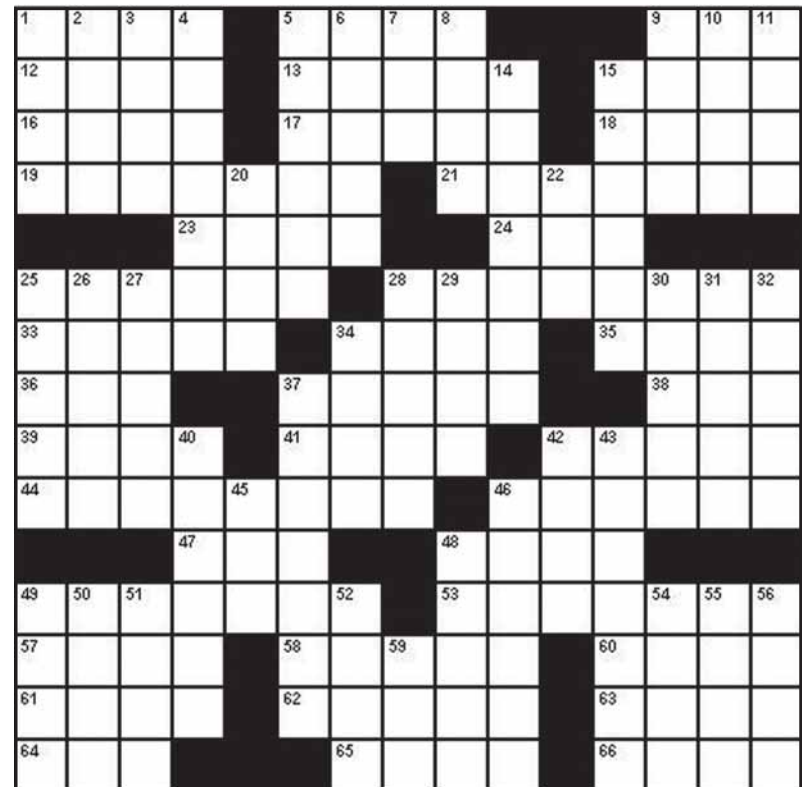


### Across

1. Winter pear
5. \_\_\_ boy!
9. Brief instant
12. Calculus calculation
13. \_\_\_ Dame
15. \_\_\_ -shanter (Scottish cap)
16. Actual
17. Amusing
18. Rifle adjunct
19. Annual reference book
21. Like a certain complex
23. Ho Chi \_\_\_
24. Gal of song
25. Show off
28. Agreeing with pronunciation
33. Wash lightly
34. Coffin stand
35. Extinct flightless bird
36. Pothook shape
37. The house of a parson
38. Japanese computer giant
39. Zeno's home
41. Some are pale
42. Talk
44. Chosen
46. Contemptibly small
47. Deserter
48. Repast
49. Referees
53. Money set aside for a particular purpose
57. Israeli dance
58. Put a new price on
60. "So be it"
61. Egg-shaped
62. Celsius, for one
63. Record with a VCR
64. Yo!
65. Clairvoyant
66. "\_\_\_ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto)

### Down

1. Vamp Theda
2. Pitcher Hershiser
3. Thin stratum
4. Quill
5. Baby
6. Come into contact with
7. RR stop
8. Pisa's river
9. Coarsely ground corn
10. Anarchist Goldman
11. Moderately cold
14. Billboards, some say
15. Followed
20. Baseball team
22. Rockers Steely \_\_\_
25. Liberates
26. Cotton thread used for hosiery
27. First name in photography
28. Longed
29. Pianist Myra
30. Shades



31. Model
32. Conceited
34. Bundle
37. Affairs
40. Of flight
42. Scorch
43. Web-footed
45. Automobile
46. Scanty
48. Gettysburg general
49. Oops!
50. Relocate
51. Ask for divine guidance
52. Puts in stitches
54. Latin I word
55. Workout count
56. Human leg joint
59. Driving aid

Provided by BestCrosswords.com.  
Used with permission.

Puzzle solutions on page 29

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Your good humor should help you to skim over minor setbacks this week. Leos could be faced with a situation at work that will mean they have to cause someone to lose face. Tuesday is the best day for a diplomatic discussion. Those with a birthday during the first week of August should see better investment opportunities in the coming year. Where romance is concerned, Gemini admires your style this weekend.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): It could be hard to see where others are coming from this week. The stars suggest that delays in business will be due to someone changing their mind at the last minute. Avoiding communication with water signs could help you to make smoother progress. As August progresses, your financial luck increases, but over-spending should be avoided this week. Starting a new creative project is highlighted to bring satisfaction this weekend.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Many Librans will be able to fulfill dreams during the coming month. August is forecast to be a

time of achievement, although this could mean that vacation plans have to be temporarily shelved. A fire sign's inability to perform could mean that your talents will be called upon last minute. The stars forecast some friction in romance this weekend – your unrealistic expectations may be grating on a partner's nerves.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): You may need to dig yourself out of a hole this weekend. Scorpions who were economical with the truth recently may find that someone was more on the ball than they thought. Sunday is the best day to be humble and try to put this relationship back on firmer ground. Money matters are well highlighted during the first part of August, but making a loan to an air sign is not recommended.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Work is positive in August. You could be inspired to have another try at landing the job of your dreams. Sagittarians who failed at the first attempt earlier this year could now find themselves on the shortlist. Where a potential romantic relationship is concerned, your impatience will not impress an earth sign.

## YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Your ambitious attitude is admirable, but threatens to lead to burnout in August. Capricorns who can't distance themselves from work are advised to get away from it all, even if that is only a weekend trip. Those who are single learn that another earth sign is keen to be introduced. If you are already committed, there are signs that a partner's new spiritual interest becomes hard to deal with.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Making up the rules as you go along will not work this month. Aquarians who want to get ahead in August are advised to create a plan of action and stick to it. Someone born under the sign of Sagittarius can offer the help you need to seal an important deal. Collaborating with Capricorn is likely to lead to more trouble than it's worth. The number eight can bring good fortune this weekend.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Pisceans are forecast to feel as though they are losing control of what is happening in their lives this week. However, as August progresses you will see that going with the flow can bring both spiritual and material rewards. The stars predict that an unusual opportunity to travel will be on offer before the middle of the month. Wear pistachio green to help keep your emotions balanced.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): August is forecast to be an active month for many born under the sign of Aries. Socializing takes high priority and there is emphasis on an earth sign friend showing you new places to have a good time. Those who have recently become single will be tempted to start another relationship, but the stars advise caution. The answer to a financially related dilemma is closer than you think.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): August should be an easy going month for Taurans. Concerns over financial security will be laid to rest and your chances of gain are strong. Where romance is concerned, there are signs that those

who are single will finally step onto the path towards true love. An air sign is poised to steal your heart and this relationship should bring the fulfillment you have been seeking.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Geminis who have been frustrated by a fire sign's lack of cooperation in business will see the situation improve this week. Your earning power is well influenced by the astrological atmosphere during August. Those who were planning a getaway this month may have to reconsider when they receive news on Monday or Tuesday. In the world of romance, you learn that there is no smoke without fire this weekend.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Communication runs on well-oiled tracks for Cancerians this week. As August progresses, your diplomatic skills encourage others to see you in a new light. Where romance is concerned, there are obstacles to be overcome in a new relationship until the middle of the month. After that, your love life should coast along smoothly. Travel delays are highlighted this weekend be prepared to make contingency plans.



