

# Phuket Gazette

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## Tougher building regulations now in force

PHUKET Natural Resources and Environmental officer Natthaporn Jarunkiatkhajorn has confirmed that tighter controls on building on hillside land in Phuket came into force on July 31, some two months earlier than expected.

"After we receive an official letter from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Policy and Planning Division in Bangkok, we will immediately send letters informing related organizations to recognize the new regulations," Ms Natthaporn said.

The new regulations, gazetted on July 30 and brought into effect July 31, impose tougher measures aimed at constraining hillside development and ensuring that all new developments have at least the minimum mandated "green areas" reserved with no structures built upon them.

"Construction projects now must follow the new regulations. However, the new rules will not affect applications that have already been submitted and are currently being processed," Ms Natthaporn said, adding that her office receives about 30 building applications each month.

The new rules allow structures be built on gradients of up 50%,

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## New bridge mars local village life

By Atchaa Khamlo

RESIDENTS living in Tah Chat Chai at the northernmost tip of Phuket have been hit hard by the roadwork and construction of the new bridge off the island.

Their storm drains have been filled in by earthworks, causing their village to flood every time another rainy season deluge befalls them, and the recent redirection of northbound traffic over Thepkrasattri Bridge has left their businesses floundering.

Engineers and construction crews have been going gangbusters on the project, nicknamed by workers as "Sarasin Bridge 2". The project is now 44.2% complete – 13.28% ahead of schedule.

The bridge will span 655 meters, with an additional 1.7 kilometers of newly paved road stretching 560m on the Phuket side and 510m on the Phang Nga side. The two-lane, northbound and southbound roads will provide access to the new bridge.

Construction started July 1 last year and is scheduled to be complete by June 20, 2011, at a precise budget of 377,999,217.10 baht.

Explaining in part the construction crew's enthusiasm for



The half-complete bridge is already affecting locals. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

completing the project is a rider in the contract imposing a late fine of 113,400 baht for each day construction continues past the June 20 deadline.

Of all the communities in Tah Chat Chai affected by the con-

struction, Moo 5, the village just before the old Sarasin Bridge including all the restaurants along the beachfront, seems to be suffering the most.

Somporn Thansakul, who is the

*Continued on page 6*



PM Abhisit Vejjajiva at the meeting. Photo: Pimwara Choksakulpan

## Abhisit on path to peace

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

PRIME Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva arrived in Phuket last Friday evening ahead of the two-day Democrat Party "Crisis Seminar", which got underway at the Merlin Beach Resort at Tri Trang Beach the following day.

During his opening address, PM Abhisit reminded party members to "perform our duty with efficiency and in accordance with the law and the principles the spirit of the law upholds, and the facts – and then we can move forward."

Party members doing their jobs "as well as they can and with loyalty is good not only for the party, but also for the peaceful future and rebuilding of the country," he said.

He also said that on his way to Phuket he was asked by foreign media whether his intention was to concentrate on diminishing the influence of ousted premier Thaksin Shinawatra.

To this, PM Abhisit said, "That is not what I am focusing on. Right now I am concentrating on building a peaceful future for the

*Continued on page 3*

## Reservoir upgrades get green light

WORK is set to go ahead on increasing the capacity of Bang Wad Reservoir by three million cubic meters after Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Phuket Provincial Irrigation Office (PPIO) Director Weerawat Aungsupanith and Kathu Mayor Chaianan Suthikul July 29 at Phuket Provincial Hall.

Mr Weerawat told the *Gazette*

that the 300-million-baht project will be a step toward alleviating drought-related problems and supporting population growth by improving existing water sources.

The project, which is touted as a pioneering example of public-private partnership for sustainable development, will see the one-kilometer dam raised by about 1.5 meters, increasing the reservoir's capacity from 7.3 million cubic

meters to 10.2 million cubic meters.

After improvements, the reservoir will be capable of providing 20 million cubic meters of fresh water a year, up from its current production capacity of 14 million cubic meters a year.

Hot on the heels of a *Phuket Gazette* story in last week's issue about the Klong Krata reservoir project stalling, Gov Wichai also

announced that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has approved the use of a 60-rai plot of land needed for the construction.

The request for the land was made by the PPIO about three years ago. The approval was a final obstacle to the project, which has been "unofficially" scheduled to begin this September.

– *Sitthipong Nongkaew*

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## This Week

### Red plates must go white

Official warnings are issued to drivers of red-plated vehicles.

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Everything you need at prices you can afford, from jobs to homes.

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# Police raid nets 42 punters at cockfight

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

A RAID by Crime Suppression Division Area 5 officers saw 42 people arrested and charged with gambling at a cockpit in Rawai on August 1.

The raid, led by Inspector Sitthikiat Srichan, came at 1:30pm at a rubber plantation area off Soi Suanwat, behind Rawai Temple.

Among those arrested were two women, one of whom was pregnant.

All were taken to Chalong Police Station, where they were charged and held without bail.

Seized as evidence were four fighting cocks, two of which had already engaged in battle and appeared exhausted, badly scratched and partially de-feathered. Their legs were tightly bound together, rendering them unable to fight inside the rattan cage where they were held.

Other items seized were rattan cages, a small gas cylinder, six medical treatment kits, betting lists and several other items commonly associated with the bloodsport.



The cocks' legs were bound together to keep them from attacking each other inside the cage. Photo: Sitthipong Nongkaew

Although 42 people were arrested, they were only a fraction of those that took part. Many others who apparently managed to escape arrest stopped by Chalong Police Station to give moral support to their less-fortunate friends.

Chalong Police Duty Office Anukul Nuket said all of those arrested were to be sent to Phuket Provincial Court.

The four cocks would be fed and cared for at the station, Lt Anukul said. "Don't worry about their future. We need to keep them here because they are our evidence," he said.

In general, gambling is prohibited by law in the Kingdom. Cockfighting remains an exception, however, as it is permitted under the Gambling Act of 1935.

## Helmet fines start July, 2011

PHUKET City Police have announced that the public awareness segment of their "100% motorcycle helmet use" campaign will run another full year before offenders will face fines.

The campaign, which began in April, aims to bring helmet use in Phuket City Police District to 100%, for both drivers and passengers.

July 1 this year was initially set to be "D-Day" for police to start fining all offenders, but when the day came Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekporntip unveiled a surprising new tactic: rather than fine offenders, police confiscated their licenses and held them until the offender viewed a locally-produced movie showing graphic images of road accident victims.

The results have been a marked increase in helmet use in Phuket



Helmet law violators wait to collect their licenses. Photo: Phuket Gazette

City Police District, which includes Wichit, Rassada and Koh Kaew.

Snr Sgt Maj Phaisan Rodthieng of the Phuket City Police Traffic told the *Gazette* that 1,432 people

viewed the movie from July 3-30. The offenders represented a vast cross section of society, with people involved in nearly every type of occupation included.

He estimated that about 70 people whose licenses are being held have yet to view it.

The number of viewers has been decreasing. A total of 396 people in total attended viewings on the first two days, but the figure had fallen to 66 viewers on July 30.

Col Wanchai told the *Gazette* that the reduction in the number of offenders was a positive sign, but he was concerned that helmet use still seems to decrease after dark.

"I'd like to tell them that we are continuing to check people at night, so please wear your helmets. It is for your own good," he said.

- *Phuket Gazette*

## Patong Hill claims another

POLICE are trying to learn the identity of a Caucasian man killed in a motorcycle accident on Phuket's notorious Patong Hill road in the early hours of Sunday, August 1.

Kathu Police Duty Officer Nitikorn Rawang received a report of the accident at 4am the same day. Together with Kusoldharm Foundation workers he rushed to the scene at Kuan Yang curve on Phra Barami Rd, where they found the body of a Caucasian man with severe head injuries.

Lying nearby were two injured Thai men, one of whom was later identified as Tossaphol Muangdee, aged 23.

Mr Tossaphol was rushed to Patong Hospital. The other Thai

man, whose name was not reported, was taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital in Phuket Town.

A Yamaha Fino presumably operated by the deceased and Mr Tossaphol's Honda Click were found badly damaged at the scene.

No helmets were found.

Kusoldharm Foundation rescue worker "Aod", who responded to the emergency call, said the curve is well known for traffic accidents. It is also well known that many motorists beep their horns three times for good luck when passing the Chinese shrine at the top of the hill.

Any person with information that may lead to identifying the deceased is asked to call Kathu Police at 076-342719/21.

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# PM Abhisit leads Democrat retreat

From page 1

country.” The convention, themed “Concentrating Energy to Resolve National Crisis”, brought together more than 190 Democrat Party members, including Democrat members of parliament (MPs) and heads of government ministries.

According to a party press release, the purpose of the convention was to train Democrat MPs how to access and empower the “people network” in their areas to support the party’s “peace plan for the nation’s future”.

After the opening session, Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban chaired the “Overcoming Crisis through People Power” session. Although the meeting was held behind closed doors, from outside the chamber sound clips of the recent red shirt protests in Bangkok could be heard, including the voice of red shirt leader Arisman Pongruangrong who remains at large on terrorism charges leveled against him by the authorities.

Also attending the weekend convention was former Democrat



PM Abhisit arriving for the party conference. Photo: Pimwara Choksakulpan

leader and ex-PM Chuan Leekpai.

On the Sunday, starting at 9am, was a session titled, “The peaceful future of Thailand and Phuket”, which was open to the public to voice their opinions to the party.

The Democrat convention followed opposition Pheu Thai Party and their allied red shirt network opening a branch in Phuket, long considered a Democrat stronghold, on June 24.

The Pheu Thai Phuket office

opening ceremony was attended by party spokesman Prompong Nopparit, and party leaders including Southern Region President Pichet Sathirachawal, former Finance Minister Suchart Thadathamrongwet, former Deputy Commissioner of Provincial Police Region 8 Pol Maj Gen Thawat Boonfueng, Red Siam group leader Surachai Danwattananusorn and about 200 Andaman red shirt members.

## Chinese engineering firm eyes light rail project

REPRESENTATIVES of mainland Chinese construction conglomerate Ershisanye Construction Group met Phuket Governor Wichai Phraisa-ngop on August 2 to discuss building a light-rail public transport system for Phuket.

Founded in 1953, Ershisanye is part of the China Minmetals group, which enjoys annual revenues of just under US\$25 billion.

Last month, the parent group ranked 332 on the famed *Fortune* 500 list.

Mr Soo was escorted by other representatives of the firm and Phuket MP Raywat Areerob.

“The traffic problem in Phuket needs to be solved. I have presented the issue to many overseas investors and this is one firm that has expressed interest in building a light railway on the island,” Mr Raywat said.

Gov Wichai presented Mr Soo with a copy of a government-commissioned research study entitled “Feasibility Study of Light Rail Transit for Phuket and Phuket Airport Rail Link”.

MP Raywat said Ershisanye was prepared to invest jointly with the government in the project, but said the meeting with Gov Wichai was just preliminary.

The governor Wichai thanked both MP Raywat and his guest for taking the time to visit.

If built, a light rail system

would go a long way to establishing the kind of public transport system needed for Phuket in its bid to host the World Expo in 2020, he said.

— *Sithipong Nongkaew*

## Suthep calls for unity

DEPUTY Prime Minister Suthep Thaugsuban, speaking at the Democrat Party seminar “Join Forces and Solve the National Crisis” seminar at the Phuket Merlin Beach Resort last weekend, urged fellow Democrat MPs from throughout the south to take a creative, friendly approach in trying to mend the fractious issues dividing the country.

He urged Democrats not to become separated from the people. They should not just hope that a few MPs in the province would emerge as leaders, but should show initiative by uniting the people.

They should also do public relations work and relay information that boosts reconciliation in the country, he said.

“Thailand is on the edge today. We have to follow what PM [Abhisit] said because we received his trust. All parts of the country must work together. We must not make more enemies today.

“We must not be enemies with government officials or people who hold different political opin-



Deputy PM Suthep Thaugsuban

ions. We must draw them to support us, although blaming others is easier...

“Party members must explain their position to others, not criticize them. As Chuan said, the party must be strong before it can make the country strong,” he said.

Key members must act like the party leader and the secretary-general, mingling with the public and clarifying information so that they understand the issues at hand, he said.

— *The Nation*

## Pekad gets a visitor

BEFORE flying back to Bangkok, DPM Suthep stopped at Phuket International Hospital to visit Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pekad Tantipong.

Maj Gen Pekad was recovering from a knee-injury sustained on July 31 when the car he was in collided with another vehicle at the junction of the bypass road and Thepkasattri Rd.

Mr Suthep presented Maj Gen Pekad with a large bouquet during his 15-minute stay.

“It’s a big honor that he came to visit and a great encouragement to do my job,” said Maj Gen Pekad.

Maj Gen Pekad, who underwent emergency surgery at the hospi-



Maj Gen Pekad greets Deputy PM Suthep Thaugsuban with a wai.

tal, will have to wear a cast for a month. There were three people in the car at the time of the collision. Maj Gen Pekad was among two who were not wearing seatbelts at the time, it was reported.

— *Phuket Gazette*

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*...Terrace*



# Poisonous potions land Russian tour boss behind bars

A RUSSIAN tour operator has been arrested for allegedly selling bottles of liquor containing the pickled remains of poisonous animals including king cobras, centipedes and scorpions.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the concoctions themselves turned out to be poisonous.

Pattaya Police arrested 40-year-old Andrey Akulov on July 31 after receiving reports that one man died and others suffered strong allergic reactions from drinking his bizarre tinctures.

Mr Akulov allegedly claimed the concoctions boosted strength and sexual prowess. When police raided his offices in Pattaya they found 220 75cl bottles containing the potions, which the Russian had ordered from Laos.

Mr Akulov said he sold the bottles for 2,400 baht each to foreigners and Thais.

His "Intourist" tour company was a front for various other ille-



gal activities, police said. As well as the potions, police found several fake Nokia cellphones at his offices.

During the search, a foreign tourist wandered in asking to change money. The police promptly added exchanging money without a license to the growing list of charges the Russian will face.

Later that same day, police searched another of Mr Akulov's offices, this time finding the equivalent of more than 600,000 baht in foreign currency and contraband.

— Thai Rath

# Police say 'suicide' attempt was a fake

By Atchaa Khamlo

DESPITE an outpouring of public sympathy for a teenage girl who was talked out of an apparent suicide attempt by Satree Phuket School Students earlier this week, police have branded the incident a sham intended to deceive people into giving the girl money.

Police now say Orasa Lapruet, 19, who threatened to hurl herself from a pedestrian walkway into the path of heavy traffic on Thepkasattri Rd in Phuket Town on Tuesday, is actually a serial con artist who has tried similar scams in other parts of the country.

Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekpornpit told the media on Wednesday that police officers escorting Miss Orasa back to her hometown of Roi-Et gave in to her demand to be released by the time the vehicle reached Saraburi because her shouting had become so unbearable.

They filed a report, detailing the



OVER THE EDGE: Orasa Lapruet claims back over the rail to safety.

incident, at Saraburi Muang District Police before they returned to Phuket, he said.

A police investigation revealed that the girl tried similar stunts in Pattaya in 2007 and Hua Hin August last year, when she threatened to leap from the fourth floor of an office building, Col Wanchai said.

She also once threatened to use a knife to kill herself outside a school in Petchaburi, he said, adding that her threatened suicide

attempts were not real, but aimed at securing money from sympathetic people.

However, Col Wanchai said Miss Orasa had been treated and released from a psychiatric hospital at least once.

Social Development and Human Security officer Jitlada Sangprapan said her department will contact officials in Roi-Et to learn more about her background and get her the help she needs.

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A computer-generated image of the facility proposed to be built in town.

## Senators in drive to revive Phuket Town

THE Senate Tourism Committee held a seminar focusing on revitalizing Phuket Town's Sino-Portuguese heritage at The Metropole Hotel on July 30.

At the seminar, Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwansupapana explained three major plans for the project. The first is to develop a historical trail as a "living museum" in Old Phuket Town with improved footpaths, signage, and to move cables underground.

