

# Phuket Gazette

ANDAMAN Edition

Volume 17 Issue 38

September 18 - 24, 2010

Daily news at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)

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FOREIGNERS can now take part in the national Census 2010 by completing the data forms online, accessed through the National Statistical Office (NSO) website ([www.nso.go.th](http://www.nso.go.th)).

After several failed attempts, the *Gazette* contacted the NSO and on September 15 was informed by its ICT Center, "The system peaked while you were trying to access it. Sorry for any inconvenience."

"This morning our team has tested the system again to make sure that the system can be done completely. Please try to access again and let us know if you get problem."

The NSO has provided a toll-free Census information hotline at Tel: 1111 and ext 6, with English-speaking operators, they added.

Participants must register to complete the online forms, but can stop at any stage and return later to login and complete any incomplete fields.

As for the failed attempts, the ICT Center replied, "It would be best to use Internet Explorer instead of using Firefox."

## Bar owners fight for later closing times

By Atchaa Khamlo

BAR owners from across Phuket are joining forces with provincial officials in an effort to secure later closing times, and to set entertainment zones in Phuket Town.

Provincial Hall official Wigrom Jaktee told the *Gazette* that a task force will be set up comprising leading officers of relevant agencies and representatives from Phuket's nightlife industry. The move follows a series of meetings between the two parties that drew to a close on September 10.

Leading the charge for bar owners in Patong is Weerawit Kuresombut, of the "Entertainment Association in Patong". He is petitioning for bars in the entertainment zone in Patong to be able to stay open until 5am.

Representatives of bars and nightlife venues in Phuket Town are close behind, asking to be able to stay open until 3am.

This most recent proposal for later closing times was put forward at a September 8 meeting at the Phuket Merlin Hotel between entertainment industry representatives and a provincial committee



A pair of foreigners muse the view on Soi Bangla late at night. Photo: William Cho, Singapore

headed by Vice-Governor Niwit Aroonrat.

A primary topic of discussion was the way operating hours are determined both by the type of entertainment license held by the venue and whether or not it is in a designated "entertainment zone".

The committee heard from provincial officers that there are more than 500 bars in Patong that are

outside the entertainment zone, but that in all of Phuket province, only 313 venues currently have entertainment licenses.

Phuket Town bar owners were told that to even establish the right to ask for later closer times an entertainment zone would first have to be established.

Entertainment zones were set out in Patong and Karon years ago,

but no areas of Phuket Town currently enjoy such privileges.

That didn't stop Phakamas Bootkaew of the Laguna Club in Rawai from asking for "less taxing" attention from the authorities. "We would like the officials who collect fees from bars to be from no more than 10 government organizations... It's costing us bar owners a lot of money," she said.

## Attorney General moves for Aldhouse extradition

THE Office of the Attorney General (OAG) in Bangkok has petitioned UK authorities to place Lee Aldhouse under provisional arrest when he is released from Wormwood Scrubs Prison in London on September 24.

Aldhouse, 28, is wanted for the stabbing murder of former US Marine Dashawn Longfellow in Rawai on August 14. The incident occurred after a brawl between the two earlier that night.

He was arrested at Heathrow Airport on arrival in the UK under an old warrant issued for his recall to prison.

Prosecutor Intranee Sumawong, OAG

Executive Director of International Affairs, told the *Gazette*, "To compile the application as quickly as possible, we asked for his provisional arrest as we have a treaty between us, but we need to provide evidence of who Aldhouse is and what he is wanted for."

"We also filed a prosecution order as they want to make sure we will prosecute him after he is transferred to us."

She explained the application was made through diplomatic channels, via the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "The file is probably now at the Home Office. How long it takes depends on them," she said.

Ms Intranee pointed out that extraditing Aldhouse was a delicate matter. "The British will not extradite their citizens to any country for charges that include execution as punishment. So in the case of Lee, who is facing a charge of premeditated murder, we have to be specially careful."

"The Thai government probably will have to give assurance to the British government that he will not face execution, but that doesn't mean he will not be punished," she said, adding that the "assurance" is likely to have to be a pardon from execution to "something like life imprisonment".

Chalong Police Superintendent Wichit Intorrasorn, the leading officer in the murder investigation in Phuket, said, "This is the fastest extradition case in 10 years. American authorities and the victim's family are happy with our efforts. Right now it depends on England when he will be sent to us."

He added that Aldhouse's girlfriend, who has confessed to playing a key role in helping the fugitive escape Thailand, has agreed to testify against Aldhouse and to cooperate with the police in building their case against him.

— Atchaa Khamlo

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## This Week

### Baywatch Phuket

Aussie lifeguard David Field reveals what lifesaving standards are like on our beaches. **Page 5**

### Film



Resident Evil 3 in 3D is scary for all the wrong reasons. **Page 13**

### Passion for Fashion



Cruise for babes at Andara's charity fashion show. **Page 19**

### Shower in technicolor



Find out how you can test the latest shower craze. **Page 23**

### Classifieds

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

**Pages 25-34**

### Sport



They did it! FC Phuket clinch the Southern Division Two title.

**Page 35**

Friday



24 - 32

Saturday



24 - 32

Sunday



24 - 33

Monday



24 - 33

Tuesday



24 - 33

Wednesday



24 - 33

# Karaoke girl murdered

POLICE on September 4 identified the body of the woman who was raped, murdered and abandoned in the hills just south of Patong. They told the *Gazette* the corpse was that of karaoke hostess Anicha Khaigunha, 21, from Khon Kaen.

Her body was found about three kilometers from Sirirat Rd, half-way between Patong and Karon, by waterworks contractor Ong-ard Kongkaew, 30, about 1pm the day before.

Mr Ong-ard was on his way to conduct checks on water supply pipes further into the hills.

Miss Anicha's head had suffered severe trauma and her body had been covered with large stones, with only her right hand remaining exposed.

Near her body officers found her underwear and a black bra, a used condom, a 20-centimeter long knife, a red T-shirt emblazoned with a skull and the word "Rockers", a mobile phone broken into several pieces, two pairs of black-and-white slippers and two candles: one used, one not.

Chalong Superintendent Police



Police and rescue volunteer workers recover Miss Anicha's body, found deep in the hills south of Patong.

Colonel Wichit Intorrasorn said the prime suspect in the murder investigation was one of the victim's boyfriends, whom he named only as "Maew".

He explained that officers took the clothes found near her body and showed them to as many bars in Patong as was necessary until someone recognized them as be-

longing to Miss Anicha.

He added that she worked at a karaoke bar on Soi Nanai for three months before her murder.

She left Khon Kaen when she was 16 years old, he added.

As Miss Anicha apparently had many boyfriends, Col Wichit said jealousy was the likely motive for the murder. **- Phuket Gazette**

# Business leader calls for action over illegal Burmese

THE Phuket Chamber of Commerce (PCC) is demanding that action be taken to deal with the the large and growing population of Burmese in Phuket.

Dr Sirichai Silapa-archa, PCC chairman and a deputy director at Vachira Phuket Hospital, told the *Gazette* that the number of newborns at Vachira alone ranges from about 60 to 100 a month.

The other two government hospitals, in Thalang and Patong, report about 15 to 20 new Burmese babies each month, he said.

"All together, that works out to about 100 a month, or 1,200 a year," he said.

A recent senate panel meeting held in Phuket was told the population of Burmese in Phuket could be as high as 200,000, a considerable chunk of the estimated 1.2 million in Thailand.

Although collectively referred to as Burmese by Thai authori-

**'We're also asking for cooperation from the organizations involved to not permit pregnant women to work, even if they hold work permits'**

Dr Sirichai Silapa-archa

ties, many if not most of the people in question are not ethnic Burmese, but rather people who hail from lands under the control of the Burmese junta. Many are ethnic Mon.

As the newborn babies of these people fail to qualify for Thai or Burmese citizenship, they represent a large and growing future generation of stateless people who have never known a home other

than Phuket. Such a situation could create social problems in the future, Dr Sirichai said.

The PCC has met with the Phuket Labor Office, the Employment Office and other agencies and groups to consult and try to formulate a policy.

The PCC is proposing four measures to the Labor Ministry to deal with the issue, Dr Sirichai said.

He outlined the measures as:

- A relevant agency must identify all workers under 15 years old. "We're also asking for cooperation from the organizations involved to not permit pregnant women to work, even if they hold work permits," he said.

- Workers must not be allowed to bring other people with them when they enter the country.

- Workers must operate strictly under the law.

- A renewed push to register all migrant workers.

There was no clear policy on what to do with Burmese children born here, particularly the issue of giving them Thai nationality, he said. **- Phuket Gazette**

## Two-headed turtle dies

THE two-headed Hawksbill turtle born on the Similan Islands in July died in late August at about one month of age.

Chaloemsak Chaijit, information officer at the Royal Thai Navy base in Phang Nga, said the reptile died at about noon on August 29.

Staff at the Sea Turtle Conservation Unit there noted the turtle's lack of appetite the day before, but were still surprised at the creature's rapid demise, he said.

Just two days earlier, the hatchling was not only healthy and gaining weight, but had also become the center's star attraction, drawing up to 50 visitors a day.

Unfortunately the death of the

baby turtle came before its gender could be established and thus be given a name, Mr Chaloemsak said.

Chadjane Chuayetch, an officer at the conservation center, said staff there did their best to take care of the turtle, but that the nature of its abnormality was probably just too much for it to survive.

People still not aware of its passing continue to come to the center to see the turtle. They do not leave completely disappointed, however: its preserved remains are now on display in a glass jar, he said.

**- Sittipong Nongkaew and S. Fein**

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# Sea gypsies refloat sunken oil carrier

A TEAM of sea gypsy divers have successfully re-floated and towed ashore the *Choke Taworn 6*, which sunk in heavy seas off Phuket earlier this month.

The team, led by Surin Pramongkij, brought the vessel to the surface at 11am on September 14.

The boat was then towed by its sister vessel *Choke Taworn 8* up Klong Tah Chin in Rassada.

However, it ran aground in shallow water before reaching its final destination, the Asian Phuket Marine Dockyard in Rassada.

The divers repositioned air-tight oil drums in and around the vessel to make it float higher in the water to complete the mission.

There were some signs of oil leakage around the wreck, but the estimated 25,000 liters of diesel in

a holding tank inside the modified vessel's hull was still there. *Choke Taworn 6* was en route to Koh Racha Yai with 40,000 liters of diesel when it sank about 12 nautical miles southwest of Phuket on September 4.

The team of divers, from Laem Tukkae on Koh Sireh, was hired by the ship owners to salvage the vessel and its cargo.

The darkness at 43 meters and the sea gypsies' method of breathing compressed air pumped down through hoses from the surface drew criticism and concern from many who thought the mission too risky. However, the divers' ability impressed all who watched them work in the dark, dirty water of Klong Tah Chin.

— Pimwara Chokesakulpan



The *Choke Taworn 6* (left) barely afloat alongside its sister ship *Choke Taworn 8*. Photo: Pimwara Chokesakulpan

## Karon condo project stalls

CONSTRUCTION of a condo project in Kata has been temporarily suspended after local residents filed a complaint over the seven-story building blocking views of nearby Koh Pu (Crab island) located just offshore.

The residents, led by elected community leader for Karon Village 3 Boontham Jiamtua, had their complaint against Kata Royal Condominium heard at Provincial Hall on August 31 by a committee spearheaded by Provincial Palad Chaiwat Tephee.

Also on the committee were representatives from the government agencies involved, including Phuket Provincial Land Office, Phuket Office of Public Works and Town & Country Planning, Natural Resources and Environment Phuket office, Damrongtham Center, Public Works Division of Karon Municipality, Muang District Office and Chalong police.

However, despite the locals' complaints about the project, the committee discovered after two weeks of testimonies and reviewing documents provided that the



The view from Kata Hill.

condo development was fully compliant with the law and had all its applications approved before construction began.

Regardless, Mr Boontham called for construction to be capped at five floors, not seven, to preserve the view.

He based his argument on locals not being represented enough in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) survey conducted

and approved for the project in 2008.

In closing the committee hearing on September 15, Palad Chaiwat announced the committee will recommend to the governor to set up a panel to investigate further.

In the meantime, the ban on construction at the site continues.

Joe Kasisopha, one of the three partners in the project, told the *Gazette*, "It's not our fault. We have done everything right. If following the law is not good enough, then what is?"

He said 24 of the condo units had already been sold, most of them on the sixth and seventh floors. "We cannot stop at five floors. If we have to stop, it will cost us about 300 million baht," he said. — Pimwara Chokesakulpan

## Construction of new incinerator underway

WORK to build Phuket's second incinerator at Saphan Hin is underway and the 940-million-baht facility should be completed by the end of the year, a provincial committee on trash management issues was told on September 8.

Prachoom Suriya, who heads the Phuket City Municipality Environmental Division, told the Phuket Provincial Trash Management Committee that project contractor PJT Technology is now surveying the site and beginning work.

PJT is to build and manage the plant for 15 years.

The new incinerator, to have two chambers each capable of burning 300 tons of trash daily, will be located next to the existing incinerator. The facility should be

ready by December this year, Mr Prachoom said in a TV report.

The new incinerator will have the capacity to generate 14MW of electricity, with approximately 10MW distribution for commercial purpose. Twenty percent of electricity generated will be used internally while the rest will be distributed to the grid for commercial purposes, says PJT's website.

Mr Prachoom told the committee that the project, being funded under the government's *Thai Khem Kaeng* (Strong Thailand) economic stimulus package, will include new paved roads to the incinerator and the existing landfill, floodlights, 12 CCTV cameras, new vehicles and on-site facilities to wash down garbage trucks.

— Stephen Fein

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# Businesses put trash on agenda

By Gus Reynolds

THE recent publicity surrounding the environmental degradation of the beaches and water in the Andaman Sea, as well as the complaints about the environment and garbage in Ao Nang, have caught the attention of several local business leaders.

Despite repeated comments about the short-sightedness of the local government in tackling such problems such as wastewater discharge into the ocean, garbage collection and parking, little has changed over the years.

But now it is the private sector who see the real dangers of inaction. In discussion with Thai business leaders, many have com-

## ACROSS THE bay

mented on the government structure of continual reassignment of top politicians who give little emphasis on solving long-term problems. It seems easier to pass these problems on to those who follow after them into office.

On the seventh day of each month, the Advisory Committee of the Governor of Krabi meets to make policy recommendations to the governor. This council comprises leading members of the



A water bottle lies discarded on the beach as a tour boat waits in the distance at Koh Phi Phi. Photo: René Ehrhardt

business community as well as government representatives from different ministry branches.

The meeting on September 7 was also followed by that of a sub-committee, The Krabi Education Council, chaired by former Krabi Town Mayor Chuan Phukaoluan.

Some of the issues at the top

of the agenda were the environment with emphasis on wastewater discharge into the ocean, and improvement in medical services for tourists, especially in light of the recent dengue outbreak.