# PROPERTY Gazette

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## Aquarium upgrade going swimmingly

By Atchaa Khamlo

PHUKET Aquarium's 2.2-million-baht renovation project is on schedule to finish late July, officers at the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) confirmed.

PMBC officer Surapong Banjongmanee said the Bangkok-based Aquatic Company began work repainting the facility walls on February 22.

The work involved draining the large viewing tank with a glass walk-through viewing tunnel, as well as work on five smaller tanks.

"The paint on the back wall started to peel and wasn't very beautiful. It needed to be fixed," Mr Surapong said.

The smaller tanks have been repaired and are in the water-testing stage while work continues on the larger tank, where lights are now being installed, he said.



**COMING SOON:** Cleaner tanks, and fresh paint at the Phuket Aquarium.

He also revealed that in late July, the larger aquarium will be filled and drained with water repeatedly in order to flush out unwanted chemicals and odors.

"The construction will finish on July 21, but we have to make sure the quality of water is high. After that we can release the animals in the water," said Mr Surapong.

Sections of the Phuket Aquarium remain open to visitors.

# Living where you work on Sai Yuan



**MODERN VIEW:** Construction on The Crystal in Rawai began in April and is expected to finish in August.

CONSTRUCTION work on The Crystal project, a shop-house and housing complex located on Sai Yuan Rd, Rawai, is expected to be finished by the end of August.

The 25-million baht project consists of five units of three-story shop-houses and is set on

one rai of land. Each of the 200 square meter shop-house units will have two floors designated for a shop or office space in addition to a third floor with two bedrooms and a balcony.

Apimook Charoenkit, Director of A-09 Company Limited, The

Crystal project developers, said although most people in Sai Yuan are foreign residents, the location of Crystal Project is ideal for both Thai and foreign investors.

Prices range from 5.8 million baht to 6.5 million baht per unit.

— *Phuket Gazette*

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Outrigger Enterprises Group and its affiliated companies are not the developers or promoters of the Lofts at Laguna Village or any other property or product offered by Laguna Resorts & Hotels Public Co., Ltd. Outrigger Enterprises Group and its affiliated companies are not affiliates of Laguna Resorts & Hotels Public Co., Ltd.



## In brief...

## Urs Aebi takes helm at Serenity



WELL-known island hospitality figure **Urs Aebi** has been appointed General Manager of the Serenity Resort and Residences in Rawai.

A graduate of the prestigious Hotel Management School Lausanne in Switzerland (EHL), Aebi has held executive posts at Thai chains Amari in Bangkok, Sofitel in Hua Hin, as well as Phuket's Cape Panwa and The Racha.

Most recently, Aebi was Director of Operations and Development for Akaryn Hospitality and their upscale Aleenta brand. Aebi's new appointment came as Serenity, formerly operated by Outrigger Hotels and Resort, was renamed under independent management.

## UK tourism market shrinking

THE United Kingdom's Office for National Statistics report recently revealed that overseas travel in 2009 plunged at its highest annual rate in over three decades.

A 15% decline was posted and is widely attributed to the downturn in the British pound and resulting effect on spending power when traveling abroad; a downside of the continuing global economic recession.

The decline has undoubtedly impacted Phuket and can be expected to continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

## Singapore chain brands three Phuket hotels

GROWING Singapore-based management firm Furama Hotels International, who operate over 3,000 rooms in Asia, have taken on three new properties in Phuket and Phang Nga.

Newly renamed, these are the 77-room Furama Xclusive and 129 room FX Resort, both located in Patong, as well as the FX Resort in Khao Lak.

The Singapore-based company took an express path to expansion in Thailand in 2008 when it undertook a joint venture with Unico Holdings to re-brand their existing portfolio.

## Maiton Island Resort gets an upgrade

ONE of the area's most pristine and natural destination's, Maiton Island Resort, has embarked on a three-year upgrading plan.

By 2013, a relaunch will take place with an international brand hotel operator on board. Located just twenty minutes by boat from Chalong, one of the island's stunning unique selling propositions is its expansive white-sand beach.

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- From THB 26.8 million

## Finding balance on the developing path



RUMMAGING through Phuket's past may provide the answers we need to help plan for a sustainable and prosperous shelf life for the island's natural resources.

Much can be said about how Phuket balances its appeal as the quiet and tranquil paradise island of the past with its continued expansion and development to attract as many tourists as possible.

Welcome Khun Yin and Khun Yang to the party. One cries out passionately for a return of the island as it was 20 years ago – a simpler time when nature, culture and progress slowly paced itself when compared to the instantaneous changes of today.

The other is a pragmatic realist whose focus remains on the economic needs of Phuket in a world turned upside down. He argues that jobs, livelihoods and enterprises are all intertwined into a path that constantly moves forward, never backwards.

To gain perspective, it's hard to travel to any corner of the world and not hear the same expressions of angst and wishful thinking of turning back the clock to a simpler time and place. Nostalgia is indeed a potent narcotic.

Today's argument against the impact of Phuket's rapid growth, concerns over unrestricted development and protection of the environment are worthy concerns and should play on the minds of all island developers.

At the same time, as perhaps learned from China's Cultural Revolution, the great step back-



**BOOM:** Mass tourism is straining Phuket's natural resources. Photo: PG file

ward is full of equal peril and disaster. Barring the invention and patent of a workable time machine, there is only today, tomorrow and the days thereafter.

Perhaps at the root of its identity crises remains the core question of whether the tropical island is indeed just that, or if it has become just another urban center.

Given the low populations and dependence on agriculture in nearby provinces, Phuket has become a pressure point for urbanization that has resulted in its rapid growth and development.

Looking at the close link to the mainland, substantial transportation access by air, boat and roadway, together with strategic center of the Andaman region (Krabi, Phang Nga Bay, etc), it becomes increasingly difficult simply say it's a tranquil island.

Some critics from both the private and public sectors have called for moratoriums of building and a stop to development.

While there are perhaps rational and irrational arguments for both moves, they would only be band aids for a gaping wound and

would leave Phuket in the dust as the rest of the world continues to move forward with the changing times.