The second plan is for structural improvement of buildings along the historical trail and its environs, along with the development of Klong Bang Yai as a recreational locale and the construction of a multi-purpose public facility in Queen Sirikit Park.

The proposed building on what is now a car park will provide a venue for some of Phuket Town's multiple festivals. There will also be a tourist information center to promote the area and educate tourists on its history, such as the

history of Thalang Road as a bustling commercial street.

Also to be spruced up are the old Chartered Bank and police station, which will become Peranakan museums.

The third plan is to renovate buildings on Thalang Rd to showcase their Sino-Portuguese architecture in what will be a prototype for further development in Old Phuket Town.

Phuket Senator Thanyarat Atcharyachai said, "Phuket is now a world-class [tourist] destination with about 5 to 6 million visitors a year, but only 3% of them visit Phuket Town."

Mayor Somjai said, "This project study will support tourism activities in Phuket Town, and it will also contribute to cultural and economic revivals. "In the long term, it could also lead to the designation of the area as a World Heritage site, like Malaysia's Malacca and Georgetown," she added.

— Sithipong Nongkaew



# Little amnesty for 'red plate' drivers

By Pimwara Choksakulpan

PHUKET Land Transport Office (PLTO) Chief Kanok Siripanichkorn has told the *Gazette* that people driving cars with red license plates have one month to fit the regular "white plates" on their cars, or face the consequences.

The one-month reprieve in Phuket follows Land Transport Department Director-General Chairat Sanguansue's announcement last week of a crackdown on people driving cars with red plates, which can incur fines of up to 10,000 baht.

Mr Kanok said that many people in Phuket drive cars with red plates, indicating that the car has yet to be registered with the Land Transport Department.

He said he understood that some of these drivers were genuinely waiting for their car registration to be approved.

For such law-abiding citizens, the department will take no action against any motorist whose car is less than one month old or has not been driven more than 3,000 kilometers, whichever comes first.

## More hours for vehicle registrations

THE PLTO has extended its office hours to make it easier for people to renew their vehicle registration.

Chief Kanok said the sections that process vehicle registration now start 30 minutes earlier, at 8am, have staff working right through the traditional business lunch hours, and finish one hour later, at 5:30pm.

Moreover, vehicle registration renewals are available every Saturday and Sunday at Big C from 10am to 6pm. The counter is on the basement level, turn right when off the escalator.

Many others, however, continue driving with red plates so that the plates suggest the car is brand-new or because they are simply waiting for their preferred "lucky number" registration to be approved, a process that can take several months, he added.

Red plates being used longer than they need to cost the depart-



SEEING RED: A 'red plate' ready to be fitted. Photo: Pimwara Choksakulpan

ment revenue from registration fees not paid and make it much more difficult to track vehicles down in case they are stolen, he said.

The chief explained that red license plates are issued to car dealers and garages only, so that vehicles can be driven on public roads temporarily in order to arrive at dealerships or to be repaired.

It is illegal to drive cars with

red plates at night, from sunset to sunrise, without express permission from the Land Transport Department. Such permission will be restricted to a maximum of five consecutive nights, he added.

Driving a car with red plates at night without permission can incur a fine of between 200 and 2,000 baht, while driving a car with red plates during the day but for personal business can leave the driver open to charges of driving

an unregistered vehicle, he warned. "If we find a car with red plates that was bought one year ago, it means the driver has no intention of registering the car, and they will be fined between 1,000 and 10,000 baht," he said.

Motorists who have been issued regular white license plates, but have yet to fit them to their cars, face fines of between 200 and 2,000 baht, said the chief.

Chief Kanok also warned against using counterfeit red plates and not to decorate or modify genuine plates – red or white – by covering them with images or enlarging them. Doing so is punishable with six months to five years in jail or a fine between 1,000 and 10,000 baht, he said.

For those with pretty pictures on their bumpers, Chief Kanok warned, "Only license plates that have been sold by [Land Transport Department] auction are allowed to have images on them."

"If officers find modified plates, the officers will take photos as evidence, file the charge in our computer database, and the driver must pay the fine when they renew their car registration."



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# Phuket eyes 'huge' medical tourism boom

By Atchaa Khamlo

MEDICAL and healthcare providers on the island can expect to get a large slice of the 402.9 billion baht that the Ministry of Health (MoH) expects Thailand's medical tourism industry to rake in over the next five years.

Phuket Public Health Office Deputy Director Dr Wiwat Seetamanotch said, "Over the past five years, Phuket has enjoyed great success in health services provided to tourists and earned a huge amount of money as

Phuket is a world tourist destination that not only is beautiful in nature, but also complete in accommodations, food and transportation.

"In addition, health services here are cheaper than neighboring countries," he said.

The MoH, according to its current five-year plan for 2010 to 2014, expects to generate the 400-billion-baht windfall whilst spending only 3.13 million baht in developing the services that are to garner the revenues.

According to MoH statistics, 550,161 foreign patients received treatment or healthcare in Thailand in 2001, but in 2007 that number had swelled to 1,373,807. Most were Japanese, followed by Americans and Europeans.

More than 70% of the foreign patients during that period were medical tourists, with 25% being expatriates and less than 5% being tourists who came to Thailand but not expressly for medical or health care.

The most popular health services during

that year were health checks, heart operations, knee replacements, cardiovascular surgery, plastic surgery, gender reassignment surgery, dental care and Lasik corrective eye surgery.

Dr Wiwat expects the number of medical tourists to Phuket to increase dramatically in the coming years.

"In the next 20 years, the number of elderly people in the world will rise from 18% to 20% – or one in five of the world's population. That is a huge market," he said.

## Bus terminal set to open October 1

PHUKET's long-awaited second terminal for long-haul buses is now complete and will open for services October 1, Phuket Land Transport Office (PLTO) Chief Kanok Siripanichkorn has told the *Gazette*.

He explained that the delay in opening was in part due to managerial hiccups. "Bus terminals like this are usually handed over to local organizations to manage. Initially, Rassada Municipality accepted to operate the terminal, but later they said they had problems with obtaining the budget to do so. "So we will run the new terminal until the municipality is ready to do it," he explained.

All buses exiting the new terminal will keep left, continue past the traffic lights and make a U-turn at Ban Vanit before heading north off the island.

The new terminal will serve all buses to other provinces except Phang Nga.

The old terminal on Phang Nga Rd in Phuket Town will continue to serve island buses to destinations such as Patong, Thalung and Rawai, as well as buses to Takuapa and elsewhere in Phang Nga.

# Villagers flame new bridge

From page 1

elected community leader for Moo 5, told the *Gazette*, "The construction has created two main problems: First, as the one-way [southbound] road from Thepkasattri Bridge onto the island to Tah Chat Chai checkpoint is now two ways, it's quite dangerous for local villagers when they go out to the main road.

"The point where the cars join the Thepkasattri Bridge road is narrow, which is dangerous. Why don't they let cars to continue on the old roads, like they used to, and widen the road where it joins the bridge to make it safer?" he asked.

Mr Somporn also expressed concern about the impact the traffic diversion has had on local businesses.

The other major problem, he said, was that ditch drains on the main road have been blocked by mounds of dirt and other debris moved there during construction.

"This means that the water in the ditches on the main street of our village has nowhere to flow, so the road in our village floods all the time," he said.

"This problem still has not been



DETOUR: The junction where villagers join the main road. Photo: Atchaa Khamlo

solved. It seems they only care about doing the construction work and don't care about us villagers. They don't notice how their work has left the community here living in chaos. I told them about the problem before at a meeting, but nothing has changed," Mr Somporn said.

Phuket Vice-Governor Teerayut Eimtrakul discussed this issue July 23 at a meeting with project leaders and Provincial Highways Director Arun Sa-nae. Mr Somporn said that meeting has

amounted to nothing. "About 400 families – almost 3,000 people – are affected by these problems, but they are trying not to make a big issue of it, especially the Moken sea gypsies. But, I am the community leader and I have to do something for them.

"The problems are still not being resolved, so I plan to speak to the governor about it [this week]," he said.

Patthanapong Thongsuk, an engineer with the construction contractor Italian-Thai Develop-

ment Co, strongly disagrees with the suggestion of having traffic continue through Moo 5.

"Having the normal volume of traffic continue through the village as it used to, then joining the Thepkasattri Bridge road and head north would be too dangerous," he told the *Gazette*.

As for the dirt-filled drains, Mr Patthanapong said he initially thought that the water in the ditches along the main street in the village flowed directly toward, and finally into, the sea – but not back along the main road.

To this he added, "We will dredge [the ditches] soon so the water flows through very well."

"People can tell us what problems they are facing because of the construction and we will listen and help them. They can call us at 081-8751840 and 086-6774664," he said.

As an example, Mr Patthanapong pointed out that his company was regrading the potholed dirt road from the beachfront up to the main road.

This work was not part of the construction contract and was carried out at no cost to the villagers, he added.

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# Govt shot journo: witnesses

## AROUND THE nation

WITNESSES have told police that a Japanese reporter shot dead on April 10 at the height of the red shirt protests was killed by government soldiers, *Khao Sod* reports.

Four people questioned by Chana Songkhram District Police said the bullet that killed Reuters cameraman Hiroyuki Muramoto came from the direction of advancing troops and that there were no "men in black" in sight.

The testimony is a setback for the government, which has sought to pin many of the 90 deaths during the 10-week anti-government protests on armed "terrorists" dressed in black.

One witness, a 54-year-old red-shirt protester, was among a group of red shirts advancing on soldiers who were trying to break up the protest at Kok Wua intersection around 7pm on April 10.

Mr Muramoto got ahead of the

protesters and was standing right in front of the troops, he said.

Then there was an explosion that caused the soldiers to start firing into the protesters, the witness continued. Many red shirts were injured and Mr Muramoto, who was standing about one meter in front of them, was hit by a bullet.

The witness could not identify which individual fired the fatal shot.

A second witness, 55, said that the street lights in the area were cut before the soldiers started firing.

This witness was shot in the chest and had to be taken for hospital treatment.

A third witness, a 40-year-old army recruit who had joined the protesters, said he was among those fighting the soldiers at the time of the killing.

The soldiers had just started to retreat when there was a loud shooting sound from the back of the column. The witness was shot and later taken to the hospital.

The fourth witness was a 42-year-old rescue foundation volunteer who was in the truck that carried Mr Muramoto to the hospital.

The cameraman was already unconscious when he was carried



Reuters editor-in-chief David Schlesinger speaks at a farewell ceremony for Hiro Muramoto. Photo: AFP

into the vehicle, the witness said.

The witness performed first aid on Mr Muramoto, quickly realizing his heart had stopped. He tried

to revive him with a defibrillator, but to no avail.

The police have sent all four witness reports to the Department

of Special Investigations, but the government has gone quiet on the case, the *Khao Sod* report claimed.

— *Phuket Gazette*

## Tour bus 'flies' off road, killing three



The bus roof was torn off in the fatal accident. Photo: Kom Chad Luek

A TOUR bus overturned in heavy rain in Ubon Ratchatani province, killing three people and injuring 26 on August 1, *Kom Chad Luek* reports.

The treacherous road conditions also caused two responding rescue vehicles to come off the road, adding to the injury toll.

The tour bus was heading from Bangkok to Chong Mek when the driver lost control on a steep hill near Ban Thai Thaworn village around 4.30am.

The vehicle flew off the side of the slippery road, flipping over three times before coming to rest. The roof, torn off in the accident, ended up crumpled around a road-

side electricity pole.

One man was killed instantly. Another two died later in the hospital.

Heavy rain and the slippery road made the rescue very difficult. A rescue foundation pickup and a car both came off the side of the road on the way to the crash site.

Sawang Weerawong Police Superintendent Aphichart Sukhalert said police have arrested the driver of the tour bus, who was lightly injured.

Police suspect the driver fell asleep at the wheel. He will be charged with negligent driving causing death and injuries, Col Aphichart said.

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## Start with a little adult education

I was quite surprised to read about Thailand's rule forbidding high school students to continue classes if they are pregnant.

When combined with Thailand's outlaw on abortion, this basically means that any teenage girl who happens to get pregnant is dealt a life-defeating blow in which the country basically says, "Your education – and thereby your greatest potential for a decent future – is finished".

Can I guess that there is no recourse for the teenage boy (or grown man) that got the girl pregnant?

In a country that cannot hide the fact that it's got a long way to go in improving education standards, maybe it could start by showing young adults a bit of dignity.

*Bobby Do  
Chalong*

## It pays to be desperate

How wonderful it is to live in a country where the gut reaction in trying to talk someone out of suicide is to pay them.

I'm curious as to how much money the con artist who fakes suicide attempts in order to gain sympathetic cash has made in her antics.

Despite the fact that she might actually be a bit loopy, I think what this girl is doing is one of the most bold and creative social commentaries I've ever heard of. There's a lot more that can be said about this situation than just another con artist causing trouble.

In short, she's my hero.

*Thinker  
Chalong*

# Finally getting some dam relief

## Phuket Gazette

**WORK ON** the much-needed 5.7-million-cubic-meter Klong Krata reservoir in the foothills behind Wat Luangpu Supha in Chalong can finally proceed, now that the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MNRE) has finally approved a request by the Phuket Provincial Irrigation Office (PPIO) to use a 60-rai plot of Forest Department land needed to begin construction.

The sticking point that held up approval for three years was never announced, but it certainly wasn't related to protests by tree-hugging locals or attempts by officialdom at environmental preservation. The basin itself is today mostly a treeless wasteland, its former natural beauty debauched by decades of tin-mining and rubber plantation.

The project will undoubtedly be a boon to the local environment, providing a reservoir with ring road and park that will greatly enhance the attractiveness of the area, which already boasts one of the island's most well-known temples and a golf course.

Beyond question Phuket needs this project – and many others like it. Although blessed with a staggering average annual rainfall of almost 3,000 millimeters, the island has suffered chronic water shortage for decades.

During much of each year, water must be trucked over the hills to hotels on the west coast. Some hotels need more than 100 loads daily, the cost of which is crippling.

The slow-moving water tankers running over the hills also cause traffic jams, accidents and even the odd fatality when their brakes fail while descending the steep grades.

All this adds to the hassle and expense of doing business or living in Phuket – hassles and expenses that, in these parlous economic times the island might surely do without.

In many parts of the island it is not uncommon for desperate residential dwellers whose pipes have gone dry to bathe in bottled water. Others leave spigots turned on, tubs beneath them, in anticipation of catching what they can when authorities turn on the water for a brief period. This leads to needless waste when no one is in the house to turn them off after the tubs fill.

In 2010, water supply shortages persisted well into May in some areas. Those of us in the newspaper business noted the irony of reporting floods and landslides at the same time as stories about water shortages.

The PPIO expects demand for water to grow by 27 million cubic meters annually over the next 17 years. Phuket needs to increase storage capacity as quickly as possible if there is any hope of meeting this demand, and there is simply no excuse for red tape to get in the way.

fix it. Parents are the real culprits here.

To knowingly allow your child to be beaten in this day and age is indefensible. The Phuket community as a whole should be putting pressure on local, and national government to address this brutal practice going on in our schools.

*Anna 'Tik'  
Chalong*

## Staying on guard

Almost every week in the *Gazette*, I read about some unfortunate tourist whose dream holiday turned into the last days of their life.

The most recent account was of the Romanian tourist who died after he failed to adhere to the lifeguard's warning.

Being guilty of thinking, "It will never happen to me," like so many other people, I have also ignored cautionary measures put in place by authorities. I feel like people can't continue "stickin' it to the man" just because we think we're immune to disaster and tragedy.

I also understand the frustration of the lifeguards. They are right to lash out at hotels who know how dangerous swimming conditions can be in Phuket, but don't do all they can to warn or even divert guests on days when surf is particularly bad. It's not their loved ones heading out to danger, so why would they care?