The council believes that due to the ineffectiveness of the local government to tackle these and other issues, it is now the respon-

sibility of the private sector to propose solutions though private and public ventures.

Their attempts to improve the quality of life in Krabi deserve praise, as does their efforts in helping the province to avoid making the mistakes that some of its neighbors have made through over-development.

# Dengue strikes: Two more deaths

By Lesley Chittayanon

AS DENGUE claimed two more lives in Krabi, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has strongly advised Thailand to step up its efforts to limit this year's rampant outbreak of the disease.

These recent deaths raised the number of deaths caused by the mosquito-borne disease to four in Krabi, and a total of seven in the south. While Phuket has suffered a massive outbreak this year, the disease has not caused any deaths on the island.

WHO Southeast Asia regional director Samlee Pianbangchang explained, "High-end treatment can save patients' lives from dengue but cannot tackle the outbreak itself as long as the public health intervention essential for controlling the vector is still weak."

Dengue has affected a large percentage of the country, with Krabi, Pattani, Songkhla, Narathiwat, Phatthalung, Satun, Chanthaburi, Phitsanulok and Tak among the hardest hit provinces.

Chok Chai School in Neua Klong District, in Krabi, recently sent students home early in order to spray for mosquitoes.

However, at the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Ministers of Health and the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the WHO Regional Committee for Southeast Asia last week, Mr Samlee pointed out that spraying chemicals alone will not eradicate the problem.

He stressed the importance of health authorities working with local communities to raise awareness of the seriousness of the disease and how to eliminate mosquito breeding areas from their homes.



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# On guard to save lives

By Nicky Vermeulen

LEADING the Surf Lifesaving Carnival held in Patong on September 11 was Australian David Field, a driving force in raising the standards of lifesaving on Phuket beaches since 2001.

With over 20 years experience as a surf lifesaver and trainer, the New South Wales resident is currently in Phuket training over 80 lifeguards who patrol the 10 municipal beaches around the island.

Mr Field told the *Gazette* that the main challenge facing surf lifesaving in Phuket is that the general level of fitness and skill amongst local lifeguards needs to be raised.

"Every lifeguard must be able to prove their competency at any moment and when auditing individual beaches, the lifeguards are put through an evaluation assessing their fitness as well as their resuscitation and rescue skills," he said.

"There are different standards of lifeguarding on the island, based on what the older, more experienced lifeguards bring to their respective beaches," he said.

At Nai Harn, for example, the supervising lifeguard is very knowledgeable and is assisted by another lifeguard who has been trained to Australian professional standards, he said.

Although Mr Field thinks Phuket's southern beaches are generally well run, he believes Nai Harn is by far the best managed beach on the island.

"Surin is also very proactive in that people try to go into the water at the north or south ends near the rocks and the lifeguards are very quick to get there and speak to them.

"There are beaches where that



Phuket lifeguards ready to take to the water at the Surf Lifesaving Carnival. Photo: Alexandra Andersson

still doesn't happen and some of the lifeguards on a few of the beaches are a danger to themselves if they go in the water," he said.

Mr Field stressed that Karon is the most dangerous beach as it is open to monsoon winds and is not sheltered from large ocean swells that can rise quickly out of deep water and come straight in.

"Even after the swell has died down, there's a lot of movement under the water with both lateral and rip currents," he cautioned.

Another beach he feels could do with a closer look is Patong, which he says is an entirely different ballgame.

He noted that although Patong Beach has a gentle, sloping bottom and is sheltered from trade winds, the beach management plan "needs a strong hand".

"With previous contracts, the lifeguards were getting paid so little that they often ran other businesses on the side, which included

hiring out jet skis and sun loungers," he said.

At the moment the Phuket Lifeguard Club has the contract, and has given all the lifeguards a pay raise and is promoting their status and training, but Field says a lot of the older guards are still running their businesses.

"If your job is to put your flags in the safest part of the beach, but you're also running a sun lounge business, where are you going to put your flags?" he asks.

"The lifeguards have told me anecdotally that if they put the flags in a certain position and the beach vendors don't like it, they will come and take the safe swimming flags and throw them on the ground.

"Patong needs a completely different beach management plan to the other beaches whose plans are all pretty straight-forward," he said.

Another problem he says are

flying wouldn't wash in Australia," he said.

You have to warn people.

"I can get fined 300 baht for not wearing a helmet while I'm riding a motorbike on Phuket. I support that bylaw because it's for my own protection, and it seems to be effective, but I feel it could also be implemented on the beaches, too.

"People are swimming anywhere on the beaches – red flag or not – and there are no consequences for them not listening to the lifeguards, except drowning," he says.

A portion of that issue comes down to communication barriers, but to fix the problem he suggests raising awareness. As soon as guests arrive on the island, there needs to be adequate signage at the airport and every hotel must have multilanguage pamphlets on surf safety for their guests.

"At the end of the day, if people still aren't listening to lifeguards and the warnings, then the lifeguards should be able to call upon the police for added support".



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# Activists' visa ban draws heavy fire

THE Thai government has come under strong criticism after it banned two France-based activists from launching a report in Bangkok on human rights abuses in Vietnam.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs asked the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand (FCCT) to cancel the press conference organized by the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and the Vietnam Committee on Human Rights (VCHR), which was set to take place at the FCCT clubhouse on September 13.

The Ministry also denied visas to the event organizers, Vo Van Ai and Penelope Faulkner of the Paris-based VCHR.

Ms Faulkner told the *Gazette* that Mr Vo's visa had been cancelled on the eve of his departure for Bangkok following "pressure from the Vietnamese government about our press conference".

She was later denied boarding a flight from Paris to Bangkok with flight staff telling her they "had received orders from Thai immigration" to stop her from boarding as she was going to Thailand for "human rights reasons", she said.

## AROUND THE nation

According to the FCCT website, the event would launch a report by the VCHR and the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) entitled "From Rhetoric to Reality: Human Rights in Vietnam, Under its Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2010".

The report aimed to "shed light on the human rights situation in Vietnam and the serious gaps that remain between Vietnam's professed adherence to international human rights law and its actual laws and practices to the contrary".

Ms Faulkner said, "I don't think Thailand fears anything from our report. We talk about the situation in Vietnam, in which human rights violations are extremely serious."

Mr Vo told the *Gazette*, "Hanoi's efforts to ban me from speaking are the most eloquent proof that the findings of our re-



Penelope Faulkner and Vo Van Ai of the Paris-based VCHR. Photo: VCHR

port are correct. Now the [Vietnamese] government is exporting political repression, and seeking to stifle independent voices outside its borders".

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs on September 9 asked the FCCT to cancel the event as "it might contain information detrimental to a neighbouring country".

The FCCT asked the Ministry

to explain its position in writing. It received a response from Thani Thongphakdi, the Ministry's acting director general of the department of information, which stated:

"While the Royal Thai Government attaches great importance to the principles of freedom of expression and diversity of views, it also has a long-standing position

of not allowing organizations and/or persons to use Thailand as a place to conduct activities detrimental to other countries.

"I therefore hope that the FCCT will respect this position and not allow its premises to be used for such activities."

Ms Faulkner, however, indicated the report is not intended to be "detrimental".

"In general, Vietnam sees civil society – inside and outside the country – as 'enemies', whereas our aim is to make constructive proposals to advance progress and reforms," she said.

The Ministry asked the FCCT to inform the event organizers they would be denied visas, a responsibility the FCCT declined to accept. The FCCT replied: "We feel it is unfortunate that the Thai government has chosen to apply pressure on us in this way. We would appreciate if the government reconsiders the wisdom of such pressure."

Ms Faulkner said, "I don't know why Thailand gave in to Vietnam's pressure. There must be political reasons within the ASEAN group."

## Jitters as coup anniversary nears

SEVERAL bombs have gone off in Bangkok and other provinces as Thailand braces itself for the fourth anniversary of the coup that ousted former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

The disturbances have stoked fears that there will be fresh violence to coincide with the anniversary of the September 19 coup.

While the emergency decree banning large gatherings of people has been revoked in the northern capital, it remains in place in Bangkok.

Somyot Pruksakasemsuk,

leader of the June 24 anti-government group and editor of Red Power magazine, said his followers would hold an event to commemorate the September 19 coup at Rajprasong intersection and in Chiang Mai.

Sombat Boon-ngam-anong's Red Sunday Group will mark the day with events at Democracy monument and Rajprasong intersection.

"Don't worry, it will not be a red shirt demonstration but a commemoration of an undemocratic incident," he said. "It is an open activity in a civil society."

On September 17, red shirt leader Jatuporn Prompan, who is also an MP for the Pheu Thai Party, will lead fellow red shirts in laying roses in front of Bangkok Remand Prison where some of their leaders are being detained.

The Metropolitan Police Bureau will deploy 400 anti-riot police to keep security at Rajprasong.

The bureau expects 2,000 to 3,000 red shirts to join the protests, during which demonstrators will tie red ribbons and release red balloons at the intersection.

– *Phuket Gazette*



Red Sunday leader Sombat Boon-ngam-anong leads a group of red shirts on bicycles around Rajprasong. Photo: The Nation

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## Thai top cop visits troubled Deep South

ROYAL Thai Police Commissioner-General Wichien Potephosree headed to the Deep South last week to calm fears after two teachers were murdered by insurgents.

All 365 schools in Narathiwat Province closed for six days following the killings of Wilas Kongkham, 54, and his wife Komkam Petchprom, 53.

The pair were gunned down in a drive-by shooting on September 7.

Arrest warrants have been issued for seven people in connection with the murders, Gen Wichien said.

Amid demands for security upgrades, Confederation of Teachers in the Southern Border Provinces chairman Boonsom Thongsriprai told one reporter, "Our teachers are still the victims and there is no guarantee that it won't happen again."

– *Phuket Gazette*





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## Modern-day slavery in Phuket

*Re: Gazette online, Call for action over illegal Burmese workers in Phuket, September 13.*

Can you imagine what your life as a Burmese would be like in Thailand?

They are nothing short of modern-day slaves in this society.

In case you didn't know, in Phuket they are not allowed to own any motorized means of transportation, no mobile phones, cannot gather in groups of larger than four, cannot stage any cultural or religious events and cannot leave their place of residence after 8pm unless escorted by their local employer.

What would you call this?

*Amazing Thailand  
Gazette forum*

## Burmese deserve more rights

*Re: Gazette online, Call for action over illegal Burmese workers in Phuket, September 13.*

From what I can understand the immigrant worker situation is not much different from the slave trade.

If these people are good enough to do the work that Thais don't then they should be given some kind of citizenship. It is the sole responsibility of the Thai government to treat these people with some kind of respect and humanity.

I can only imagine the horror these people go through if they are forced to abandon their babies because they are illegal. What a shabby situation.

*Tell  
Gazette forum*

# Muslim prayer hall is part of Phuket life

**Phuket Gazette**

NEWS that Rawai Municipality is considering building a *surau* (Muslim prayer facility) at Laem Phromthep has ruffled some feathers among *Gazette* readers, though at this stage it is difficult to understand why.

Few details have been made available about the project because it is just in the conceptual stages. However, that fact hasn't stopped readers from expressing concern that a large prayer hall or even a mosque may be built at the site. In fact a *surau* can be just a small room; they are commonplace throughout Southern Thailand and many of those voicing concern have probably passed by them many times without even noting their presence.

Such concerns surely can't be over the general location, as there are already four mosques in the area. These were all well-established before the local population began to swell with migrants from other parts of Thailand and abroad. It is also a fact that at least a third of Phuket's native population practices Islam and that a large percentage of visiting tourists do as well.

One reader called for a *Gazette* poll to gauge public opinion on whether the proposed structure would contribute to over-development of the area. But if the facility is to be built anywhere near the huge car park, rows of illegally-built souvenir stalls or the new 3.8-million-baht restroom facility, it strikes the *Gazette* as a little late to begin that discussion.

One reader referred to the proposed struc-

ture as a mosque, which may shed some light on underlying thoughts fueling the debate.

Developments in other parts of the world sometimes pass by us here in Phuket with scant mention. In recent years the Swiss have held a referendum that led to the banning of the construction of minarets at mosques in that country, the French debated whether to ban the burqa, while Dutch politician Geert Wilders continued to spout his anti-Islamic rhetoric for political gain.

Across the Atlantic, debate continues to rage over construction of a mosque near "ground zero". This led to outrage over plans for a mass Qur'an burning in Florida, an outrage fortunately averted.

There are fears among some Westerners over how Islam is "encroaching" on their way of life; it appears some of that sentiment may have reached our shores. It needs to be remembered, however, that Phuket is not in the West.

Let's wait for more details before beginning this debate. If the time does come, we should also try to consider whether it is fair to continue to deprive faithful Muslims of the opportunity to view the beautiful sunsets at Laem Phromthep just because they have no place to give thanks afterwards for the natural beauty they would witness there.

## Kamala Looking Good

Kudos and many thanks to all the young people with their colorful T-shirts who have done a great job of cleaning up Kamala Beach and the village lately.

They look the cleanest I've ever seen them in the 20 years I've been coming here.

Now, we need to have somebody fix the pedestrian walk coming into the village from the southern end. It is in terrible disrepair due to recent storms.

*Jim Newport  
Kamala Beach*

## Nude is not rude

*Re: Gazette online, "Passion for Fashion" show raises money for Phuket charity, September 14.*

Who is the Hong Kong fashion designer that had the bad taste to name his fashion Collection Nude is Rude?

As a naturist and supporter of naturism as a healthy lifestyle choice, I want to voice my complete opposition to any line of clothing that attempts to present something as healthy and wholesome as naturism as rude.

*Geoffrey Ogilvie  
Bangkok*

## New tuk-tuk market?

*Re: Gazette online, PHUKET OPINION: New market a boon for Old Phuket, September 12.*

And when they move the local buses to the current bus station how will people get their produce out of the market? Tuk-tuks?

*Another Steve  
Gazette forum*

## Take care of own first, immigrants later

*Re: Gazette online, Call for action over illegal Burmese workers in Phuket, September 13.*

I don't think any country should take on immigrants if their own populace is not 100%

taken care of.

The USA has taken on the heavy burden of finding illegal immigrants jobs when their own unemployment rate is staggeringly high in some places.

The absurd reasoning is that the immigrants are taking on jobs no one else wants, which I think is a fallacious statement.

As far as this baby is concerned there are animals that take care of their young better. Still, life here is far better than with the Burmese junta.

Maybe people in impoverished lands should carefully consider having kids.

*Tonglen  
Gazette forum*

## Phuket Gazette

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

**Editor:** Parichat Utintu

**Managing Editor:** Chris Husted

**News Editor:** Stephen Fein

**Features Editor:** Fraser Morton

**Managing Director:** Oranee Hildebrand

**General Manager:** Natthira Susangrat

**Production Manager:** Suchart Changate

**Publisher:** The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

**Contact us:**

**Editorial:** news@phuketgazette.net

**Advertising Sales:** adsales@phuketgazette.net

**Classified Advertising:** classads@phuketgazette.net

**Website services:** koy@phuketgazette.net

**Gazette Guide:** guide@phuketgazette.net

**Events Sponsorships:** events@phuketgazette.net

**General:** info@phuketgazette.net

**Telephone:** 076 273555 (10 lines) **Fax** 076 615240

The views expressed in the Phuket Gazette are those of the writers and contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Publisher, the Editor, the shareholders or the directors of The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd.