There are and continue to be dynamic reforms to the nation's development policy.

Improvements in building restrictions, environmental initiative, which include slope control, "going green" and the government's new aerial survey program to monitor encroachment and abuse – all highlight the ongoing efforts to balance the two arguments.

As Phuket's hotel supply grows older, redevelopment continues to be the best sustainable option, but if existing hotel owners don't see competition, they will only run their properties into the ground.

As a result, Phuket would become less competitive and appealing to the outside world.

While opinions will surely continue to be divided, the winds of change are going to be inevitable in the search for Phuket's identity.

*Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks and can be contacted through [www.c9hotelworks.com](http://www.c9hotelworks.com).*

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## Thai taxman targets the wealthy

THE Thai government has reiterated its support for the implementation of a large-scale land tax initiative that will hit property speculators in their back pockets.

The asset-based tax will see annual assessments on both land and property determined by local authorities.

Cabinet has already approved the bill, which is expected to be reviewed by Parliament soon.

This comes on the heels of recent reports about a potential increase in the VAT (value added tax) from its present 7% rate, which resulted in a large outcry from the business community.

The plan appears to be moving ahead, spurred by the government's plan to generate more revenue from wealthy property owners.

– *Phuket Gazette*



# Letting go of your lease rights

## Property Legal

By Michael Greth

THE easiest way for foreigners to make money from property in Thailand is by leasing land, buildings or apartments.

Under Thai law a residential lease has a maximum of 30 years but does however, come with an extension option of an additional 30-year lease.

Every investment, especially a lease, should be checked thoroughly with regard to its potential resale value.

A long-term lease subject to rental advance payments should be carefully examined and include clauses which may restrict the possibility of the resale of the lease.

The requirement of the lessor's written consent to sell the lease is a good example in this instance.

If a lessee wants to transfer their lease to a third party it is crucial to find out what legal agreement will be needed, between the current lessee and the potential buyer.

Typically, an Assignment Agreement or a Novation Agreement are the two legal documents used to sell a lease.



Photo: wikimedia

**BUILT TO LAST:** In Thailand, lease agreements have a maximum of 30 years, but there is always the option to extend.

An Assignment Agreement requires the current lessee and the buyer to enter into a lease rights transfer agreement.

The Assignment Agreement is similar to a property sale and purchase agreement between buyer and seller of a "freehold" property that can include standard provisions: description of the parties, payable consideration for assignment of rights, terms of payment, parties' tax/fee responsibility and hand-over procedures.

The assignment should be registered at the land department office and is subject to a registration fee.

A Novation Agreement requires that the owner of the property lease also enter into an agreement with the current lessee and the new buyer.

Under the Novation Agreement, the owner of the lease should do two things: release and discharge the current lessee from their obligations occurring under the

executed lease; and enter into a new lease with the buyer of the current leasehold.

In most cases, all three parties agree that the current lease is canceled and a new lease will be registered to the new lessee at the land department.

You could say that in case of an Assignment Agreement the new lessee "steps into the shoes" of the current lessee.

This differs from the Novation Agreement where the original les-

see is released of their obligations, and a new, direct contractual relationship, subject to terms and conditions, is agreed between the new lessee and the owner of the property.

Both Assignment and Novation are viable options when it comes to the resale of a lease, however, a Novation requires the property owners full cooperation.

Nevertheless a Novation seems to be preferable as it allows the original lessee to halt their obligations and the new lessee to enter into a new and direct contractual relationship with the owner of the property.

This is more desirable for the new lessee as it prevents a lessor arguing that any extensions, which have been granted to the original lessee, are not applicable under the new lease agreement.

Simply put, resale of a lease is a straightforward transaction, however, it is advisable for both seller and purchaser to examine all relevant legal documentation thoroughly and obtain legal advice before signing or making payments.

Contact the International Law Office, Patong Beach Co. Ltd. E: michael@ilo-phuket.com T: 076-222 191-5.



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# Cultivating annual beauts

## Gardening

By Green Sleeves

ONE OF the western world's most popular annuals is the petunia; indeed it just might be the most widely grown of all bedding plants. The American writer Alice Walker even has a poem about them.

The reasons for its appeal are easy to understand. It is a prolific bloomer that produces masses of wide, trumpet-shaped flowers in almost every hue. There are even dual-colored varieties. It tolerates a wide range of temperatures and English publicans will tell you it is the best of all flowers for a hanging basket. Moreover, it can be grown easily from seeds, provided you remember not to cover the tiny ovules and keep humus-rich soil moist while the seedlings grow.

Nowadays, nearly all the plants are cross-bred hybrids, and some have been specifically developed for containers. The choice is huge. Among the types of *grandiflora* (large blooms) are pink and purple cultivars called "Daddy", blue and white varieties (Merlin Blue Moon) and Supercascade and Ultra, which both produce flowers in a wide range of brilliant colors.

The *Milliflora* variety has smaller flowers – about one inch across – but is far more tolerant of variable conditions and has blooms and leaves that are less delicate. Wave petunias are frequently used to create rapid and



Photos: Wikimedia/Flickr

**SHAPESHIFTER:** The many faces of cosmos daisies, which grow in a wide range of colors on Phuket.

effective ground cover. Petunias originate from South America and are thus familiar with tropical temperatures. But even petunias find the blazing sun of South Thailand a bit of a handful;

ideally they should be bedded out in a part of the garden where there is partial or dappled shade.

Moreover, they are quite gross feeders, and will not flower to best effect without adequate moisture at the roots and the odd application of fertilizer. This is, of course, especially true of petunias cultivated in baskets or pots. Best grown from commercial seed, all petunias carry recessive genes, so self-sown plants may revert to less interesting types.

Cosmos daisies, on the other hand, are no-nonsense tropical plants whose roots should be kept fairly dry. Since they require little or nothing in the way of fertilizer, cosmos are ideal, low-maintenance annuals for your Phuket borders. Sometimes treated as perennials, they are more often cultivated as annuals, and raised each year from seed.

As with other members of the

*asteraceae* family (*marigolds*, *zinnias*, *gerberas* and *gazanias*), the seeds should simply be pressed into the receiving soil and not covered. The blooms have petals that spread out from a tight disc of tiny and usually yellow florets (the capitulum). This arrangement gives the flowers their characteristic daisy appearance.

Cosmos come in a broad spectrum of colors – magenta, orange, yellow, scarlet and pink – and in semi-double and double varieties as well as the more familiar single form. The foliage has an attractive, lacy appearance that complements the delicate flowers.

They are also easy to propagate and grow rapidly. Individual plants can reach four or five feet in a single growing season. All in all, a must for any Phuket flower bed.