They don't see what the lifeguards see or experience the feeling of helplessness at not being able to revive someone who has drowned on their watch. Perhaps spending a day in a lifeguard's shoes will wake them up to the reality and severity of the situation.

*Lisa Spires  
Kamala*

## Stop hitting kids

I have yet to see a Thai school where children are not beaten with rulers if they misbehave.

Is it against the law to beat children in Thailand? No one

seems to be able to answer this question. I have visited many schools in my time here, and seen, on occasion some atrocious behavior on the part of teachers.

Steel rulers are not a weapon to strike a child with and I urge any teacher doing so, to stop

immediately. Absolutely disgraceful, shocking and vile on their part.

I've talked to many people about the incidents I've seen and they tell me: "Oh, it's accepted here" or "It's just the way things are done here". What a load of crap. If there's a problem then

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## Issues & Answers...

### Tree dangers on Surin Beach

What is it going to take for authorities to address the numerous dangers posed by casuarina trees on Surin Beach – and on other beaches for that matter?

My family and I were at a beach club at Surin Beach a few days ago and we noticed that a large branch had snapped off during a recent storm. Fortunately it was not so large as to cause property damage or personal injury, but I believe it is just a matter of time before a serious accident occurs.

We have seen numerous other large branches, particularly of dead trees, fall down on Surin Beach and last year an entire tree at the south end of the beach collapsed, smashing at least two adjacent restaurants.

Amazingly, no one was injured, but it could easily have resulted in death.

There are many other restaurants that have enormous trees growing right through them, in

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Submit your issue at

[www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers](http://www.PhuketGazette.net/IssuesAnswers)

many cases in poor health or dead. They pose a grave danger to the public, staff and property.

It seems absurd for the authorities to allow trees to grow in this manner with no height restriction. It is just a matter of time before there is a tragic accident. When that happens, who will bear responsibility?

If there is any concern for safety of both Thais and foreigners alike, as well as tourism, then the authorities should take immediate steps to cut down sick trees and impose a height limit for trees that are growing through or around restaurants.

*Bob Smith  
Surin*

**Prasit Nuwanna, an officer at the Protection Division of Cherng Talay Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) replies:**

Our office is responsible for all the trees on and along Surin Beach.

However, if the trees are in a restaurant, or on their land, we cannot do anything unless they fill out a complaint form asking us to cut or remove them.

We have seen that the trees on Surin Beach are dying and we're not sure why, but we are looking into it. It looks as though someone poisoned them.

Please come to the Cherng Talay TAO and fill out a complaint form.

We need the complaint in writing so we can show it to our boss who will send someone to check and resolve the problem.

Our office is located at 247 Moo 5, Srisoonthorn Rd, Cherng Talay, Thalung, Phuket.

If you have any questions, please call us at 076-271096 or email to info@cherngtalay.go.th.



# Focusing on change

## FIRST PERSON

AN OBVIOUS change that I think all of us have noticed is the increase in population.

I have liked Phuket since the first time I came here. I felt like I was walking around in Penang (Malaysia), but the people were speaking Thai. I enjoyed people watching, especially on Sundays in Phuket Town when everything was closed and people were laid back, spending time with their families. Nowadays it is becoming more and more like Bangkok.

This change over time has had both positive and negative effects. As the population increases and more people come from other parts of Thailand to live and work in Phuket, the relative number of "true" Phuketians continues to get smaller.

However, if you want to see the Phuket Town lifestyle of the past, it still exists. Go around town in the morning and you will see people having tea or coffee and chatting with each other. There are also festivals and other projects to promote and preserve Phuket culture, such as the Old Town Festival.

The Old Town Festival has been held for many years now, but it always takes place in the same spot. I think every road has its history and the festival should spread out to include other communities.

Soi Taling Chan would be a good choice, as there are a mix of people of different religions living together in that area. You can see a shrine, a church, a mosque and local life along a canal, all on the



Well-known local photographer **Chusak Uthaipanumas** has been living in Phuket for more than 20 years. Winner of hundreds of photo competitions, Mr Chusak talks here about the changes he has chronicled through his lens over the years.

same soi.

I think feedback would be much better if the festival were not always held at the same time; it can be boring.

Also, I think the project to go underground with power lines should be expanded. It's a great idea, but it would be even better if they could do the whole city.

As a photographer taking pictures of architecture, power lines are the most annoying thing. In addition to "going underground", buildings should be renovated in a more uniform style, for better looks.

The history of Phuket isn't confined to Thalung Road or Sino-Portuguese style architec-

ture. The tourism promotions are too focused on that.

More interesting is the culture there and life in other places too, because Phuket people not only live in town. They should promote other places too, such as the sea gypsy villages.

Although there have been many changes along with the population increase, there are still many beautiful things to see in Phuket. The important thing is timing.

If you want to see something beautiful, or to get a great photo, you don't need to go to Laem Phromthep.

You can try other spots at the right time, like Sarasin bridge or Khao Kad viewpoint.

## Can I catch the Airport Bus to work?

I have considered using the Phuket Airport Bus to commute to work, but I understand it only stops to pick up passengers at specific points and none of them are very convenient for me as it takes a 15-minute walk to get to them.

Will the Airport Bus pull over anywhere along its route if a passenger hails the driver by waving his hand? I know the pink buses will stop for me, but I am not sure about the Airport Bus.

*Pedestrian  
Phuket Town*

## An officer at Airport Bus Phuket replies:

We cannot really say "Yes, we can pull over anywhere along the route."

We would like to be able to do so, but we don't want to create conflict with the local "blue buses" or *songthaew*; we don't want to steal their customers. That's why

you have to wait at our scheduled stops, or you can call our office at 076-232371 and we will ask our driver to pick you up at your location along our route.

For additional information, please send us an email to [info@airportbusphuket.com](mailto:info@airportbusphuket.com) or visit our website at [www.airportbusphuket.com](http://www.airportbusphuket.com).

## Living in the 'hood of howling live music

There is a restaurant (venue name withheld) on Wiset Rd that is close to a residential area and has live music until 4am, seven days a week. Is this permitted?

*Name supplied  
Phuket*

## An officer at Muang District Office replies:

The restaurant you are talking about is in a residential area and not in any of the entertainment zones, and is licensed to only sell food and beverage, including alcohol.

If a venue is licensed as a "restaurant", it must close by midnight and cannot play loud music, especially not music so loud that it annoys people in the area. We have never given permission for this particular restaurant to operate as an entertainment venue.

Even so, if an establishment is in an entertainment zone and is licensed to sell food, beverage, alcohol and provide live music, it must close by 1am.

You can file a complaint at the Damrongtham Center at Phuket Provincial Hall, or email them at [dumrongtum\\_phuket@hotmail.com](mailto:dumrongtum_phuket@hotmail.com). You can also call their hotline at 1567 or their offices at 076-213203.

## An officer at the Rawai Municipality Health and Environmental Division replies:

You can also file a complaint form at our office and we will send a staff member to check on the location. Our offices are located on Wiset Rd in Moo 6, Rawai, or call us at 076-613801 or email [info@rawai.go.th](mailto:info@rawai.go.th).

# Burmese rights to human rights

## Island View

By Nicholas Altstadt

Do you have an opinion to voice?  
Email [Editor@PhuketGazette.net](mailto:Editor@PhuketGazette.net)



Burmese kids are also suffering.

AS HOTELS and luxury development projects continue to pop up around the island and sales agents contend for buyers, the thousands of men and women working sun up to sun down to make this possible are facing an ever-so-uncertain future.

It is no secret that a large percentage, if not an overwhelming majority, of manual labor in Phuket is done by Burmese migrant workers who for various reasons have made their way to the holiday island out of desperation – of a need to earn more money, however small the sum may be.

Speculation on numbers ranges from 50,000 to 500,000 Burmese laborers in Phuket, a large proportion of whom are undocumented and illegal.

In an ambitious push toward legalizing and protecting "all workers in Thailand", the government has set in motion a process that first requires verification of foreign workers' identity and nationality. This has unsurprisingly proved to be a major challenge.

Phuket has requested the verification of the nationality of 50,000 foreign workers and are awaiting response from the governments of Burma, Cambodia and Laos.

If the names are verified, the individual will then begin their personal quest to obtain official identification from their homelands – no small task for someone earning less than US\$2 a day.

One obvious question comes to mind: What about the people whose identities are not verified? To this, it seems, Thai immigration has no official answer, yet.

People found to be working here illegally automatically qualify for deportation, and on the heels of the launch of the new verification process, Thai immigration has stepped up efforts to arrest illegal immigrants.

This has pushed the number of

arrested illegal aliens in Phuket to over 7,000 at the half-year mark. With such large numbers of people being arrested and supposedly deported, one might wonder how the deportations are carried out.

A major border crossing and deportation point with Burma at Mae Sot has been closed for over two weeks at the time of writing amid reports that Burmese citizens were being deported to the paramilitary Democratic Karen Buddhist Army, whose practices are well-known for being far from ethical.

It is all too clear that more questions will be raised than answered – and they need to be raised. However, regardless of immigration status, the difficulties faced by Burmese workers in Phuket must be addressed.

More community-based organizations must be developed and put into action to help provide integration with local communities, education, healthcare, and basic human rights protection for migrant workers; if not for everyone, at least the children.

Regardless of immigration status, the difficulties faced by Burmese workers in Phuket must be addressed.

## ...asking the questions that affect you



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# 'Post-crisis' tourism recovering

By Alexandra Andersson

DESPITE political and economic challenges, Phuket's tourism industry is proving to be resilient.

Tourist Association of Thailand (TAT) Phuket office director Bangornrat Chinaprayoon acknowledges this, saying that although 2010 tourist arrivals have fallen short of the expected 20% year-on-year increase, the recovery figures indicate that good news may be on the horizon.

This year's first quarter started with a bang, with a 30-40% jump in tourist arrivals over the same period last year.

March and April, however, saw arrivals slump as political turmoil gripped the capital and travel warnings spread worldwide. But the market is showing signs of bouncing back.

The Ministry of Tourism and Sports reported that international tourist arrivals between January



Despite political woes, tourism numbers are still higher over the same period last year. Photo: Gazette file

and June – which includes the period of the worst of the political turmoil – was up 13.7% nationwide over the same period last year.

Interestingly, while the Ministry's arrival numbers are up, reports from media outlets point out a drop in hotel occupancy

over the first half of the year.

The Thai Hotel Association (THA) president Prakrit Chinamornpong said, "Occupancy rates across the country should be at approximately 65 to 70%, but this year dropped to 40 to 50%," *TTR weekly* reports.

Although hotel occupancy figures may be bleak nationwide, Phuket is only experiencing a slight reduction in occupancy.

The South of Thailand Hotel Business Association director Suchart Hirankanokkul said Phuket had a 55.74% occupancy

rate in July, down a mere 1.39% from last year.

This was a marked improvement on the previous month in Phuket, when occupancy stood at 45.5%.

Hirankanokkul is optimistic about the slow upward trend: "If there are no more problems this year, the [occupancy rate] recovery should continue".

Regionally, Phuket fared better than Phang Nga (12%) and Krabi (28%) in terms of occupancy.

This was expected, according to Hirankanokkul, who explained that Phuket usually holds up better than its neighboring provinces in the rainy season since it has more indoor activities to offer.

Chinaprayoon said representatives from the TAT would continue to support Phuket's recovery by travelling to Australia in September as part of a roadshow to promote Phuket. The show has already stopped in South Korea, Hong Kong and Indonesia this year.

## Investors going for gold

ALONG with diamonds, gold is considered a truly precious item to possess. Its allure is universal and Phuket's Thai community is certainly a practitioner of the old adage "When in doubt, buy gold".

The ongoing financial crisis has made its appeal as a global investment choice even more appealing.

A decade ago, even so-called financial "experts" considered gold to be a poor asset choice. Gordon Brown, the dour Scottish puritan and ex British Prime Minister, infamously managed to sell half of the UK's 700 tons of gold reserves at an average price of US \$276 an ounce.

With prices currently sitting

### Island Investor

By Bill Anderson

solid at about US \$1,200 an ounce, it didn't prove to be one of Gordon's most astute investment decisions, to say the least.

Much has been written about the possibility that gold is now in a price "bubble", otherwise known as a price that is not supported by fundamentals and is sure to burst. However, the facts clearly don't support this fear.

Currently only 0.8% of all global financial assets are invested in gold, gold shares and Exchange

Traded Funds invested in gold.

In 1932 the allocation was 20%, and in the early 1980's it was 26%. Clearly, it's not over-owned now.

If, for example, 2% of all global financial assets were to be invested in gold, it would equate to demand of approximately 85,000 tons – or the total global gold mining output for 34 years. It is clear which way the price would move in that scenario.

Additionally, it is now an established trend for sovereign wealth funds (Government Investment Funds) to buy gold assets as a means to diversify away from traditional holdings, such as US Treasuries, UK Gilts and currencies.

These days, all investment eyes inevitably turn towards China and in the case of gold, it is a distinctly bullish picture. China has more than doubled its gold reserves in recent years with current holdings of 1,054 tons. However, this still only accounts for 1.5% of China's total foreign exchange reserves.

The investment case for holding a portion of one's assets in



Gold assets are a safe investment in an unstable market. Photo: Flickr

gold or gold-related investment funds is clear.

With the global financial crisis still far from over, the possibility of another severe downturn in equity markets is very real. In addition, gold is increasingly being viewed as a "currency" in itself – with the added advantage of not being controlled by governments.

Gold reserves are finite – more cannot be "created" overnight. The desire for governments and individuals alike to diversify the risk and hold a portion of their assets in gold is a sensible move that is unlikely to change in the near future.

What are the drawbacks? Well,

holding physical gold provides no yield and therefore a return can only be achieved if the price continues to rise. Also, in the unlikely scenario of the world getting smartly back on its investment and economic growth feet, the appeal of holding the shiny metal will diminish somewhat.

Therefore, unless an investor believes another global "financial meltdown" is definitely just around the corner, then an investment in gold-related assets should only constitute a portion of one's investment portfolio.

One of the best ways to gain exposure to gold assets is to invest in a diversified offshore investment fund. For example, the Blackrock Gold and General Fund invests in a diverse range of gold, silver and platinum mining companies.

This long-established fund has produced an average annual return of over 26% for the last ten years and has the highest performance ranking from the independent fund rating group Morningstar.

Gold may still be considered by many as jewelry rather than an investment. However, in these troubled times it should also be viewed as a "financial meltdown" insurance policy.

Bill Anderson is the Phuket Associate Director of MBMG International.  
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# Diversifying the island's art trade

By Nicky Vermeulen

WHEN Eric Smulders, one of Phuket's leading art dealers, announced he was closing his Soul of Asia gallery in town, alarm bells went off in the island's commercial art sector.

With dealerships in town and in Surin, Mr Smulders has worked in Phuket's commercial art market for the past decade.

In the last five years he has gone from seven galleries to one, but he still sees growth potential in the island's commercial art market.

Mr Smulders said the art market is currently in a state of flux and dealers have to tailor their products to meet the consumers' needs. He hopes that a recently acquired collection of antique English silver artifacts and further concentration on the high-end market should complete his adjustment to the changed market conditions.

Mr Smulders will continue his art business, but will realign it with the changed market trends, concentrat-

ing on his Surin operation.

But with floods of cheap knock-off prints and antiques, investment in "luxury" items has dwindled due to the economic crisis, and caused damage to Phuket's commercial art sector.

In 2003 the island's art market had an annual turnover of about 800 million baht, but "Every year for the last few years, Phuket or Thailand has been dealt a blow that affects the economy...It started to change with the tsunami, but accelerated with the global financial crisis," according to Mr Smulders.

He explained that his stores, and the many others like them serve a niche market: "Most tourists can't, or won't, pay in the region of 300,000 baht for an antique piece of furniture imported from China, or a three million baht Salvador Dali sculpture," he said.

When he opened his business in 2000, Mr Smulders was one of three art and antiques dealers in Phuket.

Today the market is overwhelmed, and the reputation of art and antique dealers has diminished



Phuket art dealer Mausuni Mawing, due to issues with authenticity.