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

## Issues & Answers...

### How do I know if the bill collector is legit?

I HAVE been a customer of Phuket Cable TV for some time. I recently noticed a public service announcement on Channel 1 warning people not to hand over any money to unauthorized bill collectors posing as legitimate Phuket Cable staff.

I usually just go to the office to pay myself, but how can I know if the bill collector is legit or not? Is this a big problem for Phuket Cable? If so, how many people have been scammed?

I would also like to know more about the broadband Internet service you now advertise. Can I get it at my home in Rassada?

*Jeremiah Long  
Rassada*

**A customer service officer at Phuket Cable Company replies:**

So far there have been no customer complaints about "fake" Phuket Cable staff collecting the bills, but as a precaution we ask

Send us your queries and we'll ask the right people to respond to them.

Submit your issue at

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

all Phuket Cable customers to verify the status of bill collectors.

They can do this by asking to see their employee ID cards, which state their full name and position.

The card is also stamped with the company logo. Customers can also call to the company office to ask whether the person is a real employee or not.

As for the broadband service, the service is currently only available at the Land and House Park Phuket residential estate on Chao Fa East Road in Chalong.

Many consumers have expressed interest in this service, which we plan to extend island-wide by the end of next year.

### Noisy neighbor

NEXT to my house is a furniture workshop and they sometimes use very noisy equipment.

The same neighbor has also acquired three roosters that wake me up at 4:30 every morning and keep making noise pretty much all the time.

Is there anything I can do or do I just have to live with the noise?

*Sleepless in Kamala*

**An officer at the Phuket Provincial Complaints Center (Damrongtham Center) at Phuket Provincial Hall, replies:**

People who believe they have suffered from another person's actions can file a complaint at the Damrongtham Center at Phuket Provincial Hall.

The center will coordinate with the relevant agencies in following up the complaint.

In order to file the complaint, you must bring your passport or ID card (if you are Thai).

If you are a foreigner, bring a Thai person to translate for you.



# Thalang in transit

## FIRST PERSON

PRESENTLY, a huge number of tourists come to Phuket and new transportation infrastructure is needed to support that number.

On average throughout a year about 160 flights a day land at Phuket Airport, bringing a total of about six million tourists, and this is likely to increase – but Thepkrasattri Rd is not being upgraded to accommodate the needs of the growing number of tourists.

Put simply, the road will not be able to support the number of tourists arriving in Phuket when the airport will be expanded to accommodate up to 12 million tourists.

Now imagine what it will be like when the Phuket International Convention and Exhibition Center (ICEC) opens and even more activities take place.

No matter which part of the island tourists go to, they have to pass through Thalang. If we don't develop or create a new transportation system now, it will affect us in the very near future.

The light-rail project is the perfect alternative, especially as Phuket doesn't have standard public bus services like they have in Bangkok, and it will reduce the number of cars on the road.

Its stations should start at the airport and stop at each important location along the way to Chalong. For example, in Thalang, people could catch the light rail at Baan Kian intersection and get off at Central near town.

They could park their cars at the station or take a motorcycle taxi from their home to the station for only 10 or 20 baht. This



**Udom Siriprukpong**, 56, has been Thalang District Chief Administrative Officer (*Palad*) for nearly two years. Mr Udom has a master's degree from Mahidol University Institute for Population and Social Research. Here he explains his reasons for an urgent upgrade to Thalang's transportation infrastructure.



**LOG JAM:** A new light-rail system would help relieve persistent traffic problems along Thepkrasattri Road, Mr Udom says.

would save much money and fuel.

Later, the light rail could be expanded with other stations, such as at Tah Chat Chai.

However, I think the light rail alone will not be enough.

Right now the project to build a road parallel to Thepkrasattri Rd, running from the airport to the bypass road, is having difficulties with land expropriation.

We should also develop water

transportation connections with Krabi.

We should have ferry boat service, as in Samui, from a pier in Thalang, stopping at Koh Yao, and then on to Ao Nang and further south to Koh Lanta.

This would help reduce driving time from Phuket to Ao Nang from two hours to just one hour, while it would make it much easier for tourists to travel around the area.

# Can't we all just get along?

## Island View

By Hannah Freeman

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



**Traditional Muay Thai emphasizes respect.** Photo: Frédéric della Faille.

Phuket's sex industry and fight camps are attracting these kind of people.

Dare I suggest that encouraging the arrival of angry westerners looking for a punch up is not in Phuket's best interests?

There should be a thorough review of the Muay Thai camps to ensure that they are adhering to the traditions of Muay Thai; that they go beyond simply training people to fight and actually educate them on the history and rich culture of Muay Thai in Thailand.

I suppose that as in many forms of contemporary tourism, financial gain is the motivator rather than encouraging a genuine interest in Phuket or Thailand.

Phuket should focus on its strengths: cultural festivals, food, heritage and nature in an effort to attract a more mentally balanced visitor.

RECENT reports revealing that incidences of violent crime are alarmingly high in Phuket have got me worried. I moved away from the grime of inner-city life in London to get away from all that. I chose Phuket because I thought there was no better place to do so than an island paradise in the land of smiles.

Not only are the stories of violent crime reported in the *Phuket Gazette* raising my awareness, but also the frequent stories heard from friends about being robbed while driving motorbikes or waking up to a stranger in their house, rummaging through their belongings.

With murderers, rapists and robbers afoot, I have found myself locking doors and viewing people with suspicion, a tendency I had worked hard to bury.

Although the majority of these crimes may involve Thais, an extremely high proportion seems to be carried out by Westerners. This is particularly alarming considering our demographic on this island is much smaller.

Much of the violent crime committed by *farangs* may be down to drunken tourists in Patong, but there are more cases emerging that involve expats.

For example, the widely reported crimes of Ron Fanelli, a long-time Phuket resident who murdered a woman and stuffed her remains into a suitcase, and Lee Aldhouse, a Muay Thai tourist who allegedly murdered a man after an argument.

Is this island a safe haven for the psychopaths and hooligans of the West?

Where there's dung, flies will follow and I can only assume that

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

Alternatively, you can email [phuket\\_dopa@yahoo.com](mailto:phuket_dopa@yahoo.com) or [dumrongtum\\_phuket@hotmail.com](mailto:dumrongtum_phuket@hotmail.com), or call 076-213203.

### Pol Sen Sgt Maj Pongsakda Jitlang of Kamala Police Station, replies:

You will need to come to Kamala Police Station and file a written complaint in person before we can take any action.

Please come to us first and do not approach the shop owner directly.

Once we have the written complaint we can then investigate whether or not the shop is disturbing the peace by making excessive noise.

For more information call me at Kamala Police Station at 076-385310.

### Khun Kanchana, an officer at Phuket Provincial Health Office, replies:

People who believe their health is suffering because of the actions of another can file a complaint at the Complaints Division at Phuket

Provincial Health Office. We will then check on the complaint and coordinate with relevant agencies.

Alternatively, people can file a complaint with their local authorities. In your case, they are:

- Kamala Police Station Tel: 076-385 310;

- Kamala Tambon Administration Organization Email: [kamalaphuket@gmail.com](mailto:kamalaphuket@gmail.com);

- Social Development and Human Resources Phuket Office Tel: 076-212726, 076-240 414; and

- Phuket Provincial Industrial Affairs Office Tel: 076-222754.

### ATM jam scam?

I AM having trouble with Kaisakorn Bank and Bank of Ayudhya at the moment. I hold a Kaisakorn bank account, and I tried to withdraw money from an Ayudhya Bank ATM. The machine jammed, didn't dispense any cash and went "out of order".

I reported it immediately and photographed the machine. My account has been debited for the withdrawal.

I keep calling Kasikorn and emailing them, but they just tell me that Ayudhya Bank say the money was dispensed.

I asked them to review the video recording taken by the machine, which will show I did not get any money, but they said it was out of order and there is no video.

This seems like an outrageous scam, how can I prove the machine didn't give the cash if they will not release the video.

I have a photo of the machine taken one minute after the time of the withdrawal (date and time stamped photo) clearly showing it is "Out of Order", which proves it could not have just dispensed the cash to me.

It seems pretty clear they know the machine was faulty, but will not admit it. I have called Ayudhya Bank, but they refused to discuss it as I do not hold an account with them.

Is there an independent body in Thailand I can appeal to? Or do you have a suggestion as to what to do? It was 20,000 baht and I would like to get it back, plus this

procedure for dealing with customers is very open to abuse by the banks and should be reviewed.

Matthew Lempriere  
Patong

### Nungruthai Kenchaiwong, of Ayudhya Bank Customer Service Department, replies:

You must notify the branch where you opened your account. After that, the branch will have the relevant department coordinate with Ayudhya Bank about you not receiving money from the Ayudhya Bank ATM.

Then Ayudhya Bank will have the relevant department check their ATM machine. The system can check back to the day that the incident occurred. If there is a discrepancy, then under Ayudhya Bank policy we will transfer the money back to your account in about seven working days after the discrepancy has been confirmed.

To do this, we need to know the location of the ATM, the date and time of the incident and the total amount involved.

### Chinda Chuthong, Bank Officer at the Kasikorn Bank branch on Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Road in Patong, replies:

Our general policy is that the customer should contact the bank where the account was opened. The customer must bring bankbook, ATM card, passport or ID, and the ATM number, which is on the machine and on any transaction slips from the machine.

After we have received the report from customer, we will coordinate with the other bank involved to verify the customer's report, as we are unable to check any transactions made through other banks.

This process will take about seven working days.

### An officer at the Complaints Division call center (Tel: 1676) of the Office of the Ombudsman Thailand, replies:

The Office of the Ombudsman Thailand ([www.ombudsman.go.th](http://www.ombudsman.go.th)) is empowered to receive complaints about government agencies only.



# SET shines in 2010

## Island Investor

By Bill Anderson

THE STOCK Exchange of Thailand (SET) has been one of the world's best performing markets this year. As this newspaper went to print, the index had risen 26%, making Thailand one of the top 10 markets worldwide.

Considering the violent demonstrations that crippled much of central Bangkok during April and May, the SET has performed remarkably well.

The strong performance came about after the protesters were abruptly dispersed by the Thai army on May 19. A total of 91 protesters died during the protests.

The SET's high performance over past four months has been due to foreign investors buying into a market that considerably underperformed during the previous six months.

Other Asian markets performed strongly during this period and as such the SET had a lot of catching up to do after the demonstrations ended.

Despite the negative worldwide impact on Thailand's reputation, and the impact on tourist arrivals, the Thai economy has continued to power ahead this year following the global rout of late 2008 and early last year.

Ignoring pessimistic forecasts at the height of the protests, Thailand's second quarter GDP grew by 9.1% from a year earlier and is expected to surge ahead in the third quarter as foreign and domestic investors alike become more sanguine over the political situation.

Also, the Thai Government is expected to raise the forecast for the full year to around 7%. This will be



**ON A HIGH:** Thailand's economy continues to excel despite violent demonstrations earlier on in the year. Photo: AFP

the strongest growth since 2003.

Most observers agree that despite political problems Thailand should continue to do well for the remainder of this year and into next. Growth will continue to be driven by foreign investment into Asia and Thailand together with intra-Asian trade.

Although Thailand has certainly not decoupled from the chronic problems in the West, it should still post good growth next year.

Another indication of the renewed optimism pervading the SET is the average daily market turnover.

After sinking to very low levels during April and May the SET has seen turnover approaching US\$ two billion per day in recent weeks. On certain days this has exceeded Singapore's market turnover which is a far bigger exchange.

On September 6, the SET's turnover was 63 billion baht (US\$ two billion) which was the fourth highest turnover ever seen on the exchange. It is safe to say that foreign and domestic investors are back in force.

Domestic retail investors have traditionally been the largest

participants in the SET.

Historically they used to account for around 75% of all turnover but this has eased in recent years as domestic mutual funds have increased their size and activity.

With such a sizable retail participation the SET used to be, and probably quite rightly, compared to a casino. However, that tag has faded somewhat with the increased involvement of foreign and local institutional investors.

Expat investors can easily open an account to invest in the SET. Thai brokerage companies can be found from the SET's website: [www.set.or.th](http://www.set.or.th). There are a number of Thai brokerages who have offices in Phuket.

Most of them now offer online trading services which reduce the commission rates charged. Some also provide English language research about Thai stocks as well as research on the political and economic situation. Many also provide access to historical price charts.

However, expats considering investing have to be aware that this is a high risk investment as prices can move dramatically very quickly.

It is not recommended for most investors and should only be considered as a small percentage of one's overall investment portfolio.

To avoid some of the risk associated with directly investing into companies listed on the SET investors should consider an offshore fund which specializes in Thai stocks.

These funds are professionally managed and spread their investments into numerous individual shares thus reducing the overall risk.

Some of these funds have long established performance records and can be purchased through an offshore structure thus avoiding tax implications for expats in Phuket.

## Fertility clinic to inject life into tourism

A NEW 20-million baht fertility clinic set to open next month will be the largest and most comprehensive of its kind in the south of Thailand.

Safe Fertility Center will officially open at Phuket International Hospital (PIH) on October 1.

The center will provide In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) services from new specialized treatment laboratories for embryology, andrology, cryopreservation, and genetics.

IVF has been used to overcome both male and female infertility problems as well as help couples who would like to ensure their children are born free from hereditary diseases.

The new IVF service at PIH can even help couples determine the sex of their unborn child.

Center Director Dr Wiwat Quangkananurug and Director of Embryology Tida Ruttanajit have worked together for the past decade, helping infertile patients at the Safe Fertility Center in Bangkok.

When the Phuket center opens next month, they expect many foreigners will come to the island to receive the fertility treatment.

"Previously at PIH, we could only give initial consultations, conduct primary investigations and sometimes deliver Intra Uterine Insemination (IUI)," said gynecologist Dr Manop Janthanaphan.

"But with the partnership between the hospital and Safe, we are heading in a new direction with higher standards of IUI, Intra Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI) and Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) processes," he said.

— Janpen Upatising

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# TAT eyes domestic, repeat market

By Anand Singh

THE TOURISM Authority of Thailand (TAT) has come up with a five-point strategy to promote long term sustainable growth in the tourism sector.

The strategy will be the blueprint for the TAT's policies in 2011.

The strategy aims to promote monetary and emotional value in Thailand's tourism sectors.

In the past, Thailand has gained a reputation as a quality, yet affordable tourist destination.

The strategy will emphasize the country's value-for-money and at the same time strengthen the country's brand image as a place of unique charm, friendliness and hospitality.