Even more amenable is an annual which, like the periwinkle, appears on scrub land in the wet

## Tip of the week

### More on mulching

A MAIN characteristic to consider when choosing a mulch is whether to buy organic or inorganic.

The advantage of an organic mulch is that it not only aids the retention of moisture for new or surface-rooting plants, but being a natural product, it will slowly decompose and thereby enrich the soil. A layer of organic mulch may double the growing capabilities of your plants.

Using an inorganic mulch will lose this nutritional benefit, but you may gain in other ways. One option is black plastic sheeting, which is cheap, easily laid and is efficient at retaining humidity and warmth. But the soil beneath will need to be kept moist, preferably by irrigation, since polyethylene is impervious to rain. Recycled rubber is another and more attractive alternative. Gravel looks nice, but may get too hot in Phuket.

season. It is often regarded here as a weed. The Thai name (*dothian pa*) means candle, but the plant is actually a member of the *impatiens* genus with the typical serrated leaves of most busy-lizzies.

The usual flower, which grows directly from the stem, is deep pink, but there is another and more striking scarlet version which can also be found in Phuket.

It is an irrepressible grower, takes readily from seed and will make a cheerful addition to any garden – if it hasn't already invaded it.

The only requirement is plenty of water, for its shallow roots support fleshy stems, which means that the plant will wilt as soon as the soil dries out. Apart from that, *mai pen rai*...

If you have a garden that you would like to see featured, please email [pcampbell45@gmail.com](mailto:pcampbell45@gmail.com).


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### PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

at 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.

### 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

### ALAMANDA APARTMENT FOR SALE

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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. Email: kwanphuket@hotmail.com

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**LUXURY POOL  
VILLA FOR SALE**

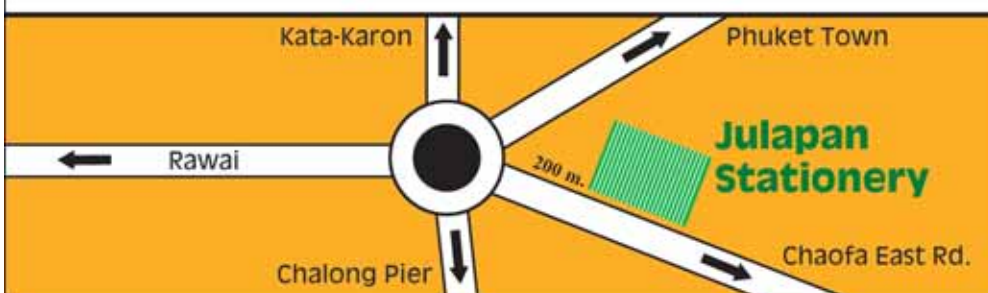
4 km from Layan Beach, 3 bedroom pool villas for sale or rent. 40% finance available for up to 15 years. Interest free. Tel: 081-891 1826 (English), 081-891 2926 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-238940. Email: kevinq@loxinfo.co.th For further details, please see our website at www.baanboosakorn.com

**LOW PRICE  
CHANOTE LAND**

Half rai, walled plot. Near Laguna. 2.4 million baht. Tel: 086-470 5809, 080-695 9665.

**Live in Chalong?**

Place your **CLASSIFIED ADS** at  
**Julapan Stationery**



Simply write out your ad, pay and leave it  
with Khun Chanok (076-282254)

GAZETTE CLASSADS - Hundreds of new ads every week!

Let us take your ad to the top of Google!

**BEACHFRONT LAND**

For sale. 20 rai, includes Chanote title on Koh Sireh. Good for condo/pool villa. Price: 15 million per rai. Call for more information. Tel: 087-472 7870.

**2 RAI ON  
MILLIONAIRES' MILE**

2 adjoining Chanote title blocks of 1 rai each. Awesome ocean views, on Millionaires' Mile in Kamala. 17.5 million baht for one rai, or 33 million for both. Tel: 081-933 4783 (English), 081-933 6335 (Thai). Email: spartan@truemail.co.th

**Looking for land to buy?**

See more classified ads  
at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)







**See more classified ads at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)**



THAILAND'S LEADING BROKERAGE & NEW YACHT DEALERSHIP



**LEE MARINE**  
International Marine Brokerage

Please visit our website for more listings

► **Riviera 48 Flybridge (2000)**

- Caterpillar 3196b 660hp x 2 engines
- 3 cabin 2 head layout
- Onan 12kw genset (new)
- Bauer dive compressor
- Full Raymarine instrumentation
- Thai VAT paid

\$450,000 USD

► **Firefly 850 Cat (2006)**

2,200,000 THB

► **Kanter 54 (1994)**

\$550,000 USD

► **Jeanneau Prestige 34S (2006)**

\$175,000 USD

► **Gulf Craft Ambassador 25 (2005)**

1,750,000 THB

**leemarine.com**

Dealership Office  
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket  
Contact: Martin Holmes  
tel: 076 238 803  
fax: 076 273 319  
email: info@leemarine.com

Brokerage Office  
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket  
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman  
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 081 968 1437  
tel/fax: 076 239 729  
email: andrew@leemarine.net

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

Pattaya Office  
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach  
Contact: Mark Heath  
Mobile: 081 787 9408  
tel: 038 235 061 fax: 038 235 062  
Email: mark@leemarine.net

**KING CUP WINNER**

Firefly 850 one design cat. Regatta winner. Top condition. GM racing sails. Price 1.8 million baht. Call Bill. 084-057 5756.

**BAYLINER 175 BOWRIDER (2005)**

Like new! Now reduced to 595,000 baht! 135 Hp inboard. Tel: 089-932 5175 (English & Thai). Email: wojdkowbengt@hotmail.com

**SEADOO JETBOAT 215HP FAST**

2005 Seadoo Jetboat. 1,500cc, trailer + tower, condition 90%. can reach 60Mph. Special price: 670,000 baht. Tel: 081-754 7599. Email: csutivas@hotmail.com

**SEALINE 260**

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

**(2006) MONTEREY 298 SS**

Twin 320Hp, Volvo engines, 50Kts, complete with air berth. Please visit our website at www.boatshedphuket.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

**BOAT STORAGE AVAILABLE**

Boat storage close to Boat Lagoon. Power, water, security. Contact for more details at: jgkg24@hotmail.com

**BAYLINER SPEED 18.5FT BOAT FOR SALE**

5.9 meters. 130Hp in outboard, like new. Now 750,000 baht or best offer. More details. Tel: 081-788 8280.

**33' MOTORSAILER****38 FOOT CATAMARAN**

Built in composite, 4 double cabins, under construction. Price: 10,000 Euro. Tel: 087-461 8089.