Another reason for the declining interest in the high-end art scene is the availability of what Mr Smulders calls "The New-Old" fad piquing customer's interest.

Making cheap knock-off materials look aged by finishing processes has attracted many art lover's to these much cheaper pieces, rather than expensive originals.

This trend is damaging the art trade in Phuket, and Thailand.

But while sales in Phuket's art market are suffering, other dealers are diversifying their business portfolio to reel in new revenue.



MAN IN THE KNOW: Art and antique dealer Eric Smulders.

Mausuni Mawing, who runs the Baan Sai-Nam gallery in Phuket Town, said, for him, business is on the up this year.

He reports a 70-80% rise in profits from January-July last year, but not in sales of his original pieces, but in profits made

from his art classes.

"The problems in Bangkok have not affected my business this year as I'm devoting most of my time to creating art classes," he said.

Mr Mawing said that this year has been a good one due to a hike in interest in art classes.

by Benz Choengwattana

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# Sorcerer struggles to work his magic

## Film

By Scott Phillips

### The Sorcerer's Apprentice

**Director:** Jon Turteltaub

**Starring:** Nicolas Cage, Jay Baruchel, Alfred Molina, Teresa Palmer

**Genre:** Action/Adventure/Fantasy

**Gazette Rating:** 3/5

THE *Sorcerer's Apprentice* feels like a two-hour introduction to a ride at Disney World.

That's not necessarily bad, because the Disney vibe is usually a good one. Though mindless and corny, it guarantees fast-paced entertainment, dazzling special effects and a stage in which a hero must defeat a villain to win over the girl of his dreams.

At the same time, the Disney

formula is one that anyone who's been around for more than 12 years will have seen many times before.

Jay Baruchel plays Dave, a college physics nerd who spends too much time working on experiments and too little time with girls. Nicolas Cage, in a fun but routine performance, is Balthazar, a centuries-old sorcerer on the search for the descendant of Merlin, known in the world of sorcery as "The Prime Merlinian". This person is the only one who holds the ability to save the world from the will of an evil sorcerer.

If this sounds corny, you've got the tone of the film down perfect.

Part of what makes the story bearable for adults is its constant effort to empathize with Dave, the exact type of persona that will enjoy this movie. He is a modern-day nerd; sincere and well-intended, but a bit neurotic and definitely not cool. We sympathize

with him from early on.

The film opens with a younger Dave wandering into a Manhattan magic shop during an elementary school field trip, which turns out to be the abode of Balthazar. He tells Dave he's been waiting for him to save the world, but an evil sorcerer suddenly appears to pick a fight with Balthazar.

Some water spills on Dave's lap as the battle ensues. His classmates show up just as the sorcerers disappear, and think Dave peed his pants. He earns a reputation as the school pant-wetter, and this whole debacle – obviously – puts a bitter taste in Dave's mouth towards sorcery. And it is quite possibly what drove him into physics.

Ten years later, however, the sorcerers return, and Dave must accept his fate. He does so willingly, once he learns that sorcery can impress the bombshell blonde he's got his eye on.



Nicolas Cage plays centuries-old Balthazar in *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*.

Call me cynical, but I have no reservations about the following: In real life, this girl would not like Dave.

But therein lies the key to what makes *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* fun. It's not meant to be realistic, inspiring, moving, or intense – it's meant to make a hero of a shy guy who lots of young boys will connect with by giving him powers to shoot plasma balls, fly through New York City on a metal grif-

fon, and learn magic from a cool sorcerer.

The film also makes a wise attempt to be funny, with emphasis on attempt. While more than a few jokes are cracked, none of them are really that funny, and that's where it is likely to lose its adult audience. The effort, though, at least means that the characters are never taking themselves too seriously, and that saves them from complete failure.

## What else is on...

### The Last Airbender

**Director:** M. Night Shyamalan

**Starring:** Noah Ringer, Dev Patel, Nicola Peltz, Jackson Rathbone

**Genre:** Action/Adventure/Fantasy

**Gazette Rating:** 1.5/5

A world in which civilization is divided into the four kingdoms of Water, Air, Earth and Fire is threatened when fascists from the Fire realm start conquering, leaving it up to a young Air Avatar to save the day. An adaptation of a former animated series, the film has a dedicated fan base despite being Shyamalan's worst movie to date.



### Tukky

**Director:** Pornchai Hongrattanaporn

**Starring:** Sudarat Budprom, Chusak Aiamsuk, Kom Chuanchun, Louis Scott

**Genre:** Comedy/Fantasy/Romance

**Gazette Rating:** 2.5/5

Tukky, a fairly clumsy and obnoxious woman, magically becomes the princess of a place called Padangrawee and must quickly learn to rule the throne in service of her people while escaping the plot of some evildoers. It's typical slapstick-style Thai comedy, but is better than most and likely to earn a few silly laughs.



## Phuket on the big screen

IN THE midst of a boom in independent film in Thailand, Phuket is set to make its debut as an on-screen subject at a special Bangkok premiere on September 30.

The focus comes on the heels of a Thai film, *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives*, winning the top prize at this year's Cannes Film Festival, widely considered to be one of the world's most prestigious film festivals.

The 30-minute film, aptly titled *Phuket*, stars Korean actress Lim Su-jeong and seasoned Thai star Sorapong Chatree, and is directed by Aditya Assarat.

The story revolves around a Korean superstar who travels to Phuket for a holiday, only to be bombarded by fans. She calls on the help of her driver to show her the quiet and charming side of the island, and a friendship forms.



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# Around the world, onto the menu

CHEF Angelo Magliaro is an expert in fusing flavors from around the world. Having spent 22 years working in kitchens throughout Italy, South and Central America, Austria, Germany and China, his latest job has him stirring his melting pot of culinary influences in Phuket, where local residents can only hope he stays for a while.

As the new head chef of Impiana Resort's Sala Bua restaurant in Patong, Chef Angelo is extending his worldly experience to include Thailand. He is currently in the process of creating a new menu for the restaurant, a portion of which is available now.

Dishes like Fresh Phuket Lobster Risotto, Pan-Fried Tiger Prawns, and Andaman Red Snapper combine the signature herbs and flavors of Thailand with other spices from around the world.

Chef Angelo says the key to his menu at Sala Bua is using just the right amount of Thai spice so that it complements, but doesn't overwhelm, the other flavors.

One of the new dishes at Sala Bua is Sea Bass en Papillote, which the chef has provided a simplified recipe for (right).

With a perfect balance of lemony-zest, fragrant wine and Mediterranean flavors, the recipe is a glowing example of the unique style he has brought to Phuket.

The creamy seafood dish combines the best of Phuket's ingredients with others from around the world: Phuket shrimp and squid, Japanese scallops, Greek olives, Italian wine and olive oil, and the quintessential Thai chili flakes.

Italian cuisine, however, remains the strongest influence in Chef Angelo's dishes.

Born and raised in Rome with four brothers, he was exposed to



## In the Kitchen

with Chef Angelo

the art of cooking at an early age. He quickly came to admire his mother's talent for preparing savory Italian meals for a family of seven.

"My mother is an excellent cook, so as a kid I started to enjoy getting my 'hands dirty' while helping the big 'Mama'. Now the kitchen is where I feel I can express myself."

His cooking career began in Italy at the famous Grand Hotel Helio Cabala in Rome, where he found himself working under the guidance of four world-renowned Italian chefs, all with Michelin stars.

Since then, his work has taken him all over the world, some of which was with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, an experience he says helped develop his passion for food.

His most recent position was at the Sheraton in Shenzhen,

## Sea bass with Mediterranean sauce and lemon butter cream

### Ingredients:

160g sea bass fillet  
2g capers  
2g garlic  
10g Kalamata olives  
40g cherry tomatoes (halved)  
3g Italian parsley (chopped)  
20g Japanese scallops  
30g shrimp  
40g squid  
40g mussels  
20ml white wine  
15ml Italian extra virgin olive oil  
5g flour  
10g butter  
Salt, black pepper, chili flakes

### For lemon butter cream:

10g butter  
2g shallots  
1 lemon (skin/juice)  
30ml whipping cream  
Salt, black pepper, chili flakes

### Preparation:

Lightly flour the sea bass fillet and season with salt and pepper. Cook in a pan with extra virgin olive oil.

Coat the base of a separate pan with more olive oil, then add garlic, chili flakes, parsley, capers, olives, scallops, squid, shrimps



A delicious seafood dish to impress. Photos: Pimwara Choksakulpan

and mussels. Cook lightly while slowly pouring in the white wine.

### Mediterranean Sauce:

Mix butter and flour together in a separate container and pour in the leftover sauce from the pan, creating a cream.

### Lemon butter cream:

Pour the butter and chopped shallots into a pan.

Add lemon zest and lemon juice and cook gently while slowly pour-

ing in the whipping cream. Reduce everything to a sauce.

Take a hot dish and pour the Mediterranean sauce.

Top with sea bass fillets and seafood-vegetable mix. Add more sauce on top and drizzle the lemon cream on top of the sauce to create a marble-like appearance.

### Optional garnish:

Flour a thin and continuous strip of potato and deep-fry. Present with a fried sea bass fin.

China, where he worked as the Italian Chef de Cuisine for a little over a year.

As a frequent visitor to holiday hotspots in Thailand, Angelo then decided to come to Phuket, where he hopes to stay for some time.

However long that may be, Angelo ensures guests at Sala Bua will experience a taste of the best of what's around.

— Scott Phillips

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# Paul James

PAUL James has been one of Patong Beach's most entrepreneurial and successful hospitality managers. He was a frequent visitor to Phuket during the 1980s when he worked in the Middle East.

In 1986, he opened the Expat Bar in Patong's Soi Bangla. It immediately met with success. The following year, with a group of investors, he broke ground to build the Expat Hotel which became a second home for a host of Australian and other expat workers on holiday from all over the world.

Paul has stayed at the helm of operations of the Expat Hotel for more than 20 years.

"We only have 47 rooms, all around our central swimming area, and they stay quite full with our returning guests from Sweden and Australia. Our sports bar has weekly pool competitions. For many years, the Expat Hotel was the home for Phuket's Hash House Harriers. In 1990, when I was the Grand Master, we bid to host an Interhash which brought 2,300 hashers to the island."

Paul was born outside London. He lost his father while still a young boy and took small jobs during the holidays as a house painter and paper boy to help with family expenses. After finishing school, he started working in a chartered

## EXPAT gallery

By Bruce Stanley

accountant's office. But he was still young and wanted more adventure.

He went to the Channel Islands and worked odd jobs, from picking strawberries to laboring in a rock quarry. His mother insisted he return to school to finish his qualifications for accountancy and he obliged. He picked up enough good marks in economics and politics to qualify for entrance to the London School of Economics. After a three year course of study, he held a Bachelor of Science in Economics.

Again, the young Paul was restless. He had worked in temporary accounting jobs during his studies and after graduation but gave it all up to travel and live in France where he worked for a furniture removal company and later as a temporary accountant in Paris.

He then headed to the Middle East for the big money, working first in Saudi Arabia as an accountant for an Aramco commercial diving contractor and then in Bahrain as an accountant for

Brown & Root who fabricated offshore drilling platforms.

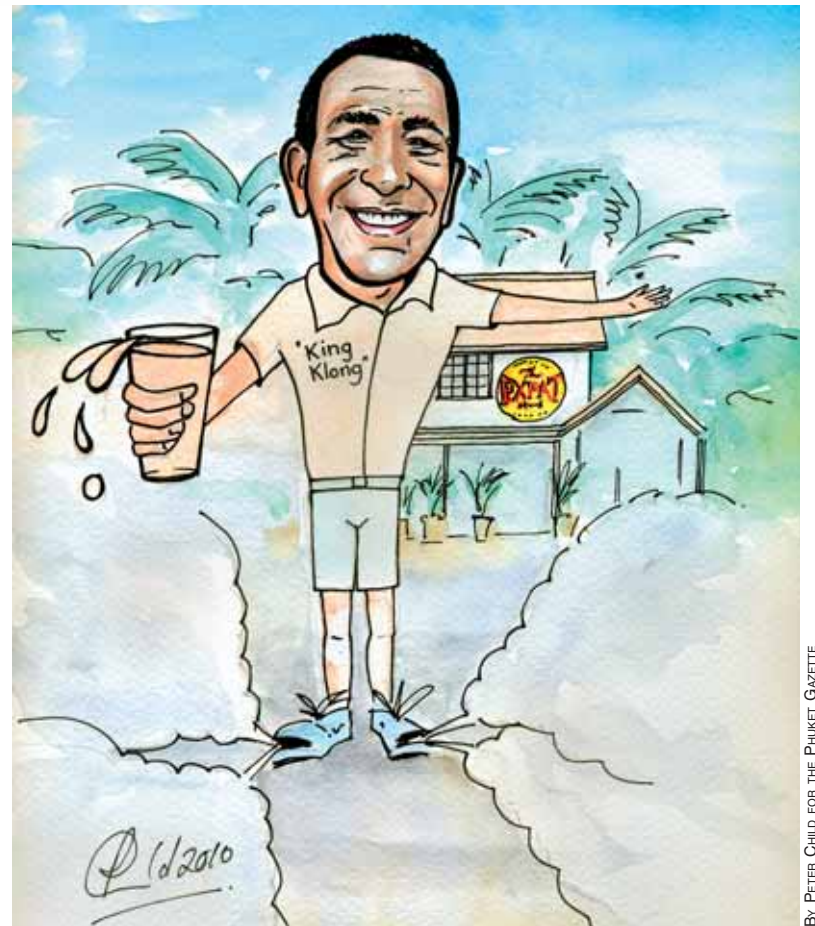
Paul spent much of the mid-1980s working in Iraq. He was the project accountant for the quantity surveyors for a major civil construction project in Baghdad. And during his holidays, he came to Thailand for relaxation.

"At one point, I left Bagdad and set up business with a Burmese partner in an import and distribution operation as I was hooked on living in Thailand. When that didn't work out, I returned to Baghdad with Thai language tapes and spent three years learning to speak, read and write Thai as I knew I would return to live on Phuket."

He met his Thai wife while he was building the Expat Hotel. They now have two sons. He applied for Thai residency 13 years ago and is now in the process of becoming a Thai citizen. He has passed the Thai language tests and has sung the National Anthem and the King's Song to an audience.

Paul was appointed the first consular correspondent in Phuket for the British Embassy in 1994, a position he held until he passed it on to Alan Cooke MBE in 2001.

"I've been fortunate to build a good life here in Patong. The key has been good relationships with other businesses and officials in the community. I'm expanding with a major renovation of our restaurant to keep improving the quality of the hotel. Our revenues are growing. Life is good."



BY PETER CHILD 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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# Hua Hin tops for handicapped

By Lesley Chittayanon

WHILE a handful of resorts and tour operators are thinking outside the standard-sized box, Phuket remains largely inaccessible to physically challenged travelers.

Navigating urban areas in Phuket can be extremely challenging for wheelchair-bound tourists. Pavements are uneven and often obstructed by advertising boards.

Few buildings provide ramps or handrails, and many doorways are too narrow to allow wheelchairs to pass through.

Disabled visitors are limited to touring the island by taxi and while many taxi drivers are often helpful, they are not trained to assist disabled passengers.

Fortunately, there are some wheelchair-friendly destinations within easy reach of Phuket.

Thanks to an informative blog published by disabled residents, Hanneke and Jan van der Linde, the beach resort of Hua Hin is emerging as a shiny new pin on the disabled traveler's wall map.

Hua Hin is best known as a

royal retreat and popular weekend escape for wealthy Bangkokians.

However, international tourists are also well catered for, including those with physical disabilities.

Thanks to its royal heritage, Hua Hin remains unblemished by the rash of girly bars and jet skis commonly associated with tourism; one of the Kingdom's earliest resort areas it retains its quaint charm and is a blissfully peaceful retreat.