The TAT will also promote domestic tourism to decrease the dependence of the country's tourist destinations on foreign visitors. At the same time it will also work to increase the country's share in the global tourism market by targeting repeat visitors, a group which accounts for 62% of total tourist arrivals, whilst also marketing the destination to potential first time visitors.



**CHANGING PACE:** The Tourism Authority of Thailand's new tourism strategy looks to domestic and repeat tourists for next year. Photo: Jim Welch

The TAT will also plan out short term market recovery initiatives to mitigate unforeseen shocks that may disrupt the flow of foreign visitors to the kingdom. Depending on circumstances, the TAT may opt to use quick win strategies and special offers to boost short term recovery from tourism crises.

The TAT has also signed a MoU

with businesses and stakeholders in the tourism industry to promote community based sustainable tourism.

When asked how this strategy will benefit Phuket's tourism development, a confidential source expressed less enthusiasm in the TAT's five-point balanced strategy, saying that the TAT's one-for-all policy is not going to help achieve

maximum benefits for Phuket. In the past the TAT has put too much emphasis on quantity and less on quality tourists.

According to the source, TAT's growth estimates of tourist figures give out the wrong market signals to hotels, encouraging them to build more rooms every year.

This leads to unrelenting competition and price dumping

in the hotel industry. Unfortunately tourism growth in Phuket has been promoted without any consideration given to the limited capacity of public infrastructures.

The amount of garbage for example, has long outstripped the ability of Phuket's incinerator to cope and as Phuket's tourism industry grows, garbage problems will continue to exacerbate.

To achieve sustainable tourism growth in Phuket, the island needs policies tailored to solve its unique problems.

A hotelier interviewed suggested that zoning is one of the ways that can promote sustainable tourism in Phuket. According to the hotelier, zoning can help to limit and regulate the number of hotels that can be constructed in a particular area.

It can also help to protect the island's forests and natural resources.

The source said TAT should promote "creative tourism" in Phuket to foster the island's cultural identity, like the Baba-Peranakan wedding event held in Phuket Town in August.

## Hilton swings golf marketing brand

HILTON Hotels has joined Golfasian, a leading inbound golf tour operator in Thailand to create the Thai marketing cooperative "Golf in a Kingdom: The Thai Golf Experience".

The initiative will make it easier for visitors looking for a premium golf holiday to book a variety of stay-and-play itineraries.

It is also hoped that Hilton's involvement will help attract international golfers who recognize the brand as a guarantee of quality.

"Hilton doesn't throw in with just anyone", says Mark Siegel, CEO of Bangkok based Golfasian Tour.

"To have Hilton as a partner is another ringing endorsement of what we're doing with Golf in a Kingdom, that is to make Thai golf holidays easier to book and formulate, while guaranteeing in-

ternational standards of quality with every course and hotel on each itinerary", he added.

Four Hilton properties across the country, namely The Hilton Pattaya, The Millennium Hilton Bangkok, The Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort and Spa and the Hilton Hua-Hin Resort and Spa are set to join the consortium.

Phuket is already a popular destination for international golfers, with highly ranked golf courses that provide great value for money.

The tropical climate enables the sport to be played all year round. The cooperation of five star hotel brands like the Hilton will hopefully help to further promote the island as a premium golf destination.

— Anand Singh



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# Evil gets a 3D afterlife

## Film

By Scott Phillips

### Resident Evil: Afterlife

**Director:** Paul W.S. Anderson  
**Starring:** Milla Jovovich, Ali Larter, Kim Coates, Wentworth Miller  
**Genre:** Sci-Fi/Action/Horror  
**Gazette Rating:** 2/5

SINCE 2002, audiences have been subject to a resurrection of the *Resident Evil* franchise once every three years. The video game-turned-movie series, which has solidified Milla Jovovich's status as the ultimate dreamgirl for video game nerds throughout the world, makes its fourth appearance in *Afterlife*. Don't be fooled by the title, though, because there is very little that is heavenly about this movie.

The names of the sequels – *Apocalypse*, *Extinction*, and *Afterlife* – all give the impression that the *Resident Evil* story is progressing through a thickening plot of life and death. Yet all the films seem to be bizarrely similar: lots of zombies chasing a small group of survivors with big guns in desolate cities, with a side order of bloodied dogs.

The zombies in *Afterlife* aren't interested in eating the dogs though, so you're fairly confident it's not set in Korea or China.

Indeed, the film starts off in Japan. But there's not much new going on. Alice (Jovovich) kicks off the film by killing the evil scientists in an underground facility, then finds she is alone again, scanning the western US for signs of life.

The plots seem to be growing ever-thinner. At some point, a



**ZOMBIE FEST:** True to its *Resident Evil* reputation, *Afterlife* is packed with monsters, fight scenes and gunfire.

franchise needs to accept that it's only going to be interesting if it drives its story forward.

For *Resident Evil*, that seems to be presenting a problem. Granted, no video game adaption was ever a paradigm for art-house film making, but where *Resident Evil* once combined an interesting premise with a hearty dose of zombie-slaughter action, the scales have tipped almost entirely in the favor of the zombies.

What's left is mindless action that banks on the idea of audiences drooling at masses of the undead, big guns, pretty people and licenses to kill. There might be a bit of irony in that... Unfortunately, the film has

virtually no sense of humor, and unless a zombie movie is truly terrifying, it needs comic relief.

Lucky for us, she does run into another human being: another fine-figured woman wearing tight clothes who is also endowed with ass-kicking skills. What are the chances?

At this point, the target audience for *Resident Evil* should be pretty transparent. Teenage gamers – AKA 17-year-old boys who hang out in their rooms and grow increasingly afraid of girls – should feel privileged to have an excuse to put the controller down and take a trip outside.

They probably won't be

disappointed. Zombies do growl and fall in droves, and that should be enough to satisfy the fan base that has kept the franchise alive for almost a decade.

At the end of *Afterlife*, though, none of the characters are really any different than in the first minute, and nothing about their circumstances has changed all that drastically. You can argue that I just dropped a huge spoiler – but I say that only applies to the first and second time a franchise essentially repeats itself. Three or more, and I think I'm doing you a favor.

There is, however, one aspect that makes this latest installment stand out from the rest: It's the first live action movie based on a video game to be presented in 3D.

Apparently life in the afterlife has a tendency to run in slow motion at times, so we can see the texture of individual bullets and feel the need to physically move out of the way of the lethal swing of Alice's foot. Thai audiences should love that.

## What else is on...



### Machete

**Directors:** Robert Rodriguez, Ethan Maniquis  
**Starring:** Danny Trejo, Robert DeNiro, Jessica Alba, Michelle Rodriguez  
**Genre:** Action  
**Gazette Rating:** 4/5

Originally a spoof trailer for the double-feature Grindhouse from Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino, Rodriguez decided to make *Machete* into a full feature film after the trailer became a cult sensation. These are the guys that bring you glorified violence and aren't ashamed of it.



### Little Thing Called Love

**Director:** Puttipong Promsaka Na Sakolnakorn  
**Starring:** Mario Maurer, Peerawat Herabat, Pijittra Siriwetthapan  
**Genre:** Comedy/Romance  
**Gazette Rating:** 2.5/5

A shy and somewhat reclusive high school girl has a crush on class heartthrob and takes on the task of winning his affection. She tries to undergo a complete makeover in both appearance and social status and learns a bit of the lessons of life in the process.

Again, winner of the only 'Best of Award of Excellence' in Phuket



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# Gianni Ferrara

GIANNI Ferrara is the chef and engaging proprietor of La Gaetana Italian restaurant in Phuket Town. The landmark eatery will celebrate its tenth anniversary this year. It is one of the few successful international restaurants in Phuket Town.

"We only have eight tables but I have a passion, a commitment to deliver quality and happiness to our guests," says Gianni.

And happiness is how to describe what Gianni and his charming wife, Khun Ake, deliver with the menu of daily flavors posted on the wall. Gianni heads up the cooking operations and does almost all of the shopping directly from the source.

He was born near Salerno, close to Italy's famed Amalfi coast. He was enterprising as a young child, working three hours every afternoon in the neighborhood pasty shop from the time he was nine years old. By the time he left school in 1980, he was ready to study hotel management.

He found he was drawn to the kitchen where he learned the healthy cuisine of the Campagna region, with its emphasis on fresh seafood and less butter and sauce.

"I worked and trained at the same hotel every summer and was popular with the guests. They helped me to get winter jobs at

## EXPAT gallery

By Bruce Stanley

some of Switzerland's top ski destinations, such as the Seiler Hotel in Zermatt and in Gstaad.

"I learned German and how to satisfy the expectations of the five star guests."

He developed particular skills behind the bar with exotic cocktails and joined a European cocktail competition in Paris at the Holiday Inn, where he received an award for his efforts.

In 1987, Gianni decided to seek adventure abroad. He was accepted to work for Club Med after passing his bartending examination in Rome. It was the beginning of a 15-year career with the international hospitality icon. He was posted at many glamorous locations as he became a trainer in the Club's food and beverage departments.

In addition to such postings as Greece, Tahiti, Spain, Mexico and Indonesia, he came to Phuket in 1992 to manage the beverage outlets. After a year, he was sent to work in St Moritz and on New Caledonia, but he had met his future wife and partner Khun Ake at

the Club Med in Phuket and they vowed to return to the island and create their own business.

"In 2000, we found a traditional Sino-Portuguese house in Phuket Town to establish our restaurant. I decided to make it a destination where people would come from around the island for a special Italian lunch or dinner. We did all the renovations ourselves. With our combined experience working in so many different places, we included all the elements we thought would be popular with our guests."

And success has been the result. La Gaetana, named after Gianni's mother, who he says was a fabulous cook herself, opened featuring only Italian wines and a menu of Italian family recipes. It quickly became a favorite place for Phuket residents who appreciate the intimate, charming interiors and Gianni's level of personal attention to the service.

In 2006, to accommodate his many friends who smoke, he opened the back of the restaurant to create an area where smokers could feel comfortable.

Gianni works almost every day, but when he takes time for leisure he provides consulting services to other restaurants and hotels. And he pursues his interests in photography, gardening and collecting Italian and Thai stamps.



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, ah, 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.

by Benz Chaengwattana

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**BEST FRIENDS:** Russell and his training assistant Kay, a German Shepherd he brought back from the United States to use for training.



**DOGS LIKE STORIES TOO:** Russell with British International School students and his dogs Kay and Sassy. The school recently held a trial canine reading program where the pupils spent time reading to the dogs.

# Sniffing out the dog whisperer

By Alastair Carthew

DOG trainer Russell D Russell's new Thailand Canine Academy here in Phuket is the place to take your pooch to learn some manners, or just to meet the man known as the "Dog Whisperer".

Russell, or DJ Sniffer, as he's sometimes known has been around dogs his whole life and is a graduate in canine psychology and behavior.

He recently graduated from the prestigious Triple Crown Academy in Austin, Texas in the United States.

The Academy is the largest training, behavior and event center for dogs in the world – with an exclusive client list that includes former First Lady Laura Bush's dog, Dax.

Russell took intense training, comprising both practical obedience and focused training skills, as well as sessions on canine learning theory and canine aggression.

Working with many dogs and behaviors, as well as some of the world's top canine trainers and handlers, Russell believes there is much he can offer Phuket.

Russell wants to bring some focused obedience and home manners training to Phuket pets.

"People often say, 'well my dog knows sit and stay', but 99% of the time they don't. If your dog

chases a cat towards a busy road will he sit when you ask him to?"

Russell says people often want a dog, but when it turns out to be a terror, they can't understand why and want to re-home it, or worse, dump it.

"It's untrainable they say, but this is not true, it's simply a case of miscommunication and misunderstanding."

Russell uses his two highly trained dogs, Sassy and Kay to help him show Phuket dog owners how their pets should behave.

"Showing people what trained dogs can do is more effective than just telling owners what is possible," he says.

One of the most important lessons Russell teaches is the place command, or boundary stay, which means the dog should stay in a given place until they are told they are free to move.

"It really makes a difference if you can show people what this means to a dog. People don't believe it's possible with their own dog, and then when they see it, it's like magic!"

When it comes to obedience training, Russell says treating dogs and their owners individually is the key to his success, making training "work for them".

Russell says in recent years a number of television shows highlighting canine behavioral problems has brought acceptance and understanding to the forefront of pet training.

"Before people may have thought they just bought a 'bad' dog, now they realize it's just a behavioral issue and help is available," he says.

Russell says attitudes toward dogs in Thailand compared to the US and Europe varies immensely.

Fouling in public, not keeping dogs on a lead and mistreating dogs can lead to heavy fines in the US and Europe.

In Thailand the rules are more lax with dogs running free, but they are often mistreated.

Russell said dogs should not be allowed to just do their own thing.

"You walking the dog yourself is miles better than opening the

gate and letting the dog walk itself," he says.

Russell also wants to see more dogs being used for search and rescue, and therapy purposes in Thailand.

"Therapy Dogs are essentially used to brighten people's days and are often taken to orphanages,

retirement homes or even to hospitals to help recovery," he says.

Both Russell's dogs are certified and registered with Therapy Dogs International and have already worked with the British International School on a canine reading program trial which was hugely successful.

"Developing a service dog program here in Thailand would be fantastic. Whether it's for assisting in children's education, providing narcotic detection dogs or search and rescue dogs – the humble canine can provide an immense amount of help to the people of Thailand," Russell says.



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**HIGHLY TRAINED:** Russell's dog Sassy.



# Spoonful of Sicily in Surin



Sicilian restaurateur Duilio Lazarra.



**GOOD MIX:** Cefalù's Ravioli all'aragosta (top) and the restaurant's comfortable outdoor seating. Photos: Nicky Vermeulen and Cefalù

SICILIAN restaurateur Duilio Lazarra has a passion for pasta that is nothing short of *amore*.

"I love pasta. If I could eat it three times a day, every day, I would," he says.

Intent on sharing his special relationship with pasta and knowledge of Italian cuisine, Duilio has just opened Cefalù restaurant in Surin.

Tucked away at the end of the beach walkway, Cefalù is a stone's throw from the shoreline and an

ideal spot to relax with a glass – or five – of Italy's finest.

Sit on the comfortable sofas outside on the restaurant's decking area at sunset and you'll be glad you did. Then order one of the 40 Italian red-and-white wines on the menu and you'll be glad you did that too.

## On the Menu

by Alexandra Andersson

We opt for the *Bardolino* (200 baht per glass) and are more than happy with our selection.

Although the setting may be characteristic of Phuket, Cefalù is Italian through and through.

Named after a beautiful little town in Sicily, the restaurant specializes in "authentic" pasta and pizza.

The majority of Cefalù's pasta is homemade, of course, and most ingredients are imported.

Food enthusiast Duilio has spent many years in Rome and insists that all his dishes are made according to authentic regional Italian recipes he has collected over the years.

His passion and dedication to quality ensures all his dishes are moreish, scrumptious and wonderfully uplifting.

The *Ravioli all'aragosta* (lobster ravioli, 290 baht) was superb, and the ravioli was slightly *al dente*, but just the way we wanted it to be.