**BENETEAU 351 OCEANIS (1995)**

Well-equipped and in excellent condition. Price: US\$89,950. Please visit our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

**44' CRUISER/RACER (1980)**

Built for Admirals Cup. Spacious interior. Price: US\$69,950. Please visit our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

**SELLING YOUR BOAT?**

Try www.boatshedphuket.com The "No sale No fee" brokers. Call Alan Tel: 084-8426 146.

**BOAT + INCOME 5 MILLION BAHT****MOTORSAILER****TRAILER**

3 years old, 2-level steel trailer. Originally designed to haul sailing dinghies. Just registered. Original price 120,000 baht. Will sell for 40,000 baht. Contact: Nid 089-474 1246 or Phil 081-397 0905.

**RIVA HULL AND MERCURY 40HP**

Riva Hull style, 10m long, for sale to the best offer. Mercury Seapro 40Hp for sale: 60,000 baht. Tel: 076-238947, 081-968 3118. Email: moodiving@yahoo.com

**2 ONE-MAN KAYAKS**

In good condition. Paddles included. Price when new: 17,000 baht, will sell for 8,000 baht. Tel: 087-209 5174.

**DUNCANSON 30 SLOOP**

Cruiser/racer, reduced to 1 million baht. For further details, please see our website at www.boatshedphuket.com

**NEW SEADOO RXTX 255HP**

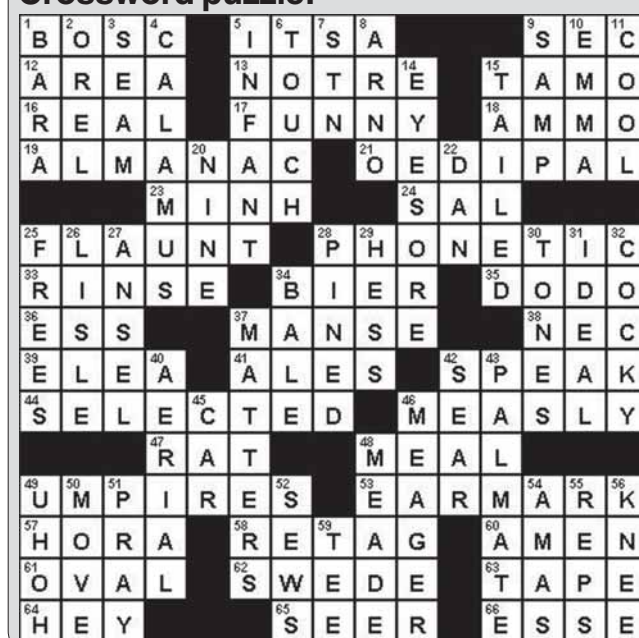
New 2008 Seadoo Rxt-x 255Hp. Special price: only 485,000 baht. Can do 70mph. 2 units left. Tel: 081-754 7599. Email: csutivas@hotmail.com

**23M DIVE BOAT TWIN DIESEL**

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

**SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES**

Spot the Difference:

**Crossword puzzle:**

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) Given name(s) (as on card)

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Issuing Bank: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Deliver To:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State or Province Zip Code

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

To ensure clarity,  
please airmail.  
Do not Fax!



**D GALLERY CO., LTD.** is a leading art gallery in Phuket. We are seeking a motivated professional to join us in the position of: Gallery Sales Executive

### Gallery Sales Executive

- Thai female age 25-35 years old
- Bachelor's degree with experience in sales
- Strong communication skills with clients
- Strong English language skills essential
- Strong computer skills (MS word, Excel, Outlook)
- Good personality, creative presentation and organizational skills
- Must be prepared to work six days a week
- Friendly working hours, pleasant working environment

Please send CV with recent photo and expected salary to [info@dgalley.co.th](mailto:info@dgalley.co.th)

**D GALLERY CO., LTD.**

63/501, Moo 2, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200  
T. +66 (0) 76 360867 F. +66 (0) 76 360 868  
Email: [info@dgallery.co.th](mailto:info@dgallery.co.th)  
[www.dgallery.co.th](http://www.dgallery.co.th)



## SALA TALAY Resort and Spa

Resort located on Ao-Nang Beach in Krabi.

### Job Vacancy:

1. Assistant Director Of Sales (base BKK)
2. Sales Manager (base BKK)
3. Sales Manager-Corporate (base BKK)
4. Internet Sales Executive
5. Senior Accounting

### Contact:

**Human Resource Department**

123 Moo 3 | Ao Nang Beach | Muang | KRABI 81000

Tel: (66 75) 810 888 | Fax: (66 75) 810 889

E-mail : [hr@salatalay.com](mailto:hr@salatalay.com) or [hr-officer@salatalay.com](mailto:hr-officer@salatalay.com)

[www.salatalay.com](http://www.salatalay.com)



## Web Programmer (3 positions)

For a fast-paced Internet Business with various websites and online applications, predominately focused in the social space.

We are looking for web developers to staff our new Phuket office.

If you can tick the boxes below please contact us:

- ☐ Able to communicate fluently in English
- ☐ PHP experience + 3 years
- ☐ LAMP experience + 3 years
- ☐ Proficient in HTML, CSS, JS, AJAX
- ☐ Understanding of SEO
- ☐ Knowledge of APIs and Mash-ups

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to [ian@dollarrose.com](mailto:ian@dollarrose.com) or call +668-1086-2353



Classic & Contemporary Interiors

### Retail Store Manager

- Thai National
- Female 30 years or older
- Fluent in English - oral and written - other language ability would be a bonus
- Computer skills - Excel, Word, Office
- Some bookkeeping skills
- Excellent sales and social skills
- Confident and plenty of initiative
- Must have an eye for detail and some interior design knowledge
- Full-time position, 6 days per week

This position requires a very committed person with the right attitude, common sense and a bit of style - if that's you then please submit your current resume along with a photo and expected salary to:

[abfabphuket@gmail.com](mailto:abfabphuket@gmail.com)

Only short listed applicants will be contacted.

### Urgently Needed

#### Accounting & Administrator

- Male/Female Thai age 25-35 years old
- Bachelor's degree in Accounting or related fields
- Good command of spoken and written English, computer skills and experienced

Please send your CV to email: [suvadeebkk@gmail.com](mailto:suvadeebkk@gmail.com) or contact Tanya 089-888 2402

### RECEPTIONIST/ CASHIER

For a beautiful spa in Karon. Good salary and staff room. Tel: 086-271 8254. Email: [ninproperty@hotmail.com](mailto:ninproperty@hotmail.com)

### STAFF REQUIRED

Need to strengthen our web development team. Applicants must have previous experience in mainly PHP, MySQL. Knowledge of javascript, css, seo optimization and flash is a plus. Full-time. We'd like you to start ASAP. Tel: 076-239820. Fax: 076-239828. Email: [noinah@latitude1maritime.com](mailto:noinah@latitude1maritime.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.latitude1maritime.com](http://www.latitude1maritime.com)

### NANNY

**JULY 15-SEPT 1**

Babysitter for 6 month girl. 11am-5pm. Must speak some English. Tel: 080-521 0788. For further details please send email to: [shopgirl108@gmail.com](mailto:shopgirl108@gmail.com)

### PHUKET BABYSITTING

We are a care agency looking for a professional, dedicated career carer for one of our clients. He has a friendly and outgoing personality and requires social and physical support due to a disability. You will be required to help with personal and domestic care duties, such as lifting, washing, dressing, eating and social outings.