The grandeur of Old Siam echoes from the town's quaint streets and colonial mansions, including Thailand's oldest hotel which was originally built as a venue for royal parties thrown by H.M. the Queen.

Jan, who is wheelchair bound, and his wife Hanneke, enjoy life in Hua Hin, and recommend the town as a holiday destination for disabled travelers.

The couple have designed and built two holiday homes, fully adapted for wheelchair users.

Both include features such as electrically adjustable beds, roll-in showers and manual pool hoists.

The downtown location suits



**FOLLOWING SUIT:** Hua Hin is following Singapore's lead (above) with wheelchair-friendly tourist attractions.

travellers who enjoy easy access to markets and restaurants, while pool villa guests are only a quick roll from the beach, a massage and some bars.

Their travel blog, which can be read at [www.wheelchairthailand.blogspot.com](http://www.wheelchairthailand.blogspot.com) provides useful information for the disabled visitor, such as details of accessible temples, markets and bars for

viewing live sports coverage.

Hanneke explains, "We believe Hua Hin is a good destination for wheelchair users and has an array of attractions, including the teak wood palace, the beach, temple grounds and shopping malls, are relatively easy to access, as well as many cultural shows, bars and restaurants."

Hanneke says Phuket's acces-

sibility needs a complete overhaul in order for it to become a destination physically challenged travellers can enjoy, starting with public transportation. After all, without transport, travel is impossible.

An accessible destination needs to offer more than a disabled toilet and parking space; every aspect of travel needs to be considered, said Hanneke.

## Disabled wakeboarder: 'It's not easy on Phuket'

DISABLED French wakeboarder Bastien Perret, who is on a six month solo world wakeboarding tour, made a stopover on the island last week to enjoy one of Phuket's most popular disabled-friendly attractions: the Phuket Cable Ski.

After a horrific kitesurfing accident in 2005, Bastien, 32, was left disabled from the waist down.

His attitude remains positive however: "Life is not over because you are in a wheelchair, you can still have a good time and enjoy life. I want to show people that it's not impossible, you can do a lot of things and you can travel the world in a wheelchair".

"It's not easy in Phuket at all, and there are hardly any venues with wheelchair access," he said.



While on Phuket, Bastien spent most days amazing onlookers at Phuket Cable Ski with his wakeboarding skills on his custom-made wakeboard

— Nicky Vermeulen

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# Storm brewing over world's strongest beer

THE makers of the world's strongest and most expensive beer, The End of History – featuring dead animals as the bottle jackets – have been slammed for being “perverse” and “pushing the boundaries of acceptability” in the UK.

Made by BrewDog of Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, The End of History has a 55% alcohol content and costs a whopping UK£500 a bottle.

Two Scottish groups, Advocates for Animals and Alcohol Focus Scotland, both condemned the product after it was found that the brew used seven dead stoats, four squirrels and a hare, said to be roadkill, in its marketing campaign.



crazy fool's newsround

BrewDog Managing Director James Watt said: “We want to show people there is an alternative to corporate beers, introduce them to a completely new approach to beer and elevate the status of beer in our culture.”

But critics have slammed BrewDog as being “perverse”.

This isn't the first time BrewDog has made the headlines with its products. After being locked in a long-running battle for top spot in the World's Strongest Beer race with German brewery Schorschbrau, BrewDog seems to currently be on top of the world. But in the past year, the brewery had been criticized for its high alcohol content beers.

BrewDog's new End of History beer pushes the boundaries of strength, and sanity.

In a freezing process whereby every last drop of the “crazy water” is literally squeezed from the mix, Watt reminds us, “This is the beer to end all beers.”

So, dispense with your battery acid, forget the rocket fuel and



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Brewdog's line up of ridiculously strong Scottish beers.

have one of these for the road, but not too much, as only a shot in a tumbler glass is recommended.

If it's The End of History you're after, why not take it as it comes: in bottles of decoratively restored road-kill of either

stoat, squirrel or hare, which have been lovingly reconstructed by a taxidermist. Bottoms up.

See [www.cfnr.co.uk](http://www.cfnr.co.uk) for more of Crazy Fool's rants and takes on this week's news and sport.

# Octopus oracle: 'I just pick the fat ones'

## Tsowndings

By S. TSOW

AS A spinoff to the recent World Cup furor, the world has been set agog by the prognostical skills of a psychic German octopus named Paul. He correctly predicted the outcome of all the games involving Germany, and topped up this triumph by predicting Spain's victory over Holland in the final.

Ours is an age badly in need of heroes, and a psychic octopus is exactly the kind of hero we deserve. An interview with this fabulous creature might go something like this:

Me: Hey, Paul! The whole world wants to know: how you do it?

Paul: How I do what?

Me: You know, pick the winners in

the World Cup football games.

Paul: Is that what all the fuss is about? What's the World Cup? What's a football game? I don't do anything, man. They put me in a tank with two transparent plastic boxes. Each one has a picture on the outside and a tasty mussel on the inside. I just go for the fattest mussel.

Me: You mean that's it? You don't know you're picking the team that's going to win the game? What are you – a cretin? Those “pictures” on the outside of the boxes are the national flags of the countries whose teams are competing. Didn't you know that?

Paul: Hey, I'm an octopus. How would I know anything about flags? I just go for the fattest mussel.

Me: Well, the whole world is buzzing about your prognosticatory skills.

Paul: If it makes you guys happy, that's great. Just keep those mussels coming.

Me: Er, well, there's bad news, Paul baby. The World Cup is over.

Paul: What? You mean no more mussels? They're going to starve me to death?

Me: Maybe not. Do you do other sports? How about winning lottery numbers? Elections? Wars?

Paul: Hey, I'll do anything to keep those mussels coming. Sports? Lottery numbers? Elections? Wars? Sure, bring 'em on.

Me: For instance, we in Thailand would like to know about our political future. Who's going to end up winning control of this mess – Abhisit or Thaksin? Which one would you pick?

Paul: I'd pick the fattest one. Don't

you have anybody who's fat? Anyway, next time you have an election, set up a mussel pick, and I'll see what I can do. I'm not really big on sports, but I'm a political junkie. I would have had trouble

picking the winner in the last American presidential election, though. Obama and McCain. Sheesh. Both too skinny.

To tell the truth, I don't like being called Paul. Terrible name for

an octopus. I should have a name beginning with O. Oswald, Oscar, Ollie, Otis, Otto. Better still, a classical Roman name: Octavius, because of my eight arms.

S. Tsow can be flamed at [s.tsow@gmail.com](mailto:s.tsow@gmail.com), except when he's wondering whether Paul likes his mussels to be handsome or square-faced.





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## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

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

The 10-session course "Introduction to Baladi" teaches beginner techniques for aspiring belly dancers and is being conducted by the famous Malika. All beginners are welcome. Participants need shorts and a hip scarf to start. Tickets are 600 baht per person, per session. Held Sundays from 12:30pm-2pm, RPM Health Club. For further information contact Murat Can Sakarya. T: 081-797 3364 E: muratc@royalphuketmarina.com

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

The Laguna Phuket Summer Family Festival is for kids and parents. There will be a bouncy castle, flying trapeze and "Kidz Lounge" with activities for the young ones. Parents can enjoy 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

### Aug 7-8. PIA's Kids Adventure Weekend

All kids aged 6-14 are invited to camp overnight on PIA's adventure weekend. The emphasis of the camp is to help students develop self esteem, confidence, and leadership qualities. Contact Khun Nok for more information. T: 076-376000. W: phuketinternationalacademy.com

### August 8. Phuket Yacht Club Race and BBQ

Come enjoy the Yacht Club's latest race at Ao Yon. The event offers something for everyone: beach, boats, beer and a BBQ. From 10am-4pm. For racing details call Andrew 081-789 41530. For general information please contact Donna. T: 086-120 0752 E: phuketyachtclub@gmail.com

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

Sports & Leisure Club's Kids Camps are made up of a weekly program broken down into different sections. Each day will combine sports, arts and adventure. 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 12. HM The Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday

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

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

The Passion for Perfume Program at The Pavillions is conducted by world-renowned perfumer Stephen V. Dowthwaite. He will help attendees create a personal scent. Price for the two-day workshop is 7,000++ baht. From 9am-5pm. For more information please contact Sophie Couturier T: 076-317600 E: rm.phuket@thepavillionsresorts.com W: thepavillionsresorts.com

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

PIWC's August lunch will be held at Indochine in Kamala, from 11:30am-2pm. Everyone is welcome. Members: 450 baht; guests 600 baht. It is necessary to register in advance. This is a monthly event; the next one will be on September 16. Contact Carole Dux for more information: T: 076-200730 E: arnulphy@loxinfo.co.th W: phuketiwcc.com

### August 20. Curry Fridays at Navrang Mahal

Come enjoy an authentic Indian curry buffet on alternate Fridays. Selections include Chicken Tikka Masala, Mutton Vindaloo, juicy kebabs and much more. All you can eat for 399 baht. Draught beer by the glass for 50 baht and special discounts on other drinks. At Navrang Mahal India Restaurant at Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa. From 7pm-11:30pm. For reservations, please call: 076-286464, ext 4. For further information contact Mr. Seemant Raju. T: 081-629 5063. E: sm@karonseasand.com W: karonseasand.com

### September 5. Amateur Golf Open Tournament

The third round of the tournament to find Phuket's best amateur golfer is being held at the Blue Canyon Country Club's Lakes Course. Trophies will be awarded to the top three players in each flight. The top two places in each flight join the 12 qualifiers from the previous rounds in the season-ending Master's event, to be held in May 2011. From 12pm-3pm. Contact Neil or Mark T: 087-856 4426 E: phuketamateurgolfopen@gmail.com W: phuketamateurgolfopen.com

### October 1-3. Asian Hospitality & Travel Show

The Asian Hospitality & Travel Show will bring together suppliers and exhibitors in industries from all over Asia and will offer professionally coordinated business appointments between sellers and suppliers. 2,000+ visitors are expected. From 11am-8pm at Central Festival Exhibition Centre. Contact Simon Samaan for more information. T: 084-768 0536 E: simon@eventsthailand.net W: eventsthailand.net

## Live Music Extravaganza at Friendship Beach – August 10



The event will feature performances by The Colin 'Illy' Hill Band, The Little Rock Band, Rockin Angels, Groove Doctors and more. Admission includes a special buffet, all for only 270 baht. For Reservations, please call Charlie on 089-728 5304. From 6:30pm -10:30pm at Friendship Beach Resort in Rawai. E: bookings@atmanjai.com

### October 23. End of Buddhist Lent Day (Ok Pansa)

On this day, the three-month rain retreat for Buddhist Lent (Khao Pansa) is over for the monks.

### October 23. Chulalongkorn Day – Public Holiday

This holiday commemorates the reign of Rama V, who is best remembered for abolishing slavery in Thailand.

### November 2-7. 2010 Swatch FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour for women.

Over 70 of the world's top volleyball teams will take part in this year's tournament. Volleyball clinics and an amateur tournament will be ongoing. Admission

is free. From 9am-6:30pm at Karon Beach. Contact Geoffrey Rowe T: 02-311 3414 E: geoffrey@pentanglepromotions.com W: pentanglepromotions.com

### November 13. 'One Night in Rio' PIWC's Annual Party

The Phuket International Women's Club annual fund raising event will be held at The Hilton from 6:30pm-1am under the theme "One Night in Rio". Tickets are 3,000 baht, inclusive of Latin American cocktails, buffet dinner, drinks and entertainment. Early bird discount for tickets purchased by September 30. Contact Sue T: 087-277 6948 E: info@phuketiwcc.com W: phuketiwcc.com

## Free Computer Clinics

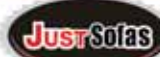
Is Windows driving you NUTS? Want to know about the best Internet connections in Phuket? Need help finding a repair shop or a dealer that knows what they're doing? Join *For Dummies...* author and local Windows guru Woody Leonhard in his FREE weekly seminars. Sponsored by Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes and the *Phuket Gazette*.

Laguna - August 8

Chalong - August 15, 22 and 29

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# YOUR Phuket



Children from the British International School enjoyed a month of fun activities at the school's annual Summer Adventure Camp program.



Celebrating Swiss National Day at the Moevenpick Resort on August 1 were (from left): Head of Chancery at the Swiss Embassy Bernhard Bienz with wife Debora, President of the Swiss Society Phuket Beat Schwager and German Honorary Consul Dirk Naumann.



## Pic

Chusak Utha  
his photo Ch  
10,000 baht



Sakorn Sae  
second prize  
(Golden Way  
awarded 6,0  
of achievem

## Family fest raises

By Nicky Vermeulen

JULY 31 saw the end of Laguna Phuket's Summer Family Festival celebrated with a special Art Party at the Canal Village shopping center.

"The Art Party was held to mark the end of Christopher Hogan's artist residency and showcase the results of his creative art initiative with Baan Jao Krue School," said Suthasinee Rukmit, Director of Community Relations for Laguna.

The event was also held to raise funds for a Corporate Social Responsibility program through the sales of the children's paintings and raffle tickets for Christopher's signed painting.


All 26 paintings were sold, with some paying double the winning bid to help meet the target goal of 100,000 baht.

Local resident Cassi Potger bid 10,000 baht for the drop-cloth the children used to paint on, which was not even an original auction item.

Luke White (top), 8, from England, gets a phoenix painted on his face by Paint Pittidee.

Nikita Davis (right), 9, swings to and fro on the trapeze at Laguna's Canal Village Art Party.





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# Picture perfect Wichit

ippanumas won Wichit Municipality's "Travel Thai Way in Wichit" photo contest with Weewit Haeng Sai Nam Mudong (Life of Mudong Canal, left). Chusak was awarded a certificate of achievement for his photo.



ngtongsamarnsin won for Rew Cluen Si Thong (Life of Mudong Canal, above). Sakorn was awarded 4,000 baht and a certificate of achievement.



Teerapat Patsopanapon claimed third place with Yuen Yad (Standing Still, above) to take home 4,000 baht and a certificate of achievement.

# s thousands



Christopher Hogan with one of his art students, 5-year-old Leila Okumura.

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**WORD DETECTIVE**

All the words listed below appear in the puzzle - horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backwards. Find them and circle them. If you are an especially skilled word detective, you may also find an additional 'secret word' hidden in the puzzle.

**Theme: Phuket beaches**

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

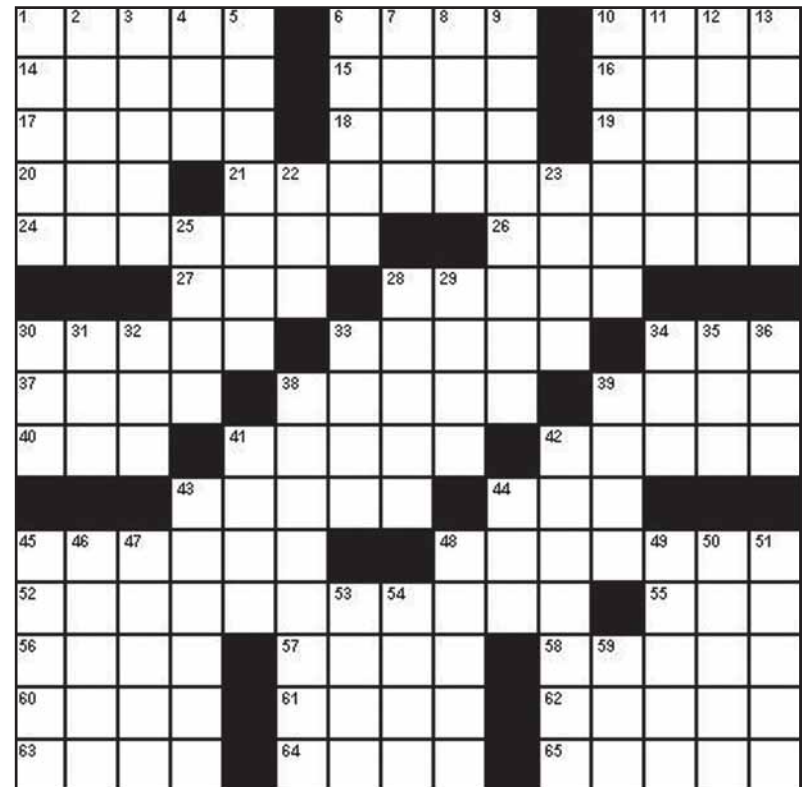
Nai Harn, Surin, Kata, Karon, Friendship, Rawai, Ao Yon, Mai Khao, Bang Tao, Kamala, Le Phang, Nai Yang, Kalim, Emerald, Paradise, Nui, Nai Thon, Leam Sing, Tri Trang, Laem Son, Relax Bay.