Fettucini, lasagne, gnocchi and

farfalle are a few of the other pastas cooked from scratch.

The *Penne a la siciliana* (200 baht) and *Rigatoni al forno* (250 baht) were also delicious, and the goat cheese parmesan selected to complement the aubergines and tomatoes in the *Penne a la Siciliana* was sublime.

The pizzas, *antipasti* and desserts were of equally good quality and our first encounter with the *Zabaione al marsala* (120 baht) was a highlight of the meal.

The foamy dessert – a mixture of egg yolk, cream, sugar and Italian wine – comes with sweet dipping bread. Absolutely scrumptious.

Duilio and his Head Chef Khun

Siam have worked together for the past 12 years and the atmosphere among the kitchen staff and waiters is one of a close-knit family.

Despite only opening a few months ago, Cefalù is gaining popularity with locals in the area and with the quality of the food, it's easy to see why.

Cefalù's immediate impact is a reflection of Duilio's flair for business operations in Thailand.

Since he arrived in the country in 1988, he has owned Italian restaurants in Bangkok and Pattaya. He was also the former owner of *La Taverna* in the Boat Lagoon.

This experience has taught him what is necessary for a restaurant to succeed.

His emphasis is on food, service and atmosphere.

Duilio's wish to avoid *nouvelle* cuisine and the pompousness that often accompanies it, is reflected in Cefalù's décor.

The interior has a homely feel with pictures adorning the cool green walls, lamps occupying corners and white-red tablecloths adding warmth and a simdgen of formality to the setting.

This wonderful little Italian restaurant is worth keeping in mind the next time you're in Surin.

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## WHAT'S ON in Phuket

### September 18. Adult Futsal League – Season 5

The Adult Futsal League (AFL) will kick off every Thursday, starting September 2 at 6pm. Only 700 baht per team, over-18s only. The Veterans Futsal League (VFL), for over-40s only, will start September 6 at 6pm. Only 600 baht per team. Games take place at the PIA Sports and Leisure Club (PIASLC) in Thalang on a FIFA-approved astroturf football pitch. Contact foot ball@PhuketInternationalAcademy.com or visit W: PhuketInternationalAcademy.com T: 076-336000 for more information.

### September 18. Art Village Weekend – Royal Phuket Marina

Royal Phuket Marina and BMS Organization proudly present the famous "Art Village Weekend". The weekend includes several kinds of art and music, such as paintings, sculptures, mixed media, handmade products, batiks, postcards, tattoos, performance arts, shadow puppet shows, performances by local musicians and various other creative arts from talented artists. Live the experience and join them for a night to remember. Dates: September 18-19. From: 5pm-10pm. Venue: Past the Les Anges restaurant at the far end of the marina boardwalk.

### September 18. Twin Palms 6th Anniversary

Come and join the 6th Anniversary Celebration of Twin Palms Phuket! Complimentary blue margaritas and mai thai signature cocktails from 8pm-10pm. There will be complimentary lamb on the spit, cold seafood and oyster bar, chicken kebab and satay, roast beef carvings, Japanese specialities, *crème brulee* and *tiramisu* and international DJs. Dress code: white, smart casual. Contact the sales office on T: 076-316 500 E: sales@twinpalmsgroup.com or visit W: twinpalmsgroup.com.

## September 25. Sea Bees International clean-up day



The Thai Diving Association, Scuba Schools International and Sea Bees dive operator are holding a "big clean-up dive" off Phuket to help save local reefs. The meeting point will be at the Anchor Inn restaurant in Chalong at 9am. Finger food will be served. The day trip is free of charge. Please bring your own equipment, and please send your booking to info@sea-bees.com. Space is limited. Be quick.

### September 19. Phuket Yacht Club 'Wet and Wild' race day

Come along to the Phuket Yacht Club for a fun day of swimming, food and good company at the "Wet and Wild" race and family day. RSVP for catering if you intend to come. If you are interested in racing tasars or dinghies and would like to be placed on the mailing list, contact Andrew at 081-8941530 or email andrew@leemarine.net. From 9am-4pm in Ao Yon Bay. For more information contact Donna Stephens. T: 086-1200752 E: phuketyachtclub@gmail.com W: phuketyachtclub.info

### September 20. RPM 'Discover Us' contest closes

Royal Phuket Marina's "Discover Us" competition closing date is on September 20. Enter the free contest on their Facebook page at W: facebook.com/royalphuketmarina

All you need to do to win the grand prize of a half-day boat trip to Phang Nga Bay and dinner for two at Les Anges (15,000 baht value), is to "like" their Facebook page and guess what the picture is in the "win a trip" section of the site. There are also many consolation prizes! For more information contact Michael Forrest on T: 081-9588159 E: michael@royalphuketmarina.com or visit W: royalphuketmarina.com.

### September 25-26. Scuba Cat Dive for Int. Clean-up Day

Scuba Cat Diving, Patong, will hold a clean-up weekend in waters off Phuket and around the island from September 25-26, with an overnight stay on board the MV Scuba Cat Liveaboard vessel at Racha Yai Island. Divers and non-divers welcome. T: 076-293120 E: bookings@scubacat.com

### October 1. Phuket 2.0 – Opportunities for the future

The American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand is teaming up with Laguna Property, C9 Hotelworks and Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket for a special business event. Mark Armsden of Delivering Asia Communications will join a panel of industry experts to discuss Phuket opportunities in the following areas: Hotels and property (Michael Ayling of Laguna Resorts and Hotels), media (John Magee of the *Phuket Gazette*), legal (Desmond Hughes of Limcharoen Hughes & Glanville), education and sports (Nick Seaver of Phuket International Academy), technology (Woody Leonhard, IT expert and author of *Dummies Guides to Microsoft Windows*) and the marina and yachting industry (Vincent Tabuteau of Asia Marine). The event is free, but pre-registration is required. Contact Sheree Tanpensuk, AmCham General Affairs Manager, at E: sheree@amchamthailand.com or T: 02-2541041 ext 212.

### 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. Over 2,000 visitors are expected. From 11am-8pm at the new Häfele showroom on the bypass road. Contact Simon Saman for more information. T: 084-7680536 E: simon@eventsthailand.net W: eventsthailand.net

### October 1. Curry Fridays

Every second Friday is "Curry Friday" night, where you get the chance to enjoy an authentic and lavish Indian curry buffet. Selections include all-time favorite chicken tikka masala, very spicy mutton vindaloo, juicy kebabs, chickpea curry and much more. Served with nan bread and basmati rice. All you can eat for only 399 baht. Draught Beer by the glass for just 50 baht. Special discount on beverages. Venue: Navrang Mahal Indian Restaurant at Karon Sea Sands Resort & Spa. Time: 7pm-11:30pm. For reservations, please call: 076-286464, ext 4. For other information contact Mr Seemant Raju. T: 081-629 5063 E: sm@karonseasand.com or visit W: karonseasand.com. The next Curry Friday will be held on October 15.

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

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

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# QSI students report 'fun times' on Gazette outing

Students and teachers from QSI International School of Phuket dropped in at the *Phuket Gazette* office in Koh Kaew on September 9 for a spot of reporting, writing, and TV interviewing. They also had the opportunity to raid News Editor Stephen Fein's newspaper collection and take home a few souvenirs. Photos: Nicky Vermeulen and Alexandra Andersson



Chris Park at the head of the table.



CHARGE: Students raid Stephen Fein's newspaper collection. They got the lot.



YOUNG MEETS OLD: QSI students and back row from left; teacher Sarah Foster-Gross, *Phuket Gazette* Managing Editor Chris Husted, PGTV Executive Producer Marc Mulloy, teacher Anneliese Storm and Features Editor Fraser Morton.



TESTING, TESTING: Henny Kim and Owen Zandstra test their interviewing skills in the PGTV studio.



Brother and sister Bo and Georgia Feekins help each other with their English assignments.

## WEEKLY THAI BUFFET DINNER



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# OUR Phuket



Andara Resort & Villas GM Andrew Whitaker and his wife Qidi.



Designer Marisa Zeman.



Phuket model Jane Weinstein was cheered on from family and friends at the Passion for Fashion show. Photos: Apinun Saithong

# Passion for fashion, and charity

By Fraser Morton

OVER 250 Phuket locals and tourists raised a whopping 250,000 baht for underprivileged children at the Andara Resort & Villas "Passion for Fashion" charity fashion show in Kamala on September 12.

Resort General Manager Andrew Whitaker said the event was a "win, win" for all involved, with 100% of proceeds from all tickets going to a worthy cause.

The "Passion for Fashion" event raised money for children under the care of the Phuket Has Been Good To Us Foundation.

The foundation provides free-of-charge English-language tuition for over 700 Phuket schoolchildren in Kalim and Kamala.

Foundation Director of Operations Tina Hall said the money raised would help the foundation employ a new full-time teacher for six months.

"The event was fantastic and we would like to thank all those in attendance for their support," she said.

"We are looking to take on more teachers and volunteers and the money raised from the event will help us hire a new *mattayom* teacher," she said.

Guests enjoyed two St Tropez style runway shows as models strutted around the resort's infinity pool dressed in the "Nude is Rude" collection by Hong Kong-

based designer Marisa Zeman.

As many of the models live on Phuket, they were given rapturous applause by family members and friends in the crowd as they put on an impressive modeling performance.

There were also a number of raffle prizes on the day, including a two-night stay at Andara, tickets to Silk restaurant's October wine dinner, clothing items from the Nude is Rude collection, two trips to northern

Thailand as well as a limited edition Marc Chagall print.

Phuket FM Radio DJ Danny O (Dan Ogunshakin) was MC for the event, while DJ Jay "Le shark" Walker was on hand to provide the music, which was broadcast live on air.

"The turnout was fantastic and it's great to see so many Phuket locals getting together to help a foundation doing great work in the community," Dan Ogunshakin said.

Again, winner of the only 'Best of Award of Excellence' in Phuket




Wine Spectator



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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: provinces in Thailand**

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

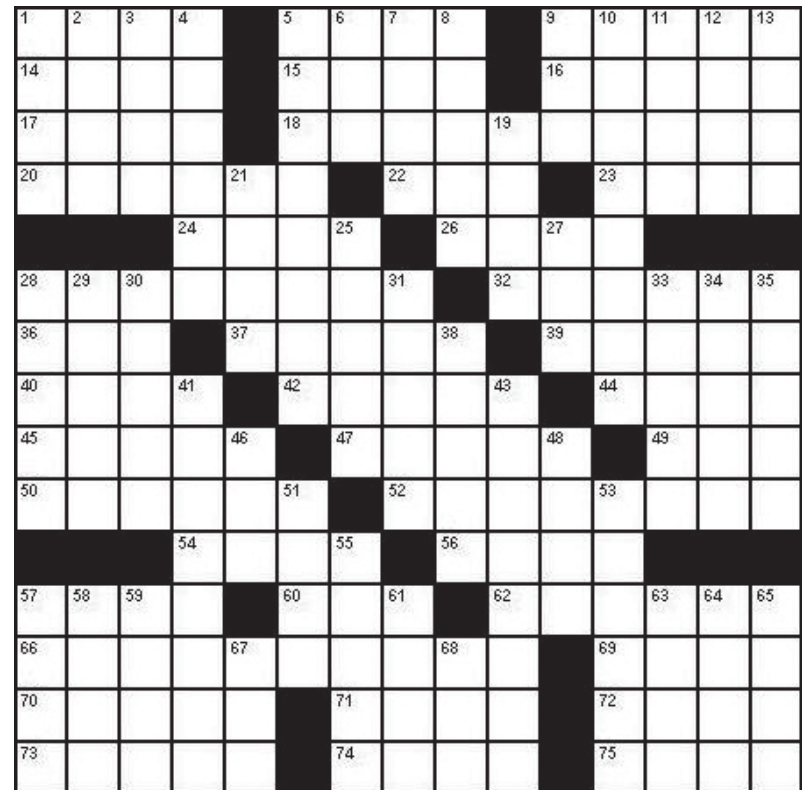
Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Udon Thani, Chon Buri, Chiang Rai, Nonthaburi, Surat Thani, Pathum Thani, Kanchanaburi, Suphanburi, Ratchaburi, Ayudhaya, Lampang, Pattani, Loei, Trang, Phichit, Sa Kaew, Tak, Phatthalung, Yala, Nan, Phuket, Krabi, Phang Nga.

**Across**

1. Ingrid's *Casablanca* role
5. Enclose
9. Maxim
14. Flows
15. Dynamic beginning
16. Muslim teacher
17. Exclamation of sorrow
18. Boring into wood
20. Majestic
22. Cheer for Manolete
23. Sugar source
24. Author Silverstein
26. Swedish auto
28. Mosaic pieces
32. Long narrow excavation
36. Cockpit abbr
37. Of Nordic stock
39. Mild cigar
40. Narrow ledge
42. Approvals
44. Watch
45. Broadcasting
47. Arrive at
49. Michigan Uni abbr
50. Saw for cutting grained wood
52. Philosophy of Zeno
54. — the night before Christmas
56. Air France destination
57. — breve
60. The "other" MP
62. Small mug
66. Earthquake-resistant
69. Appoint
70. Stomach woe
71. Knee
72. Forearm bone
73. *Coeur d'*—
74. Airline to Tel Aviv
75. Swill

**Down**

1. Some nest eggs
2. Corker
3. Break, card game
4. Evaluate
5. Snowberry
6. Actor Fernando
7. He sang about Alice



8. Swimming holes
9. Latin 101 word
10. Hand weight for exercising
11. Drug-yielding plant
12. Adhesive
13. 3:00
19. Milk source
21. Greek fertility goddess
25. Stratum
27. Circle segment
28. Small drum
29. Nicholas Gage book
30. Leash
31. Alleviates
33. Model Campbell

34. Crucifix
35. Bunkum
38. Cool!
41. Wrong
43. Derisive
46. Uncooked
48. Hawaiian city
51. Flying stinger
53. Swan constellation
55. Suit fabric
57. Water, abroad
58. Soothe
59. Ornamental fabric
61. Christmas
63. Audacity
64. — expert, but...
65. Little tides
67. Before
68. — roll

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

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23):

It's important for Virgo-ans to be honest with themselves this week. The stars suggest that you have been ignoring a situation in the hope that it will improve without you having to lift a finger. If this concerns employment, another earth sign can give valuable advice. Personal problems will be best solved by calm introspection. Those celebrating a birthday in the coming days can look forward to a year when romance goes more smoothly.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23):

Many of those born under the sign of Libra will be keeping a low profile this week. Recent social activity has possibly caused you to burn some midnight oil. Those who would like to move up in the world of work are advised to seek ways to sharpen their skills. Further education falls under the spotlight between now and the end of the year. The number nine can bring good luck this weekend.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22):

This is a positive week for friendships. Some Scorpions will find a way to forgive someone who behaved badly earlier this month. There are also signs that romance could develop from a relationship that you

previously saw as platonic. If this involves an air sign, the forecast is glowing. Becoming closer to a fire sign is not as well-starred. Financially, the tide starts to turn for those who have been struggling with debt.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21):

Sagittarians should guard against being over-optimistic this week. The stars indicate that recent success could have gone to your head, leading to unrealistic expectations. Some disappointment is forecast this week, but next month should bring enough gain to compensate. Romance catches single Sagittarians by surprise this weekend – an Aquarian has been waiting for the right moment to make contact. Wear light turquoise to encourage a realistic attitude.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20):

Connections in other countries are forecast to make this a satisfying week for most Capricorns. It's possible that this could affect your pursuit of a career goal; business related travel is highlighted at the start of October. Those who have just begun a romance with a fire sign may find that this is becoming more complicated than it first appeared. The number three can bring good fortune this weekend.