- Candidates must have good English
- Experience in care work
- References
- Thai national

Please send your CV to: [info@phuketbabysitting.com](mailto:info@phuketbabysitting.com)

### KITCHEN STAFF WANTED

For new theater/ restaurant opening soon in Kathu.

- Chef de Party 2 positions
- Cooks, hot /cold plate 7 positions
- Stewards 3 positions.

Good rates + health benefits for experienced staff.

Please call Maya on 085-783 8938 or email CV to [edenphuket@gmail.com](mailto:edenphuket@gmail.com)

### NANNY WANTED

Take care of 7 and 4 year olds. Part-time, from Sunday until Wednesday. Experience and car driver license is a must. Live in possible. Email: [simon@phuketfood.com](mailto:simon@phuketfood.com)

### NEW BUSINESS OPENING PATONG

Famous Entertainment Co Ltd

Seeking the following:

- \* Club Manager
- \* Bar Manager
- \* Restaurant Manager
- \* Marketing Person
- \* Accountant/Book Keeper
- \* Administration Officer

All applicants must have experience in related positions and must speak Thai and English. Will pay top salary and help with relocation for the right person. Contact: Tal Derhy on +66885-00 8646. Please send an updated CV/resume to: [tal@themet.com.au](mailto:tal@themet.com.au)

### HOUSEKEEPING COUPLE

Wanted for a villa in Boat Lagoon. A lady to do all housekeeping work and a skillful handyman. Good command of Thai and English mandatory. Please send your resume by email: [ulrichkuhl@gmail.com](mailto:ulrichkuhl@gmail.com)

### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/PA MD

Experience as executive assistant/PA to MD of over 4 years required. Must be fluent in English, a native Thai and excellent in computer, admin, and office/secretarial work. Should also be a problem solver, dynamic, service-minded. Needs to own and drive a car. Tel: 081-979 9911. Email: [vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th](mailto:vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th)

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT NEEDED

Needed for a Yacht Project. We are looking for a very good, skilled personal assistant with experience in management, accounting, import, export, and good written and spoken English. Tel: 081-926 3286. Email: [miakcg@yahoo.com](mailto:miakcg@yahoo.com)

### POOL MANAGER- ENGINEER

Urgently required a person to manage our large pool inventory. Also an experienced site engineer needed to monitor and supervise staff. Excellent pay and conditions. Tel: 076-527594, 089-195 6722. Email: [neung@phuketmarbella.com](mailto:neung@phuketmarbella.com)

### PADI DIVING INSTRUCTOR

Required for Phi Phi island. Please send CV for more information. Email: [jgkg24@hotmail.com](mailto:jgkg24@hotmail.com)

### LIVE IN NANNY

Family looking for a live-in nanny/ housekeeper. Must speak English and have experience. Please send your CV and reference letter to [gala1234573@yahoo.com](mailto:gala1234573@yahoo.com)

### RESTAURANT/ BISTRO MANAGER

Experience as manager of a contemporary Thai or European restaurant/cafe of over 3 years required. Must be fluent in English, a native Thai, own and drive a car. Should also be interactive, sociable and service-minded and have a sound knowledge of the food business. Tel: 081-844 5141. Email: [narumon@rose.co.th](mailto:narumon@rose.co.th)

### SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

Experience as sales & marketing manager for high-end product/services of over 3 years required. Must speak excellent English, be a native Thai, own and drive a car. Should also have excellent computer, internet, e-marketing skills. Knowledge of the boating, food and beverage, and service industry would be an advantage. Should be sociable and service-minded. Tel: 081-979 9911 (English & Thai). Email: [vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th](mailto:vrit@boatlagoonyachting.co.th)



Farang Food Paradise Co., Ltd., Food & Beverage supplier based in Phuket, is currently seeking for the following position:

### Branch Manager (KRABI)

- Thai National
- Bachelor's degree in any related fields
- Strong English communication skills
- Experience in Sales, Marketing and Food service
- Good interpersonal skill, service-minded and well organized
- Possess car and driver's licence
- Self motivated and able to work independently

Interested applicants are invited to apply in person or send resume to:

**FARANG FOOD PARADISE CO., LTD.**

99/33-34 Moo 1, Billion Plaza, T. Kathu, A. Kathu. Phuket 83120  
[marc@phuketfood.com](mailto:marc@phuketfood.com) or Tel. 076 612 733 - 076 248 900  
<http://www.phuketfood.com>

Looking for a job?  
Looking for a better candidate?

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [www.PhuketGazette.Net/](http://www.PhuketGazette.Net/)





### Career Opportunity

VS Asia Co., Ltd. was established in Phuket, and has experienced over 10 years as professional in printing & information technology and post-production for clients in Europe, Asia and worldwide, which co-operate with our business partnership company as a headquarter in Europe.

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

### Text & Content Editor

#### Job Description:

- Knowledge of German language
- Text and content checking + correcting
- Combination of text and figure in page layout
- Work with editing text program
- Art or imagination of design
- Team working and cooperate with other related department

#### Qualifications:

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

#### Salary & Welfare:

- Salary, Social Security Insurance, Tax, Food, etc.
- Incentive bonus: depends on quality, skills and experiences.

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

**VS Asia Co., Ltd. (Human Resource Department)**  
42 Moo3, Palai2, Chaofa Rd., Chalong, Muang, Phuket 83130  
Tel: (00)66-76-380600 Fax: (00)66-76-380605  
Email: info@vsdma.com

### PR MANAGER/ ADMINISTRATOR

Palazzo Theatre and Restaurant in Phuket looking for PR Manager/Administrator. Must have experience in the promotion and distribution of an entertainment project in the tourist market. Tel: 076-202277, 082-810 1518 (English). Send your resume to: bondstudios@mail.ru

### POOL CLEANER

Full-time position in Chalong area. Salary includes social security. Tel: 081-8934661, 081-9758351. Email: valiant@loxinfo.co.th

### BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Seeking an Assistant Hotel Manager, Thai national - 25 to 35 years old.

Must have college degree in hospitality field, 1 year work experience in a hotel - Front Office and Food and Beverage. Must also have strong communication skills in English and knowledgeable in Excel. We offer a competitive salary, very exciting commission and bonus structure.

Also seeking: Bartender/Receptionist - Thai national.