**Across**

1. Mass of eggs
6. Old Dodge model
10. Jump lightly
14. Forbidden
15. Carbonized fuel
16. Mandlikova of tennis
17. Goes into business
18. Implement
19. Adjoin
20. Cry \_\_\_ River
21. Transform
24. Like a Humvee in Baghdad?
26. Person who fishes
27. Boy king
28. Eccentric
30. Give guns again
33. Cowboy display
34. Architect I.M.
37. First name in scat
38. Broadcast
39. "It's \_\_\_ real"
40. Penpoint
41. Faucet stuff
42. Goddess of tillage
43. Nostrils
44. Garden tool
45. A number to be summed
48. Assume
52. Reliable
55. "Respect for Acting" author Hagen
56. Em, e.g.
57. Off-Broadway theater award
58. Little bits
60. Receiver Jerry
61. Deep affection
62. Gentle push
63. Brain wave
64. Examine by touch
65. Vulgar

**Down**

1. Mouthlike opening
2. It beats rock
3. At right angles to a ships length
4. Succeeded
5. Panacea
6. Group of eight
7. Earth's satellite
8. Greek temple



9. Bringing bad fortune
10. Unkempt
11. Capital of Afghanistan
12. Accustom
13. Mum's mate
22. Not emp.
23. A big fan of
25. Other, in Oaxaca
28. Skin openings
29. Baltic feeder
30. Cartoon dog
31. Biblical high priest
32. Long-sleeved linen vestment
33. Baptism, e.g.
34. A piece

35. Shoebox letters
36. Connections
38. Striped, hyena-like mammal
39. High-pitched tone
41. Wish for
42. Imitative
43. Lipton competitor
44. Come again?
45. Pong maker
46. Celtic priest
47. Dolt
48. Alloy of iron and carbon
49. Top
50. Male deer
51. Alleviates
53. It's blown among the reeds
54. Split apart
59. Belonging to us

Provided by BestCrosswords.com  
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*Puzzle solutions on page 29*

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Stay with tried and trusted formulas where work is concerned. Leos could be tempted to throw caution to the wind, but the stars advise that failure will result. Your romantic luck is positive until the middle of August, although pride could cause a minor disagreement this weekend. Those with a birthday in the week ahead are forecast to find new like-minded friends in the coming year.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): An act of kindness is likely to backfire early next week. Virgos are advised to concentrate on their own needs before rushing to help others. Money matters are better highlighted and the stars suggest that a financial reward could take you by surprise before the middle of August. A water sign is waiting for you to make the first move, but impressing this person may be more trouble than it's worth.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Librans who have been considering a new career have a change of heart this week. The stars suggest that a job offer within your current field of work could be a more

promising scenario. In the area of romance, attraction to a water sign fades when you see they have a shady side. Those already spoken for need to find the right balance between friends and family this weekend.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Many Scorpios will have their heads in the clouds this week while those around them are firmly grounded. This could lead to communication problems, but the atmosphere is forecast to ease after Wednesday. Romance is your main focus during the remainder of August and meeting another water sign on holiday could brighten up an otherwise boring vacation.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Business efforts continue to pay off for you. Sagittarians who can see an opportunity where others have failed will be successful this week. The stars advise you to try harder with a new romantic relationship before it washes up on the rocks. However, those who were looking for an easy way out will find it this weekend. Personal finances look more fruitful this week and the number nine can be lucky on Thursday.

## YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Life looks up for many of those born under the sign of Capricorn this week. After a tiring start to August, relaxation is highlighted to revitalize during the coming days. Meeting up with an old friend this weekend reminds you of a forgotten social scene. A romantic approach by Virgo comes at a time when you are ready for flirtatious fun, but this person is probably hoping for something more serious.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): You are advised to aim higher than usual this week as the juiciest coconuts are at the top of the tree. Aquarians are well equipped to reach them, but the trick will be to find a comfortable balance between motivation and tension. Where your personal life is concerned, responsibility towards family members becomes the subject for a heated discussion this weekend.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): You are forecast to have the perfect opportunity to prove a point this week. However, Pisceans should be careful when doing so as the stars forecast that your intentions could be misread. The stars forecast that you will step onto a more productive path around the middle of August, but this may involve leaving certain people to find their own direction.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Many of those born under the sign of Aries should be coasting along calmly this week. However, those in a relationship may struggle to keep a peaceful atmosphere at home. You are advised to encourage a workaholic partner to take time off before their stress levels soar. Those who are single find out that an earth sign admires their style. Your financial luck improves and peaks around the middle of the month.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Taureans should believe in the power of positive thinking this week. The stars predict that if you believe strongly enough in something, it will happen. Those who have been feeling tired lately should

consider settling into a quieter rhythm for a while. Where romance is concerned, if you have had your head in the clouds since the start of this month, there are signs that events this weekend could bring you back down to earth.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): At work, you are forecast to be high on the promotion list, but vacation time could get in the way of progress. In the realm of romance, someone who is the apple of your eye could try to take advantage of this status. Geminis are advised to avoid making too many allowances before things get out of hand. Wear charcoal gray to encourage a more practical outlook.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Cancerians should guard against seeing their glass as half-full this week. A somewhat pessimistic mood threatens to affect you until the middle of August. At work, your patience with a difficult colleague could be stretched to the limit. The stars predict that a more pragmatic earth sign is poised to take the situation in hand. Romance with a fire sign is more promising than you imagine.



# PROPERTY Gazette

News | Construction | Gardening | For sale | For rent | Classifieds

By Nicky Vermeulen

PHASE one of a new project by The Village, a 650-million-baht high-end villa resort located on Coconut Island, has been completed and construction work is being carried out on phase two.

With all but five of the 44 villas in phase one sold already, ranging from 20 to 45 million baht, The Village Development Co Ltd, now at an advanced level of construction on the 194 suites in phase two, expect construction work on the phase to be complete by December.

"We are at different stages for all the new features we are adding. Some of the suites are having furniture moved in and others are still having work carried out on the roofs," said The Village's Marketing Manager Jay Walker.

Phase one of the new project is a series of private pool villas situated a few meters from the beach. "Phase two will be our resort suites and those will not be



**VILLAGE VIEW:** Construction work on The Village's new project has entered phase two. Top left: Inside one of phase one's luxury villas.

for sale. They will be used to generate more income to The Village before we begin phase three, which will be 60 two-bedroom pool villas," said Mr Walker.

Of the 194 suites currently underway, 78 are two-bedroom, 157-square-meter Pool Villas and 116 are 45sqm Jacuzzi Suites.

Phase three of the 75 rai development will commence after the upcoming high season, which will see 60 two-bedroom private pool villas taking shape to add to the 44 already completed.

New facilities within The Village's compound will include two restaurants, a villa dining ser-

vice, a New York style delicatessen, a kids club and business center.

Unique to The Village is the 1,000sqm Village Spa that has a state-of-the-art fitness center, a holistic Hamman day spa, a Scandinavian sauna, a herbal steam room and an "ice plunge" pool.

Also within the new complex will be a 25-meter swimming pool, tennis courts, and new shopping outlets. Expanding its tour operations, The Village is also setting up a new tour desk for those who would like to indulge in scuba diving, mountain bike or long tail trips to the surrounding islands.



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## In brief...

## Khao Lak's Ramada Resort gets an upgrade



market has helped highlight the destination's appeal, which already has Le Meridien and the upscale boutique Sarojin.

STABLE growth and good occupancies over the past two years have prompted the owners of the Ramada in Khao Lak to expand the property. Set to be completed by November are an additional 24 rooms and 8 private pool villas, which will come in time for high season. Last year's addition of the leading international brand JW Marriott to Khao Lak's

## Outrigger Laguna snags PATA Gold Award

ONE of Asia's most prestigious travel awards, the PATA (Pacific Asia Travel Association) Gold Award, has been given to Outrigger Laguna Phuket Resort and Villas. Winning in the hospitality marketing category after its successful opening campaign, the property has been able to penetrate the traditional accommodation market on the back of its hospitality-led residential product. Private pool villas remain a key advantage to Phuket's innovative and successful appeal as an international destination.

## Escaping the rains with Holiday Inn

HERE is a rainy season special that might welcome Phuket residents wanting to go to Bangkok for a break or check into a Phuket hotel for a change of scenery. Intercontinental and Holiday Inn have a "Love Thailand" promo on offer for Thai residents from now throughout the end of September. Rates start from 1,350 baht. Sample offerings include InterCon Bangkok (5,500 baht) Phi Phi's Holiday Inn (2,500 baht) and the well-known Holiday Inn Patong (3,120 baht). More details are available at lovesmilesthailand.com.

## DFDL tax seminar targets developers

LEADING legal and taxation firm DFDL Mekong will hold a seminar "Tax Efficient Repatriations of Income from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar" on August 17th at the Dusit Thani Bangkok. Given a growth spurt of many Thai property developers moving into these emerging markets, tax and overseas remittance remains a complicated and often arcane science. Those wishing to attend can email Sebastien.Desvignes@dfdlmekong.com.

## Top villa blunders

BUILDING a new home or villa from scratch on a tropical island is a brave decision. It can be an arduous and drawn-out process trying to find your ideal plot, most sought after designer or builder that fits the bill. Every detail must be scrutinized and that takes time; spades of it.

For some, this process turns out to be a nightmare.

Building from scratch is not necessarily a bad idea, but there are some common mistakes that first-time buyers make along the way. Let's take a moment to go over some of the great villa blunders that seem to occur time and time again.

Knowing the direction of east and west often eludes intelligent individuals. While sunsets and ocean views are all the rage, there is a common tendency for new home shoppers to forget both an early morning tropical sun or exposure to the afternoon's blazing sun can make living spaces unusable.

This doesn't mean a property built in the path of the midday sunlight isn't worth a look, it just means it's going to require some extra features to fix it. Extended overhanging roof lines, solar blinds and – if building has not begun – reorienting the home can often solve this problem.

Consider that Phuket is becoming increasingly populated, has frequent seasonal droughts and lagging infrastructure, and it's easy to see that water is and will remain liquid gold for years to come. Those big infinity pools, posh landscape ponds, oversized bath tubs and lush landscaping all soak up this precious commodity, and could end up costing a lot more than originally anticipated.

Go to the Caribbean and in many places it's unheard of not to capture and store rain water. The use of guttering, substantial long-term storage, eliminating those fancy ponds (which in many cases end up leaking as soon as the villa is handed over) and using native plants that consume less water are all forward-thinking ideas.

Coming in high on the list of potential surprises is the jack-in-the-box expense of energy costs. While the renderings all look



TO INFINITY AND BEYOND: Maintenance costs of infinity pools are often overlooked when designing a new villa. Photo:Flickr



## Property Watch

By Bill Barnett

exotic and wonderful during the planning phase, reality tends to come with a bite with the first electricity bill. Tales of monthly cost of 40,000, 60,000 or even 100,000 baht are not uncommon.

Who hasn't seen villas with a hundred blazing lights on in the middle of the night or the thundering of giant compressors needed to fill the arena-sized living spaces?

The real crunch comes once new home owners start renting out their unit and visitors don't have a care for conserving electricity when they're paying a few thousand dollars a day in rental fees.

Designs that don't account for common knowledge – such as the fact that heat rises – often overlook innovative ventilation or capturing the island breeze to cool down buildings. Insulation, designing custom air flow to fit the location and even the scoffed-at solar alternative, which is all-too often dismissed as "too hard" for Phuket, all need to be considered.

There are also many other issues seasoned vacation homeowners have all seen.

Make sure you plan for enough parking space for all your vehicles. Why so many builders never seem to contemplate the possibility that villa shoppers could own two vehicles remains a mystery.

When it comes to landscaping, remember the tropics. After the first rain of the season, many are surprised to discover a newly-formed rain forest in their villa. Yes, plants do grow exceptionally fast in this part of the world, so start off small in the beginning.

Also use caution with rooftop patios and stunning sunsails, which work so well next to Sydney Harbor or in Maui but here can turn you into something akin to cat on a hot tin roof.

Whatever decisions you may make, there remains one thing for sure: the local ATM is going to be your wingman and close acquaintance throughout the entire process. The devil indeed remains in the details and for the next decade or so, expect the island's handymen or home improvement companies to be a leading growth segment.

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

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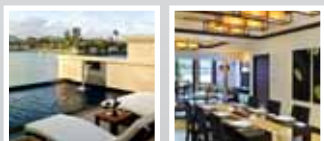
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## New rules for hillside buildings

From page 1

compared with 35% under the previous rules, but with tougher new conditions.

Structures on hillsides with gradients up to 20% are limited to eight meters in height, while those on gradients of 20% to 50% are limited to six meters.

Also, buildings on gradients between 20% and 35% must leave at least 70% of the total property area as "open space".

Buildings on gradients more than 35%, must leave at least 75% of the total property area as "open space", with at least half of the open space as a "green area".

Buildings on slopes of 20% to 35% gradient cannot be larger than 90 square meters and the area of the land must be at least 100 square wah.

On gradients of 35% to 50%, buildings must not be larger than 80sqm in size and the land area must be at least 120 wah.

While the above rules apply generally, they may also be subject to other requirements, such as the "zone" the plot is in and how far it is from the high-tide mark.

— *Atchaa Khamlo*



AWARD WINNERS: Joern Gosewehr (center) with representatives from the winning Krabi hotels. Photo: Agoda

## Krabi hotels scoop Agoda awards, Phuket next in line

By Alexandra Andersson

THE South of Thailand was a big recipient for this year's Agoda Gold Circle Awards and Phuket is next in line for the announcement of five additional winners.

Regional winners included some of Phuket's hottest competition in Krabi and Koh Samui.

The awards were inaugurated in 2009 to recognize excellence in hotels' usage of the internet and the value of their online offers on

Agoda.com. Originally established for properties throughout the Asia-Pacific region, the awards were extended this year to include properties throughout Europe and the United States, for a total of 164 hotels in 52 cities worldwide.

Winfred Fan, Agoda's Business Development VP, along with Oliver Libutzki, Regional Director of Market Management for Southeast Asia, and Joern Gosewehr, Market Manager for Thailand and India, are currently presenting

awards to the winning hotels across the Asia-Pacific region.

Some of the latest hotels to win Gold Circle Awards are in the Krabi region, including Railay Bay Resort and Spa, Phra Nang Inn Hotel, Aonang Orchid Hotel, Phi Phi Island Village Beach Resort & Spa, and Phi Phi Island Cabana.

Phuket hotels are next in line to pick up awards, with the five winners yet to be announced officially. Winners will be announced as the presentations continue.

## Thai firm opens NY branch

THE Thailand Property Showcase Company, which specializes in high end Thai property and real estate, have recently opened a New York office on Park Avenue, placing themselves at the forefront of the Thai property sales market.

In addition to this new office, there is a UK branch and numerous offices in Thailand, giving them access to clientele in three different continents. The Thai branches are located in most of the popular holiday destinations including, Phuket, Bangkok, Chaing Mai, and Pattaya.

The worldwide expansion ensures their properties reach a wider client base, attracting more business from overseas buyers to Phuket and the rest of Thailand.

This move demonstrates the company's faith in the Thai and Phuket real estate sector. CEO Lee Phillips confirms this: "We predict an up-turn in the market towards the end of 2010 and in 2011. We believe we are likely to see significant growth in the real estate and property market, with foreign investors returning to buy property in the tourist hotspots of Phuket and Hua Hin".