## YOUR horoscope

By Isla Star

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19):

There could be a fine line between giving tips to someone and having your ideas stolen this week. Aquarians are advised to think carefully before they offer help. Your romantic outlook is bright until the end of September. Those who are single enjoy flirtation with no strings attached and those in a committed relationship can expect reason for celebration this weekend. Wearing a piece of dark amethyst can help you find the right balance.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20):

Pisceans' tendency to be too timid could lead to missed opportunities this week. The stars suggest that a fire sign colleague is ready to overtake you on the road to promotion. Romance is better starred – your interest in another water sign is mutual and this weekend should be one to remember. Personal finances require careful handling – saving should replace

over-spending. Wear fire-engine red to make a stronger impression this week.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20):

Arians whose instincts warned them to reject a job offer recently now see that this was the right move to make. The stars predict that better opportunities will be revealed between now and the end of September. You are now entering a phase in which it will be easier to see what works best in your life. The best day for romance is Monday and the number six is lucky this weekend.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21):

Those born under the sign of Taurus should start to feel more spontaneous and ready to enjoy the spice of life this week. Problems that you had to deal with earlier in September should now be safely in the past. Affairs of the heart are well-starred, although a relationship with Virgo could lead to making too many compromises. Wear a piece of green stone to encourage more belief in your creativity.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21):

Many Geminis will be busy adapting their working conditions to suit them better this week. Refurbishments of

both your office and home are forecast to bring a more enjoyable atmosphere. Where romance is concerned, your natural magnetism is strong this weekend – an Arian is waiting for you to make the first move. Money matters are a little shaky – going overboard on a shopping spree should be avoided.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23):

Cancerians should work on their personal communication skills during the rest of September. The stars suggest that both work colleagues and friends are finding it hard to know where you are coming from. You could be subject to a bout of absent-mindedness and searching for a missing item will be like looking for a needle in a haystack this weekend. The number seven can bring good fortune early next week.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22):

Leos who have been looking for a quick fix to their financial problems will realize that they have been barking up the wrong tree. This week, the stars suggest that a simple solution will come to light, but this will require patience. Your romantic outlook is exciting – an air sign you have wanted to make a date with shows that they are ready to accept. The number two is lucky this weekend.



# PROPERTY Gazette

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

## Promthep toilets almost ready for new business



LOOK WITH A VIEW: The new toilets at Laem Phromthep.

THE new toilet blocks at Phuket tourist attraction Laem Phromthep, which cost a total of 3.8 million baht to build, are now complete but not yet ready for business.

The men's toilets feature six cubicles and eight urinals, while the women's facilities are served through 11 separate chambers.

A ceremony to mark the transfer of the new toilets from the Ministry of Tourism and Sports'

Office of Tourism Development to Rawai Municipality was held at the site on September 7.

Having taken about four months to complete, the new toilets were built on the site of the previous toilet block, near the souvenir stalls.

An officer at Rawai Municipality's Engineering Division told the *Gazette*, "We're not sure when they will open. The municipality has to have a meeting first."

# Tackling power line problems in town

By Sitthipong Nongkaew

PHUKET City Municipality, working with the Provincial Electric Authority and public and private telecommunication companies, recently began stripping down unused power lines and other overhead cables along Mae Luan Rd in Phuket Town.

Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwansupapana told the *Gazette* the pilot project is part of a municipal plan to beautify Old Phuket Town and surrounding areas.

Power lines and cables have been installed underground along Thalang Rd and Soi Romanee in the Old Phuket Town area in the first part of a three-phase project.

The next step is to do something about the proliferation of cables along roads in surrounding areas.

The work must be carried out in stages as the entire project would require a huge budget that the municipality is currently "not ready to propose", she said.

To bypass some of the budget constraints, the government agencies involved have coordinated



POLE POSITION: Workers graft hard up a pole in Phuket Town.

their own budget requirements so that each can play their part in the carrying out the work, she said.

Telecommunication companies including TOT, CAT, TT&T are all taking part in the project.

The work that began on September 11 involves removing unused power lines and regrouping power cables that are still being used along the full 1.4-kilometer length of Mae Luan Rd.

Mae Luan Rd was chosen as the starting point of the project as it is a main artery along which city dwellers travel to reach many of Phuket's west coast attractions, explained Mayor Somjai.

After work along Mae Luan Rd is complete, the project will focus on Thepkasattri Rd, Phuket Rd, Yaowarat Rd and Wichit Songkram Rd, she said.



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**SITTING PRETTY:** For many hoteliers and managers, Phuket is an ideal location to live a life of ease and enjoy the beaches while still climbing the career ladder. Photo: Jim Welch

# Not a bad spot for hoteliers to call home

WHILE *The Clash* once sang about "London calling to the far-away towns", many travel-weary international hoteliers are hearing increasing numbers calling Phuket home.

Looking in my travel diary – an old passport filled to the brim with visa stamps and so many additional pages that the document starts to resemble an overgrown club sandwich – I realize many other island residents have walked the same well-worn path.

A hotel manager's life, when working abroad, all too often starts resembling a chaotic version of *The Amazing Race*: Skipping from post to post, with anxious wives

and family always keen to see where they'll be posted to next.

For those in the hospitality industry, Asia has been the place to be for the last ten or twenty years due to growth, opportunity and the ability to keep moving up the food chain.

If you are willing to relocate at the drop of a hat, all you need to do is sign on the dotted line and off you go.

Unlike working in their home countries, expatriate packages are often treasure troves of perks: tax-free salaries paid in western currency, long holiday leave and plane tickets home, housing and cars.



**Property Watch**  
By Bill Barnett

As time has passed, an entire generation, or two, of Asian-based expat hotel managers have grown more at home in faraway places than where they grew up.

Many have married in places they worked, and established roots with family and friends connecting the dots across the regions.

For most managers, the tough decision of going home, or staying on, arrives when it comes to a time they want to slowdown or retire; play golf, sail or live

the life they know so well.

Taking a moment the other day, I started to count fellow hoteliers who live here in Phuket.

Some winding-down careers, others taking a break, and even a few waiting and watching for their next posting.

I quickly ran out of fingers, toes, and keys on my computer.

And there are others too. Those who work in corporate jobs for hotel chains who move the family to Phuket for schooling or to enjoy a relaxing lifestyle, but who work out of Bangkok, Hong Kong and Singapore. It happens more than you think.

Escaping gridlock traffic in

Bangkok, or over-population in Hong Kong, many hotel managers enjoy being based in Phuket. Having a nice garden, being close to the sea and the lifestyle here, appeals to many.

For so many expat managers who have worked in Bali, the Philippines, Malaysia or some of the many gateway cities of Asia, Phuket was where they found what they wanted, a life that offered the best of both their worlds: career growth and a great lifestyle.

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

## In brief...

### New Kata Noi luxury resort

THE Katathani group is opening a 36-unit pool villa boutique resort in November.

Christened as The Shore at Katathani, introductory rates start from 17,850 baht for one-bedroom units offering a spacious 124 square meters of privacy. Premium units all enjoy west coast ocean views and those enviable sunsets over the Andaman Sea.

### Yummy move

ROYAL Phuket Marina's upscale dining and pastry shop Les Anges has appointed Lionel Raiffort as

Chef and General Manager. Alongside noteworthy culinary awards, Lionel has also published a popular book on desserts. Sounds simply yummy.

### New high-tech firm

A LEADING high-tech residential firm with offices in Pattaya and Samui has arrived in Phuket.

Specializing in home automation and representing a number of well-known global brands, a Cherngtalay showroom is now open to the public.

A full-service team of engineers are on hand and speciality products for yachts are also available.

### Qatar-Phuket flights to take off

HOT on the heels of growing Middle East carriers, Emirates and Etihad, Qatar Airlines commence flights to Phuket next month.

Flights are scheduled to be operated on a daily basis from Doha via Kuala Lumpur.

The carrier will also expand its Indochina network adding Vietnam's two gateway cities – Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi via Bangkok in November.

The Middle Eastern market is continuing to grow in importance for the islands hotel and more airlift will no doubt see this accelerate in 2011.

### Japanese deal

JAPAN'S All Nippon Airlines has announced plans to introduce a low cost carrier service operating out of Osaka's Kansai airport is set to commence this year.

This could mean a Phuket service is in the wings.

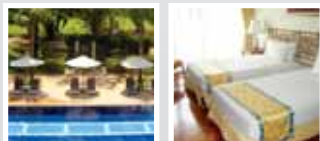
*Do you have any breaking news about Phuket property? Email [property@phuketgazette.net](mailto:property@phuketgazette.net)*

## LAGUNA

PROPERTY RESALE

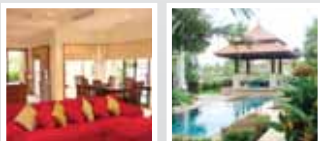
Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

#### 1 Allamanda 2-Bedroom Suite THB 8 M



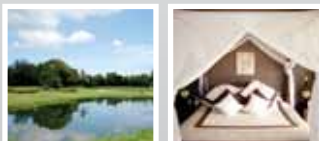
- 2 beds 2 baths Apartment
- fully furnished • freehold
- golf course view

#### 2 Laguna Village Townhomes THB 21.3 M



- 2-storey 4 beds 3.5 baths
- partly furnished
- lagoon view • leasehold

#### 3 Laguna Townhome THB 24.5 M



- 2-storey 4 beds Townhome
- fully furnished • private pool
- golf course view

#### 4 Laguna Village Residence III THB 27.5 M



- 4 beds 3 baths Residence
- maid quarter
- private pool • lagoon view

#### 5 Dusit Thani Pool Villa THB 33 M



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# Shower in color while you shop

By Alexandra Andersson

IF YOU'RE feeling dirty, hot and bothered, then a visit to the new "shower testing room" in the Häfele Design Center may be just the thing to liven up your day.

It's a place where you can test the latest in shower technology, but it's also handy for cooling down or just taking your daily wash.

Don't worry about bringing your own soap and towel as the self-service testing room provides them free of charge.

There are even locks on the doors so other shoppers won't get a peek of you in your birthday suit.

With five different showers available, there are endless combinations of pressure, temperatures and water colors – yes, colors – to try out.

Showroom manager Varnchai Rungruang explains why it is important that the customers can test store products, no matter how odd it might seem.

"They need to know what they are buying, and be satisfied with the product. Particularly if they are considering expensive things," he said.

Mr Varnchai is referring to the center's top-of-the-range product: The "Hansa Color Shower".



The shower costs a cool – or hot – 122,900 baht and comes with three changeable heads, making it resemble some sort of mythological sea serpent rather than a shower.

There is one main, one mobile and one power shower head to choose from.

This trio of "head-onistic" pleasure tools have two water spout options: waterfall and rain setting.

But that is not all. This shower comes with "rainbow water".

Water is illuminated by a spotlight inside the shower head that changes colors to red, blue, green, purple, orange,



yellow and pink.

This represents a new direction in design trends for Häfele, as well as for German interior design.

Color therapy, which is based on the belief that colors affect your mood, is one of the products of this new trend.

According to the Häfele sales team, you can be "stimulated in red or relax in blue", which dubiously leaves the effects of showering in green or yellow to your own imagination.

The "Hansa Color Shower" has three color therapy settings.

It can be adjusted to produce waves of all the colors, only "hot"



or "cold" colors, or just one constant color.

Turning the main shower room light off brings out the color and heightens the therapy.

The "Hansa Color Shower" is however, only one of five available in the very relaxing shower testing room.

The others range in style and price from a waterfall shower (34,000 baht) to a cascading rain shower (19,900 baht).

If you really want some color features for the shower in your luxury home, but can't bear to break the bank, don't fear.

There is a smaller color shower available for a mere 23,400 baht.

Watch this space for musical applications.



PIT STOP: Varnchai Rungruang stops off at the "shower showroom".

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# Plant a seed and watch it grow

## Gardening By Green Sleeves

JUST over a year ago, part of this column was about cultivating your own flowers. With the rainy season in full flow again, it's time to go into a bit more detail.

The easiest way to grow plants for your garden is to use seeds. Packets can be obtained from large supermarkets such as Tesco as well as a few garden centers and from specialist retail outlets.

One of these shops is on the old airport road going north from Phuket Town, a few hundred yards before SuperCheap. Well worth a visit.

In Phuket, the range of packeted vegetable seeds is good but the range of flowers is less so. Take care to observe the instructions on the packet.

Of course, you can always use your own seeds. The easiest seeds to get are from annuals such as *zinnias*, *gomprenas*, *African marigolds* or *cosmos daisies*.

Indeed, these will readily self-sow if left to their own devices. Before homosapiens upset the apple-cart, seeds were solely distributed by nature's agencies: wind, water or via the innards of birds and animals. Then man came along with his own ideas.

After plants have finished flowering, seeds or fruits form. Seed heads should be collected only when they are dry, and the individual seeds are beginning to fall away.

Generally a rule of thumb, applies: The larger the seed, the bigger the end product will be in your garden.

They vary in size from the microscopic seeds of orchids, through to the pea or bean-sized fruits of the legume family, to the substantial stones of *thevetianas* and avocados. These big stones should only be taken from very ripe fruit.



Photo: Flickr



GETTING YOUR HANDS DIRTY: Cultivating plants from seeds is no walk in the park. Photo: Alexandra Andersson

However you come by your seeds, remember that once sown, they should be cosseted. Opinions

vary as to which is the best sowing medium, but it should be relatively low in nutrients, and porous enough to allow the delicate initial rootlets to develop.

At first, seedlings will feed off the food in the seed itself. So straight top soil is likely to be too strong, and also prone to pests.

Sterile compost mixed with coconut fiber and river sand is probably Ok for most small seeds. Succulents must have sand: cacti will not survive without silicates in the mix.

Choose clean plastic pots or trays. Dirty ones are liable to harbor disease. Pots are best since they do not dry out so quickly.

Seedlings too, will not survive bone-dry conditions for long. Plant just below the surface for small seeds, about one to two centimeters for bigger seeds.

Larger seeds [such as those of *canna lilies*] will germinate more rapidly if they are soaked in water for a couple of days, or if the tough skin is scratched or scarified. The potting mix should be moist but not saturated.