Must have strong communication skills in English, 1 year work experience in the food and beverage industry, friendly and good with guests.

Salary 7,500 baht per month, service charge and bonus. Tel: 086-604 1333 (English). Email: sales@ccblosses hotel.com



### SECRETARY WANTED

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

### TELE MARKETING JOB

Native English speaker, top rates. Working in Patong. Please contact for more details. Tel: 086-479 4027.

### 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.

### 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 Please visit our website at: www.graingerdesigns.com.au

### BARISTA WANTED

Young person with barista experience required for new coffee shop in Chalong. Thai & English speaking. Happy personality. Advanced barista training provided for right person after trial period. Salary based on experience. Please contact for more information. Tel: 080-534 4964 (English & Thai). Email: unikorn\_jr@yahoo.com

### GOLDEN COMPASS MANAGEMENT

Seeking experienced closers for their desk in Patong. Package includes commission, spiffs and guaranteed daily up flow. Please contact: John Gillinder. Tel: 084-308 3688. Email: johngillinder@hotmail.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. For further details, please email your CV to: careers@palmhouseprimary school.com



MOD - COM POOLS



The Island Pools Group of Companies

### Thailand's Most Comprehensive Pool Business!

We are urgently seeking to employ the following positions:

### COMPANY SECRETARY (1 position)

#### Qualifications:

- Thai national with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management
- At least 5 years experience in same position
- Excellent command of English required both spoken and written English to communicate between MD and Staff
- Computer skills: Internet, E-mail and MS Office
- Good attitude, strong leadership, able to work under pressure, a good team member, highly intelligent and creative are all needed to lead a growing business with a hands-on management style

#### Responsibilities:

- Handle work permit, visa, company registration and all government functions regarding business operations
- Coordinate and follow up the work in progress of other departments in the organization
- Other job assignments from the MD

We offer a good salary based on experience and the opportunity for career growth. Please send full resume with recent photo and expected salary via email to:

[ann@waterworkwarehouse.net](mailto:ann@waterworkwarehouse.net)

Tel/Fax: 076-273087 Mobile: 081-958 0743

For more information about us, please visit our website at

<http://www.waterworkwarehouse.net/moreinfo.htm>



### Spa Therapist

- Female (Thai Nationality)
- Minimum 2 years Spa therapy experience in an international standard spa.
- Relevant license/ massage certificate and qualification required.
- Team player and professional attitude
- Flexibility with scheduling including evening, weekends and holidays.
- Able to communicate verbally in English.
- Non overseas experience is required

### Hair Stylist

- Female
- Minimum 2 years hair-styling experience in an international standard salon.
- Technical skill of ladies and gents' hair cutting and styling, hair coloring, hair straightening, hair treatments, equipment operations, manicure, pedicure and waxing required.
- Team player and professional attitude
- Flexibility with scheduling including evening, weekends and holidays.
- Able to communicate verbally in English.

Please submit your resume with current photograph and salary expectation to [ang@asianahotels.com](mailto:ang@asianahotels.com) or [shri@asianahotels.com](mailto:shri@asianahotels.com)

### Asiana Hotel

1/238, Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR), Semmencherry, Chennai - 600 119, Tamil Nadu, India  
[www.asianahotels.com](http://www.asianahotels.com)



### SEEKING EXPERIENCED CANDIDATES FOR COMMUNICATION LIASION 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](http://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](mailto:chris.obrien@fao.org) by June 11, 2010. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.



## Articles For Sale

### ARTICLES FOR SALE

Quality dark wood dining table + 4 chairs, cream leatherette 3-piece suite, coffee table, Thai-style sideboard, desk and chair, bedside tables. Prices negotiable. Tel: 087-887 9070.

### FRIDGE & RECLINER

Panasonic 64 inches high x 27 inches wide x 2.7 inches deep, frost-free freezer still under warranty. Paid 15,000 baht, selling for 10,000 baht. Brand-new Kim Ivory leather recliner from Modern Form at Homeworks. Paid 28,000 baht, selling for 17,000 baht. Call Uhaul from Kata. Tel: 084-441 3625 (English).

### STEEL CABINET FOR FAST SALE

Gray steel cabinet for sale. (height 185cm, width 82cm, depth 42cm). Fixed price only 1,200 baht. Has to go before Wednesday! Tel: 089-289 5102 (English & Thai). Email: buapanjindasree@yahoo.com

### MEDIA PLAYER PINNACLE 250HD

Pinnacle ShowCenter 250HD media player. Play from your PC or USB to your TV. This digital media player lets you enjoy PC-based media files on your TV. Price: 4,000 baht. Tel: 081-370 0084. Email: ian@fereday.biz

### ELECTRIC HOT PLATES: 2 RING

Electric hot plates, 2 rings. Both rings have quick heat up sensors. Has adapter plug for common house powerpoint, 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

### 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: constructor@hotmail.com

### 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, Gamish 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

### BABY ARTICLES

Cool kid car seats for 1-4 years or max 15kg, used only 9 months. Original price: 4,500 baht, will sell for 1,800 baht. Carera six baby bottle steam sterilizer unused, shop price 2,333 baht, will sell for 1,000 baht. Both items for 2,500 baht. Tel: 089-474 5359 (English), 081-537 9951 (Thai). Email: azado@hotmail.com

### BAGLESS VACUUM CLEANER

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## Thailand's top fighter trains in local gym

SAENCHAI Sor Kingstar, widely recognized as the best pound-for-pound Muay Thai fighter in Thailand, is spending a few weeks training at Nai Harn's Sinbi Muay Thai gym in preparation for an upcoming fight in Songkhla on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

It is testament to Saenchai's unique ability that at the age 30, he has been twice named fighter of the year by the Sports Authority of Thailand. He first received the award in 1999 and again in 2008. Muay Thai is normally regarded as a young man's sport, with fighters often retiring in their mid-20s.

An all-around talented athlete, Saenchai is also an outstanding footballer who was in Phuket last year for the Kata Cup as part of the Muang Thong United squad.

Muay Thai training is a typically a highly solitary experience, but Saenchai has enjoyed being part



Saenchai Sor Kingstar

of the Muang Thong Utd squad. He is, however, putting his football career on hold for now in order to focus on preparing for his upcoming fight.

"I enjoy playing football and I am hoping to be able to play for Muang Thong Utd in the Premier League one day, but Muay Thai is my specialty. It is what I do best," he said.

— Phuket Gazette

## Phuket Amateur Golf Open

# Cop at the top

POLICE Lt Col Yongyuth Krongmalai was the overall winner in the July round of the Phuket Amateur Golf Open Tournament on July 18 with an impressive 41 points at Loch Palm Golf Club.

It was the second of 11 tournaments to determine the best amateur golfer in Phuket. Growing in popularity with each month, 35 golfers came out to Loch Palm for the July tournament.