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# Get some lookers in your bed

## Gardening

By Green Sleeves

SOME bedding flowers can be cultivated as annuals or perennials. It all depends on such imponderables as the climate, or the predilections of the gardener.

Take *begonias*, for example. They will not tolerate frost, so in temperate zones, they need to be brought indoors for the cold weather if you intend to keep them for more than one season. For this reason, *begonias* are deservedly popular in the United States and the UK, where they grace summer flower beds and hanging baskets, or spend winter indoors in pots.

The genus is huge, comprised of at least 1,500 species, most of which are tropical. In the wild, *begonias* are small, understory plants, needing filtered shade and well-drained, but not dry, soil.

The most popular variety is *semperflorens*, which as its Latin name implies, flowers more-or-less continuously, and which can be further subdivided into fibrous, wax and ever-blooming varieties. The flowers are small, but profusely produced, in shades of pink, red, cream or white, invariably with a bright yellow center or eye.

By way of contrast, the deeply veined leaves are predominantly dark green, with a triangular shape reminiscent of *caladiums*. Like *caladiums*, *begonias* are often grown primarily for their foliage, especially *begonia rex*, which hails from Assam, and *erythrophylla*, which has deep purple leaves. Propagation is by division or stem cuttings. A real *begonia* bonus: they are immune to most insect and fungal attacks.



**STRIKING:** A flower bed of portulaca, also known as moss rose. Portulacas bloom in a range of vibrant colors and have great resistance to drought.

More likely to catch the eye in Phuket is the *portulaca*. Unlike the *begonia*, which will need some cossetting, the *portulaca* or moss rose is drought resistant and prefers hot and dry conditions, with little in the way of water and nutrients. This is in part because its succulent stems and needle-shaped leaves are primed for desert-like conditions.

*Portulacas* are even lower to the ground than *begonias* – no more than eight inches tall – so they can be used as ground cover. But the real joy is the dramatic, cup-shaped flowers which come in vibrant hues of red, magenta, orange, yellow and white, and

which bloom whenever the sun is caressing them. Because of its immunity to drought, *portulaca* can be grown in crevices and on rockeries. It also grows readily from seed, though nurseries normally carry some in small pots.

Two other annuals/perennials worth thinking about are *rudbeckias* and *gazanias*. Both are daisy-like and belong to the *asteraceae* family, both enjoy full sun, both are mainly yellow in color and require little maintenance. *Rudbeckia fulgida* comes in several varieties, of which the best and longest lasting is the hybrid goldsturm, which has russet and mahogany tones.

Perhaps the best known *rudbeckia* is the one with yellow-gold petals and a black center, popularly known as “black-eyed Susan”. While the hairy leaves are not a plus point, *rudbeckias* make good cut flowers.

Normally about one and a half feet tall, there is one variety, maxima, which rivals the sunflower for size, and is capable of producing five inch blooms on nine foot stems.

On the other hand, *gazanias*, or

treasure flowers, do not reach such heights. In common with *begonias*, they are usually six to twelve inches tall, though the flowers normally rise above the foliage. *Gazanias*, which come from South Africa and can stand plenty of direct sun, are in some ways better bedding plants than *rudbeckias*.

For a start, they come in a broader palette of colors – pink, white, and red as well as the traditional yellow and orange.

Moreover, the leaves are attractively notched and in some hybrids, notably ringens, are a pleasing silver-gray hue.

Given the right conditions, *gazanias* will quickly cover the ground with a dense mat of these leaves. But they may struggle in Phuket's monsoon season, for they dislike conditions that are both hot and humid.

Worth a try nonetheless, if you can find them. If plants are not available, packets of seed most certainly are.

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

## Tip of the week

### Struggling leelawadees

A READER recently wrote in to say that her leelawadees (plumerias or frangipanis) were under the weather.

She wrote: “As soon as the rainy season starts, the fresh green leaves turn to yellow-brown after which they drop. It looks like they are covered with an orange [deposit].”

The culprit is almost certainly rust, which now affects plumerias worldwide, typically leaving small yellowish pustules under the discolored leaves.

A possible cure is a spray with a copper-based fungicide, such as Bordeaux mixture. Prior feeding with a high-potash fertilizer (check the ratio of potassium on the packet) will help prevent the condition. Leelawadees dislike wet roots, so ensure that the soil is well-drained.

  
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for sale. Modern Sino-Portuguese house, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and a built-in kitchen. Quiet area, near Tesco Kathu. Price: 8.9 million baht. Tel: 076-346269, 081-803 8061. Email: [meeboon@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:meeboon@hotmail.co.uk)

**PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG**

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

**HOUSE FOR SALE IN KATHU**

Small nice house on 72 sqm for sale. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 kitchen and 1 living room. Close to khatu waterfall, in a nice and relaxed area. Price: 1.65 million baht. Tel: 089-881 7310 (Thai), 088-444 7914 (English). Email: [Brian@qcode.dk](mailto:Brian@qcode.dk)

**BAN PARICHARD**

house for sale. Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms. Many extra. Price: 3.5 million baht. Tel: 086-475 9242.

**TOWNHOUSE 2.2MTB**  
Villa 3 Park, Phuket Town/Chalong, 3-bedroom townhouse, 90sqm, Chanote title. Renovated. For quick sale 2.2 million baht. Tel: 081-788 8280.

**NEW DETACHED HOUSE**

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

**SURIN BEACH**

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 rai, 5 mins walk to Surin Beach. Email: [costello@hotmail.net.au](mailto:costello@hotmail.net.au)

**48 RAI KHAO LAK / BANG SAK**

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

**LAND NEAR NANAI**

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

**3 RAI LAND IN TRANG**

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

**SALE APARTMENT IN PATONG**

New condo with pool, 46sqm, furnished, freehold. Price: 2.9 million baht. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: [thamad17@yahoo.com](mailto:thamad17@yahoo.com)

**ALAMANDA APARTMENT FOR SALE**

One-bedroom Alamanda apartment for sale, golf course view. Price: 3.9 million baht. Tel: +65-91-157 254. Email: [bgevens@singnet.com.sg](mailto:bgevens@singnet.com.sg)

**URGENT SALE POOL VILLA**

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big living room combined with European kitchen, built-in furniture, hot water on all taps, swimming pool with Jacuzzi, car park, storage rooms, garden, etc. Central location in Tai Muang (between Phuket and Khao Lak) in Phang Nga province. Long-term rent: 15,000 baht per month. Or for sale freehold or leasehold: 3.8 million baht. Tel: 076-239820, 089-471 4676. Email: [anders@latitude1maritime.com](mailto:anders@latitude1maritime.com)

**PHUKET VILLA CONDO PATONG**

Executive condo, furnished, swimming pool, building complete, 42sqm, 1 bedroom (Type A), Chanote (foreigner) freehold. Price: 4.15 million baht. Tel: 076-344405, 087-173 1773 (English), 089-474 6670 (Thai). Fax: 076-344405. Email: [seanthepilot@hotmail.com](mailto:seanthepilot@hotmail.com)

**HOUSE ON THE WATERFRONT**

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

**SEAVIEW LAND IN AO POR**

For sale. 2 rai, 90sq wah with Chanote title. In Laem Thong, Ao Por. Sale price: 7.5 million baht o.n.o. No agent! Tel: 087-270 9093.

**2-STORY HOUSE IN PATONG**

sea view. 50 Pi Road, 49sqw. 4 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, aircon, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 17 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: [a.pueng@gmail.com](mailto:a.pueng@gmail.com)

**HEAVEN ON EARTH**

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

**LIVELY HOUSE IN RAWAI**

In 111sq. wah of land. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and space around. No furniture, renovated sale for 3.9 million baht o.n.o. Contact to view or for more info. Tel: 087-689 9679, 084-052 2400.

**RAWAI 4 APARTMENTS ONE SALE**

close to pier. Exclusive private property, with 4 apartments, pool and big terrace. All together 6.9 million baht including furnishings. Tel: 081-788 8280.

**LOCATION AND QUALITY**

New condo in Patong, with pool and gym. Sale apartment 43sqm, finished, freehold 3.16 million baht. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: [thamad17@yahoo.com](mailto:thamad17@yahoo.com)

**2.9 MILLION BAHT PER RAI**

4 rai in developed estate. 2 mins from golf course, 10 mins to Airport. For quick sale only 2.9 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: [montha\\_phuket@yahoo.com](mailto:montha_phuket@yahoo.com)

**LAND IN BANG TAO**

Nice land (2,173sqm), 500 meters to beach, next to the Oxygen Project. Suitable for project and private villa. Tel: 081-371 9393.

**17 RAI WITH PALM TREES**

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

**LAND & HOUSE FOR SALE**

House on 1 rai of land - corner plot, superb location. 5 mins from Nai Harn Beach. Tel: 076-288988, 081-691 9679, 081-892 1057 (English & Thai). Email: [service@phuket-consult.com](mailto:service@phuket-consult.com)

**NEW DELUXE CONDO**

Best location in Patong. Sale apartment 83sqm, 6th floor, nice view, fully furnished. Freehold 8 million baht. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: [thamad17@yahoo.com](mailto:thamad17@yahoo.com)

**LAND FOR SALE**

Code L269 19.99 rai Naka yai island. Beachfront code L06336 76.49 rai Hillside near Loch Palm Golf Club Kathu district 10 land plots Haaduti project Por bay. Tel: 081-408 4991. [www.kkasset.com](http://www.kkasset.com)

**BEACHFRONT LAND**

Ready to build, 3.5 rai with 90 meters ocean frontage and view to Yacht Haven Marina. Surrounded by a very natural and peaceful environment. The ideal place for relaxing and a secure investment. For sale direct from the owner for only 5.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-343 0777. Email: [montha\\_phuket@yahoo.com](mailto:montha_phuket@yahoo.com)

**CHEAP LAND FOR SALE**

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

**BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND**

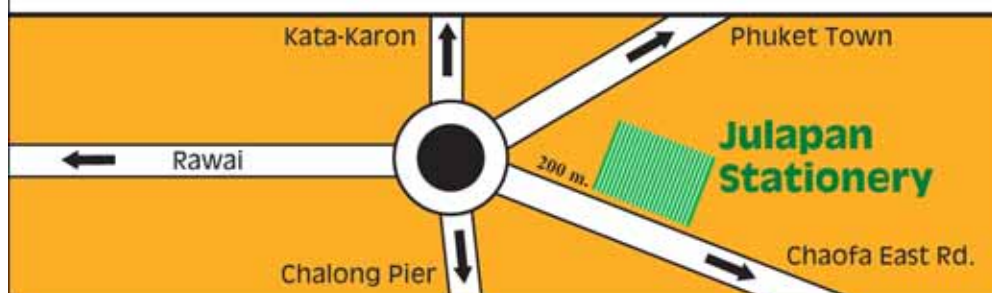
9.5 rai, beachfront. 5 minutes to Phuket airport. Asking price: 120 million baht. Chanote. Must see. No agents. Email: [allservices29@gmail.com](mailto:allservices29@gmail.com)

**NICE PLOT**

for sale. Near Layan Hill Estate (Manik-Bangjo area), ready to build housing. Price: 4.7 million baht. Chanote title included. Please contact owner. Tel: 081-538 7050. Email: [pakaporns@yahoo.com](mailto:pakaporns@yahoo.com)

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- Raymarine radar and Sat TV
- Raymarine autopilot
- Paguro genset
- Airconditioned
- Victron inverter

\$495,000 USD

► **Simons 56 (2005)**

REDUCED

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► **Swan CS42 (2007)**

\$600,000 AUD

► **Al Dhaen 360SF (2008)**

REDUCED TO SELL

\$100,000 USD

► **Crownline 315SCN (2008)**

4,200,000 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  
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**KING'S 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

**DUNCANSON 30 SLOOP**

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

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

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

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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.

**BOAT + INCOME 5 MILLION BAHT**

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

**TRAILER**

3-year 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.

**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

**MOTORSAILER**

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

**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

**BOAT FOR SALE**

Seaworthy & strong 35ft. Island Runabout (Thai registration). Fish or fun. 115Hp Isuzu 4 stroke. Diesel twin-disk 2:1 marine trans. Includes Honda 6.5 winch, Furuno Fcl-600L color LCD souter, Furuno VHP FM 3000 radio telephone, portable diesel transfer pump 12/24V, portable air pump 12V. Sell or trade for Isuzu/Toyota. 4-door pickup (equal value). Call for more information. Tel: 081-978 0860.

**33' MOTORSAILER**

Neptunian. New paint and varnish. Single-handed bluewater cruiser. Many upgrades. Email or call Marcus for details. Tel: 081-968 1437 (English). Email: bobedward1@hotmail.com

**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?**

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**SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES**

Word detective secret word: Patong  
Crossword puzzle:



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To ensure clarity, please airmail. Do not Fax!



# Island Job Mart

**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  
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Email: [info@dgallery.co.th](mailto:info@dgallery.co.th)  
[www.dgallery.co.th](http://www.dgallery.co.th)

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[www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm](http://www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm)

## 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)

## 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. Email: [neung@phuketmarbella.com](mailto:neung@phuketmarbella.com)

## HOUSEKEEPING COUPLE

Wanted for a villa in Boat Lagoon. A lady to do all house-keeping work and a skillful handyman. Good command of Thai and English mandatory. 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)

## EARN 40,000 BAHT MONTHLY

Work permit provided. Want an outgoing, positive person, 20-40 years old. Must speak English. Email: [podgetto@hotmail.com](mailto:podgetto@hotmail.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)

## 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)

## PADI DIVING INSTRUCTOR

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



## 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



## 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)



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>

## 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

# Phuket Gazette

The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following positions:

## Web Programmer (3 positions)

### General Duties:

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

### Requirements:

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

## Web promoter & IT support (1 position)

### General Duties:

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

### Requirements:

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

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV by email to [big@phuketgazette.net](mailto:big@phuketgazette.net)

### The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

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### 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 desired salary 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)



## Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project



### SEEKING EXPERIENCED CANDIDATES FOR COMMUNICATION LIAISON POSITION

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

The BOBLME Project will soon be based in Phuket. We want to establish a local presence, encourage a sense of ownership among stakeholders in the eight participating countries; promote BOBLME as a major source of information and advice; and communicate the results and progress of the project to stakeholders, especially within the coastal communities. One of the major tasks in 2010 will be to set up 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 at [chris.obrien@fao.org](mailto:chris.obrien@fao.org) by June 11, 2010. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.



## Career Opportunity

VS Asia Co., Ltd. was established in Phuket, and has over 10 years experience in printing & information technology and post-production for clients in Europe, Asia and worldwide, through our business partnership's headquarter's in Europe.

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

### Text & Content Editor

**Job Description:**

- Proof reading, fact checking and correcting
- Combination of text and figure page layout
- Editing text programs
- Art and design
- Ability to work as part of a team and cooperat with related departments

**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 computers (Windows or Macintosh) and internet
- High degree of responsibility and punctuality
- Able to work in shifts with a team or independently
- Experience in text editor would be an advantage

**Salary & Welfare:**

- Salary, social security insurance, tax, food, etc.
- Incentive bonus: depends on candidates quality, skills and experience.

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](mailto:info@vsdma.com)






### The Island Pools Group of Companies

**Thailand's Most Comprehensive Pool Business**  
We are urgently seeking to fill 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 player, highly intelligent and creative qualities are all needed to lead a growing business with 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 e-mail 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>

### PR MANAGER/ ADMINISTRATOR

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

### POOL CLEANER

Full-time position in Chalong area. Salary includes social security. Please contact for more info. Tel: 081-893 4661, 081-975 8351. Email: [valiant@loxinfo.co.th](mailto: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.