If possible, apply water from below. This will avoid the twin possibilities of washing the tiny seedlings out of the soil, or drowning them with over-liberal use of the watering can. Place your seeds in a place where there is plenty of light, but little or no direct sunlight or rain – at least initially.

Water sparingly, look out for predators such as ants and check for wilt or “damping off”.

seedlings with care when you finally plant them.

Never hold them by their tender stem, instead hold them carefully by a leaf when you place them in position. Losing a leaf is not a disaster; crushing the stem is.

Don't expect perfect results either – many will not germinate, and if you sow your own seeds, they may produce genetically regressive offspring.

Shrubs and trees are less often propagated by seeds. The most common and easiest method is to use hardwood stem cuttings from a healthy parent plant.

Not all shrubs will respond to this method, but a few basics do apply. Cut your slip just below a leaf or node at a sharp angle. Cuttings are normally ten to twenty centimeters long, but will need to be bigger for large, thick-stemmed shrubs such as *plumeria*, or for trees.

Remove the lower leaves and bury the bare stem three or four centimeters deep in a mix of soil and sand to increase permeability.

You can even start it off in water with a mild dose of fertilizer. To speed up the rooting process, dip the base of the cutting in rooting hormone before planting.

If you prefer to put the cutting directly into the garden, remember to keep it moist. Using a pot – is preferred. Place it in partial shade and wait for the shoots to appear.

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

## Tip of the week

### Cool cuttings

WHEN it comes to success with cuttings, every gardener has their own opinion.

From firsthand experience, the most rewarding plants to propagate from cuttings are large shrubs with woody stems.

Examples of these include *allamanda*, *thevetiana*, *oleander*, *pereskia* (wax rose), *euphorbia millii* (crown of thorns), *thunbergia*, *milkweed*, *orange jasmine*, *hamelia* (firebush), *gardenia*, *bougainvillea* and *tecoma*.

*stans* (yellow trumpet).

In general, these work best if you take hardwood cuttings. Foliage plants such as *croton*, *aglaonema* and *dracaena* can also be struck from stem slips.

If there is going to be a delay before you immerse your newly acquired cuttings in soil, temporarily steep the cut ends in water. Not *euphorbias* though.

The cut end needs to be dry, and may even benefit from a day or two of exposure to the air.

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## Properties For Sale

### MISSION HEIGHTS



Executive style home for sale or rent. 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, guest cottage, large pool, lounge, dining room, Western style kitchen, fully furnished. 10 minutes from the airport and 7 minutes from Blue Canyon Golf Club. Contact: Khun So. Tel: 081-344 4473.

### PHUKET BEACH LOTS FOR SALE

Lots in secure and gated beach front property: Starting at 1.5 million baht per plot. Chanote included. Tel: 083-520 0020 (English), 080-467 7770 (Thai).

### FANTASTIC VIEW

8 rai for sale on top of the island, view to Phi Phi, Mai Thon, Coral Island, Rawai and Chalong. All around sea view! Tel: 087-263 1308. Fax: 076-282092.

### 4-BED HOUSE KATHU



Kitchen, living room, TV, 3 bathrooms, maid/store, UPVC windows, nice gardens, 110sq wah. Includes Chanote. Tel: 087-417 8187.

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE



for sale. Make an offer, owners moving back overseas. 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom, fully furnished, UBC, internet, 3 aircons. Located down a quiet soi in Chuanchun Lagoon, Koh kaew. 65sq.wah and centrally located close to BIS, Marinas, shops, and malls. Price: 4.5 million baht or make an offer! Inquiries at Tel: 086-743 0033, 081-866 8716.

### THAI-STYLE VILLA IN CHALONG



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

### 3 FLOOR BUILDING

In Chalong, for sale at 5.8 million baht, 6 aircons, nice apartment on 3th floor. Tel: 081-476 3242. Email: natthapornw@hotmail.com

### KATU GOLF PENTHOUSE CONDO

Freehold 135 sqm. 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, 1 big living room, Western kitchen, terrace with nice golf course view. Price: 5.5 million baht. Tel: 081-824 1385. Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

### TEAK HOUSE PHUKET

Original Thai built house on beautiful island, 1 rai with Chanote title. Sale price 3.2 million baht. Tel: 087-263 1308. Fax: 076-282092.

### PATONG BEACH CONDO

Freehold studio, 58sqm, 8th floor Western kitchen, balcony, big pool, nice view. Price: 3.7 million baht. Tel: 081-824 1385. Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

### TOWNHOUSE IN PATONG



On Nanai Road. 2 stories, 112.5sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, bathtub, built-in cabinets, kitchen, aircon and car park. 1km to Patong beach, near Bangla Road and Jungceylon. Price 5.5 million baht or nearest offer. No agents! Tel: 087-270 9093.

### PATONG CONDO SEAVIEW

Freehold, 125sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big living room, Western kitchen, terrace with nice sea, mountain, city view. 11th floor, corner, big pool, car parking. Price: 10.8 million baht. Tel: 081-824 1385 (English). Fax: 076-293149. Email: jbiwo@csloxinfo.com

### URGENT SALE



New detached house in Phanason 3, Thalung. 253.25sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double garage, furnished and landscaped garden. 2.8 million baht. Contact Phing. Tel: 087-278 0067. Email: sweetpinkylive.co.uk

### NEW CONDO FOR SALE PATONG

Brand new, fully furnished 1 bedroom. Ready to move in. Freehold. Email: jkgk24@hotmail.com

### PATONG LOFT CONDOMINIUM

44sqm with fully new furniture for sale in Patong Loft. Price 2.8 million baht. Tel: 081-891 5932.

### 1 OF 4 WIN 10M BAHT

Buy Your Condo Now! 1 of next 4 Buyers will win 10M Baht. Email: winneroct2010@gmail.com

### BEACHFRONT CONDO

Located in north Patong, freehold, top floor, 2 bedrooms. Price: 9.7 million baht. Renting also possible. For photos call 086-276 5117. Email: jihshand@gmail.com

### 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.

### PHUKET PROPERTIES

Phuket properties for sale & rent. Tel: 076-385292, 081-892 5649 (English), 081-893 1360 (Thai). Fax: 076-221448. Email: noi@phuketinvestments.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketproperties.com

### NICE AND SPACIOUS HOUSE



in Heritage Project, Kathu. 2 floors, fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 1 maidroom. 234sq. wah. 18 million baht. Tel: 081-8920190 (Warit), 089-6464823 (Rattana). Email: prayoon\_jp@hotmail.com

### PRIME SEAVIEW



Land in Mai Khao with fantastic panoramic view over Phang nga bay. 79m ASL road access & utilities. 4 rai, can be split: 4.75 million baht per rai. Tel: 087-417 8187. Website: www.phuket-estate.com

### HOUSE & FURNITURE

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

### PRIVATE SALE OF HALF A RAI

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

### KATA APARTMENT BUILDING



8 suite western apartments with huge terraces, most with sea view. 130-160sqm. Options: 5x2 bed, 2 bathrooms, 1x3 bed, 2 bathrooms, 2x1 bed, 1 bathroom or penthouse. Over 1,400sqm developed at 35 million baht. Also owner's large sea view pool villa available next door at 10 million baht. Email: daladdawan@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

### SURIN BEACH

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

### ROYAL PLACE CONDO

New 37sqm one-bedroom condo for sale at Royal Place, near the Tesco Lotus intersection on the bypass road. Comes fully furnished including all electrical appliances. Ready to move in August. Complex has pool, gym, restaurant etc. 1.85 million baht. Tel: 083-982 3768. Email: drbearnshaw@gmail.com

### HYDROPONIC FARM

17 rai Nor Sor 3Kor, Khokkloi 30 minutes to airport, large greenhouse office, 2 fish ponds and road access. Also oil, fruit and rubber trees. Price: 7.9 million baht. Tel: 087-020 0191.

### KATHU LUXURY POOL VILLAS



2 and 3-bedroom villas, near golf course, 12 minutes from Patong. Price: 8.5 million baht. Tel: 089-724 7211 (English), 080-522 4433 (Thai). Email: julienmayard@me.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-cottages.com

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**HOUSE IN ANUPHAS GOLF VILLE**

for sale or rent. Kathu, 3 bedrooms, maid room, aircon, small swimming pool, Chanote title. Reduced to 7.5 million baht. Tel: 081-854 0061 (English), 087-395 7301 (English & Thai).

**LAND 60SQ WAH**

for sale in Srisuchart Grand Ville 2. 60sq wah. Price: 1,500,000 baht. Call K. Ra at Tel: 086-682 2033.

**3-BEDROOM HOUSE**

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

**30 RAI IN TOWN**

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

**LAKEVIEW HOUSE**

3 bedrooms house in Chalong. Partner or sale. Tel: 087-417 8187.

**SEAVIEW IN KATA**

Unique, very big, 1 bedroom apartment with small garden. Direct access to Kata beach. For sale from owner. Price: 8.9 million baht. Tel: 086-476 8948. Email: phuket1982@yahoo.co.th

**THE HEIGHTS PHUKET CONDO**

for sale. Beautiful pool and ocean views 195sqm. Best offer. Tel: 086-883 9815.

**LAND AT CHERNG TALAY**

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

**CHEAP LAND FOR SALE**

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

**HOUSE IN KAMALA**

2 minutes from the beach, 2 bedrooms + car park. 2.3 million baht. Contact at K. Nam. Tel: 089-472 5162.

**PATONG LUXURY 1BR HUGE POOL**

Furnished executive 42sqm, 1 bedroom condo with hill views & swimming pool. Near San Sabai Rd & Beach in "Phuket Villa". Foreigner freehold, 3.9 million baht. Tel: 087-173 1773. Email: seanthepilot@hotmail.com www.seabluephuket.com/phuket\_villa\_condo\_4\_sale

**BEST POSITION IN PHUKET**

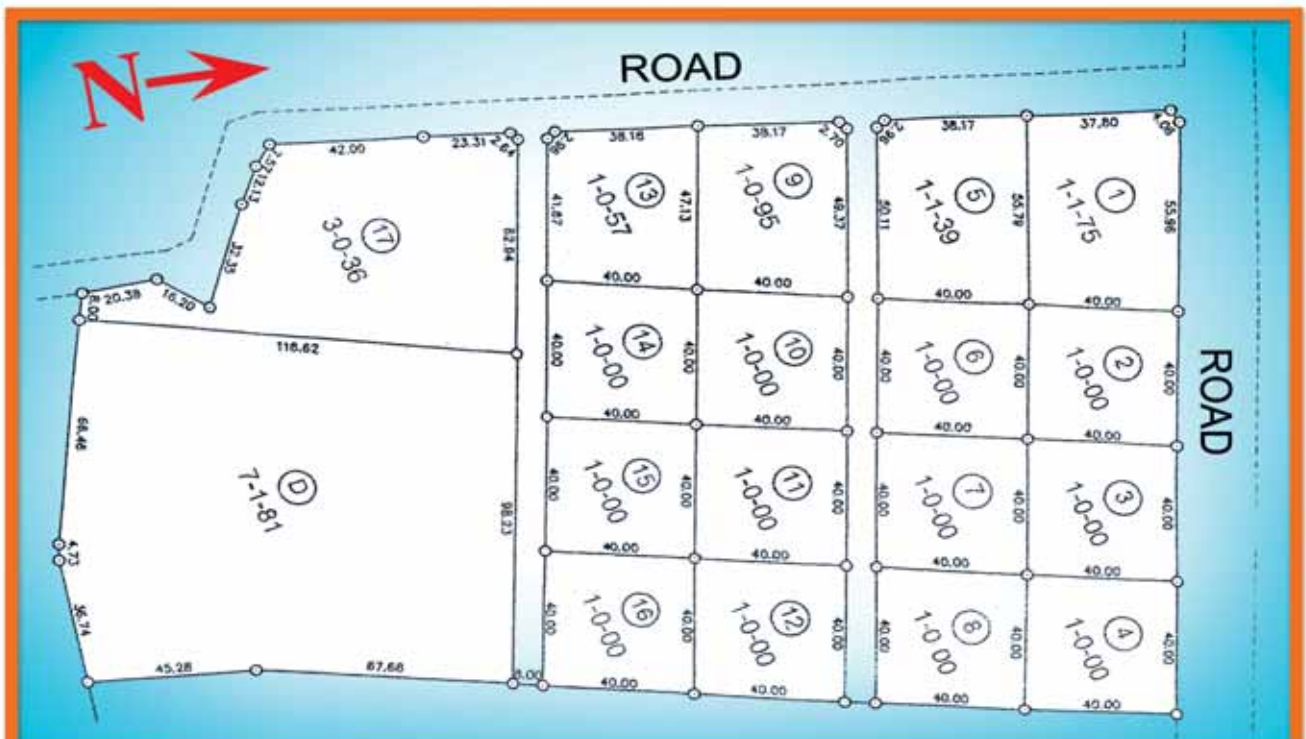
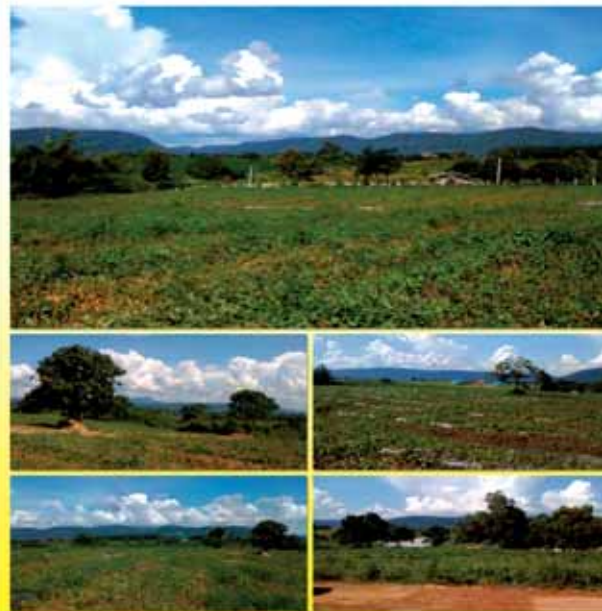
3 years old story shophouse opposite Tesco Lotus for sale. Furnished with Internet and aircon. Price: 8.9 million baht or rent. Tel: 086-476 8948. Email: phuket1982@yahoo.co.th

**NAI HARN LUXURY CONDO**

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

**READY TO MOVE IN**

Phuket Grandville. 2km to Laguna entrance, 6km from Surin Beach. Townhome 26sq wah, front width 6.5 meters, 3 bed, 3 bath. From 2.19 million baht. 26sq wah, 3 bed, 2 bath with Jacuzzi pool: 4.59 million baht. Coming in 2011, new hotel in front of the development where all Phuket Grandville residents can use the club house, pool and convenient shop. Tel: 087-272 3003.