Each tournament divides golfers into one of three divisions, based on individual handicap. The first and second place winners in each division of each tournament qualify for the 11<sup>th</sup> and final tournament, the Phuket Amateur Golf Master's Open 2011.

Neale Avery took the top spot in Division 1 with 37 points. Newport Lapoarjkit, the 12-year-old who turned heads on July 9 by becoming the overall winner of the contest's opening tournament, came in behind Avery in Division 1, matching Avery's score of 37

points. The performance keeps Newport leading in order of merit.

Eric Mark took top honors in Division 2 with 39 points, followed by Richard Dunn with 38 points.

In Division 3, Mr Yongyuth took the top spot in addition to the overall win, followed by Supan Doungkongngun in second with 36 points.

The best lady on the day was Laong Cameron with 34 points.

In individual prizes, Matt Richardson, who came in third place in Division 1 with a matching 37 points, had the longest drive of the day. Nearest to the pin prizes went to Neale Avery and Steve Peel.

The next round in the tournament will be held at Blue Canyon Country Club on Sunday, September 5. Entry is open to all. Members of Blue Canyon will receive a 1,500 baht reduction in entry fees.

— Phuket Gazette



FC Phuket in action against Chumphon FC last Saturday. Phuket won the match 5-1. Photo: Peerapat Rattana

# FC Phuket back in Surakul style

By James Goyder

FC PHUKET bounced back from the disappointment of their first home defeat of the season last weekend and thrashed Chumphon FC 5-1 at Surakul Stadium last Saturday.

The result consolidates FC Phuket's lead at the top of Division Two (Southern Section) and leaves the Southern Sea Kirin in pole position to make the promotional playoffs.

The driving force behind the victory was teenage midfielder Sarach Yooyen, who scored twice in a man-of-the-match performance. Yooyen has played mostly on the wing this season but was moved to central midfield alongside Camara Adisak Kraisorn, while

the regular central midfielder Diarra Ali was moved into a more advanced role to support livewire striker Thawin Butrasombat.

The perpetually poor Safari Nelson was replaced by Jagkid Thamassaen in goal. Manager Arjan Songsamssub rang in these changes in an attempt to get the Sea Kirin back to their winning ways, and his selection policy appears to have paid off.

FC Phuket took the lead after 16 minutes with a well-worked goal. Thawin Butrasombat found Diarra Ali in the penalty area, who played the ball into the path of the onrushing Yooyen for a finishing shot.

Butrasombat was replaced by Chakrit Rawanprakorn after 26 minutes, apparently suffering from

a serious shoulder injury.

Krongborisut showed excellent form and scored in the 31<sup>st</sup> minute to put FC Phuket up 2-0.

Chumphon were able to pull a goal back when, for the second week in a row, FC Phuket conceded a goal from a free kick. This time, the goalkeeper was blameless as the ball was expertly bent around the wall and into the far corner of the goal.

Any faint hopes of a Chumphon comeback were effectively extinguished when one of their players was harshly dismissed for a high challenge with 10 minutes remaining.

Man-of-the-match Yooyen claimed the fifth and final goal in the final minutes of the match on an impressive counter attack.

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# Raceweek draws to wild close

By James Goyder

WINDS gusting up to 35 knots and monsoon rains drew the Six Senses Phuket Raceweek regatta to a dramatic close on July 25 after catapulting two men overboard and leaving at least one boat with her mast in tatters.

It made for intense competition for the 39 boats who made up the fleet of this increasingly popular low-season regatta. Almost half of the entrants were multihulls, most of which had been in action at the SEA Properties Multihull Regatta the previous week.

Going into the final day's racing, Ben Copley's *Katsu* held a slight lead over Scott Duncanson's *Quantum Fusion M*.

The racers received an early warning after news spread yesterday morning that Stuart Williamson's *Skandia Endeavour* of Whitby had drifted off anchor during the night and was jammed on rocks at Koh Bon.

With this news fresh in their minds, dark clouds overhead and a storm looming ominously nearby, racers lined up their boats at the starting point.

Ray Waldron's *Surf Patrol*, a brand-new Phuket 8, was the first to suffer. The boat almost capsized after being hit with a gust



**DIP 'N' GO:** Baby Tonga sailed through rough waters before retiring early on the final day. Photo: Image Asia

measuring over 30 knots, knocking the boat sideways and sending two crew members over the side.

Grenville Fordham's *Nina* and *Royal Thai Navy 5* were quick to render assistance and the crewmen were recovered without injury.

The next casualty was Nigel Cross on the catamaran *Little Soul*, which suffered a broken mast near the start line – again, without injury to the crew.

Despite some captains deciding to spare their boats the risk of damage and retiring from the day's races, many sailed on for a chance of picking up points and securing podium places.

Scott Duncanson sailed well to keep his Phuket 8 *Quantum Fusion M* safe and win the day's race on corrected time, but it was not enough to keep Ben Copley's *Katsu* at bay.

*Katsu* took line honors and

second place on corrected time to win the overall IRC Racing Class trophy.

Antony Hasting retired *Baby Tonga* from the final race due to boom damage, but had amassed enough points to finish third overall in the class.

Mark Chapman's *Piccolo*'s four wins in the regatta saw the Australian crew score a class victory on the boat's first outing, securing top honors overall in IRC 2.

Peter Dyer's *Sea Bees* suffered sail damage and did not race the final day, but had amassed enough points to claim second place overall in the class.

Jaray Tipsuk's *Royal Thai Navy 5* were awarded points as they ripped their headsail while assisting the overboard *Surf Patrol* crewmen, sliding them into third place overall in the class.

Hans Rahmann's *Voodoo* braved the conditions to win the Firefly 850 Sports class, with Roger Kingdon's *Moto Inzi* finishing second place overall, ahead of Damien Page on *SEA Property*.

Henry Kaye and Fergus Wilmer's *Thor* took top honors overall in the Multihull class, ahead of Andy Pape on *Da Vinci* and David Liddell's *Miss Saigon*, respectively.

Event organizer Grenville Fordham of Image Asia particularly enjoyed the final day's racing.

"We've had a great week. There were the strongest winds I've ever experienced here. It was fantastic; exhilarating.

"At this time of year, we expect good winds and do get squalls coming through every now and again, but we rarely get a squall on the start line and then another squall half way through the same race," he said.

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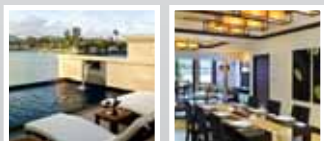
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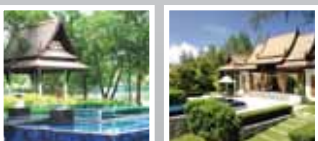
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