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Tel: 086-604 1333 (English). Email: [sales@ccblosses.com](mailto:sales@ccblosses.com)

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Seeking the following:

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### PERSONAL ASSISTANT NEEDED

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

### 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](mailto:unikorn_jr@yahoo.com)

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For further details, please see our website at [www.latitude1maritime.com](http://www.latitude1maritime.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)

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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
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- Thai national

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

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## Articles For Sale

### HOME THEATRE

Bose acoustic mass 15 for sale + bass charger. Contact: Jram. Tel: 080-067 6700.

### POOL TABLE

Hardly used, as new! Rosewood color, carved legs. Price: 30,000 baht. Tel: 089-073 1180.

### DEHUMIDIFIER FOR SALE

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

### 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).

### 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

### 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

### SONY PS3 & ACCESSORIES

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

### SWEDISH CANDY/ SNACKS

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

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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.

### BAGLESS VACUUM CLEANER

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### 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

### 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

### 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, Garnish Island, Co, Cork, Ireland' 118 x 89cm. Price: 550 baht. Tel: 086-9402111 (English), 087-270 7698 (English & Thai). Email: tom\_woods6@hotmail.com

### GARMIN GPSMAP 60CX

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

### CAR SEAT BASKET

Two used car seat baskets. Brand: Cool Kids. Model: Bono. Price: 1,000 baht each. Tel: 085-151 5319 (English & Thai). Email: wilair@yahoo.com

### BED AND MATTRESS FOR SALE

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

### HARDWOOD BENCH SEAT

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

### TEAK, RATTAN FURNITURE

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

## Bar & Restaurant Equipment

### PATONG BAR SALE 800,000 THB

Fully equipped bar in Sai Nam Yen rd. (Bel Aire Plaza). Everything new. Business with profits even in low season. Including staff. Selling because owner is leaving Phuket. Monthly rent: 18,400 baht. Tel: 080-142 7581. Email: bentmi nutti@gmail.com

## Bulletins

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

For Phuket info (English) call 081-8912895, 081-8954763 or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

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

Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City  
Fri 7 PM

Patong Hospital - Patong  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun 17 PM

Green Man Restaurant - Chalong  
Tue 1 PM

Scandinavian Speaking Meetings-Karon  
Tue and Sat 7 PM (Nov-April only)  
Tel: 086-9440460 Swe, 082-2765998 Ncr

For info on other Thailand AA meetings inquire @ 02-23118300 (for Thai language press 3)  
www.aathailand.org or email: info@aathailand.org

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Please call K. Carol (Tel: 087-417 8860) or K. Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948). Or email: info@phuketiwclub.com

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### Qualified Babysitter Needed!

- ▶ A lady who has had experience before
- ▶ Be fluent in English
- ▶ Be able to stay in Yao Noi Island

*We offer a worth salary and benefit!*

The interesting candidates please contact:

**K.Thitaree Intrachai**

Tel: 081-9526773 E-mail: aranya\_tu@hotmail.com

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Promenade Plaza on Nanai Road. Fully equipped, new everything. Sale price: 179,000 baht. Rent price: 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-828 7505.

### RESTAURANT FOR SALE



New and modern restaurant in a good location in Nai Harn, near Da Vinci, with 60 seats. In tropical garden, well equipped with a European and Thai kitchen, large bar counter and car parking. Sale with built in furniture at only 2.3 million baht. Rental fee 110,000 baht for one year. Tel: 084-837 4429.

### GUESTHOUSE BAKERY

Restaurant for sale in Kata. Full equipments. Near the beach. Tel: 083-639 4268.

### HOTEL (BUSINESS FOR SALE)

Nice, 4-story hotel with 20 fully furnished rooms, restaurant, Jacuzzi, roof pool, garden, Nanai Rd. Magnificent view of Patong business for sale (5+ years). Tel: 081-693 9642.

### INVESTOR NEEDED

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### FOR SALE PHUKET KARON BEACH

Front hotel, 11 rooms+restaurant pizzeria. All furnished, 4-year contract. Price 1.75 million baht. Tel: 081-894 7273.

### BUSINESS FOR SALE

Salon, 12 bedrooms, Patong beach Rd. Price: 4 million baht. Call Khun Yuu. Tel: 081-428 7894.

### SHOP HOUSE IN KATHU

for rent. 4 floors, 4 aircon. Fully furnished apartment on third floor. Very good location only 26,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-432 6587.

### SHOP FOR SALE

Shop for sale on beach road, Patong. Price: 450,000 baht. Call K. Kyuu. Tel: 081-428 7894.

### INTERNET CAFE FOR SALE

Near Prince of Songkla University. Shop with small built-in bedroom. Only 250,000 baht. Call for more details at the number: 080-698 0873.

### SALE SHOP PATONG BEACH

Very good location, front of the street. Shortcut to Bangla Road, at the Kee Plaza. About 30sqm. Ready to open. 2½ year contract direct to the owner. For sale at only 230,000 baht. Tel: 02-860 4196, 086-548 4111 (English & Thai), 087-365 0670 (English & Thai). Fax: 02-860 4196. Email: zabede@gmail.com

### SALON AND MASSAGE 800,000

Salon and massage parlor for sale. Price: 800,000 baht. 2 units located in (Bel Aire Plaza) Sai Nam Yen Rd. Everything new. Fully equipped business ready for takeover. Monthly rent rate: 32,500 baht. For sale because owner is leaving Phuket. Tel: 080-142 7581 (English). Email: bentminutti@gmail.com

### BEACH HOTEL & RESTAURANT

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### BEAUTY SALON

For sale. Located only 100 meters from Jungceylon, Patong. Rental agreement unlimited. All furniture under guarantee. Rent: 8,000 baht per month. Sale: 750,000 baht with stock. Contact for more info at: marcoworld1@hotmail.com

### FITNESS COMPANY FOR SALE

30,000 baht for the fitness equipment. 60,000 baht for equipment and website, signs, brochures, and phone number. Tel: 081-477 4884.

### PATONG RESTAURANT/ BAR SALE

Modern, 10 tables, Thai/western food, 14 months left on lease with 3-year option for renewal. Located at 2 had Patong road kra-thu. Sale price: 395,000 baht. Owner moving overseas so good price for quick sale. Tel: 081-141 6092, 080-623 1163 (English). Email: janey\_991@hotmail.com

### ROOFTOP RESTAURANT FOR RENT

on the top floor of Sinthavee Hotel, Phuket Town. Convenient for a restaurant or bar. Also, a discotheque on the 2nd floor (with license). Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

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**BACKGAMMON**  
Retired Businessman looking for Backgammon Players in Phuket. Tel: 081-577 8443.

## Computers

**HP LAPTOP**  
1 year old. Manufacturer: Hewlett-Packard Model: HP Pavilion dv7 Notebook PC Processor: Intel(R) Core(TM)2 Quad CPU Q9000 @ 2.00GHz 2.00 GHz memory (RAM): 4.00 GB Graphics: ATI Mobility Radeon HD 4650 system type: 32 bit. Asking price: 72,000 baht - negotiable. Tel: 087-628 5150. Email: brookfield48@hotmail.com

**MAC FOR SALE**  
Mac Snow Leopard. OS X 10.6.2, Intel 2.66 GHz, Core 2 Duo, 4GB, 1067 MHz, DDR3 and Comes with keyboard. All like new! Only 30,000 baht! Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-072 2328.

**LADY SEEKING COMPANION**  
Would like to share my life with man age 30-45. Please feel free to contact. Tel: 087-747 0387 (English & Thai). Email: sunisadia@hotmail.com

## Pets

**DOG SITTING OFFER IN RAWAI**  
Baan Tommy dog sitting service in a closed, quiet garden area for days, weeks or month. No cages! Tel: 076-226611, 082-113 4799 (English & Thai), 080-040 2013 (English). Email: emorn\_bee@hotmail.com

**PERSIAN KITTENS**  
Persian kittens for sale: 3,500 baht. Persian mix 1,500 baht. Tel: 081-271 8923.

## Dive Gear

**SALE DIVE TANK**  
Three 7 liter tanks, one 8-liter. All steel + din vale at 5,500 baht. Tel: 080-718 1686.

## Ring Watches & Jewelry

**NECKLACE/ EARRINGS**  
Red/white gold, in box from Nappin and Webb (UK). Original price: 24,000 baht, will sell at 20,000 baht. Tel: 085-641 1801.

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Tel: 076-263687 Mobile: 081 823 4627, 085 7821200  
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All advertising must be paid for in advance.





The three Thai teens (fourth from left bottom line, and far right) with their European teammates.

# Thai youths shoot for European dream

By James Goyder

THREE boys from the Youth Football Home (YFH) recently returned from an impressive performance at the Helsinki Cup in Finland, one of the most prestigious youth tournaments in European youth football.

Suthee Wanthor, Wuttichai, and Nattaphon were all invited to play with the Kapylan Pallo under 15s team for the tournament.

Kapylan Pollo may not have won the tournament, but the boys from YFH made a big impression. Out of a total of seven goals scored by the team, six of them came from the three-man Thai contingent.

Hannu Tuukkanen, the manager of YFH, believes it is essential to the boys' development as players that they get to experience European football.

"Before they went to Finland, we talked about a lot of things,

like the tempo and the tackling, which are very different in Europe from Thailand. They really put their heart and soul into every match. They learned very fast, particularly once the tackles started flying in," he said.

Wanthor, better known as Nong, particularly enjoyed the trip: "I had a really good time. The weather was good and people were very friendly. We saw one Finnish league game and we also met Markku Kanerva, the coach of the Finland Under 21 team. I want to play in Europe one day; that is my target, and if I could choose any country it would be Germany," he said.

YFH has some strong links with German football. Uwe Bein, who was part of the German squad that won the World Cup in 1990, is a regular visitor to Phuket.

A couple of boys from YFH

travel every year to spend a few weeks training with German teams.

YFH also has a number of high profile supporters, including Liam Brady, who is the head of youth football development at Arsenal and Jens Keller, who is assistant coach at VFB Stuttgart.

For Phuket, this could create more opportunities for boys to play professional football abroad, should they show the necessary ability and commitment.

"In this country there are many youth players with potential. If they can't play against top European teams and join European clubs when they are young, I don't see any future for them as professional footballers in Europe. It is important that Thailand gets some of its key players to play in European football," Tuukkanen concluded.

## Under-16s youth cup kicks off

THE Prime Minister's Cup, a tournament for the best under 16 football teams in the region is currently underway in Phuket.

The competition began on July 31 while Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva was coincidentally in Phuket for a political "crisis conference".

The 10 teams that qualified from their individual region, have been divided into two groups of five. Teams in the two groups will play each other once, with the top two teams going to the semi finals.

Matches are taking place at three venues around the island: Surakul Stadium in Phuket Town, Chong Talay School and the FIFA Pitch in Cape Panwa.

The final match is scheduled to take place at a later date in Bangkok.

It was something of a surprise when Phuket qualified for the competition and it would be even more surprising if they managed



Phuket Under-16s won the first match of the cup. Photo: James Goyder

to finish in the top two places in Group B and progress to the next round.

The other teams they are up against in the group are Surin, Chonburi, Chang Mai and Konkaen.

Phuket got off to the best possible start, taking three points from their opening group game against Surin, but needed a penalty shoot-out to do so.

The match finished in a 3-3 draw at the end of normal time. Under tournament rules, a penalty shoot-out was then used to decide which team would be awarded the win. In the end, Phuket triumphed when Surin blazed a crucial penalty high and wide at

Surakul Stadium.

Coach Chairat Sukban, who is also the deputy mayor of Patong was pleased with the performance but anxious to play down his team's chances of success.

"It will be very tough for us to win this tournament because there are other teams representing areas like Bangkok that are much bigger, and some teams from areas that have sports schools with boys from all over Thailandl.

Group A consists of sides from Supanburi, Bangkok, Pattalung, Patum Thani and Nakhon Sawan.

For a full report from the tournament see next weeks *Phuket Gazette*.

— *Phuket Gazette*

## FC Phuket score another victory

### Current standings: Division Two (Southern Section)

Rank	Team	Points	Rank	Team	Points
1	FC Phuket	40	8	Phattalung FC	25
2	Satun Utd FC	31	9	Pattani FC	25
3	Ranong FC	31	10	Hat Yai FC	21
4	Trang FC	30	11	Nakhon Sri	
5	Surat			Thammarat FC	21
	Thani FC	29	12	Phang Nga FC	18
6	Yala FC	27	13	Chumphon FC	15
7	Krabi FC	26			

Source: ais.co.th/aisleague

By Stephen Fein

FIRST-PLACE FC Phuket won a key football match on August 1, with a clutch 2-1 away win over second-place Satun United.

Satun United, coming off a 1-0 win over Hatyai FC, were in high spirits for the match against FC Phuket, who won the first encounter played at Surakul Stadium in March by a score of 2-0.

In second place in Division Two (Southern Section) with 31 points, Satun United hoped to cut FC Phuket's six-point lead in half by taking all three points.

Satun went into the match with no injuries, but FC Phuket were without teenage winger Sarach Yooyen. However, Phuket FC's Ivory Coast trio of Diarra Ali, Nene Bi and Camara Ahmed were all ready for the encounter.

The festive atmosphere started with the large green-shirted "The Hulk" supporters of FC Phuket Southern Sea Kirin presenting a birthday cake to Phuket substitute player Wilas Kerdmoh.

There was also an appearance by Satun Governor Sumeth Chailertwanichakul, who distributed free footballs, paid for out of his own pocket, to excited fans before kickoff.

The match started with Satun United pressing the attack, but after five minutes FC Phuket's Camara Ahmed opened the scoring with a beautiful goal. He received from a throw in near the half way line and carried it along the touchline before cutting inside and curling a shot from the edge

of the penalty area into the top left hand corner.

Satun United came back hard and had some excellent scoring opportunities, but these were foiled by some outstanding saves by FC Phuket keeper Jakkrit Thammasen.

FC Phuket took a 2-0 lead into the locker room with a well-taken goal by Ali, who shook off two defenders inside the penalty area before placing the ball calmly past Satun United keeper Sony.

Satun United's desperate efforts to get back in the match were finally rewarded at 80 minutes on a free kick into the top-right corner of the goal by their captain, Pichet Sadeen.

Satun's failure to get a second goal led to frustration by some fans, who hurled water bottles at injured Phuket player Pongsak Panicharoen as he lay on the turf.

After the match the FC Phuket coaching staff were also targeted. Fortunately, no injuries were reported.

FC Phuket keeper Jakkrit Thammasen was named man of the match.

Phuket FC's next match is at home against Hatyai FC on Sunday. The start time is listed at 5pm, but the kickoff at most matches this year has been around 6pm.

Admission is 50 baht for adults, 20 baht for children.

In other AIS Regional League Division 2 South matches played Sunday: Chumphon FC 3 - 1 Pattani FC; Phang Nga FC 2 - Ranong FC 1; Nakhon Sri Thammarat FC 3 - 0 Yala FC.

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# YEAR 13 GRADUATION



### Congratulations to the class of 2010 on their successful completion of the IB Program at B.I.S., Phuket!

The students and teachers of the 2010 IB Graduating Class are to be highly commended on achieving the highest overall academic results in the history of the school, having exceeded the world-wide IB averages in many subject areas. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, Dr. Arthit Ourairat, Members of the Board, staff and parents extend to the graduates very best wishes in all their future endeavors.

#### The graduates have been accepted by the following colleges and universities:

**UK:** University of York, The University of Edinburgh, Imperial College London, University of Hertfordshire, University College London, University of Exeter, London College of Fashion, Central St Martin's College, University of Loughborough, University of Leeds, Glasgow School of Art **USA:** University of Hawaii, Canisius College, University of the Pacific, University of California, Fashion Institute of Technology **Canada:** University of British Columbia **Australia:** Curtin University of Technology **Austria:** Technical University of Vienna **Switzerland:** Glion Institute of Higher Education **Denmark:** VIA University College **Hong Kong:** University of Hong Kong **Japan:** Nihon Kogakuin College, University of Tokyo **India:** Bangalore Management Academy **Thailand:** Assumption University of Thailand, Mahidol University, Asian University

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