**LAND FOR SALE IN WANG NAM KAEW (NAKHON RATCHASIMA)**

**Wang Nam Kaew** is a small district located between Khao Yai and Tab Lan National Park. It enjoys cool temperatures all year round and is surrounded by mountains. Even through summer, the air is fresh and it has the 7th best ozone in the world, moreover it is 1,000 meters above sea level, safe for living and any sea level rising problems. The land is located on the hill, on a separated 1 rai plot. Road access, electricity, water and land title is included. It is a 3-hour drive from Pattaya, and Suvarnaphumi Airport, also 1 hour drive from Nakhonrachasima.

Each plot price: 1 million baht. For more details please call **K. A 081-535 4839 (English)** or directly contact to the owner: **K. Jane 086-688 3744 (Thai)**.

**BEACH FRONT LAND**

5 rai, 30 rai in Pratong is-land very beautiful. 3 million baht per rai. Email: atetayap@yahoo.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

**LAND FOR SALE KOH YAO**

Prime location, Phuket view. 10.5 rai, ready to build on, with road access and electricity. Nor Sor Sam Gor. 1 million baht per rai ONO. Tel: 089-874 0304 (English), 081-871 7887 (Thai).

**2 BANGKOK CONDOS FREEHOLD**

Wish @ Siam complex on Soi Asia Hotel, new with swimming pool, only a walk away from SkyTrain, SIAM, & MBK. Studio (27sqm), price: 1.99 million baht. 1 bedroom (35sqm), price: 2.7 million baht. Tel: 087-173 1773. www.seabluephuket.com/bangkok\_1br\_4\_sale

**BRAND-NEW CONDO**

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

**LAND MISSION HILL**

Opposite clubhouse, overlooks a lake. 4 rai, 3.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 087-417 8187. Website: www.phuket-estate.com

**2 HOUSES IN PATONG**

for sale. Live in 1 and rent the other or sold separately. 5.1 million baht each, fully furnished, well kept, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Western kitchen. Center of Patong, 2 minutes to Jungceylon. Contact owner at Tel: 087-279 3312. www.phukethouseapartment.com

**3 BEDROOMS HOUSE**

2 story, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. No agent. Tel: 081-956 2406.

**LAND FOR SALE**

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

**1,000SQM LAND**

for sale. Near Nai Harn and Chalong. Flat, quiet and residential. Price: 4 million baht. Tel: 082-420 3134. Email: paul.phuket@gmail.com

**TWO TOWNHOUSES**

for sale. 2-story house, 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom. Good location and atmosphere. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-956 2406. Email: phatsarar@gmail.com

**REDUCED PRICE**

Sale of studio apartment in Patong. New condo with pool, furnished, 46sqm. Freehold 2.75 million baht. Tel: 089-7284005. Email: thamad17@yahoo.com

**RARE GIANT TEAK PALACE**

Exotic fantasy mega-mansion, dream trophy-home on 5 rai of tropical palatial estate in Chiang Mai. Only 45 million baht. Call 081-816 2066. For further details, please see our website at www.thegoldenteakpalace.com



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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  
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Onan MDL3 Marine Generator 12KVA at 1,500rpm, 2,600hrs. Excellent condition. Recently underwent major service: new engine mounts, water pump, hoses, etc. Includes sound shield and muffler. Tel: 081-821 1812 (English), 081-819 5152 (English & Thai). Contact for more details. Email: leigh@glslithotripsy.com

### TRANSPAC 49 MK II (1981)

A beautiful bluewater cruising boat with a huge inventory. Price: US \$189,950. Website: www.boatshedphuket.com

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### 4.5M RUNABOUT

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### WHARRAM TIKI 30 (2009)

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### 2 CRUISING CATAMARANS

55', 6 double cabins, 1.5 million baht. 38', 4 double cabins, 480,000 baht. All in composite. Tel: 087-461 8089.

### BAYLINER 245Hp (2009)

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100hp, 4 stroke engine. Trailer. Price: 679,000 baht. Contact Kim. Tel: 087-275 5563.

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### PANCA 18' (2009)

Yamaha 40Hp, only 60 hrs, use c/w trailer. Price: 325,000 baht. For further details, please see our website at 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

### BAREBOAT WANTED

Wanted: bareboat motorsailer for one or two weeks around Phuket for a Swiss inveter and a Lincolnshire farmer with 30 years experience. Please text Graham as above for more information. Tel: +44-179-076 3249, +44-777-447 3916. Email: glamyman@btinternet.com

### POLYESTER MOTOR SAILOR

6 meters. 28Hp Yamaha engine. Price: 260,000 baht. Contact for more info. Tel: 087-893 8747.

### 8M SAILING CATAMARAN

Open bridge, wood, expoxy, fiberglass composite. 15 HP Yamaha. All 2 years old, anti-fouling new in 2010. Good condition and ready to sail. Equipped to fishing with 6 rods holder. 2 cabins and storage place. Thai registered with book. Price: 440,000 baht. Tel: +49-33-22293 0210. Email: stier@net-print.de

### SPEED BOAT



35ft Yamaha 200 6V 25 people with big sound system and 2 engines. Included: life jackets, fins, masks, snorkels, banana boat that fits 3 people & all security items. Price: 1.25 million baht. Call for more details. Tel: 087-035 9241 (English), 083-102 5444 (English & Thai). Email: yellowsharktour@hotmail.com

### NEW BOAT SUNNAV 18FT



for sale. Highest quality with trailer. Price: only 270,000 baht. No engine. Tel: 089-476 7443, 085-352 1940, 076-377577. Contact for more details, email sales@sunnnav.com or visit: www.sunnnav.com

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Special hot price, NEW 2008 Seadoo RXPx-RXTx 255Hp. 70mph++. Price: only 480,000 baht! Contact tel: 081-754 7599. Email: csutivas@hotmail.com

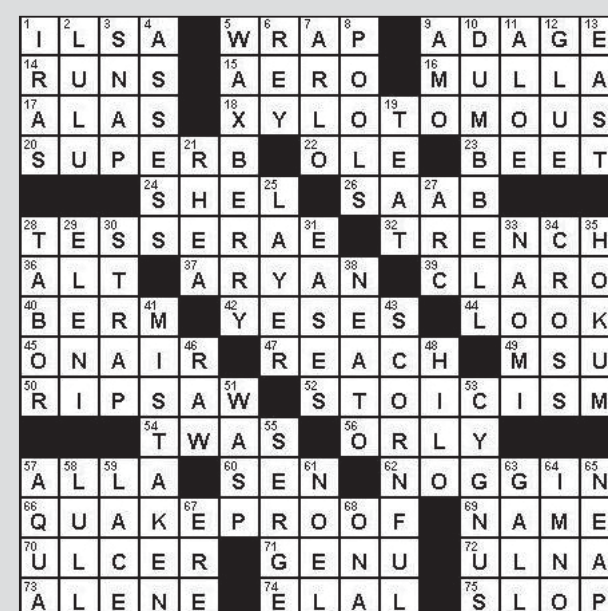
### BENETEAU OCEANIS 351 (1995)

Great condition. Awlgrip paint job. Price: US\$ 89,950. For more information, please see our website: www.boatshedphuket.com

### SOLUTIONS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

Word Detective secret word: **Trat**

Crossword puzzle:



**COFFEE break**



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We are seeking to recruit experienced teachers of Maths and English. IGCSE. An ability to deliver a second subject to KS3 an advantage. Tel: 076-612876, 080-534 5006 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-612877. Please send CV to: eugene@headstartphuket.com

**THEATRE & RESTAURANT**

Palazzo looking for Stage manager and Light - Sound technicians. Must be experienced in the entertainment industry and have good English. Positions: Floor manager, Bar manager, Bar tender, Waiters, with artistic skills and ability to perform in the Entertainment area. Tel: 076-202277. Email: info@phuket-palazzo.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-palazzo.com

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- Coaching qualification to coach a team such as Basketball or etc.
- Be able to work flexible day 1 pm. to 6 pm. all day Saturday

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We seek to recruit 3 secondary teachers specialising in Maths, ICT and Science. Tel: 076-612876, 080-534 5006 (English & Thai). Fax: 076-612877. Please send CV to eugene@headstartphuket.com

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- Ability to work under dynamic environment and manage aggressive timelines
- Able to provide quality service and support to customers at all times
- Enjoy meeting people with warm and outgoing personality
- Possess a valid car driving license will be an advantage

Interested candidates are invited to write in with full resume, stating present and expected salaries and enclosing a recent photo to email address: [supapatr@sunparadise.co.th](mailto:supapatr@sunparadise.co.th)

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Thai national (preferred) with fluent English & friendly outgoing personality needed. A sound knowledge of the F&B industry & service-minded. This restaurant/bar is in a captive location catering to marina guests & those living at the north end of Phuket. Driving license needed. Tel: 076-206022. Fax: 076-206706. Email: info@yacht-haven-phuket.com

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- Pool Supervisor
- Administrative
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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

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Treadmill, full gym set, large sofa, appliances, full furniture set and more. Can view. Tel: 087-270 2334.

**HOME THEATER**

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

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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

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Fri 7 PM

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

Green Man Restaurant - Chalong  
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**SALON FOR SALE**

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# FC Phuket crowned champs

By Daniel Ogunshakin

GOALS either side of halftime from Thawin Butrsombat and Nithirot Sukuma were enough to ease FC Phuket to a 2-1 home win over Phang Nga FC at Surakul Stadium on September 8.

Thawin, signed during the mid-season break, put the Southern Sea Kirin 1-0 up after just seven minutes when he kept his composure in the box to finish off a sweeping five-man move that began deep in the FC Phuket half.

Nithirot slotted home a second in the 57<sup>th</sup> minute when Diarra Ali's shot rebounded off the goalkeeper after the African star had sprung the Phang Nga offside trap to run onto a clever through ball from defender Ronnachai Jinaket.

With 15 minutes remaining, the visiting side pulled a goal back but FC Phuket held on for the win to complete a memorable league campaign which has seen them collect 55 points.

The presence of the Regional League Division Two South tro-



TRIUMPHANT: FC Phuket have been crowned Southern Division Two champions. Photo: Apinun Saithong

phy created a party atmosphere among the supporters at Surakul as the players prepared for their final league match of the season.

Coach Arjan Songsamssub made a number of changes to the side that beat Phatthalung at the weekend, with Nene Bi dropping to the bench and Diarra Ali and Camara Hamed returning to the starting line up.

Buoyed by the crowd, the Southern Sea Kirin started the match brightly, forcing two corners in the opening five minutes before Thawin gave them a deserved lead.

With the early goal, the large crowd inside Surakul expected a walkover but the home side took their foot off the gas and the game became increasingly sloppy.

Phang Nga almost snatched an equalizer out of the blue, hitting the crossbar with a header from a dangerous free kick from the left.

FC Phuket continued to push forward looking for a second goal before half time but Diarra and Thawin were both guilty of wasteful shooting and the home side had to settle for just the one goal lead at the break.

Into the second half, the visitors made the brighter start and had a great chance to equalize at 50 minutes, only to put the ball over the bar.

They were made to pay just six minutes later as Nithirot made it 2-0 after great play between Ronnachai and Diarra.

With a two-goal cushion, FC Phuket became complacent and sloppy play allowed Phang Nga back into the match after 75 minutes, scoring with a glancing header from a dangerous cross from the Phang Nga right.

The goal pushed Phang Nga forward in search of what had seemed an unlikely point.

Despite a couple of anxious moments, the home side closed out the match and after the final whistle collected the league trophy in front of their delighted supporters.

FC Phuket now turn their attention and motivation to the playoffs, where they will be in the running for the right to play in Division One next year.

## Next generation of Phuket's footy stars make Euro splash

TWO Phuket boys from the Youth Football Home have just returned from two weeks at professional football clubs in Germany.

Nonthawit Onting and Phonlawat Nonta, both 13, are two of the most outstanding players of their age group in Thailand. Both are hoping to one day become professional footballers in Europe.

They spent the first week training with the under-14s team at Bundesliga's VFB Stuttgart and the second week at SVA Bad Hersfeld, a lower league team.

SVA Bad Hersfeld would have happily signed the boys on the spot but there are strict rules governing the movement of players under the age of 16 which makes it very difficult for them to sign for European clubs.

Thailand's low ranking by FIFA as a footballing nation also means that Thai players face a struggle to be awarded work permits in

other EU countries. There are a lot of potential obstacles to playing in Europe, but for Nonta and Onting, ability does not appear to be one.

According to Hannu Tuukkanen, the manager of the Youth Football Home and former professional player himself, both boys more than held their own in the company of some of Germany's elite young players.

"Our boys were fit and in good condition when they got there but some of the fitness training was technically new to them and presented a challenge at the beginning," he said.

Overall Tukkanen said the boys represented Thailand very well.

"If these two boys continue to train the way they trained in Germany I don't see why they can't go on and play there one day," he added.

— James Goyder

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# Lifeguards land in Patong

By Alexandra Andersson

WITH the aim of spreading awareness and enthusiasm for lifesaving in Phuket through competitive racing and a day of fun, the Surf Lifesaving Carnival took place on September 11 on Patong Beach.

The event was organized by the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO) and sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*.

It began at 9am with an opening ceremony, presided over by VIP and PPAO President Paiboon Upatising.

A group of spectators gathered, and were encouraged to join in the main events which included an Ironman and Ironwoman race, two kilometer beach run and numerous other swimming, relay, flag and board races.

The races were open to all skill levels and included age categories from under-15s to over-50s.

There were 73 competitors in total, of those 48 were Thai, 24 were foreigners and 11 were women.

Australian Matt Rigney was the big winner of the day, taking first place in both the Surf and Ironman events.

This did not come as a surprise as he has proven his athletic abilities on a national level in Australia

in 2008, when he was the under-19s champion in belt swimming.

Fellow Australian Dylan Klein won the board race event.

The Thai lifeguards had their own separate events, in which Prasit Nakprasop came first in the surf race, Sayan Bureerak won the board race and also took home the title of Thai Ironman. Impressive athlete Jongdee Heamkeaw won the Ironwoman trophy.

Blake Field, a member of the Phuket Lifeguard Club has been helping to train Phuket's lifeguards said the Thai lifeguards dedication was impressive.

"Many have come here today and taken time off work, which is a good sign since the most important thing in lifeguarding is determination."

Many of Phuket Lifeguard Club members worked as water safety officials on the day while officials, judges and those in administrative positions registered and recorded the results, kept score and presented medals.

Event organizer Jayne Macdougall said she was very pleased with the success of the event, and looks forward to continuing to promote water safety and lifesaving in Phuket in the near future.



**SURF SAVIOURS:** Phuket lifeguards Anupong and Preecha took part in the carnival. Photo: Alexandra Andersson

**HARD AS NAILS:** Thai Ironman and winner of the Thai board race, Sayan Bureerak collects his trophy.

**WINNING TEAM:** Phuket Lifeguard Club supporters (right) Russel Zahn, David Field and Michael Kenney were the winners of the over-40s swim race. They collected their medals on stage from PPAO President Paiboon Upatising (blue shirt). Photos: Jayne Macdougall



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